



 Digital Scrapper Premier 2023, Volume 6

Lesson 3, Variation 1, Bevel Plastic Shape

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by Jen White

Look to the Custom Shape Tool to find fun accents for the Plastic Styled Shape action.

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NOTE: Please complete the lessons in the order they are provided.

For this lesson you will need:

- the PlasticStrokedShapeAction (styles and action) from the Class-Files folder. (Loaded)



Quick Steps for Lesson 3, Variation 1, Bevel Plastic Shape

Step-by-step instructions are below.

- Create a new document.
- Add a custom shape.
- Activate the Plastic action and press Play.

Step-By-Step for Lesson 3, Variation 1, Bevel Plastic Shape

Before You Get Started

NOTE: If you already have the styles and action loaded, you do not need to do it again.

- In the Styles panel (Window > Styles), open the flyout menu and choose Load Styles. Navigate to the DSP23-V6-PlasticStrokedShape.asl file in the PlasticStrokedShapeAction folder from the Class-Files folder. Click Load/Open.
- In the Actions panel (Window > Actions), open the flyout menu and choose Load Actions. Navigate to the PlasticStrokedShape.atn file in the PlasticStrokedShapeAction folder from the Class-Files folder. Click Load/Open.

Prepare Your Workspace

- Create a new 12 x 12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (PS: Choose File > New.)
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

Add a Shape

- Get the Custom Shape tool.

Photoshop Elements Only: In the Tool Options, open the Shape Picker and choose a solid-style shape from one of the folders. I'll choose the Talk 11 shape from the Talk Bubbles folder.

Adobe Photoshop Only: In the Tool Options, open the Shape Picker and choose a solid-style shape from one of the folders. If you'd like to choose from the Legacy Shapes and you don't see them, open the Shapes panel (Window > Shapes), open the flyout menu, and choose Legacy Shapes and More. I'll choose the Talk 11 shape from the Talk Bubbles folder (Legacy Shapes and More > All Legacy Default Shapes > Talk Bubbles).

Tips for Choosing a Good Shape

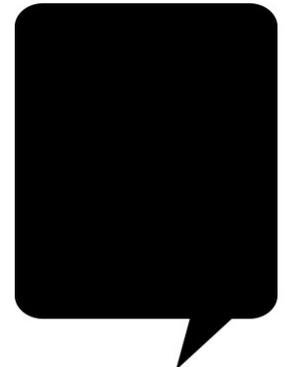
- Shapes that are mostly solid in nature are good for this tutorial.
- Shapes that have lots of small parts are not good for this tutorial.



Photoshop Elements Only: In the Tool Options, the Color Chip should be black; if it's not, click on the Color Chip and choose black. Open the Geometry Options and choose Unconstrained. Uncheck From Center. The New Shape Layer icon should be active.

Adobe Photoshop Only: In the Tool Options, set the Tool Mode to Shape. Click on the Fill Color Chip and choose Solid Color. The color should already be set to black; if it's not, open the Grayscale folder and choose black. Click on the Stroke Color Chip and choose No Color. Open the Path Operations and choose New Layer. Open the Path Options and choose unconstrained.

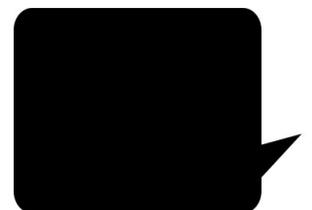
- On the document, hold down the Shift key to maintain the proportions of the shape and click and drag.



Adjust the Shape

NOTE: Before running the Plastic action, you need to make the shape the size you want it to be on your final scrapbook page. To do that:

- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- To resize the shape, on the document, click and drag from the corner handles of the bounding box.
- To move the shape, click and drag inside the bounding box.
- To rotate the shape, hover your cursor near a corner handle of the bounding box until you see a curved, double-headed arrow, and then click and drag to rotate.
- To flip the shape, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) inside the bounding box and choose Flip Layer Horizontal (PS: Flip Horizontal).
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.



Pre-Action Checklist

- The styles that came with the action must also be loaded. The action must also be loaded.
- The shape or element you're running the action on needs to be just one layer and cannot be a group.

Play the Action

- In the Actions panel, in the DSP23-V6 Plastic Stroke Shape folder, click on the DS Plastic Stroked Shape action and click the Play icon.
- In the dialog box, press Continue to confirm the reminders. If you have not loaded the styles or resized the shape, press Stop, fix the errors, and press Play again.

