BMC-S2-L3-ps-Title-transcript

A Beautiful Mess Simplicity Challenge
Section 2, Lesson 3 - Designing with Font Duos
Transcript for Adobe Photoshop

A good font duo is a game changer in the art of digital scrapbooking. In this video we'll talk about what font duos are, where to find them, and what to do with them. For this lesson, you will need two contracting fonts, one script font and one print font. I'll be using the font duo Sherilyn from the Design Cuts mini bundle mentioned previously in this class, but really any font duo that you own or find online would be a suitable substitute. If you're looking for a font duo online, do an internet search for the words "font duo." The images representing the duo will usually contain both fonts, but not always. The names of the duo will also usually contain the word "duo," but not always. Also, you can find font duo is for free, but the really good ones will usually require a small fee, and in my opinion, they are worth the expense. If you are looking to form a font duo of your own from your stash, look for two contrasting fonts that you love. Choose one that's a script and one that's a serif or sans serif. This can be done with some degree of success, but font pairing can be a little tricky. It's a bit of a learned art.

So now you may be asking yourself, what's the big to do about font duos? On our challenge scrapbook page, the title is a big part of the simplicity of the page. It takes the place of having to add a lot of extra elements to the page, which also saves you time searching for just the right elements to add and saves you the time of arranging those elements just to fill up space. To keep the simplicity in the font duo design, the key is to use one font for the most important word of your title and then use the paired font for the other words.

Which word is the most important? Well, that's up to you, but it could also depend on how you want the title to appear on your scrapbook page. For my page, I used a big script word for the word beautiful and the paired sans serif font for the other words. I could have made the word you script and the other words print, but it worked out better on my page to use the first scenario.

Once you have your fonts chosen and installed on your computer, begin in Adobe Photoshop

by opening the document that you ended with in the last lesson. Because there are no shadowed layers on the page yet, I'll click on the top most layer in the Layers panel to activate it. Then, get the Horizontal Type tool. In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose your script font. I'll choose Sherilyn Script. Set the Size to 200. We'll adjust that later. Click on the Center Align icon. Click on the Color Chip and choose black from the Color Picker and then click OK. Then in the Character panel, set the Leading to Auto and the Tracking to 0.

On the document, click once in the center and type one word of your title, preferably a longer word. I'll type the word "beautiful." It would also work okay to use a very small phrase, like love you or so cute. And before we commit the type, here's a Type tool shortcut to change the type size and rotation on the fly. Hold down the Ctrl key in Windows, or the Cmd key on a Mac. Now you should see a bounding box around your word or phrase. Hover your cursor over a corner handle of the bounding box until you see a curved double-headed arrow, and then click and drag counter-clockwise until the bounding box is a -90°. To have the box rotate in 15° increments, hold down the Shift key along with the Ctrl or Cmd key.

Next, keep the Ctrl or Cmd key held down so you don't lose the bounding box, and then we'll resize the word to be just slightly smaller than the boundaries of the document. Click and drag on a corner handle and then add the Shift key while dragging to maintain proportions. I'll drag the top handle to the top of the document. Let go of the mouse, then let go of the Shift key, but keep the Ctrl or Cmd key held down. Next, I'll do the bottom corner handle. So start to click and drag from that bottom corner handle, and again add the Shift key to maintain proportions. Let go of the mouse, then let go of the Shift key, but keep the Ctrl or Cmd key held down. Now we'll reposition the word. Click and drag inside the bounding box to position the word or the phrase right on the edge of the main photo mask. Now let go of the Ctrl or Cmd key and click the checkmark to commit. You can change the color and the position of the title later, but one thing you'll want to do now is to give your title a blended look. So in the Layers panel, set the Opacity of this type layer to 50%.

And now, let's finish the rest of the title. When working with font duos, you are almost always going to want to type layers on top of each other that contain different fonts and those two type layers are going to be close in proximity to each other on your scrapbook page. But when this happens, it can often be a challenge to keep your software from confusing the two type layers. Here is the work around that I recommend when combining fonts and font layers. First get the Horizontal Type tool. If we were to set a different font in the Tool Options at this point, the current type layer is going to change its font, so let's not do that. Instead, holding down the Shift key, click in the center of the document to place your cursor. If you didn't have the Shift key held down, the first word you typed would have activated instead of creating a new Type layer. Okay, now we can turn to the Tool Options. Open the Font Picker and choose your print font. I'll choose Sherilyn Sans. Set the Size to 75 and then press Enter or Return to commit that size. Type the word or phrase you want. I'll type in "you are" and then use the same shortcut as before. Hold down the Ctrl or Cmd key and click and drag to rotate and resize and place the word or phrase in a convenient position to the left of the script word. Most pretty words will have a nice place to snuggle in extra phrases, which is what I suggest. Snuggling extra words into the spaces between the letters of the first word is a good way to bring the design principle of proximity to your scrapbook page. It also deals with issues of

trapped space. When you are finished placing your word or phrase, click the checkmark to commit and then just as you did before, lower the Opacity of this type layer to match the previous one.

Not only is the design principle of proximity found when placing your second word close to your first, it's also found by the fact that you placed your entire title very close to and overlapping the masks. This is important and will go a long way to making your simple scrapbook page visually pleasing and relaxing to look at.

So that's how to effectively use a font duo on your Simplicity Challenge scrapbook page. In the next lesson, we'll take a look at some ways to effectively work with journaling and some ways to effectively work to avoid having to use a lot of it. This has been Jen White with Digital Scrapper.