



10 Timeless Titles

## Metal Outline Title (Adobe Photoshop)

By Jenifer Juris

Turn your title into a metal outline with the use of layer styles, groups, and fill layers.

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In this lesson, I'm going to show you how to create this metal outline title. Then we'll use this title on a layered quick page for a quick and easy layout.



## Prepare the Workspace

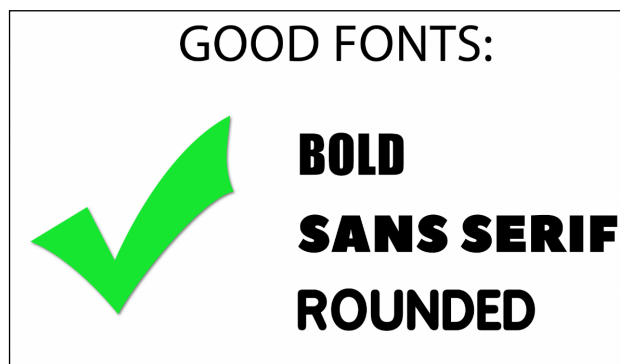
- Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New) at 300 ppi with a white background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

## Create the Type Layer

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a bold, sans serif style font. I'm using BPreplay Bold from Font Squirrel.

## Best Fonts for this Technique

- Don't use fonts that are thin, serif, or fancy. The more simple the font, the better. Because we are using a stroke outline of the font we choose to use, using something in this list will make the wire outline look messy and like an accident.
- The best kinds of fonts for this technique are bold, sans serif fonts. You can also use a bold, sans serif font that is rounded. Bold, simple fonts are the best fonts for this because they will have the best looking stroke outline. And a stroke outline is the basis for our metal outline so we need to use fonts that fit this list.



- Set the Size to 150. Click on the Center Alignment icon. Click on the Color Chip to open the Color Picker. In the Color Picker, choose black and click OK. In the Character panel (Window > Character), set the Leading to Auto and the Tracking to +25.

NOTE: If you're using a different font, you may not need to adjust the Tracking. You only need to set the Tracking to +25 if the letters are very close together.

- On the document, click once in the center of the document to place the cursor.
- Type a word or phrase. I'm using the words "PAGE TITLE" in all caps.
- Click the checkmark to commit the type.

**PAGE TITLE**

## Add the Stroke Layer Style

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Stroke.
- In the dialog box, set the Size to 15, the Position to Inside, the Blend Mode to Normal, and the Opacity to 100%. Click on the Stroke Color Chip to open the Color Picker. Choose black and click OK. Click OK to close the dialog box.

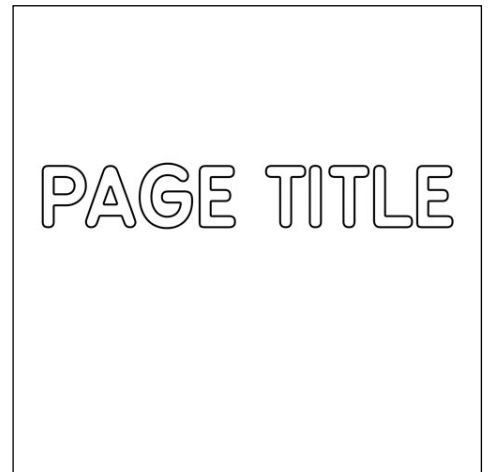
NOTE: At this point, you won't be able to see the stroke outline. That's ok. We'll fix that in the next step.

## Prepare the Type Layer for More Layer Styles

For this tutorial to work, we only need the stroke outline layer style. But in order to keep this process non-destructive, there are a few things we can do to be able to edit this text layer. This will give us the ability to make any metal outline words we want.

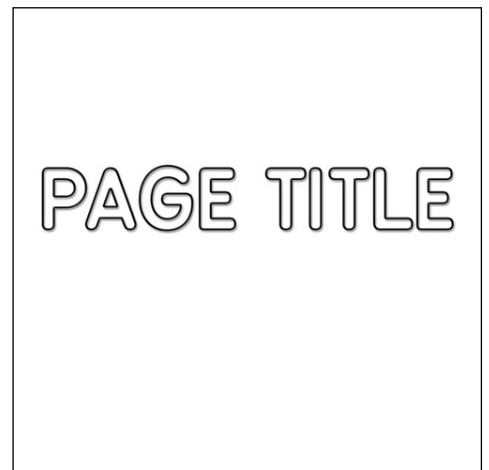
- In the Layers panel, set the Fill of this type layer to 0%.
- In the Layers panel, the PAGE TITLE text layer should be the active layer. If it isn't, click on that layer to activate it.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Group Layers.

NOTE: We are putting this one text layer into a group so that we can now add layer styles to the stroke outline.