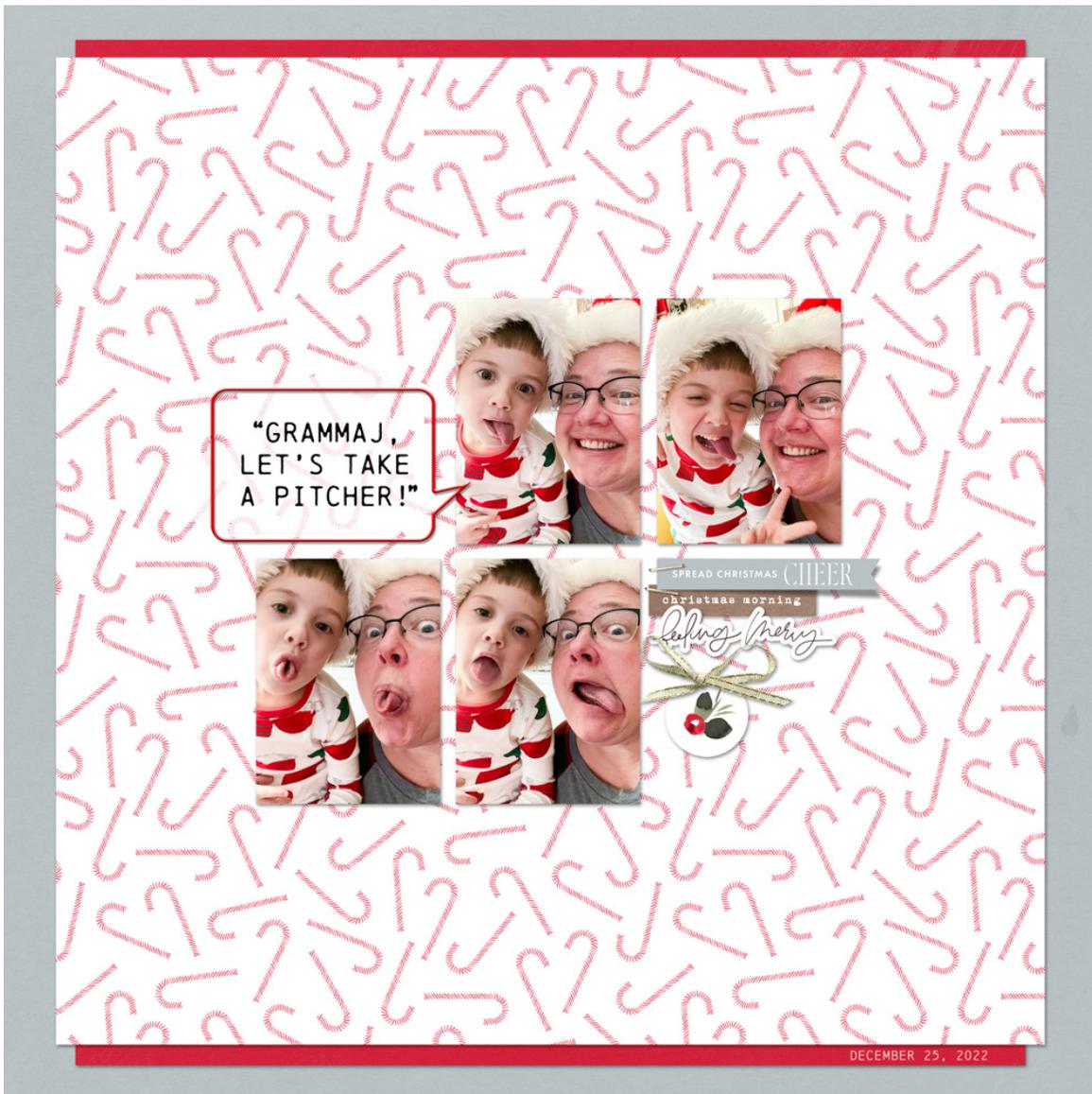


How to Change the Color of the Plastic

- In the Layers panel, double click on the layer style of the Plastic group to open the style settings.
- Click on Stroke to activate the settings.
- Double click on the Color Chip to open the Color Picker.
- In the Color Picker, choose a new color (or sample one from your document) and click OK to close the Color Picker.
- Click OK to close the settings dialog box.

Finish the Page

- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, uncheck both Auto Select Layer (PS: Auto-Select) and Show Bounding Box (PS: Show Transform Controls).
- With the Plastic group active in the Layers panel, click and drag on the document.
- Finish your page as desired.



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