



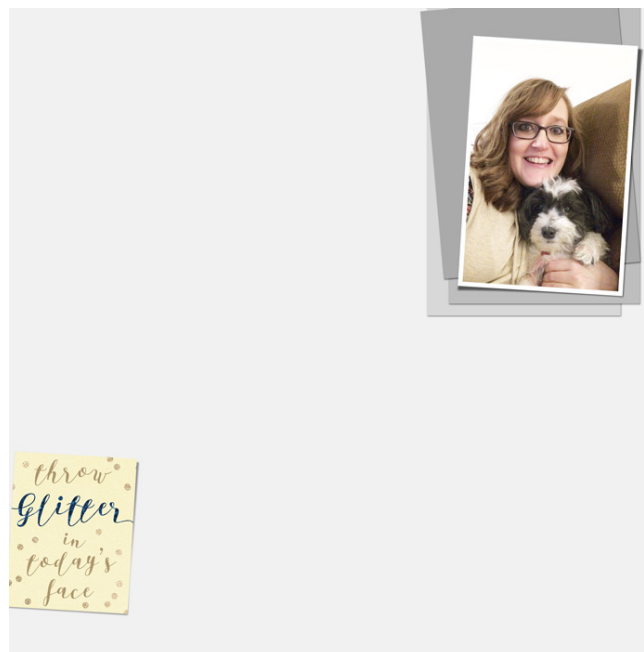
by Jenifer Juris, Linda Sattgast, & Jen White

## Design Beautiful Pages

### Lesson 02-01: Jenifer's Masterfully Mirrored Page

In this lesson, I'm going to walk you through the design choices I made when putting together my page for this class, Masterfully Mirrored Design.

When I sat down to create this page, I wasn't sure what I was going to scrap about. I was looking through the kit, hoping it would give me inspiration and wouldn't you know it, I came across this journal card and immediately knew this was it! Our dog Penny had been in for her yearly checkup and at the appointment, the vet was worried she might have cancer. Needless to say, I was very worried as we waited nearly a week for her test results. When we finally got the good news, I had to take a picture with her to remember that day by, and it was the perfect topic for such a fun journal card! So, now that I had my photo and journal card placed, it was time to figure out my papers.



As I've mentioned before, I usually gravitate toward a light plain background. This page was no exception. I went straight for the lightest paper in the kit and I liked that it gave this page a happy and cheery tone which fit the mood of the topic very well. Now, I know that at the moment, it feels like the journal card is disappearing into the background, because it is. But, I knew the kit had some paint elements that I could use to break that up. I'll talk about that more when we get to that part of the video.



Now I had to figure out which three papers I wanted to use behind my photo. The first one was a no brainer for me. Teal and Chevrons? I just had to use that as teal is my favorite color and who doesn't love a glitter chevron shape!



I knew that I also wanted to use one of the papers that was dark blue. The word “glitter” in the journal card is dark blue so I wanted to carry that color up to the top right to help tie the two parts together. So far so good.



But, that last paper was a tough one for me. I went back and forth trying all the multi-colored papers I could but they weren't working. I then decided to try a green colored page and this one fit the bill.





When it came to the elements, I first went straight for the paint. I knew I had to fix the issue of the journal card disappearing into the background. I used one that had some green in it because I wanted to carry the green from the top right back down to the bottom left and as you can see, the paint did exactly what I needed it to. I also added different paint elements to the top right behind the photo and paper layers. I wanted to carry the paint idea up here so that, once again, the mirror design would be evident without being matchy-matchy.



Once I placed the paint, I then needed some dimensional elements. Teal was such a prominent color in the top cluster that I wanted to use this teal flower next to the journal card to help carry the colors across to both parts. I then added the dark gold leaves behind the flower to add some weight to the cluster.



The photo elements weren't so easy. I spent a little bit of time trying out different flowers and such trying to get things to look right. I wanted items that didn't detract from the photo so I went with some smaller elements. I used the golden ribbon with the dark blue button and offset that with the teal and gold flowers anchored by a dark blue heart.