## Add the Bevel and Drop Shadow Layer Styles

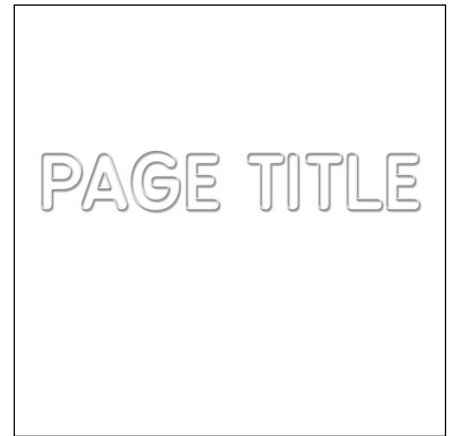
- In the Layers panel, the Group 1 layer should be the active layer. If it isn't, click on the Group 1 layer to activate it.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of the group layer and change it to Metal Outline Title. Press Enter or Return to commit the name change.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Drop Shadow.
- In the dialog box, click on the FX icon in the lower-left corner and choose Reset to Default List.
- In the dialog box, in the left-side menu, click on the word Drop Shadow to activate it and open the settings.
- In the dialog box, click on Reset to Default.
- Set the Blend Mode to Multiply, the Opacity to 50%, the Angle to 120°, the Distance to 15, the Spread to 0, and the Size to 15.
- In the left-side menu, click on Bevel & Emboss to activate it and open the settings.
- Click on Reset to Default.
- Set the Style to Inner Bevel, the Technique to Smooth, the Depth to 100%, the Direction to Up, the Size to 10, and Soften to 0.
- Click OK to close the Layer Style dialog box.



## Add the Color Fill Layers

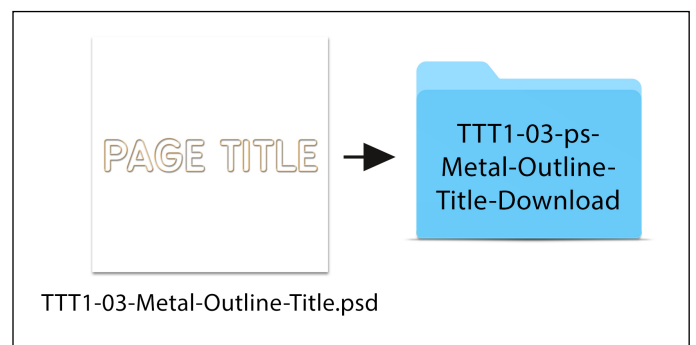
Now we're going to add 3 solid color fill layers. One will be for silver, one for gold, and one for rose gold metal.

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and choose Solid Color.
- In the Color Picker, enter the Hex #: e9e9e9.
- Click Ok to close the Color Picker.
- In the Layers panel, click and drag the color fill layer above the Metal Outline Title group layer.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to Silver. Press Enter or Return to commit the name change.
  
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag down on the silver color fill layer to create a duplicate layer that is already clipped to the group.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the top color fill layer to open the settings.
- In the Color Picker, enter the Hex #: fad59f and Click OK to create a gold color fill layer.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to Gold. Press Enter or Return to commit the name change.
  
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag down on the gold color fill layer to create a duplicate layer that is already clipped to the group.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the top gold layer to open the settings.
- In the Color Picker, enter the Hex #: f0c8be and Click OK to create a rose gold color fill layer.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to Rose Gold. Press Enter or Return to commit the change.



## Save the File

- To preserve the layers for later use, save the document (File > Save As) as a PSD file with a unique name in the TTT1-03-Metal-Outline-Download folder. I'm naming mine TTT1-03-Metal-Outline-Title.PSD.





## Add the Title Layers to a Project

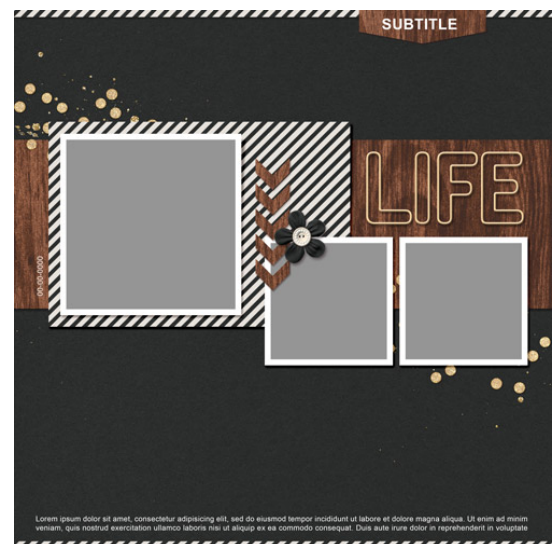
- Open the TTT1-03-Layered-Quick-Page.psd file (File > Open).
- In the Layers panel, click on the top layer to make it the active layer.
- Go back to the metal outline document.
- In the Layers panel, reveal the color fill layer you want your wire to have and hide the other two color fill layers. You do this by clicking on the Visibility icon to either hide or reveal.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Metal Outline Title group to activate it.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on the color fill layer that you want your metal outline to have. In this case, I'm going to click on the gold color.

