

10 Timeless Titles

Metal Outline Title (Photoshop Elements)

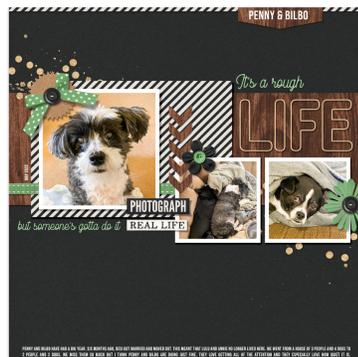
By Jenifer Juris

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

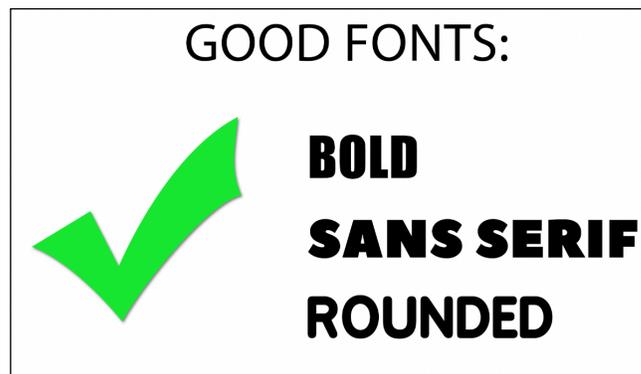
- Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

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 pts, the Leading to Auto, and the Tracking to +25. Click on the Center Align icon. Click on the Color Chip and choose black.

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.



Add the Stroke Layer Style

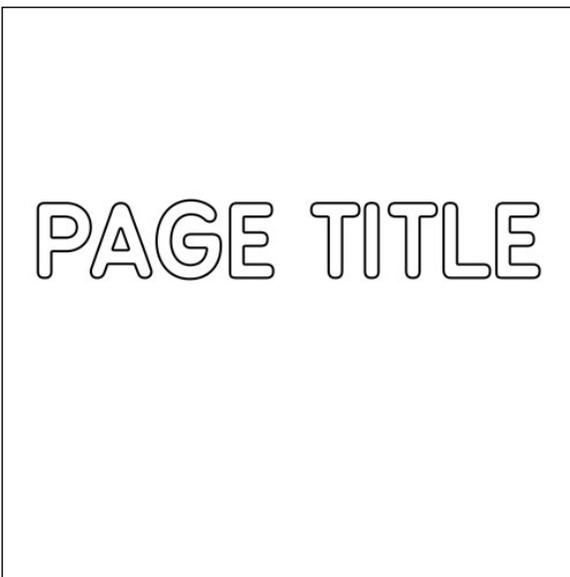
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings.
- In the dialog box, click directly on the word Stroke to open the settings.
- Set the Size to 15, the Position to Inside, and the Opacity to 100%.
- Click on the Stroke Color Chip to open the Color Picker. Choose black and click OK.
- Click 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 Menu Bar, choose Window > Styles to open the Styles panel.
- In the Styles panel, click on the drop-down box and choose Visibility.
- Click on the Hide style to hide the type and reveal the stroke outline.
- Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the Styles panel tab and choose Close.

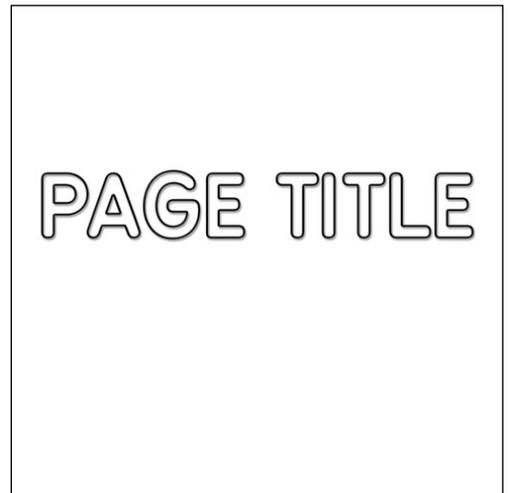


- In the Layers panel, the PAGE TITLE text layer should be the active layer. If it isn't, click on that layer to activate it.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Group Layers.

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 > Style Settings.
- In the dialog box, set the Lighting Angle to 120°.
- Click directly on the word Drop Shadow to open the settings.
- Set the Size to 15, the Distance to 15, and the Opacity to 50%.
- Click on the word Bevel to open the settings.
- Set the Size to 10 and the Direction to Up.
- Click OK to close the dialog box.



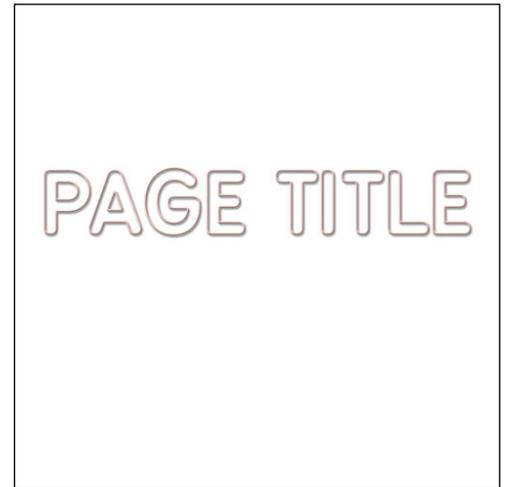
Add the Color Fill Layers

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.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of the color fill 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 duplicated 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.
- Double click on the name of this layer and change it to Gold. Press Enter or Return to commit the name change.
- To see the gold color fill layer, in the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the Silver layer to hide it.

