



Perfectly Personal Word Art Paper Strip Template 04 – Photoshop Elements

© 2019 Jenifer Juris

[TOU](#)

Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- Create a new document that is 0.6 inches high by 3.25 inches wide at 300ppi with a white background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips.

Step Two Create the Main Rectangle

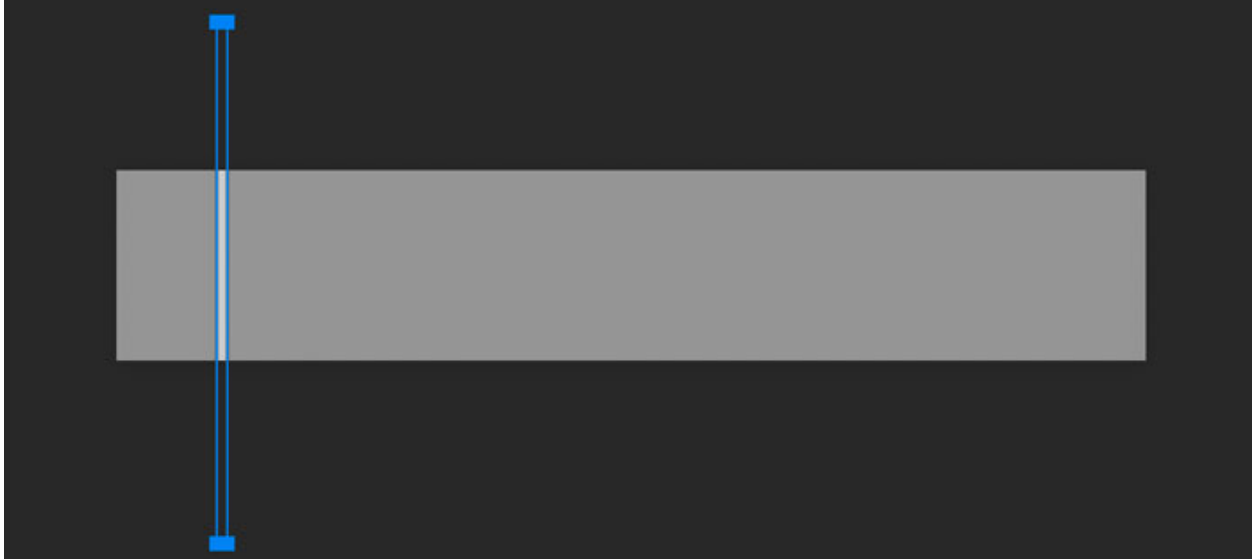
- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker and choose a medium gray color. I'm using Hex#: 959595. Click OK.
- Press Alt Backspace (Mac: Opt Delete) to fill the Background layer with the Foreground Color.



Step Three: Create the Line Accents

- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker and choose a light gray color. I'm using Hex #: cccccc. Click OK.
- Get the Line tool.
- In the Tool Options, set the Stroke to None and the Weight to 10 px. Set the Arrow head options to No Arrow Head. Click on the Create a New Shape Layer icon.

- On the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag a vertical line from outside the edge of the top of the document to outside the bottom edge of the document.



- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- In the Tool Options, change the Rotation to 25°. Click the checkmark to commit.
- NOTE: This may bring up a dialog box asking if it's ok to turn this live shape into a regular path. Click Yes.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Simplify button.



- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate this layer.
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag the duplicated line to the left until there's a small amount of space between the two lines.



- In the Layers panel, click on the first line layer to activate it.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the line again.
- On the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag the second duplicated line to the right until there is an equal amount of space between the lines, or close to it.
- In the Layers panel, click on the top line layer and then Shift click on the bottom line layer so that all three lines layers are active.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Distribute Horizontally icon. This will ensure the spacing is equally distributed.



- With the three line layers still activated in the Layers panel, press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the lines.
- On the document, while holding down the Shift key, click and drag the second set of lines to the right side of the document.
- In the Layers panel, click on the bottom line layer to activate it.
- In the Layers panel, Shift click on the top line layer so that all the line layers are active.
- With all six line layers still active, In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Group Layers.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this group and change it to Line Accents. Press Enter to commit the name change.



Step Four: Add the Type

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- Press the letter X to switch the Foreground Color Chip to White.
- In the Tool Options, set the Font to Myriad Pro, the Size to 24pts, and the Alignment to Center.
- On the document, click once and type TEXT HERE in all caps.
- Click the checkmark to commit.
- Get the Move tool.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.

- In the Tool Options, click on the Align Vertical Centers icon and the Align Horizontal Centers icon.



- With the selection still in place, in the Menu Bar, choose Image > Crop.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.

Step Five: Save As

Now you can save this template with the name Paper-Strip-Template-04.psd in the same folder as the others.

Tips:

In the last lesson, we talked about how you can use a word art paper strip to make a simple cluster. In this lesson, I'm going to show you another way you can use your custom paper strips to create a simple cluster.

Another spin you can put on the simple cluster is to simply duplicate the paper strip you created. Here are some tips on how to create this duplicate paper strip cluster.



1. Use a Fastener.

One of the ways you can dress up a paper strip in a cluster is to add a fastener. Using a staple or a button or some other kind of fastener is a great way to add visual interest without overpowering your cluster.



2. Rotate the Angle.

When you are using duplicates of the same paper strip, it's a good idea to rotate at least one of the paper strips in the cluster. Not only does this allow you to better see both paper strips, it also adds visual interest.



3. Use an Anchor.

Adding a scatter, paint, scribble, or some other kind of anchor behind your paper strips is a great way to add visual interest to your paper strip cluster.



4. Add a 3D Object.

This last step is more of an optional one. You don't always have to add a 3D object to your clusters. But in this case, adding in a third color by using the green leaf helped add some visual interest. I chose a flower that was pretty neutral, too, so that it wouldn't take away from the paper strips. Now that we've covered some tips on how to create a duplicated paper strip cluster, let me show you how I used it.



So, I placed the duplicated paper strip cluster along the edge of a photo frame. I made sure to keep the paint below the photo and the frame elements. But this cluster works perfectly here because it points our eyes to the photo of our dog, Annie. One of our nicknames for her is Annie Banannie so that's why I used that phrase on this paper strip.



Credits:

Paper Strip Template: Jenifer Juris

Cluster:

Paper Strip Template: Jenifer Juris

Kit: Make a Wish by Kim B Designs

Font: Bebas Neau