



Digital Scrapper Premier 2021, Volume 5
Geomarker (Photoshop Elements)
by Julie Singco

Create a trendy geomarker with the help of two terrific tools.

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This is the element I'll be creating for this lesson. It's a geomarker shape that can be used to mark a location on a map.

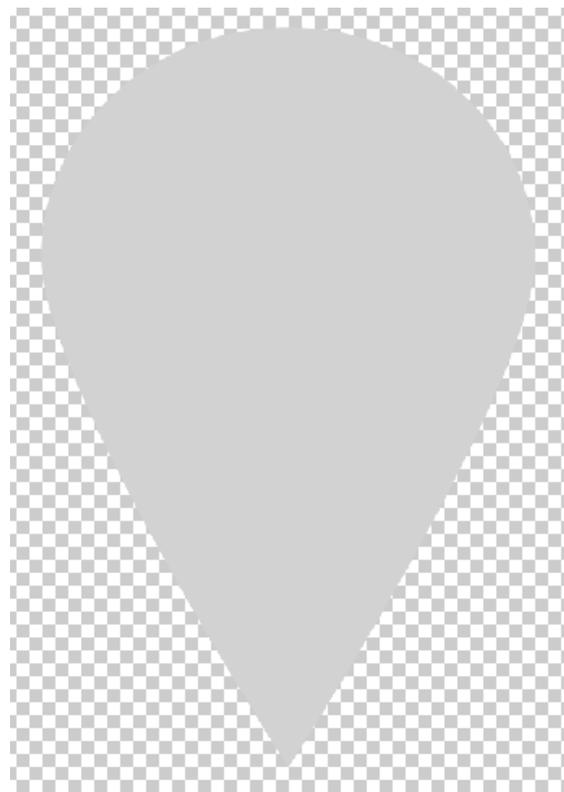


Prepare the Workspace

- Begin in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements.
- Create a new 3.5 x 5-inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a transparent background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to black over white.

Add a Raindrop Shape

- Get the Custom Shape Tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Shape Picker, open the dropdown menu, and choose Nature. Choose the Raindrop shape. If you don't see the names of the shapes, click on the flyout menu, and choose Large List. Click on the Color Chip.
- In the Color Swatches, click on the Color Picker icon in the lower right corner. The icon looks like a circle filled with colors.
- In the Color Picker, choose a medium gray color and click OK.
- In the Tool Options, open the Geometry Options and choose Fixed Size. Set the Width to 3 inches and the Height to 4.5 inches. Click on the New Shape Layer icon.
- On the document, click and drag to place the shape near the top of the document.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the Shape layer and rename it "Geomarker". Press Enter/Return to commit the change.
- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- In the Tool Options, set the Angle to 180°.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Simplify Layer.



- Get the Ellipse Tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Color Chip.
- In the Color Swatches, click on the Color Picker icon in the lower right corner. The icon looks like a circle filled with colors.
- In the Color Picker, choose a medium gray color and click OK.
- In the Tool Options, open the Geometry Options and choose Fixed Size. Set the Width and Height to 2 inches. Click on the New Shape Layer icon.

- On the document, click and drag to place the shape near the top of the Geomarker.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of this new Shape layer and rename it “Circle”. Press Enter/Return to commit the change.

Align the Two Shapes

- In the Layers panel, the Circle layer should be active.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the Geomarker layer. Now both layers should be active.
- Get the Move Tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Align Middle icon to align the horizontal centers.

NOTE: The edge of the top half of the circle shape needs to be equal distance from the round part of the Geomarker. If you need to adjust the vertical position of the circle, in the Layers panel, click on the Circle layer to make it the active layer. Then press the up or down arrow key to nudge it into place.



Create a Circle Cutout

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on the thumbnail of the Circle layer to get a selection outline.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Geomarker layer to make it the active layer.
- Press the Backspace key (Mac: Delete key) to remove the selected pixels from the Geomarker layer.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the Circle layer to hide it.



Save

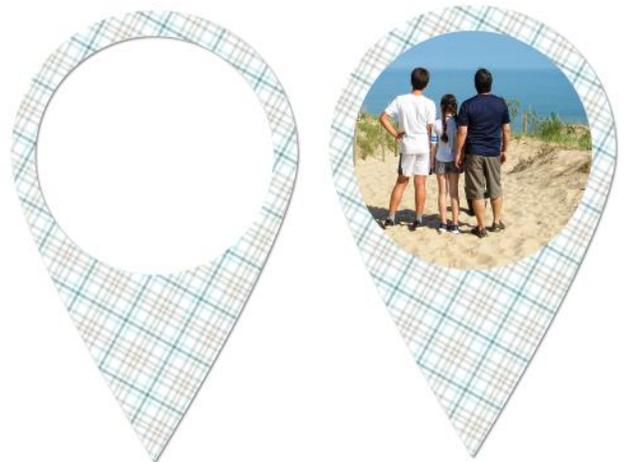
- To create a flattened image, save the document (File > Save As) as a PNG file with a unique name.
- To preserve the layers for later use, save the document (File > Save As) as a PSD file with a unique name.