After that, all I had to do was add a date, a title, and some journaling.



## Credits

Photo: Jenifer Juris

Kit: Shine Your Light by Ponytail Designs

Fonts: Betterfly Draft, Josefin Sans

## Lesson 02-02: Linda's Masterfully Mirrored Page

With the Masterfully Mirrored design you're often only dealing with two photos. I used these two photos of my friend Diane and me—one a proper portrait and the other a goofy photo of us laughing. A mirrored design is great for two contrasting photos like this. As is my habit, I edited the photos before I even started my page.



I used template 7, which is kind of unusual with all the stroke outlines. I wondered how it would look to have a circle for the lower right photo instead of a rectangle, so I added a circle clipping mask, but I didn't delete the original just in case I changed my mind!



### Type On A Path

The curved stroke outlines gave me the idea to use one of them as a guide for text on a path. Typing on a path using a shape works exactly the same in both Photoshop and Photoshop Elements. Here's how to do it:

- Decide where in the Layers panel you want your shape and click on that layer to select it.

#### In Photoshop:

Select the Ellipse tool. In Tool Options select Path from the menu on the left. Set the Fill to color—the color doesn't matter so black is fine—and set the Stroke to none. Choose New Layer in Path operations.



## In Photoshop Elements:

Select the Ellipse tool. In Tool Options choose any color, choose Unconstrained, and choose Create New Shape Layer.

## In Both Programs:

- Zoom out so you can see lots of space around your page.
- Look at the curved template line and imagine that it's a segment on a circle.
- Click and hold where you think the center of the circle would be, press Alt Shift (Mac: Opt Shift), and drag outward. This will create a perfect circle from the center out. To move the circle add the Spacebar to your other keys and continue dragging to move the shape outline. When you're done moving let go of the Spacebar to continue resizing the shape.

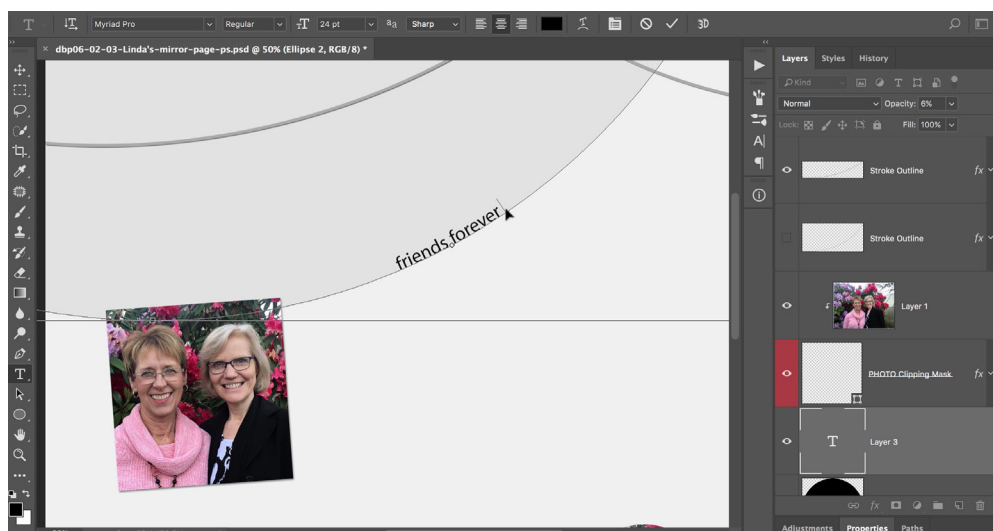
You don't have to get it exact—just close enough. When you're satisfied let go of the mouse and then let go of the keyboard keys, and the shape will fill with color.

