



10 Timeless Titles, Vol. 1

Matchy Gradient Title (Adobe Photoshop)

by Julie Singco

Quickly create a color coordinating title using the Type tool and a Gradient.

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Prepare the Workspace

- Begin in Adobe Photoshop.
- Create a new 12x12 inch document at 300 ppi with a white background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

Type a Word or Phrase

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Font Picker and choose a font. This tutorial will work for any font style. I'll choose Arial.
- In the Tool Options, set the Size to 125. Click on the Center Align icon. The Color Chip should be black. If it's not, click on it, choose black, and click OK.
- In the Character panel (Window > Character), set the Leading to Auto and the Tracking to 0.
- On the document, click once near the center to place your cursor.
- Type a word or small phrase. Since this is my template, I'll use "Page Title."
- To reposition the word, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click and drag inside the bounding box.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.

Page Title

Add a Gradient Overlay

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Gradient Overlay.
- In the dialog box, click on Reset to Default.
- Set the Blend Mode to Normal, check Dither, and set the Opacity to 100%.
- Click directly on the gradient (not the arrow) to open the Gradient Editor.

Why click on the gradient instead of the arrow?

Clicking on the arrow opens the Gradient Picker. In the Gradient Picker, you choose from predefined gradients with colors that may or may not coordinate with your project. Those work fine for some projects. Clicking on the gradient opens the Gradient Editor, where you can customize the colors of the gradient to match your project.

- In the Gradient Editor, open the Basics folder and choose Foreground to Background. If you do not see the Basic folder, see the note below. If you do not see Foreground to Background, open the flyout menu and choose Large List.

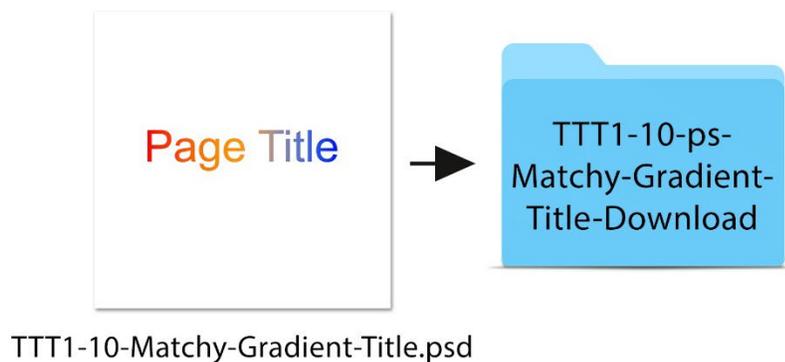
NOTE: If you do not see the Basics folder, cancel out of all dialog boxes. Get the Gradient tool. In the Tool Options, click on the arrow to open the Gradient Picker. Open the flyout menu and choose Append Default Gradients. Close the Gradient Picker and try the tutorial again.

- In the Gradient Editor, click on the left Color Stop. Color Stops are the little squares below the strip of color. When a Color Stop is selected, the tiny triangle above the square will turn black.
- Click on the Color Chip to open the Color Picker, and choose red. Since this is our template, the colors we choose for this template are not important. Click OK to close the Color Picker.
- Click once below the strip of color, about halfway between the left and right Color Stops. Now there are three Color Stops. Click on the Color Chip, choose orange, and click OK.
- Click on the right Color Stop. Click on the Color Chip, choose blue, and click OK.
- Click OK to close the Gradient Editor.
- In the Layer Style dialog box, uncheck Reverse, set the Style to Linear, check Align with Layer, set the Angle to 0 degrees, the Scale to 100% and the Method to Perceptual. Click OK to close the dialog box.

Page Title

Save and Use the Template

- Save the document (File > Save As) as a layered PSD file inside the class files download folder. Name the document “TTT1-10-Matchy-Gradient-Title.psd”. We’ll be using this file in the next step.



Add the Title Layers to a Project

- Open the TTT1-10-Layered-Quick-Page.psd file (File > Open) from the class files download folder.

NOTE: If you get a warning dialog box about text layers, place a checkmark next to Don't Show Again and then click Update.

- In the Layers panel of the Quick Page, click on the topmost background paper layer to activate it.

- Activate the TTT1-10- Matchy-Gradient-Title.psd document that you saved in the last step.
- In the Layers panel, click on the title layer to activate it.
- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, Auto-Select Layer needs to be unchecked.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the layer onto the layered quick page. The title layer should still be active.
- On the document, click and drag the layer to reposition.

How To Change the Title

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the title layer to highlight the type.
- Type a different word or phrase. I'll type "BUS STOP."
- Click the checkmark to commit the type.
- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, choose a different font. I'll choose FFF Tusj. Adjust the font size as needed.
- On the document, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click and drag inside the bounding box to reposition.
- In the Layers panel, the title layer should be active.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Gradient Overlay.
- In the dialog box, click directly on the gradient (not the arrow) to open the Gradient Editor.
- In the Gradient Editor, click on a Color Stop. Click on the Color Chip to open the Color Picker. Choose a different color in the Color Picker or sample a color on the document. Click OK to close the Color Picker.
- Repeat the above step for each Color Stop.
- Click OK to close the Gradient Editor.
- In the Layer Style dialog box, change the Angle to achieve different looks. Try setting the Angle to 0, 45 or 90 degrees.
- Click OK to close the dialog box.