Finishing Tips

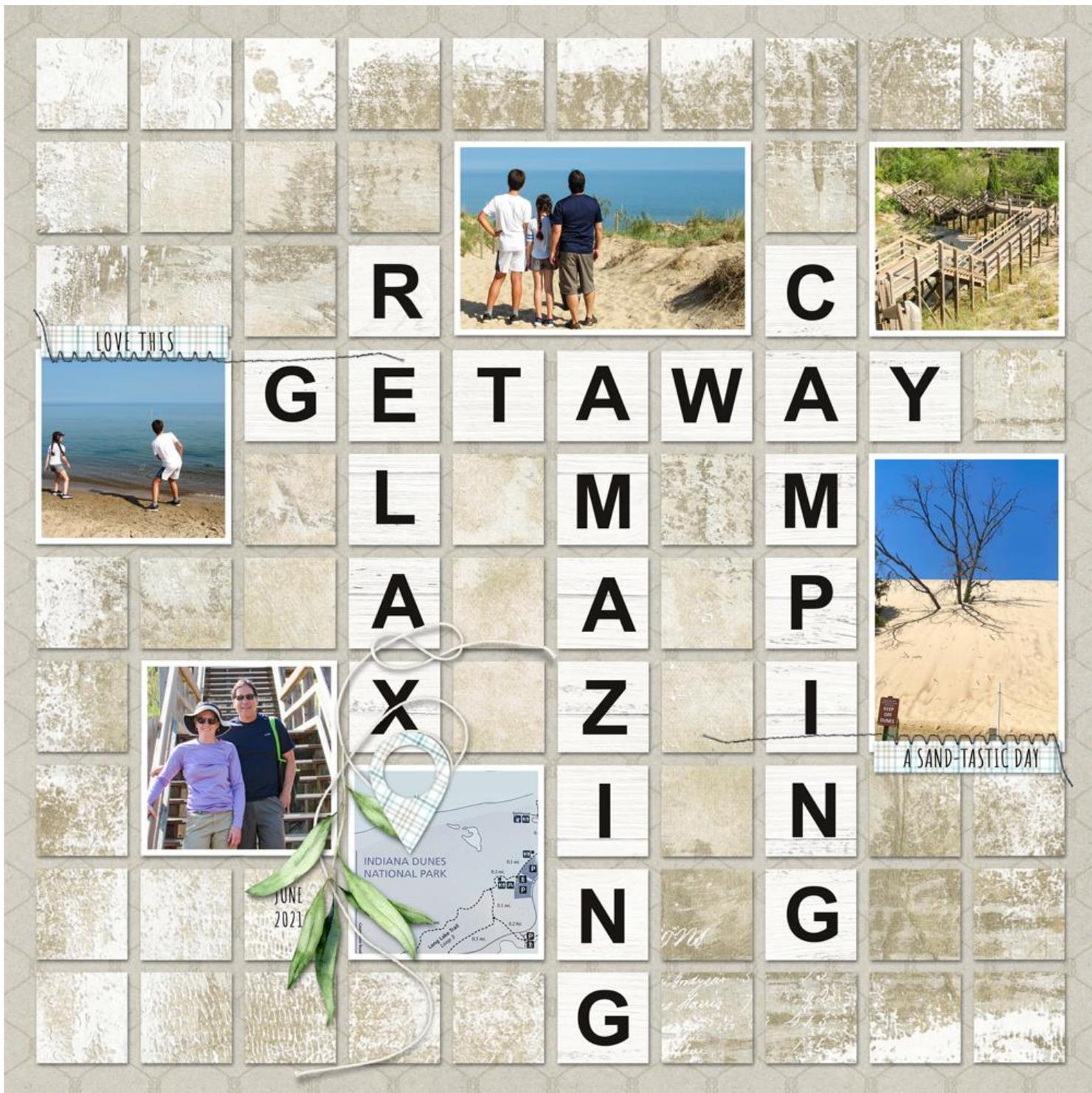
- Add a drop shadow to the Geomarker layer. Fill the Geomarker layer with a different color or clip a paper to it.
- Reveal the Circle layer, then add a heart or smiley face to create these adorable elements. Use the Geomarker and Circle layers as paper clipping masks, then tuck it into a cluster on your scrapbook page or card.



- Vary the size of the Circle cutout for the Geomarker layer.
- The Circle layer can also be used as a photo clipping mask.



I used a geomarker on my Getaway page. I love how it draws attention to the map of where we were.



Page & Photos: Julie Singco

Tutorial: Digital Scrapper Premier 2021, Volume 5: Geomarker

Kit: Shore Thing by Kim B Designs

Fonts: Arial, Amatic SC