



Ivy Wreath

By Lydia Tarbox

Several months ago, I started thinking about using the Polar Coordinates filter in a fun new way. But, since that particular filter is a distorting filter, I knew I had to wait for just the right element to come along before it would work the way I pictured it in my head. When I saw the ivy branch in this month's **Premier** kit, I knew it would be perfect!

Let me show you how I took this one simple branch of ivy and transformed it into a beautiful wreath. I just love the way it turned out, and I think you will too. So, let's get started!

Note: This tutorial works best with elements that are relatively straight and narrow. Other elements may become too distorted after running the Polar Coordinates filter. You may need to experiment to find the elements that work best with this filter.

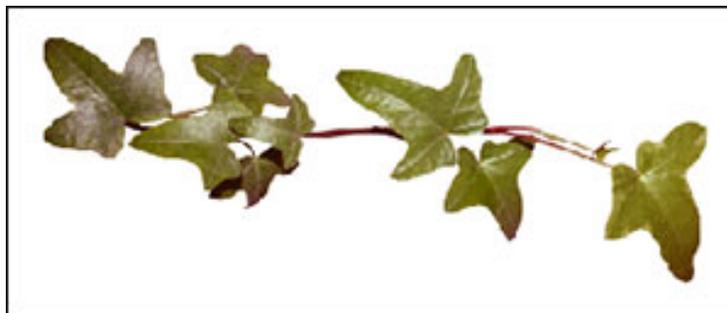
Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- Create a new 12 x 12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (Photoshop: Choose File > New.)
- Open the element (File > Open) that you wish to transform. I've used the 103-everlasting-ivy.png file from **Everlasting Love** by Studio Manu, which is included with the February 2014 **Premier** membership.
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click on the ivy branch and drag it onto the new blank document that you created.

Step Two: Resize the Ivy

Note: Since I only want this branch to comprise about 1/4 of the wreath, I need to resize it before running the filter. If you chose a different element to work with, you may not need to resize it before running the filter.

- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- On the document, click on one of the corner handles of the Bounding Box and drag inward to resize the ivy down to be about 5.25 inches wide, or about 55% of the original size. (Photoshop: Press and hold the Shift key while resizing to maintain proportion.)
- Double click inside the Bounding Box to commit the transformation.



Step Three: Fun the Filter

- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Distort > Polar Coordinates.
- In the dialog box, choose Rectangular to Polar and click OK.

Step Four: Create the Wreath

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the ivy layer.
- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- On the document, hover your mouse outside a corner of the Bounding Box until you see the curved double arrow. Then, click and drag in a circular motion to rotate the ivy branch.
- Click inside the Bounding Box and drag to reposition the ivy branch to the desired location.
- If desired, in the Menu Bar, choose Image > Rotate > Flip Layer Horizontal or Flip Layer Vertical to flip the ivy branch. (Photoshop: Choose Edit > Transform > Flip Horizontal or Flip Vertical.)
- When you have the ivy branch in the desired position, double click inside the Bounding Box to commit the transformation.
- Repeat these steps to create more branches and move them into the desired positions, creating a circular wreath.
- If desired, in the Layers panel, move the individual ivy layers above or below the other ivy layers to achieve the look you want.



Step Five: Add the Finishing Touches

- Add a drop shadow or custom shadow to each ivy layer.
- In the Layers panel, click on the top ivy layer, Shift click on the bottom ivy layer to select all the layers in the wreath.
- Press Ctrl E (Mac: Cmd E) to merge all the ivy layers together.



Here's my finished layout with the completed wreath.

I hope you'll enjoy this tutorial. I know I'm going to have fun experimenting with other branches and floral elements to see what kind of wreaths I can make. Feel free to post your layouts in the [Digi Scrap Tutorial Gallery](#). I can't wait to see them!



Credits

Tutorial: Ivy Wreath by Lydia Tarbox

Kit: [Everlasting Love](#) by Studio Manu (February 2014 [Premier](#) kit)

Font: DJB Anita Davis