Perfectly Personal Word Art
Hexagon Template 04 – Homework Part 1B Transcript
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My hope is as you work through this class that your skill set will continue to grow and that you'll find yourself becoming more and more familiar with the tools and techniques we're using to create our customizable templates. While this template isn't very difficult, it does require a few more steps to complete. Just like the previous lesson, I'm going to show you the visual of the template, give you the main steps you need to follow and I'll provide helpful hints along the way. With this specific template, I will be showing you a few of the images from the manual so that you can better see if you're on the right track and as always the specific step by step instructions are in the manual for this lesson, which can be found in the downloads.

So here's a visual for the template we're going to create. Can you see the main parts? First there is the main hexagon. Second, there are the lines, and third there's the type. I know the lines might look tricky, but it's not as hard as you might think.

The first main step is to create a new document. The new documents specifications are 2.25 inches by 2.25 inches at 300 pixels per inch with a transparent background.

The second main step is to create the main hexagon. To complete this step, you'll need to use the custom shape tool and utilize the hexagon shape. You'll need to use a fixed size of two inches wide by 1.73 inches high. You'll also want to make sure that once you place the hexagon on the document that you center the hexagon on the document as well.

The third main step is to create the line accents. This step is slightly more involved, so I'll do my best to walk you through it. To make the first line, you'll want to use the rectangular marquee tool. Use a fixed size of 2.25 inches wide by 0.03 inches high. Once you've created the selection, fill the selection with the light gray color using the shortcut of alt backspace in windows or option delete on a Mac. Also remember that any time you use a selection tool to create a shape, you'll need to create a new layer in the layers panel. Once you've created the line, you'll need to move it into place slightly below the top edge of the hexagon. Now that we've created one of the lines, we can duplicate what we've made by pressing control J in windows or command J on a Mac. Then you just need to move the duplicated line down, so it's the same amount of space above the bottom edge as the first line is below the top edge.

The next thing you need to do is duplicate the line again by using the same shortcut as before. Press control J in windows or command J on a Mac to duplicate it. Then you'll need to press control T in windows or command T on a Mac to get the transform options. In the tool options, you'll need to set the angle to a minus 60 degrees. Once you've adjusted the angle of the third line, you'll need to move it into place. You'll want it to be just inside the lower right edge of the hexagon. As you can see here, note that the amount of space between the edges and the lines are as close to the same as possible. Now press control J in windows or command J on a Mac to duplicate the angled line and move it into place so it's just inside the upper left edge of the hexagon.

The next thing you'll need to do is remove the portions of the angled lines that overhang the straight lines. You'll want to use the rectangular marquee tool to do this. Here's a visual of the part of the angled lines you'll be selecting once you've selected them, press the backspace key in windows or the delete key on a Mac to remove the selected parts.

Now in order to make this template user-friendly, we'll want to merge the four line layers together, but before you do that, you want to make sure that your lines are placed exactly where you want them, so get any tweaking or moving done. First in the layers panel you'll want to select all four lines and then in the menu bar choose layer, Merge down, to merge all four layers together.

The last thing we have to do to complete the line accents step is to remove the excess pixels that overhang the boundaries of the main hexagon layer. You'll do that using the select inverse process we've used in previous lessons. If you need the exact steps, you can find them in the manual. Oh boy, did you make it? I know this template was slightly more complicated, so again, if you got stuck at any point during step three, please don't hesitate to look at the manual for the step by step instructions.

Now all that's left is to add the type. Use a basic font like myriad pro, set the size to 24 points and set the alignment to center. Type the text out as you see it in the visual and make sure you center the type layer on the document. Now you can save this template as hexagon template zero four dot PSD in the same folder as the others. Here's one more look at the template we just created. I really like how it almost looks like a lens opening without it being a literal representation. The next thing we're going to do is part two of the homework. It's time we used some of our hexagon templates in a project. This is Jenifer Juris with perfectly personal word art.