



Digital Scrapper Premier 2023, Volume 7

Lesson 2, Variation 1, Letter Grid Anchor

Digital Scrapper Premier 2023, Volume 7

Lesson 2, Variation 1, Letter Grid Anchor

by Jen White

Clip a pretty paper to a letter grid to use as an anchor.

© 2023 Digital Scrapper
Terms of Use

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

For this lesson you will need:

- paper6 from the Class-Files folder.
- word-art-relax from the Class-Files folder.

R



Quick Steps for Lesson 2, Variation 1, Letter Grid Anchor

Step-by-step instructions are below.

- Create a new document.
- Add a 2-inch grid.
- Add a black 500 pt capital letter.
- Resize the letter to fit fully inside the grid squares.
- Mask away gridlines from the letter.
- Clip paper to the letter grid.
- Complete the title.
- Finish the page using the letter grid as an anchor.

Step-By-Step for Lesson 2, Variation 1, Letter Grid Anchor

Prepare Your Workspace

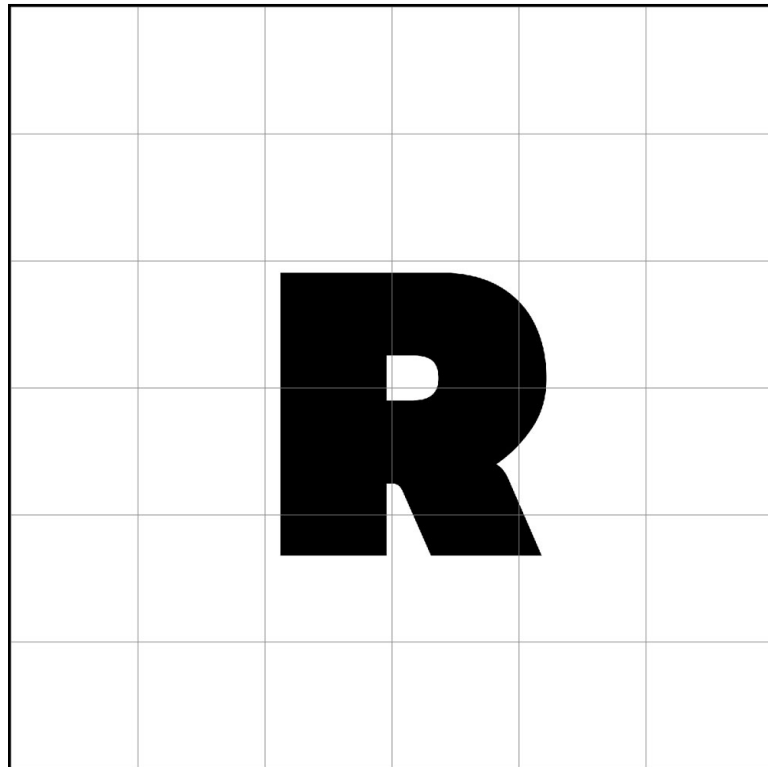
- Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. Letter-sized documents will also work for this tutorial. (PS: Choose File > New.)
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

Add a 2-Inch Grid

- Press Ctrl K (Mac: Cmd K) to open Preferences.
- In the dialog box, click on Guides & Grid (PS: Guides, Grid & Slices). Set Gridline Every to 2 and Subdivisions to 1. Click OK.
- In the Menu Bar, choose View (PS: View > Show) and place a checkmark next to Grid.

Add a Capital Letter

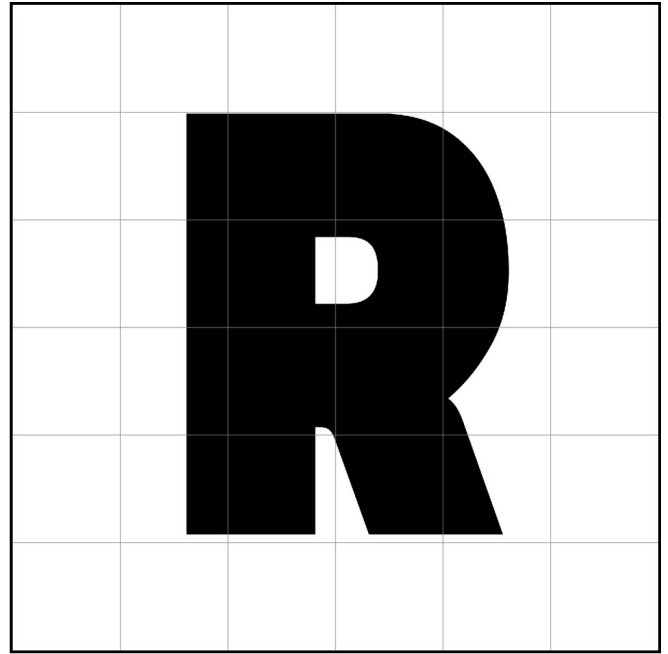
- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose Kanit Black. Set the Size to 500. Click on the Center Align icon.
- On the document, click once in the center, type a capital letter, and click the checkmark to commit the change. I'll type a capital R because it coordinates with the word art.



