

PFP-S4-L1-Diamonds-Dots-transcript



Lesson 1: Shape it Up - Diamonds & Dots Transcript © Syndee Rogers

Photoshop and Photoshop Elements have a pretty extensive library of Custom Shapes plus there are many more that are available for free, and commercial use that's available for purchase. By combining the Custom Shape and Pattern tool, we have endless design opportunities just waiting for us to discover. So in this lesson, we're going to use both the Ellipse and Custom Shape tools to create a fun pattern.

I'm filming this video in Photoshop Elements but the instructions are just the same in Adobe Photoshop unless where noted.

Let's begin by creating a new document. So let's go to File > New > Blank File, and we want it to be a 135 pixels wide by 200 pixels high at 300 ppi with a transparent background. And click OK. Let's go ahead and zoom in by pressing Ctrl + or Cmd + on a Mac. And to help us create our pattern, let's set some guides up. So go to View > New Guide and set the Horizontal to 50%, and then click OK. Go back up to View > New Guide and set the vertical to 50% and then click OK. Now, let's go to View > Snap To and choose Guides and then go back to View > Snap To and choose Document Bounds. Set your Color Chips to the default to Black and White by pressing the letter D.

Next, we're going to get our Custom Shape tool, and in the Tool Options, click on the Shape Picker and choose the Diamond shape. If you don't see the Diamond shape, click on the menu

and choose Shapes. Click on Create New Shape Layer, check From Center, choose Fixed Size and set the Width to 135 pixels and the height to 200 pixels. If you're using Photoshop, choose Pixels, check the Anti-alias box, then open the Path Options and choose Fixed Size. Okay, now on your document, click right in the center of your guidelines and drag slightly. Your diamond should snap right to the center. And let's go ahead and press Simplify in the Tool Options to rasterize the shape. We won't need to rasterize the shape in Photoshop since we chose Pixels.

Next, we want to save this pattern swatch, so go up to File > Save As, and let's name it Diamond and then click Save.

Now, let's go ahead and define the swatch. In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Define Pattern and then name the pattern Diamond and click OK.

Okay, let's go ahead and create a new 12 x 12 inch document at 300 pixels per inch with a white background. And now let's create our Diamond overlay. So in the Menu Bar, let's choose Layer > New Fill Layer > Pattern, and then click OK, and then click OK again. So even though this is a cool pattern that we can totally use to create some awesome papers, we're going to take it a step further and add dots.

Now activate the Diamond Pattern Swatch. Go to File > Duplicate, name it Diamond Dot, click OK, and then close the original.

Okay, now activate the Diamond Overlay document and go to File > Save As, name it Diamond Dot Overlay, then click Save. And we can go ahead and close the overlay for now.

Let's create a new layer by clicking on the Create a New Layer icon in the Layers panel. Then get the Ellipse tool, and in the Tool Options, click on the Color Picker and choose a medium gray, it doesn't matter which one. Click on Create a New Shape Layer, choose Fixed Size, and set both the Width and Height to 18 pixels, and make sure From Center is unchecked. In Photoshop, choose Pixels, check the Anti-alias box, open the Path Options and choose Fixed Size. Making sure we are on our new blank layer, click somewhere on your document and drag slightly to create the Circle.

Now, we want to be able to see the edges of our document and the points of our Diamond shape a bit better, so let's zoom in a bit more by pressing Ctrl + or CMD + on a Mac. And then grab the bottom right corner of your document window and drag down and out a bit. You want to be able to see outside the bounds of the transparent area of our document. This will help us center and place the circle. Get the Move tool, and uncheck Show Bounding Box. Now on your

document, move the Circle up to the top point of your Diamond shape, the circle should snap to the center guide as well as the top edge of the document bounds. Now if we go back and check Show Bounding Box, we can see the portion of the Bounding Box or the Circle that is extending beyond the document. Let's go ahead and uncheck that again. Press Ctrl or Cmd J on a Mac to duplicate the circle. And in the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Other Offset, click rasterize, and we want to set Horizontal to zero and Vertical to 200 pixels. The Undefined Areas should be set to Wrap Around, and then click OK.

In the layers panel, activate the Shape 2 layer, which is our original circle shape at the top of our Diamond. Press Ctrl or Cmd J to duplicate the circle. Click on the Circle on your document, and move down and over to the diamond point on the right side. And center on Horizontal guideline and the edge of the document, so that only half of the Circle is visible inside the document bounds. Press Ctrl or Cmd J to duplicate the circle. And in the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Other Offset, click rasterize. And we want to set the Horizontal to -135 pixels and the Vertical to zero pixels. Undefined Areas should be set to Wrap Around, and then click OK.

In the Layers panel, let's click on the Visibility icon of the Diamond shape to hide it. Next, we want to save this Pattern Swatch, so go up to File > Save As, name it Diamond, and click Save. So now let's go ahead and define the swatch, go up to Edit > Define Pattern, and name it Diamond, click OK. We can now go ahead and close our Swatch.

Let's open our 12 x 12 inch Diamond Overlay document. And I want to enlarge the Diamond Pattern so double-click on the Diamond Pattern thumbnail in the Layers panel, and then change the scale to 200%, and click OK. Now remember our Pattern hack from our plaid lesson? Let's duplicate the Pattern layer by pressing Ctrl or Cmd J on a Mac. Next, we want to click on the duplicate diamond Pattern thumbnail and then click on the Pattern Picker and choose your Diamond Dots swatch. Change the scale to 200%, and click OK. And Viola! Our dots should automatically line up with our diamonds. You can easily change the size of the Diamonds and Dots by adjusting the scale. And we want to make sure to save our changes to this overlay by pressing Ctrl S or Cmd S on a Mac.

I hope this lesson has shown you how combining shapes can have some fabulous results and I'll see you in the next lesson this is been Syndee Rogers with Passion for Paper.