- Zoom in closer and reduce the opacity of the circle layer to see the edge better.
- If you're using Template 7, click on the Visibility icon of the stroke outline layer as well.
- Get the Horizontal Type tool and in Tool Options choose your font and size. I chose Myriad Pro Regular with a size of 24.
- Always choose Center for the Alignment.

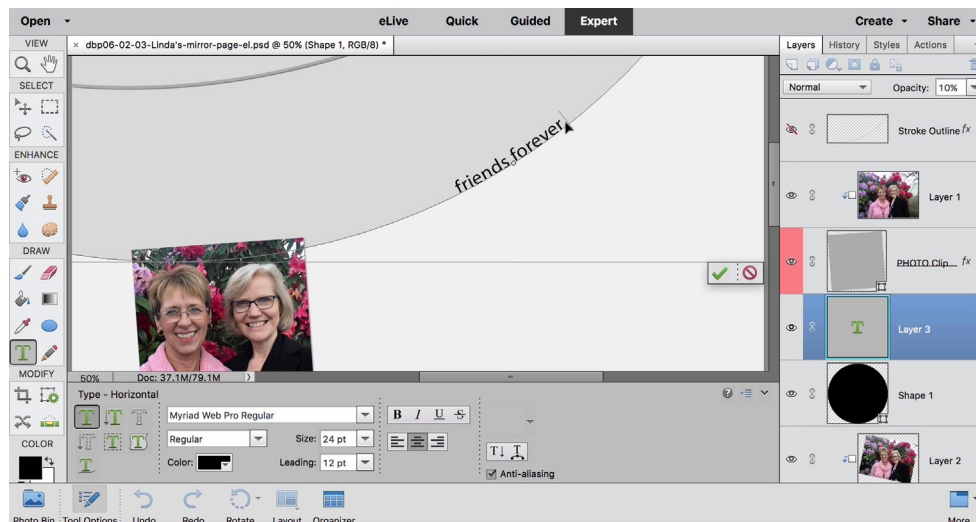
**NOTE:** When you type on a path don't use a flowing font or a script font. It just doesn't look good! Regular type, either serif or sans serif looks the best.

- Bring your cursor near the shape edge at the approximate midpoint of the curve.
- When you see an iBeam icon with a dotted curved line through it, not a circle around it, but a dotted curved line, click to add a type layer.
- Type whatever you want. If you plan to repeat a phrase, add a space at the end.
- If your type is on the opposite side of the circle from what you want, press the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key), click on the type, and drag to the opposite side to flip it.
- If you want to repeat a phrase, press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select all the type, press Ctrl C (Mac: Cmd C) to copy it, and Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) to paste it over and over until it fills the entire line.
- Hide the shape layer which will leave only the type on a curved path.

Here's how the type on a path looks in Photoshop.



Here's how the type on a path looks in Photoshop Elements.



## Experimenting

I tried a lot of background papers and a few elements. I ended up with a lightly patterned background paper. I loved the bicycle in the kit and wanted to use it, so I placed it in the lower right corner. I also experimented with masks for behind the photos.





My next step was to throw a whole bunch of elements onto the page, trying to keep in mind the Rule of Odds and Duplication. I also settled on the pink mask for both sides. And I reduced the size of the type.



Next I shortened the white paper so some colored paper would show through and added a custom shadow to the cream colored paper. I also changed the font of the type on a path and colored the strokes pink. I also tried adding some paper strips to emphasize the difference between the photos, with one being a proper photo and the other goofing off. I liked the strips, but I kept feeling like it cluttered the page too much.



For my “final” page I removed the paper strips and just added the date on the left and the words “TEE HEE!” under the bicycle. I also changed my mind about the photo in the lower right corner and went back to the rectangular shape instead of the circle.



### Make Up Your Mind!

When I saw the journaling strips later, I thought they looked great, so I’m not sure why, at the time, I thought they looked too cluttered. I also had a hard time deciding if the page was done. It looked OK, but I wasn’t satisfied with it.

