



Lesson 1: Shape it Up - Diamonds & Dots Manual © Syndee Rogers

This video was filmed in Photoshop Elements but the instructions are just the same in Adobe Photoshop unless where noted.

Prepare the Workspace

- Create a new document (File > New > Blank File) 135 pixels wide x 200 pixels in height at 300 ppi with a transparent background. (**Photoshop:** File > New)
- Zoom in by pressing Ctrl + or (Mac: Cmd +).
- In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide, and set Horizontal to 50% then click OK.
- In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide, and set Vertical to 50% then click OK.
- In the Menu Bar, choose View > Snap To > Guides.
- In the Menu Bar, choose View > Snap To > Document Bounds.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white

Create the Shape

- Get the Custom Shape tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Shape Picker and choose the Diamond shape. If you don't see the Diamond shape, click on the Menu and choose Shapes.
- Click on Create New Shape Layer, Check From Center, open the Setting and choose Fixed Size. Set the Width to 135 pixels and the Height to 200 pixels. (**Photoshop:** choose Pixels, check the Anti-alias box. Open the Path Options, and choose Fixed Size.)
- On your document, click right in the center of your guidelines and drag slightly to create the Shape.
- In the Tool Options, click Simplify to rasterize the shape. (**Photoshop:** You do not need to rasterize the shape in Photoshop since we chose Pixels.)

Save the Pattern Swatch

- Save the Pattern swatch document (File > Save As) as a PSD and name it Diamond.

Define the Pattern

- In the Menu bar, choose Edit > Define Pattern. In the dialog box, name the pattern Diamond. Click OK.

Create the Diamond Overlay

- Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (**Photoshop:** File > New)
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > New Fill layer > Pattern. Click OK. If your pattern doesn't show up right away, open the Pattern Picker and choose your Diamond Pattern and click OK.

Create the Pattern Swatch

- Activate the Diamond Pattern Swatch.
- In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate, (**Photoshop:** Choose Image > Duplicate) name it Diamond Dot, Click OK.
- Close the original.
- Activate the Diamond Overlay document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose File > Save As and name it Diamond Dot and click Save.
- Close it for now.
- Click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Get the Ellipse tool.
- Open the Color Picker and choose a medium grey. Click Create New Shape Layer icon. In the Settings set to Fixed Size and set both the Width and Height to .060 in. Make sure From Center is unchecked. (**Photoshop:** choose Pixels, check the Anti-alias box, and open Path Options and choose Fixed Size)
- Making sure you are on the blank layer, click anywhere on your document and drag slightly to create the shape.
- Press Ctrl + or (Mac: Cmd +) and then grab the bottom right corner of you document window and drag down and out a bit. We want to be able to see outside the bounds of the transparent area of our document. This will help us center and place the circle.
- Get the move tool.
- Uncheck Show Bounding Box.
- On your document, move the circle up to the top point of you diamond shape. The circle should snap to the center guide as well as the top edge of the document bounds.
- Press Control J (Mac: Command J) to duplicate the circle.
- In the Menu bar, choose Filter > Other > Offset. In the dialog box, choose Rasterize. Set Horizontal to 0, the Vertical to 200 pixels down, and the Undefined Areas to Wrap Around. Click OK.
- In the Layers panel, Activate the Shape 2 layer which is our original circle shape at the top of our diamond.
- Press Control J (Mac: Command J) to duplicate the circle.
- On the document, click on the duplicate circle and move down and over to the diamond point on the right side. Center on the horizontal guideline and the edge of the document so that only half of the circle is visible inside the document bounds.

- Press Control J (Mac: Command J) to duplicate the circle.
- In the Menu bar, choose Filter > Other > Offset. In the dialog box, choose Rasterize, set Horizontal to -135 pixels right and the Vertical to 0 pixels down. Undefined Areas should be set to Wrap Around. Click OK
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the diamond shape layer to hide it.

Save the Pattern Swatch

- Save the Pattern swatch (Save As) as a layered PSD and name it Diamond Dots Pattern Swatch.

Define the Pattern Swatch

- In the Menu bar, choose Edit > Define Pattern. In the dialog box, name the pattern Diamond Dots. Click OK.
- Close the Pattern swatch.

Add the Dots Pattern

- Open the 12x12 inch Diamond overlay document. (File > Open)
- Double-click on the Diamond Pattern thumbnail, and in the dialog box change the scale to 200% and click OK.
- Now, remember our pattern hack from our Plaid lesson? Activate the Diamond Pattern layer in the Layers panel.
- Press Control J (Mac: Command J) to duplicate the circle.
- Double-click on the duplicate Diamond Pattern thumbnail, and in the dialog box, open the Pattern Picker and choose your Diamond Dots swatch. Change the scale to 200% and click OK. The dots should automatically line up with the diamonds.

Save the Overlay

- Save (Save) changes to this overlay by pressing Ctrl S (Mac: Cmd S).