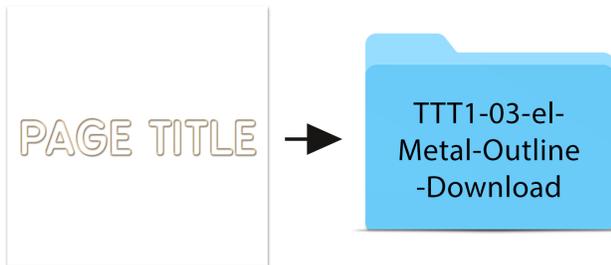


- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag down on the gold color fill layer to create a duplicate layer that is already clipped to the group.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the duplicated gold color fill layer to open the settings.
- In the 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 and press Enter or Return to commit the name change.
- To see the rose gold color fill layer, in the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the gold layer to hide it.



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.



TTT1-03-Metal-Outline-Title.psd

Add the Title Layers to a Project

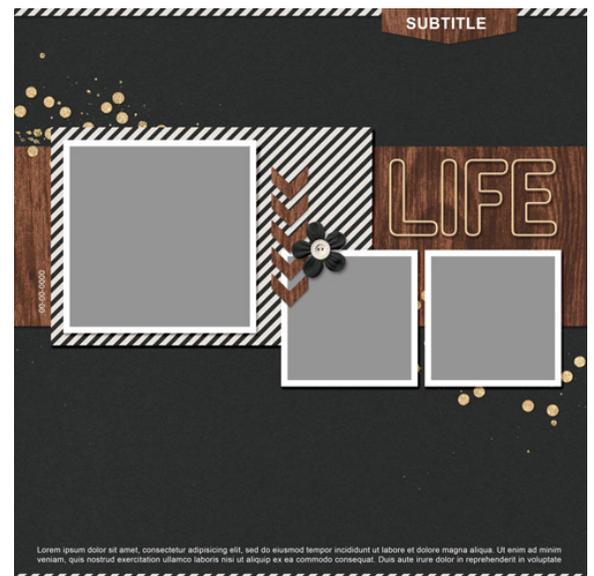
- Open the TTT1-03-Layered-Quick-Page.psd file (File > Open).
- In the Layers panel, click on the top layer to make it the active layer.
- Go back to the metal outline document.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Metal Outline Title group to activate it.
- In the Layers panel, reveal the color fill 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, 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.

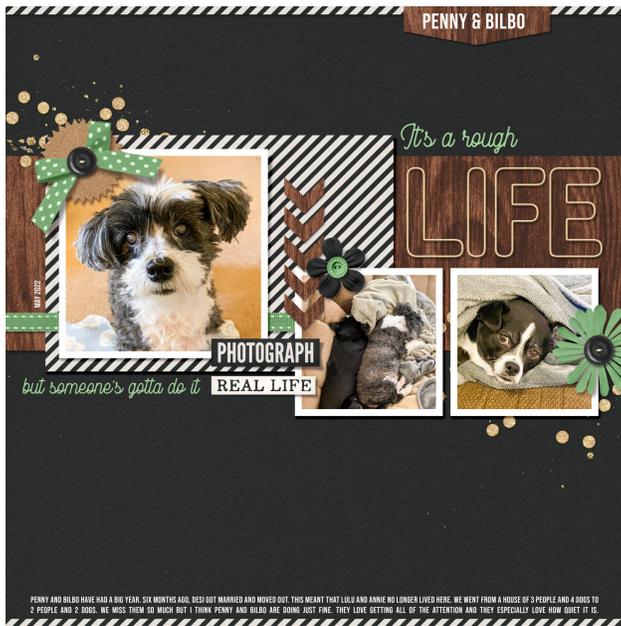
- In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the name of one of the active layers and choose Duplicate Layers.
- In the dialog box, choose the Layered Quick Page document from the dropdown menu and click OK.
- Go back to the Layered Quick Page document.
- In the layers panel, double click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

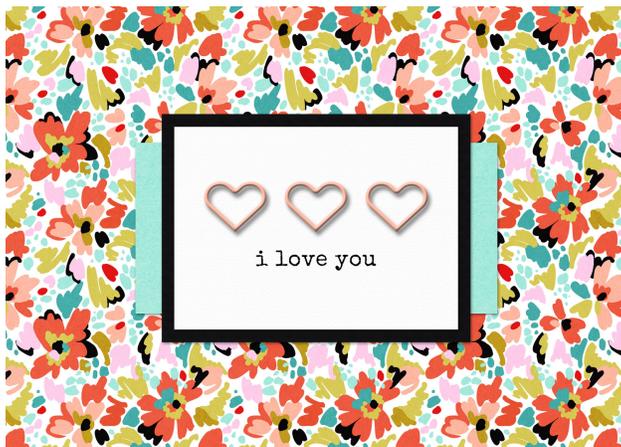


Here is my page now that I've added the photos, edited the quick page type layers, added some pops of green with some extra elements. I also added two more type layers in the same green color to bring some extra visual interest to this page.



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

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.



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