How To Replace the Journaling of the Layered Quick Page

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the journaling layer to highlight all the type.
- Type your journaling and click the checkmark to commit the change.
- To change the font, in the Character panel, open the Font Picker and choose a different font.

Ideas for Finishing the Title

Change the colors of the Gradient Overlay to coordinate with colors in a photo or element on the page.



Change the Angle of the Gradient Overlay. Try setting the Angle to 0, 45, or 90 degrees.

Hello Hello Hello

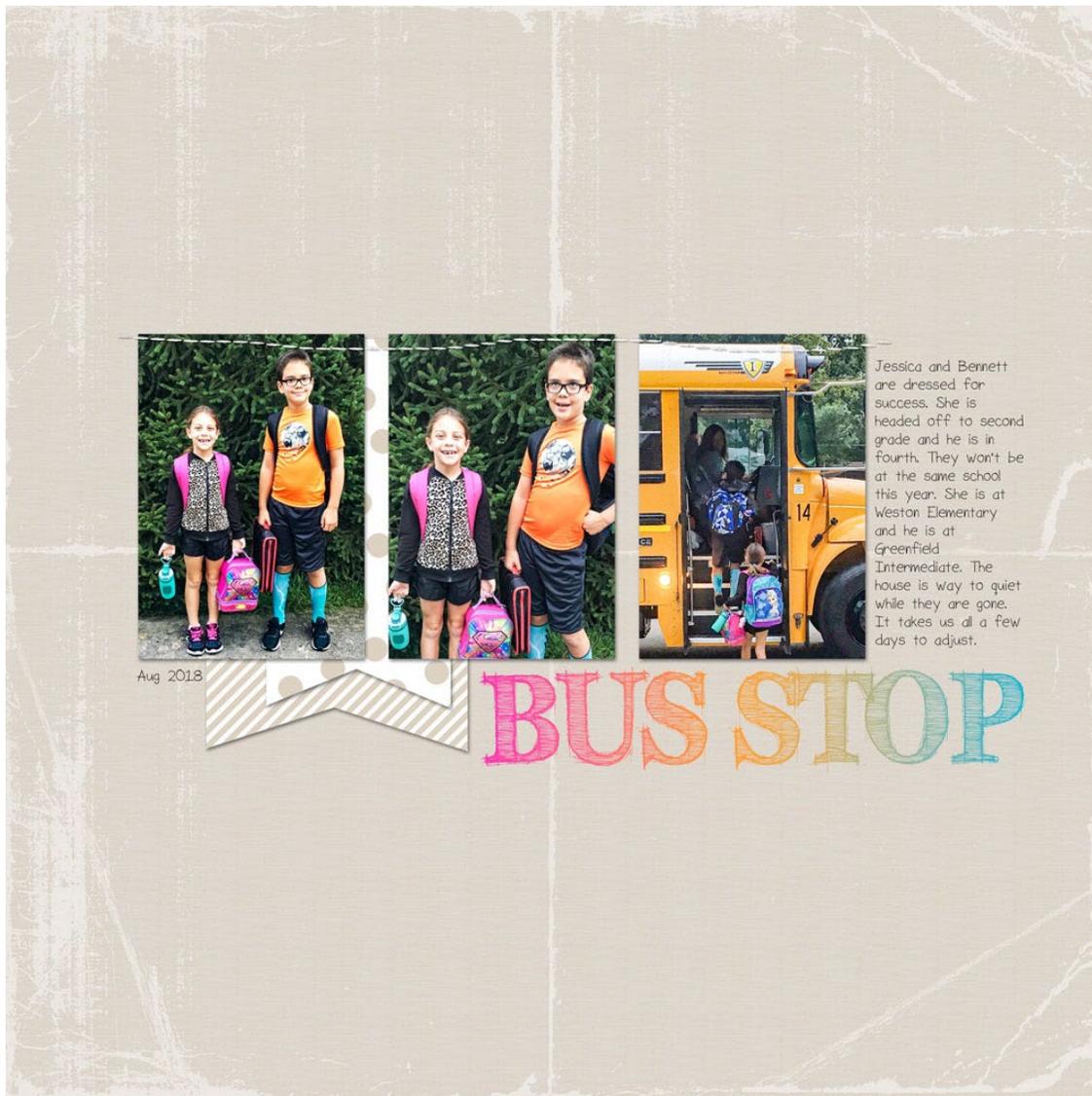
0 degrees

45 degrees

90 degrees

If the font is chunky enough, you can add a drop shadow to the type layer.

BUS STOP



Page & Photos: Bus Stop by Julie Singco
Quick Page: 10 Timeless Titles, Vol. 1 by Digital Scrapper
Fonts: FFF Tusj, Sorbet LTD



Card: Julie Singco
Kit: Menagerie by One Little Bird
Font: Impact