Perfectly Personal Word Art
Paper Strip 04 – PSE Transcript
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Who knew paper strips could be so much fun! For this template, we'll be working with the line tool. So here we are in Photoshop elements. I've already created a new document that is 0.6 inches high by 3.25 inches wide at 300 pixels per inch with a white background. Press the letter D to reset the color chips. Then click on the foreground color chip to open the color picker and choose a medium gray color. I'm using hex number nine five nine five nine five and then click okay. Now press alt backspace in windows or option delete on a Mac to fill the background layer with the foreground color. Then click on the foreground color chip to open the color picker and choose a light gray color. This time I'm using hex number CCCCCC, and then click okay. Now get the line tool. And in the tool options, set the ~~stroke to~~, the style to none, the width to 10 pixels, and the arrow head options to no Arrowhead. And then click on the create a new shape layer icon. So on the document while holding down the shift key, click and drag a vertical line from outside the edge of the top of the document to outside the edge of the bottom of the document and make sure it's closer to the left hand side of the document.

Now press control T in windows or command T on a Mac to get the transform options. And then in the tool options, set the angle to 25 degrees and then click the checkmark to commit. This may bring up a pop up window asking you to turn a live shape into a regular path. Just click yes to continue. Then in the tool options, click on the simplify icon.

Now press control J in windows or command J on a Mac to duplicate the layer. Then get the move tool. And on the document while holding down the shift key, click and drag the duplicated line to the left until there's a small amount of space between the two lines. Then in the layers panel, click on the first line layer to activate it. Then press control J in windows or command J on a Mac to duplicate the line again. And then on the document while holding down the shift key, click and drag a second duplicated line to the right until there's the same amount of space between them. Then in the layers panel, click on the top line layer to activate it. And then shift click on the bottom line layer so that all three layers are active. Then in the tool options click on the distribute horizontally icon. This is going to ensure that the spacing is equally distributed. With the three line layers still activated in the layers panel, press control J in windows or command J on a Mac to duplicate the lines. Then on the document while holding down the shift key, click and drag the second set of lines to the side of the document.

Now in the layers panel, click on the bottom line layer to activate it. Then again in the layers panel shift click on the top line layer so that all of the line layers are active. Then in the menu bar, choose layer, group layers. In the layers panel, double click on the name of this group and change it to line accents and then press enter to commit the name change.

Now get the horizontal type tool and then press the letter X to switch the foreground color to white. In the tool options, set the font to myriad pro or something similar. Set the size to 24 points and the alignment to center. And then on the document, click once and type the words text here in all caps and then click the checkmark to commit. Now get the move tool and then press control A in windows or command A on a Mac to select all.

Then in the tool options, click on the align vertical centers icon and the align horizontal centers icon. Now before we release the selection in the menu bar, choose image, crop.

Now you can press control D in windows or command D on a Mac to de-select.

At this point, you can save this template with the name paper strip template zero four dot PSD in the same folder as the other paper strips. Now it's time for some inspiration and some tips on how to further use our custom word art strips. In the last lesson we talked about how you can use a word art paper strip to make a simple cluster. In this lesson I'm going to show you another way you can use your custom paper strips to create a simple cluster. Another spin you can put on the simple cluster is to simply duplicate the paper strip you created. Here are some tips on how to create this duplicated paper strip cluster. Number one, use a fastener. One of the ways you can dress up a paper strip in a cluster is to add a fastener. Using a staple or a button or some other kind of fastener is a great way to add visual interest without overpowering your cluster. Number two, rotate the angle. When you are using duplicates of the same paper strip, it's a good idea to rotate at least one of the paper strips in the cluster. Not only does this allow you to better see both paper strips, it also adds visual interest.

Number three, use an anchor. Adding a scatter, paint, scribble, or some other kind of anchor behind your paper strips is a great way to add visual interest to your paper strip cluster. And then number four, add a 3-D object. This last step is more of an optional one. You don't always have to add a three D object to your clusters, but in this case, adding in a third color by using the green leaf helped add some visual interest. I chose a flower that was pretty neutral too so that it wouldn't take away from the paper strips. Now that we've covered some tips on how to create a duplicated paper strip cluster, let me show you how I used it. In this case, I placed the duplicated paper strip cluster along the edge of a photo frame. I made sure to keep the paint below the photo and the frame elements, but this cluster works perfectly here because it points our eyes to the photo of our dog Annie. One of our nicknames for her is Annie banannie, so that's why I use that phrase on this paper strip. In our next video we'll create another paper strip template together. We'll be using the stroke outline to create something great. This is Jenifer Juris with perfectly personal word art.