Resize the Letter Within the Grid

- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- On the document, click and drag on the corner handles of the bounding box until the longest side of the letter spans just under 4 (or fewer) squares of the grid.
- To reposition the letter, click and drag inside the bounding box.
- If needed, click and drag (PS: hold down the Shift key) on the side handles to make the letter fit better within the grid.

TIP: Do not let the edges of the letter extend past the gridline in tiny slivers.



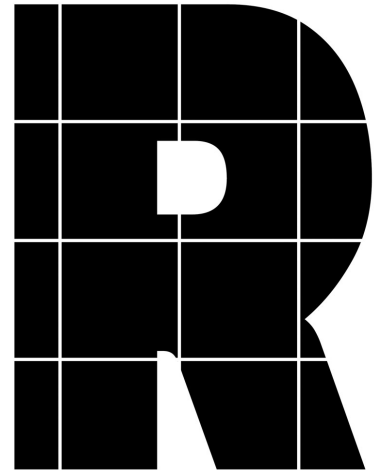
Mask Away Lines in the Letter

- Get the Brush tool.
- **Photoshop Elements Only:** In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker, open dropdown the menu, and choose Default Brushes. Choose a Hard Round brush. If you don't see the names of the brushes, open the flyout menu and place a checkmark next to Large List. Set the Size to 15. Set the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 100. Click on Brush Settings. Set the Fade, Hue Jitter, and Scatter to 0. Set the Spacing to 5%. Set the Hardness to 100 and the Roundness to 100.
- **Adobe Photoshop Only:** In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker, open General Brushes, and choose the Hard Round brush. If you don't see the names of the brushes, open the flyout menu and place a checkmark next to Brush Name. Set the Size to 15. Set the Mode to Normal, the Opacity to 100, and the Flow to 100. In the Brush Settings panel (Window > Brush Settings), set the Spacing to 5% and uncheck all Brush Tip Shape options.
- Press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +) until the letter nearly fills the viewing area and you can clearly see the gridlines and the entire boundary of the letter.
- In the Layers panel, the type layer should still be active.
- Click on the Add Layer Mask icon.
- Black needs to be the Foreground Color Chip; if it's not, press the letter X.

- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag from the beginning of the top horizontal grid line to the end, making sure to completely cross the letter. (See the screenshot.)

NOTE: Holding down the Shift key will ensure that your brush travels in a straight line.

- Repeat for the gridlines that intersect with the letter.
- In the Menu Bar, choose View (PS: View > Show) and uncheck Grid.

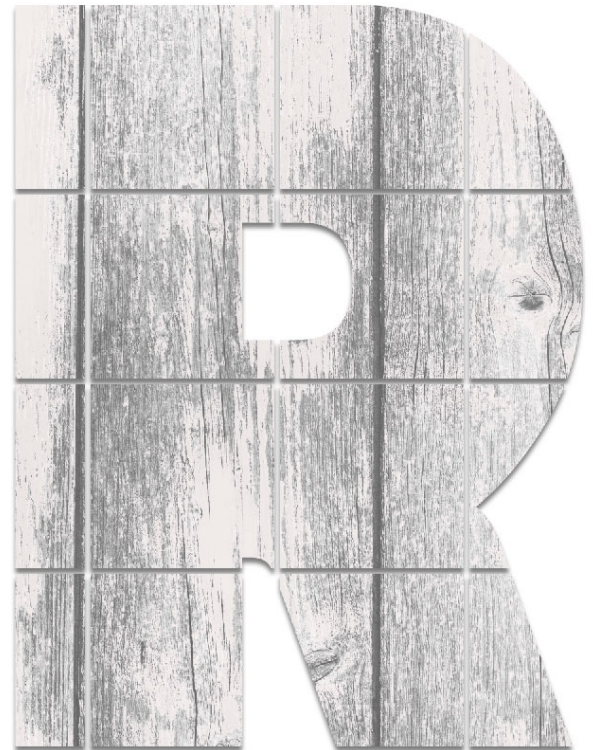


Clip a Paper to the Letter Grid

- Open paper6 (File > Open) from the Class-File folder.
- Get the Move tool.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the paper onto the document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- To reposition the paper, on the document, click and drag on the paper. Make sure the boundaries of the paper stay outside the boundaries of the letter grid.

Add a Drop Shadow to the Letter Grid

- In the Layers panel, click on the letter layer to activate it.
- **Photoshop Elements only:** In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings. In the dialog box, set the Lighting Angle to 120. Click on Drop Shadow to activate it and reveal the settings. Set the Size to 15, the Distance to 15, and the Opacity to 50. Click OK.
- **Adobe Photoshop only:** In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Drop Shadow. In the dialog box, set the Blend Mode to Multiply, the Opacity to 50, the Angle to 120, the Distance to 15, the Spread to 0, and the Size to 15. Click OK.



NOTE: Once you complete your page, you may need to alter the settings of the drop shadow so you can clearly see the masked lines in the letter. A drop shadow that's too large will make the lines hard to see.

Use the Letter Grid as an Anchor

- Add a sticker style title to complete the thought of the large letter.
- Add photos and elements on the edge of the letter.
- Complete the page and save.



Page & Photo: Jen White
Class: DSP23, Vol 7, Lesson 2,
Letter Grid
Kits: Digital Scrapper, Autumn
Things by CarolW Designs
Fonts: Liza Display Pro, Caroni