



## Perfectly Personal Word Art Paper Strip 06 – PSE Transcript

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For this paper strip template, we're going to use the custom shape tool to add a geometric accent.

So I've already created a new document that is 2.75 inches wide and 0.6 inches high at 300 pixels per inch with a white background. Press the letter D to reset the color chips. Then click on the foreground color chip to open the color picker and choose a medium gray color. I'm using hex number nine five nine five nine five and then click okay. Now press alt backspace in windows or option delete on a Mac to fill the background layer with the foreground color. Then click on the foreground color chip to open the color picker and choose a light gray color. I'm using hex number CCCCCC, and then click okay. Now get the custom shape tool and in the tool options, set the style to none and the geometry options to unconstrained. Then click to open the shape picker and in the dropdown box choose shapes and then select the hexagon shape. Also make sure that the create new shape layer icon is selected. Then on the document while holding down the shift key, click and drag a hexagon to fill the height of the document, and then in the tool options, click on the simplify icon. Now get the move tool and then on the document while holding down the shift key, click and drag the hexagon to the left until only part of it is showing. And then in the layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to shape accent one and then press enter to commit the name change.

Now press control J in windows or command J on a Mac to duplicate the hexagon. And then on the document while holding down the shift key, click and drag the hexagon to the right until it's showing the same amount as the left hexagon. Then in the layers panel, double click on the name of this shape and change it to shape accent two and then press enter to commit the name change. Now all we need to do is trim the excess pixels. So to do that, press control A in windows or command A on a Mac to select all. Then in the menu bar, choose image, crop. Now press control D in windows or command D on a Mac to de-select. Then in the layers panel, shift click on the shape accent one layer so that both of the shape accent layers are active. Then in the menu bar, choose layer, group layers. In the layers panel, double click on the name of this group and change it to shape accents and then press enter to commit the name change.

Next we're going to add some type, so get the horizontal type tool. In the tool options, set the font to myriad pro or something similar, set the size to 24 points and the alignment to center. Then press the letter X to switch the foreground color chip to white. Then on the document, click once and type the

words text here in all caps and then click the checkmark to commit. Now get the move tool, then press control A in windows or command A on a Mac to select all. And then in the tool options, click on the align horizontal centers icon in the align vertical centers icon. Then press control D in windows or command D on a Mac to de-select. And now we can save this template for future use. Save this file with the name of paper strip template zero six dot PSD in the same folder as all of the other templates.

Now that you saved your template, it's time to get inspired and go over a few tips. Last time I showed you how to use a paper strip with an alpha, but this time I've put our custom paper strip together with a journal card to create another cluster that would look great with any project. Here are some tips on how to put together a paper strip cluster with the journal card.

Number one, use similar colors. When pairing a journal card to your custom paper strip, it's a good idea to use similar colors or patterns. Doing this will give your cluster a cohesive look and people will be wondering if you did that or if a designer put that cluster together. Number two, use the intersection. The area where the journal card and the paper strip create a right angle is a great place to tuck an element. This provides visual interest without hiding the personalized words we added to our custom paper strip. And number three, use an anchor. As with many of our previous clusters, using an anchor is just a good idea. In this case, the paint I used adds visual interest and a pop of color.

Here's how I ended up using my journal card paper strip cluster. The cluster was the perfect compliment to the rest of the design and it really helped me tell the story about my favorite bands and why I enjoy listening to them.

Before I cover how to use the gray scale templates, I'm going to cover some template customization rules. These rules are going to follow us throughout the majority of this class, so you're going to want to make sure you don't skip the next lesson. This is Jenifer Juris with perfectly personal word art.