Mastery1-07-el-Wavy-Ribbed-RicRac-transcript

Digital Scrapbooking Mastery, No. 1
Lesson 7: Wavy Ribbed Ric Rac for PSE
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My mother used to sew me dresses trimmed with ric rac. I find it classic and delightful. In lesson seven of this class, we'll couple the Halftone filter with the Wave filter and enjoy a little time of nostalgic distortion. Here in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements, I'm starting with the scrapbook page that we ended with in lesson six. In the Layers panel, the pattern paper anchor group is the active group. Begin by clicking on the create a New Layer icon and then double click directly on the name of that layer and rename it. Then get the Rectangular Marquee Tool. In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. The Feather should be set to 0 px and they Aspect to Normal. On the scrapbook page, click and drag out a long skinny rectangle. My rectangle is going to be approximately a 1/2 inch tall and about 11 inches long. Next, we'll fill this rectangle with some color by using an adjustment layer. In the Layers panel, click on the Adjustment Layer icon and choose Solid Color. You can choose a color from the Color Picker or you can choose one from the swatches that you replaced at the beginning of this class. Click on the Color Swatches panel. Choose one of your swatches by clicking on it, and then click OK to close the Color Picker.
Next, return to the Layers panel. Then press Ctrl J, Cmd J on a Mac, to duplicate the ric rac layer. Rename this layer Texture. Then we need to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white by pressing the letter D. Next I want to apply a filter to this layer, but since it's vector, I'm going to have to simplify it first. Right click in Windows, or Ctrl click on a Mac,

on that layer and choose Simplify Layer. Now in the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Render > Clouds. Then in the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask. Next we'll apply another filter. In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Filter Gallery. In the dialog box open the Sketch gallery and choose Halftone. In the settings, we'll set the Size to 4, the Contrast to 0, and the Pattern to Line. Then click OK. Next we'll change the Blend Mode of the texture layer to Soft Light.

At this point we're going to have to simplify again in order to run another filter. But just in case we want to go back later and make any changes or just go back to having a plain straight ribbon, I'm going to save these layers into a group. And I'll just name this group Ribbon. Now I'm going to duplicate the group by pressing Ctrl J, Cmd J on a Mac, and rename this group RicRac. I'll hide the Ribbon group by clicking on the Visibility icon of it. Then I'm going to make sure that the Ric Rac group is active. In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Simplify Layer.

Now I'm ready to run the filter. In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Distort > Wave.

In the Wave dialog box, you'll want to set the Type to Sign, the Number of Generators to 1, the Wavelength Minimum and Maximum both to 100, the Amplitude Minimum to 40 and the Amplitude Maximum to 40. Now you should have noticed that Photoshop Elements will not allow you to have the minimum and the maximum exactly the same. They have to be one point different, but what's important is that they're only one point different. If you make them more than one point different than you're going to start looking a little bit more alien in this preview box. To understand this dialog box a little better, the Wavelength settings referred to the horizontal stretch of the wave. So if I were to bring the wave lengths settings up, you can see that the wave stretches out. I'll put it back down to around 100. The Amplitude settings have to do with the vertical stretch of the ric rac. So if I move the Amplitude up, you can see that the vertical stretch becomes much bigger. But again, I'll move it down to around 40. For the scale, keep it at 100. And then activate the Repeat Edge Pixels and then click OK. As you can imagine, there are literally a gazillion different settings of what you could make this ric rac look like. So I'm just going to stick with this.

And for now I'm going to transform it to be smaller and in a different direction. So press Ctrl T, Cmd T on a Mac, to get the Transform options. Hover your cursor near corner handle of the bonding box until you see the curved double headed arrow. Then click and drag in a counterclockwise or clockwise rotation. And if you hold down the Shift key while doing this, it will rotate in increments of 15 degrees. Then I'm going to click and drag inward on a corner handle of the bounding box to make my ric rac much smaller. Then I can reposition by clicking and dragging inside the bounding box. I'll make it a little smaller here. Place it right about there and click the check mark to commit.

The last thing we need to do is to add a couple of styles to this ric rac layer. With the ric rac layer as the active layer, in the Menu Bar choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings. In the dialog box, set the Lighting Angle to approximately 120˚. Then twirl open Drop Shadow. We'll give this ric rac just a basic drop shadow for now, so I'll set the Size to around 8 px, the Distance maybe to around 11 and the Opacity to 50%. I'm also going to add a very slight bevel and that's because the ric rac is not real flat. It's supposed to be a little bit more 3D looking. Bevels on scrapbook pages, and looking at them in digital software, can sometimes be kind of tricksy. So before applying a bevel to this ric rac, I'm going to zoom in by pressing Ctrl + , Cmd + on a Mac. In the dialog box, I'll set the Direction to Up. And then I'm going to keep the size really low. If you make it too high, the ric rac is going to look really unbelievable. In fact, oftentimes when I add a bevel to something, I'll only add a bevel of 1 px. But even

that 1 px can make a lot of difference. For this particular project though, I think I'm going to bump it up to 3 or 4 px and then click OK.

And finally I'm going to place these layers into a group. So the RicRac layer is right now the active layer. Hold down the Shift key and also click on the Ribbon layer. Now both layers are active. Click on the Group Layers icon and renamed the group. Don't forget to save your scrapbook page. So that's one way to create a nostalgic piece of RicRac. This is Jen White with Digital Scrapbooking Mastery.