NOTE: Doing this should make both the color fill layer and the Metal Outline Title group layers active.

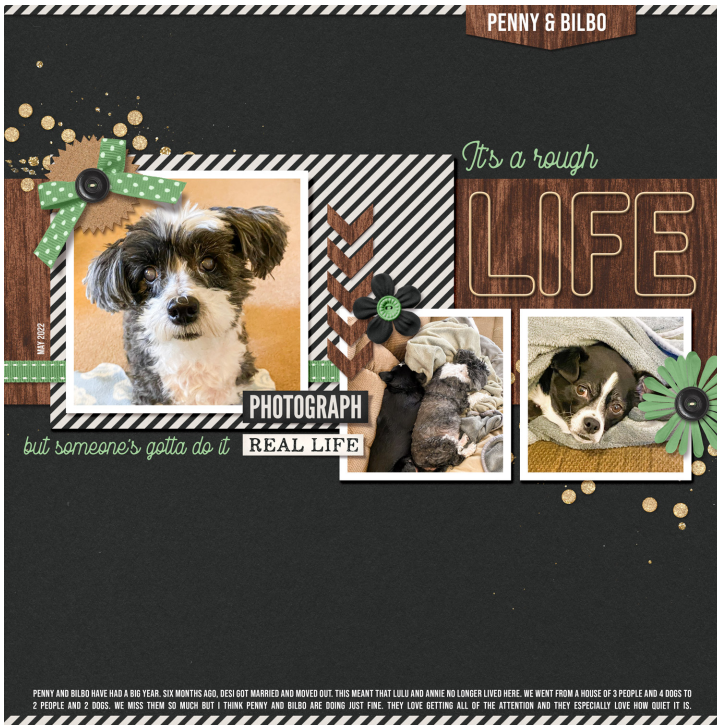
- In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the name of one of the active layers and choose Duplicate Layers.
- In the dialog box, choose the Layered Quick Page document from the dropdown menu and click OK.
- Go back to the Layered Quick Page document.
- In the layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the page title type layer to make the type editable.

NOTE: You may need to toggle open the Metal Outline Title group in order to see the page title layer.

- Type the word or phrase you wish to use on this page. I'm going to use the word LIFE in all caps.
- Click the checkmark to commit.
- If you'd like to change the font, get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, click to open the Font Picker and choose a different bold, sans serif style font. I'm not going to change my font but feel free to do so.
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click and drag the metal outline layer into place. I'm placing mine above the two photos on the right-hand side.
- If needed, Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- On the document, click and drag from a corner handle to fit the title to the space. Click the checkmark to commit.
- If needed, use the Arrow keys to nudge the title layer into place.
- From here, finish the page as desired.

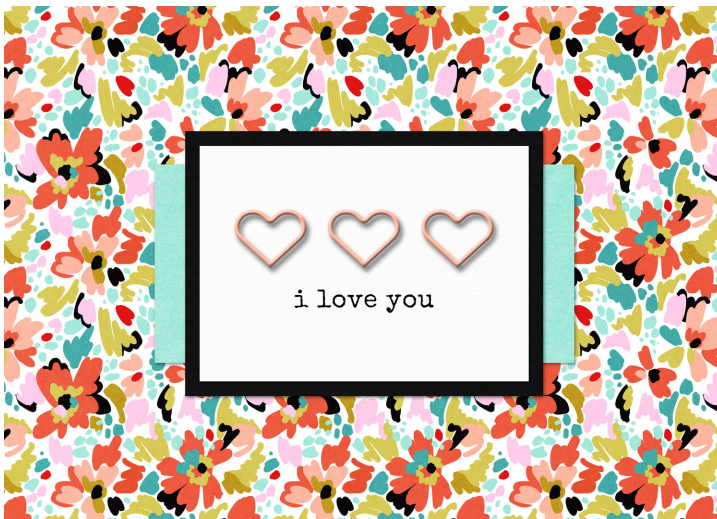


Here is my page now that I've added the photos, edited the quick page type layers, added some pops of green with some extra elements. I also added two more type layers in the same green color to bring some extra visual interest to this page.



Credits:  
Quick Page & Photos: Jenifer Juris  
Kit: Stories 365 by Kristin Cronin-Barrow  
Fonts: Rampage Monoline, Bebas Neue, BPreplay

Another idea is you could use this technique, along with a webding font like the font Entypo from Font Squirrel, to create metal outline elements for your projects, such as I did for this greeting card.



Credits:  
Card: Jenifer Juris  
Kit: Crush It by Kim B Designs  
Fonts: Entypo, Special Elite