



Perfectly Personal Word Art

Customizing a Template with a Transparent Background – Photoshop

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[TOU](#)

In the first section of this class, I showed you how to work with the paper strip templates when it came to customizing them. Because some of you may be very new to this, I wanted to take a minute to show you how to work with templates that have a transparent background. The templates work exactly the same as the paper strips but it's always good to review, isn't it?

Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- So here I have one of our circle templates open and ready to customize. I've chosen to work with Circle-Template-04.psd.
- So first off, we need to create a copy of this template so we don't accidentally save it over. In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Duplicate. Click OK.
- Close the original Circle-Template-04.psd file now.



Step Two: Clip a Paper to the Main Circle Layer

- To do that, in the Layers panel, make sure the Main Circle layer is the active layer.
- Then, get the Move tool.
- I've already opened this solid black paper and I want to use it for the main circle of my template. I'm following the customization rules by using a solid paper for this layer.
- On the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag the paper onto your circle 4 template document and then let go.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- Now press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- If you can't see the transform handles, press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0) to resize the document to fit.
- Press and hold the Alt key and then click and drag from a corner handle and make the paper smaller until it's just outside the bounds of the document.
- Click the checkmark to commit.
- Now, resize your document by pressing Ctrl + or - or (Mac: Cmd + or -) until your document view size is back at 100%.



Step Three: Clip a Paper to the Inner Circle Accent Layer

- In the Layers panel, make sure the Inner Circle Accent layer is the active layer.
- Then, get the Move tool.
- I've already opened this baseball paper and I want to use it for the main circle of my template.
- On the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag the paper onto your circle 4 template document and then let go.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- Now press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- If you can't see the transform handles, press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0) to resize the document to fit.

- Press and hold the Alt key and then click and drag from a corner handle and make the paper smaller until it's just outside the bounds of the document.
- Click the checkmark to commit.
- Now, resize your document by pressing Ctrl + or - or (Mac: Cmd + or -) until your document view size is back at 100%.



Step Four: Customize the Type - Recolor

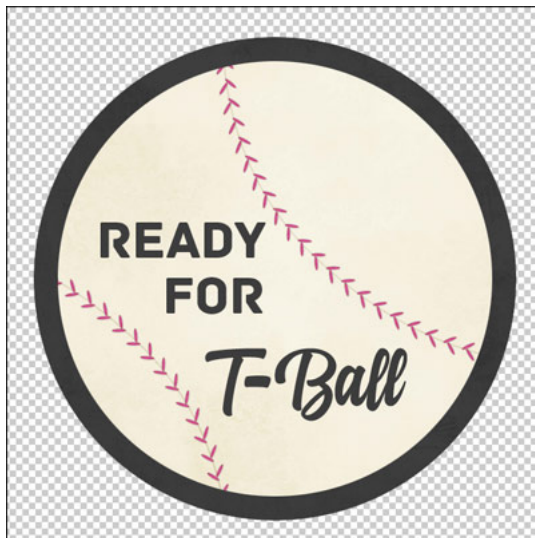
- In the layers panel, click on the type layer to activate it.
- Now, click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker and sample the black paper color. Click OK.
- Press Shift Alt Backspace (Mac: Shift Opt Delete) to fill the type layer with the foreground color.



Step Five: Customize the Type – Update the Font and Words

- In the Layers panel, click on the Type layer to activate it.
- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, change the Font to something you'd like to use.
- On the document, click on the type layer and change the words to the custom words you wish to use. Click the checkmark to commit.
- With the Type tool still active, in the Tool Options, adjust the Font Size accordingly.

NOTE: My customized type for this piece of word art was not the normal placement due to the baseball threads on the paper I used.



Step Six: Move Customized Word Art to a Project

- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- Press Shift Ctrl C (Mac: Shift Cmd C) to copy all of the layers.
- Go to your project document and press Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) to Paste.
- From here, you can add a drop shadow and if necessary, resize it smaller (not larger) for your project.



Credits:

Circle Template: Jenifer Juris

Page: Jenifer Juris

Photo: Jodi Finley (sister)

Kit: Sports Mad by Studio Flergs

Fonts: Archive, Bacem