

CG2-SR-02-el-SnowGlobeCard-BaseGlobe-transcript



Christmas Greetings 2

Snow Globe Card Base and Globe (Photoshop Elements)

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In this lesson we'll create the card base and a whimsical snow globe using modified shapes. I'm here in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements, and I've already created a new 5 by 7 inch document at 300 pixels per inch with a transparent background. I've also opened the pink snowflake paper that's included in your class download. And I've reset the color chips to the default of black over white.

Let's go ahead and get the Move tool. Now, activate the snowflake paper document and then holding down the Shift key, click and drag over to your blank card document. Now in the Layers panel, click on the Lock icon to keep our snowflake paper in place. And we can go ahead and delete layer one.

Now, let's create the base of the snow globe. Get the Rectangle tool, and in the Tool options, set the Style to None, open the Geometry Options and choose Fixed Size, set the width to 3.57 inches and a height 1.5 inches and then click on the Create New Shape Layer icon. Now on the document, about three-quarters of the way down and in the center, click and drag slightly to create the shape. And in the Menu Bar, choose Image > Transform Shape > Perspective. Now on the document, click on the top left corner handle of the bounding box and drag inward. Click the checkmark to commit. A dialog box will pop up and tell us that this operation will turn a Live Shape into a regular Path, go ahead and click Yes.

Now, let's create the globe. In the Layers panel, click on to Create a New Layer icon and then get the Ellipse tool. And then in the Tool Options, click on the Color Chip and choose white. Set the Style to None, open the Geometry Options, and choose Fixed Size, set both the width and height 4.5 inches, and click on the Create New Layer icon. Now on the document, right on top of and overlapping the snow globe base, click and drag slightly to create the shape. In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Transform Shape > Distort. And on the document, click and drag the center handle at the bottom of the bounding box inwards a bit to distort the shape. We don't want our globe to be a perfect circle. Then click the checkmark to commit. The Live Shape dialog box will pop up again, so go ahead and click Yes. Now in the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the globe layer to 42%.

Next, let's add some snow to the bottom of the globe. In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon, and then get the Custom Shape tool. And in the Tool Options, open the Shape Picker and choose the flag shape from the Banners and Awards shapes. Set the Style to None, then open the Geometry Options and choose Fixed Size, set the width to 4.5 inches and the height 2.6 inches. Then click on the Create New Shape Layer icon. And on the document, on the bottom third or so of the globe, click and drag slightly to create the flag shape. In the Layers panel, change the Opacity to 100%. And then in the Tool Options, click Simplify. Now in the Layers panel, hold down the Ctrl or Cmd key on a Mac, and click on the thumbnail of the globe shape layer to get a selection outline. Now making sure the flag layer is activated, go up in the Menu Bar and choose Select > Inverse. And then press the Backspace key or the Delete key on a Mac to delete the areas outside of the selection. Then in the Menu Bar, choose Select > Deselect. Now in the Layers panel, activate the globe shape layer.

As you can see here, I've already opened the holiday trees document from our last lesson and activated it. So let's go ahead and get the Move tool, and in the Layers panel, click on the top layer to activate it. Then holding down the Shift key, click on the bottom layer. Now all of our layers should be activated. Click on one of the unlinked layers to link them all together. This will make sure that they all stay together. Now on your document, click and drag the trees over on top of your snow globe. Then click and drag on the corner handles of the bounding box to resize. And then you can click and drag inside the bounding box to reposition, and when you're happy with the placement, click the check mark to commit.

Make sure to save (File > Save As) your card document as a PSD file. I would suggest naming it snow globe card because then it will be really easy to find it. In the next lesson, we'll gussie up our card. This has been Syndee Rogers with Christmas Greetings 2.