Digital Scrapper Premier 2023, Volume 6

Lesson 3, Variation 3, Plastic Custom Shadow

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# Lesson 3, Variation 3, Plastic Custom Shadow
by Jen White

Lift part of your bevel plastic shape right off the page by applying a skewed custom shadow.

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NOTE: Please complete the lessons in the order they are provided.

For this lesson you will need:
• the stitches from the Class-Files folder.
• the star-shape from the Class-Files folder.
• the PlasticStrokedShapeAction (styles and action) from the Class-Files folder. (Loaded)
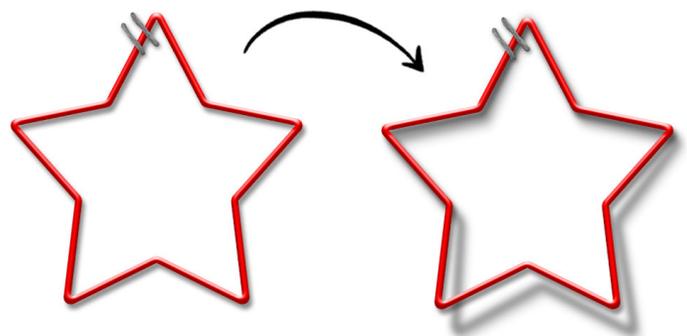
Quick Steps for Lesson 3, Variation 3, Plastic Custom Shadow

Step-by-step instructions are below.

• Create a new document.
• Add a shape or element.
• Run the Plastic action.
• Add a custom shadow.

Step-By-Step for Lesson 3, Variation 3, Plastic Custom Shadow

Before You Get Started

NOTE: If you already have the styles and action loaded, you do not need to do it again.

• In the Styles panel (Window > Styles), open the flyout menu and choose Load Styles. Navigate to the DSP23-V6-PlasticStrokedShape.asl file in the PlasticStrokedShapeAction folder from the Class-Files folder. Click Load/Open.
• In the Actions panel (Window > Actions), open the flyout menu and choose Load Actions. Navigate to the PlasticStrokedShape.atn file in the PlasticStrokedShapeAction folder from the Class-Files folder. Click Load/Open.

Prepare Your Workspace

• Create a new 12 x 12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (PS: Choose File > New.)
• Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

Add the Star Shape

• Get the Move tool.
• In the Tool Options, uncheck both Auto Select Layer (PS: Auto-Select) and Show Bounding Box (PS: Show Transform Controls).
• Open the star-shape (File > Open) from the Class-Files.
• Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the star shape onto the new document.
• Press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +) three times to zoom in.
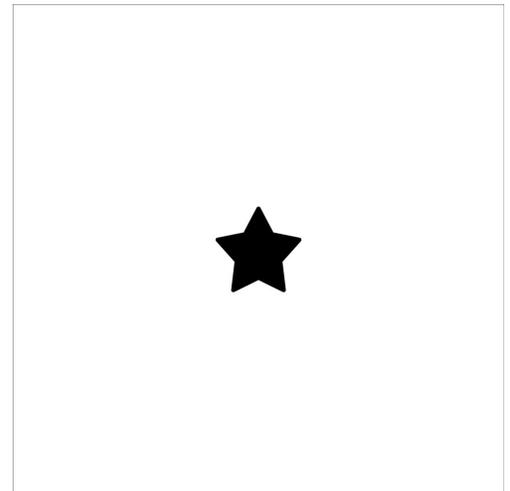
Play the Action

• In the Actions panel, in the DSP23-V6 Plastic Stroke Shape folder, click on the DS Plastic Stroked Shape action and click the Play icon.
• In the dialog box, press Continue to confirm the reminders. If you have not loaded the styles or resized the element, press Stop, fix the errors, and press Play again.
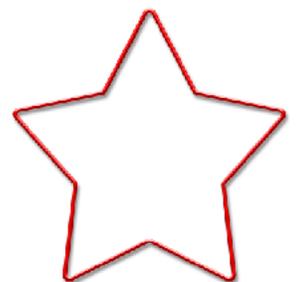
Add a Fastener
- Open the stitches (File > Open) from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the stitches onto the document and over the top edge of the star. If needed, use your Arrow keys to nudge the stitches into place. See the screenshot.
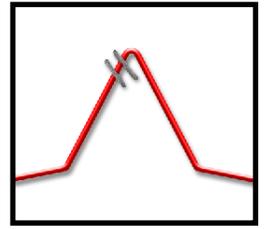
Add a Custom Shadow
- In the Layers panel, click on the Plastic group to activate it.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the Plastic group.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the layer style of the duplicate group to open the style settings.
- In the dialog box, uncheck Drop Shadow and click OK.
- In the Layers panel, click on the bottom Plastic group to activate it.
- Open the flyout menu and choose Simplify Layer. (PS: Choose Merge Group.)
- Double click directly on the name of the merged layer, rename it CUSTOM SHADOW, and press Enter/Return.
- Press Shift Alt Backspace (Mac: Shift Opt Delete) to fill the pixels with black. You will not see much change on the document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur.
- In the dialog box, set the Radius to 5 and click OK.
- In the Layers panel, set the Blend Mode to Multiply and the Opacity to 50.
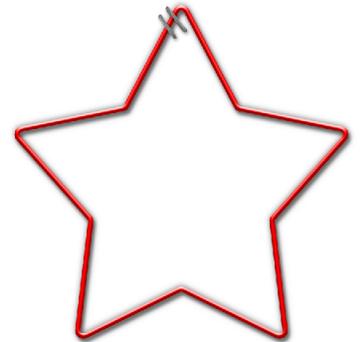
Skew the Custom Shadow
- Holding down the Shift key, press the Down Arrow key once to move the shadow down 10 pixels.
- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- Holding down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) to activate the skew option, click and drag the bottom handle of the bounding box down and to the right 2-4°.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.
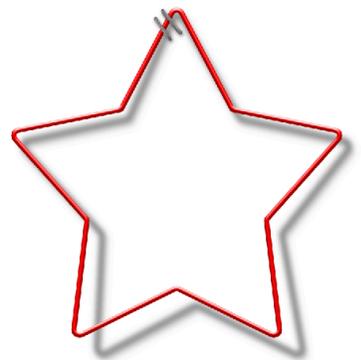
How to Change the Color of the Plastic
- In the Layers panel, double click on the layer style of the Plastic group to open the style settings.
- Click on Stroke to activate the settings.
- Double click on the Color Chip to open the Color Picker.
- In the Color Picker, choose a new color (or sample one from your document) and click OK to close the Color Picker.
- Click OK to close the settings dialog box.
- Finish the page as desired.

I'm not really a shoe
person. But, a gal like me
needs a cute pair of canvas
shoes for those rare
occasions I leave the house.

I saw these shoes on
Instagram about six months
ago but decided the price tag
was beyond practical. So, they
sat idle in my wishlist on
Amazon. Then, in a moment
of weakness, they somehow
made their way to my front
door. I love them.
They are me!

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