



Perfectly Personal Word Art Circle Template 01 – Photoshop Elements

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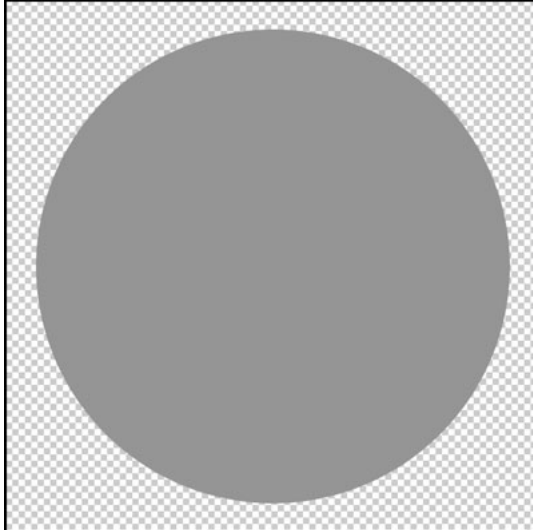
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Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- Create a new document (File > New > Blank Document) that is 2.25 inches wide by 2.25 inches high at 300ppi with a transparent background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

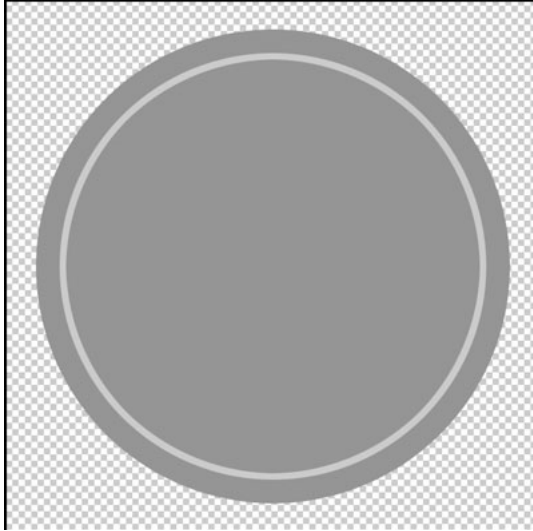
Step Two: Create the Main Circle

- Get the Elliptical Marquee tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon, set the Feather to 0px, and the Aspect to Fixed Size. Enter a width and height of 2 inches. Also check Anti-Alias.
- On the document, click and drag to create the selection. Don't worry about making the selection centered for now. We'll center the circle after we create it.
- 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 layer with the foreground color.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- Get the Move tool.
- 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.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to Main Circle. Press Enter to commit the name change.



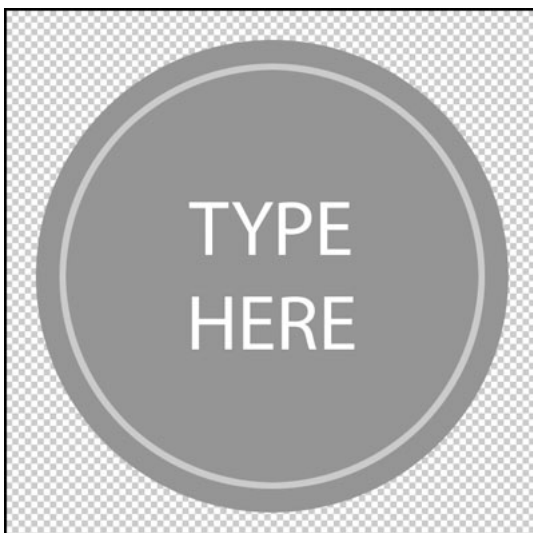
Step Three: Create the Outline Accent

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Get the Elliptical Marquee tool.
- In the Tool Options, leave all the settings the same except for the size. Change the size to 1.8 inches by 1.8 inches.
- On the document, click and drag to create the selection. Again, you don't have to worry about perfectly centering it for now.
- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker and choose a light gray color. I'm using Hex #: cccccc. Click OK.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Stroke (Outline) Selection.
- Set the Width to 8 px. Leave the Color as it should be set to the Foreground Color you just selected. Set the Location to Inside, the Blending Mode to Normal, and the Opacity to 100%. Uncheck Preserve Transparency and click OK.
- Press Ctrl D (mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- Get the Move tool.
- 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.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to Border Accent. Press Enter to commit the name change.



Step Four: Add the Type

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- Press the letter X to switch the foreground color to White.
- In the Tool Options, set the Font to Myriad Pro, the Size to 24pts, and the Alignment to Center.
- On the document, click once and type the phrase TYPE HERE with an enter used inbetween the words. Click the checkmark to commit.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- Get the Move tool.
- 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.



Step Five: Save As

Now your first circle template is ready to be saved. Let's take a quick look at the folder structure we started in section one.

- Custom Word Art
 - Paper Strips
 - Circles
 - Circle-Template-01.psd

In the last section of the class, we talked about creating a folder for all of the templates we're going to create in this class. Go to that folder now. Inside that folder, there should already be a folder called Paper Strips. Create a second folder called Circles. This is the folder where you should save all of your circle templates. Save this file as Circle-Template-01.psd.

Just like before, after each template, I'll show you how to use your customized circle template in a project. We'll also go over a few tips. So, first, here is how I customized the template. I kept things very simple because I wanted the words to be the highlight.



And here's how I used this customized template in a cluster. I made a top edge cluster using some long paper strips, a staple, and some paint. I also added a date because I planned to use this cluster on a scrapbook page.



And here's the page that I made using the customized circle template and the top edge cluster I made. I really like how my top edge cluster reflects the main photo cluster. My Sadie Bear Circle Word Art helps draw the eye from the photo across the page in a diagonal direction.



Here's a few tips on how to use our circle template in a cluster like this. Keep in mind, many of the tips we used for Paper Strips will also be seen with the other paper piece templates we create. But I've always learned things best, when it's been repeated so I hope these tips are helpful for you to remember ways to make great use of your custom word art!

1. Use a Fastener

In this case, I used a staple element to fasten the customized circle template to the rest of my cluster.



2. Use a Custom Shadow

In this case, a custom shadow underneath the circle word art is just the thing this cluster needed to add that special touch of realism.



3. Use an Anchor.

As I often recommend, using an anchor, in this case, I used paint, is a great way to ground the cluster and give it visual interest at the same time.



Credits:

Circle Template: Jenifer Juris

Page & Photo: Jenifer Juris

Kit: Kidz Rule by Simple Pleasure Designs

Fonts: Didonesque, Honest Script