I decided to try a different color of background paper and loved how the pretty blue paper made the photos stand out more! I changed the pink mask behind the clusters to white, and completely change the lines at the top by replacing the line of type with a banner and creating a beaded look for the other two curved lines. Since I took away the type on a path, I added a title as well.



## Conclusion

I definitely spend waaaaay too long on this layout! But, in the end, I felt more satisfied with it. And I was glad for the chance to show you how to type on a path.

I'll let you decide which page you like the best!



## Credits (for both pages)

Photos by Sharon Pense

Page by Linda Sattgast

Template from Design Beautiful Pages

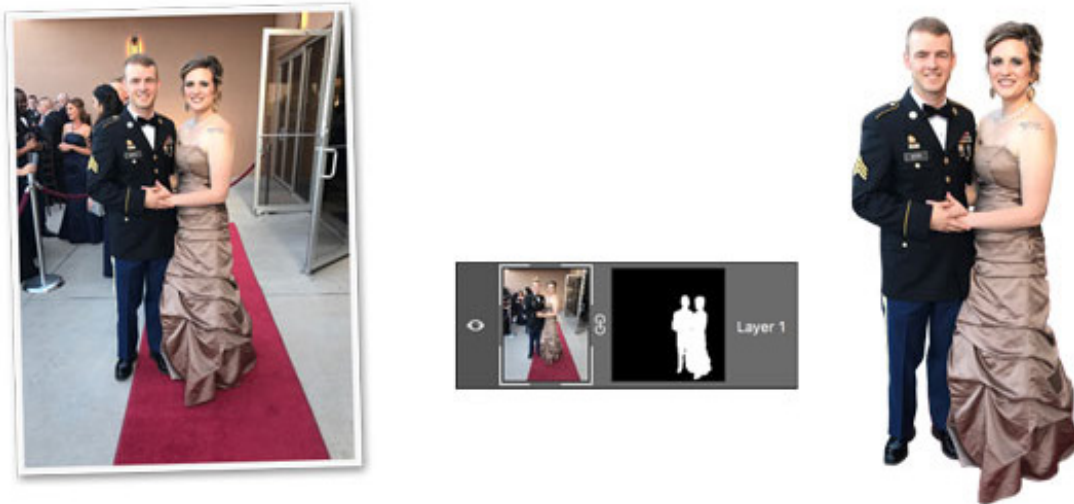
Kit: Beautiful Morning by Amber Shaw

Fonts: Short Stack and Caleigh



## Lesson 02-03: Jen's Masterfully Mirrored Page

I was happy to be given this image of my son and daughter-in-law, but it annoyed me that the background behind the beautiful couple was cluttered and distracting. I decided to extract my son and daughter-in-law from the clutter with the use of a layer mask.



I used template #15 because it was set up with the main photo in a lower quadrant. I then choose a background paper that would compliment the photo, not distract from it.

The paper also visually contained grungy areas that mimicked the left to right diagonal flow I was after.

I added grungy objects to make the lower right quadrant feel more heavily weighted and therefore quickly drawing the eye down to the main photo.



To blend the extracted photo better, I added a grungy mask behind the extracted image and clipped the original unaltered image to it. I used a layer mask to soften the distracting background.

To remove a little more harshness from the extracted photo, I modified the original layer mask by using a soft brush and brushing away a bit of the image.



Keeping the Basic Design Principles and Jenifer's Mirror Design Concepts in mind, I added elements to the two main parts of my page while trying to keep the space in-between them empty.

I clipped a Brightness/Contrast adjustment layer to each of the red-orange poppies and slightly darkened them so they wouldn't be a distraction.

Finally, I added a title, a tag, and some important data to mark the point in time.

### Credits

Page: This Moment by Jen White  
Photo: Kelsey White  
Class: QwikLearn | Design Beautiful Pages  
Kit: Summer Field by Natali Designs  
Fonts: Shree Devanagari 714, Nueva Std

