



Perfectly Personal Word Art Paper Strip Template 03 – Photoshop Elements

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[TOU](#)

Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- I've already created a new document that is 3.25 inches wide by 0.6 inches high at 300 ppi with a white background.

Step Two: Create the Main Rectangle

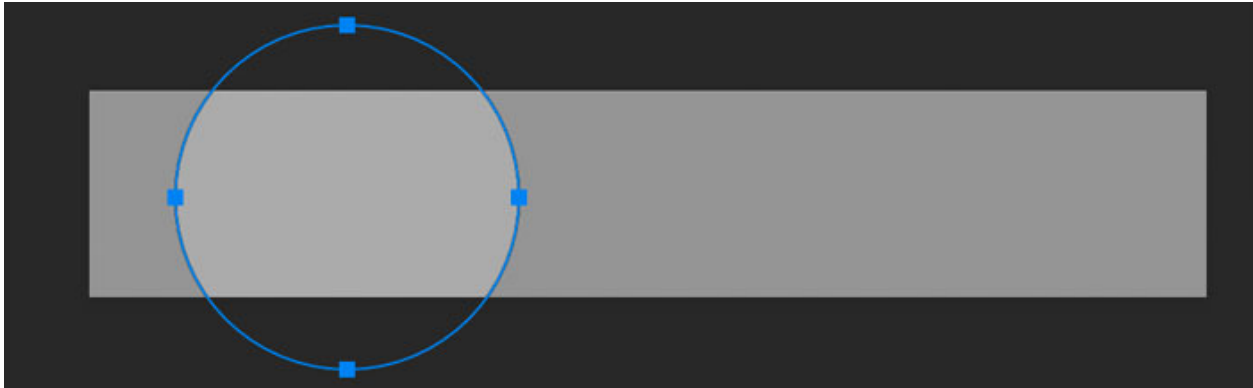
- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker and choose a medium gray color. I'm using Hex #: 959595. Click OK.
- Press Alt Backspace (Mac: Opt Delete) to fill the Background layer with the Foreground color.



Step Three: Create the Circle Accents

- Click on the Foreground Color Chip and open the Color Picker and choose a Light gray color. I'm using Hex #: cccccc. Click OK.
- Get the Ellipse Shape tool.
- In the Tool Options, set the Style to None and the Geometry Options to Fixed Size. Enter a width and height of 1 inch. Click on the Create a New Shape Layer icon.

- On the document, click and drag towards the left side of the document to create the shape. Some of the circle will be hanging off the edges of the document and that's ok.



- Get the Move tool.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Align Vertical Centers icon.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- Now, on the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag the circle until just a small part of it is showing on the left hand side.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it Circle Accent 1. Press Enter to commit the name change.



- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the circle layer.
- On the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag the duplicated circle to the right until it's showing the exact same amount as on the left side.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this duplicated layer and change it to Circle Accent 2. Press Enter to commit the name change.



Step Four: Add the Type

- Now it's time to add some type. So get the Horizontal Type tool.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips.
- In the Tool Options, set the Font to something simple like Myriad Pro Bold, set the Size to 24pts, and the Alignment to Center.
- On the document, click once and add the words TYPE HERE in all caps. Click the checkmark to commit.
- Get the Move tool.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Align Vertical Centers icon and the Align Horizontal Centers icon.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.



TYPE HERE

Step Five: Prepare the Template

- To do that, in the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the name of the Circle Accent 1 layer and choose Simplify Layer.
- Repeat that for the Circle Accent 2 layer.
- Now press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Crop.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Circle Accent 1 layer so that it's active.
- In the Layers panel, Shift click on the Circle Accent 2 layer so that both Ellipse layers are active.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Group Layers.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this group and change it to Circle Accents. Press Enter to commit the name change.

Step Six: Save As

Now our template is ready to be saved. In the Menu Bar, choose File > Save As and remember to save this template in the same folder as before. Use the name Paper-Strip-Template-03.psd.

Tips:

Let's do a quick review:

So far, I've shown you that you can use a paper strip as part of a photo frame cluster and as a main feature of a greeting card.



But a third way you can use your paper strips is to create a simple cluster.

For this simple cluster, all I used was some paint, a stitch, a flower, and of course, the customized version of the paper strip we just created. You don't need a lot of stuff in order to create something that is visually pleasing.



Here are some tips on how to use a paper strip cluster like this:

1. Paper Strips looks great when you place them against the edge of your document. In this example, I used my paper strip cluster up against the lower right edge of my scrapbook page. I also used it as the focal point for the title and the journaling.



2. Paper Strip Clusters also look great when they overlap the edge of a frame. Just the like the edge of a document, paper strips are perfect for overlapping the edges of frames, journal cards, or other paper pieces. Just remember, that if you have something like paint as part of your cluster, to place the paint below the frame or journal card you're using.



So to recap, edges can be your paper strip cluster's best friend. Such a simple cluster can really add a lot to your overall design! And, if you find yourself struggling to create a simple cluster like this, I highly recommend taking the Cluster Queen class by Jen White. It really helped me better understand how to put clusters together.

Credits:
Paper Strip Template: Jenifer Juris

Page and Frame Cluster Credits:

Page: Jenifer Juris

Photo: Jodi Finley (sister)

Kit: Memory Keeper by Kim B Designs

Extras: Paint from Per Diem by One Little Bird

Fonts: Barbara Script, Veteran Typewriter, BentonModDisp