

Ornamental Fonts - CropBats AOE (Photoshop Elements)

Digi Scrap Tutorial by Jen White on March 6, 2012

Scrapbooking is typically thought of as rectangular.

We use our rectangle-shaped camera
to take rectangle-shaped photos
that get imported into our rectangle-shaped software
where we create rectangle-shaped scrapbook pages
that get bound into rectangle-shaped books.



I'm feeling a little sharp around the edges right about now, how about you?
Well, good news! Today's tutorial is all about circles! Crop circles, in fact.

Follow along with me as I show you one simple use for yet another free ornamental font.

The focus of today's tutorial will be on this free ornamental font: **CropBats AOE Free Font**



Step One: Download the Ornamental Font

This tutorial does not contain a link to directly download the font.

- Copy and Paste the name of the font in your browser's search bar.
- Download the font from the site of your choice.
- Unzip and install the font on your computer.

Step Two: Add a Lowercase U

I started with a 12x12 inch scrapbook page set at 300ppi.

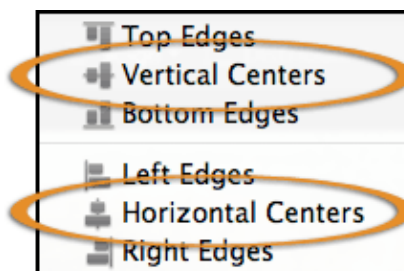
- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Options Bar, open the Font Picker and choose CropBats AOE. Then set the Size to 1296 points.
 - (1296 points is the highest point size that Photoshop Elements 10.0 will go for this font. Your version may have a different limit. If so, simply set it at the highest point size. You can use the Transform options to increase the size later.)



- Click in the center of your scrapbook page and type a lowercase u.
- Click on the check mark in the Options Bar to commit the changes.

Step Three: Center the Lowercase U

- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- Get the Move tool.
- In the Options Bar, click on Align > Horizontal Centers and Align > Vertical Centers.



- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to Deselect.
- If you'd like your 'font' to be larger than Photoshop Element's maximum:
 - Click on a corner handle of the Bounding Box, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key), and drag outward.
 - If you do not see a Bounding Box, press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
 - If you still do not see the Bounding Box, press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0) to fit the Bounding Box to the screen.
 - When you are satisfied with the size, double click inside the Bounding Box to commit the changes.
 - I did not resize my 'font'. This is how 1296 points looks on a 12x12 scrapbook page:



Step Four: Use the Lowercase U As a Clipping Mask

- Open (File > Open) a background paper.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the paper and drag it onto the scrapbook page.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- (Earlier version of Elements may say "Group With Previous".)
- In the Layers panel, activate the 'font' layer by clicking on it.
- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the 'font' layer to around 50%.

Check out my scrapbook page below using the lowercase U from this ornamental font.

This style of ornaments really grabs me. I love whimsy and I love circles. So I've created a couple more scrapbook pages using the CropBats font. You can check them out in the [Digi Scrap Tutorial Gallery](#).

P.S. This scrapbook page is about our daughter, Paige. She is almost an RN. :)

Credits:

Digi Scrap Tutorial by Jen White using
Photoshop Elements 10.0

Photos and Layout by Jen White
Paper and Embellishments by Julie
Mead, [Timeless Classic](#)

Fonts: CropBats AOE, Myriad Pro

