



Curved Border Template

By Karen Schulz

Quickly create a charming curved border template using a simple selection and the Shear Filter.

For this tutorial you will need:

- Photoshop Elements or Adobe Photoshop

Important Links:

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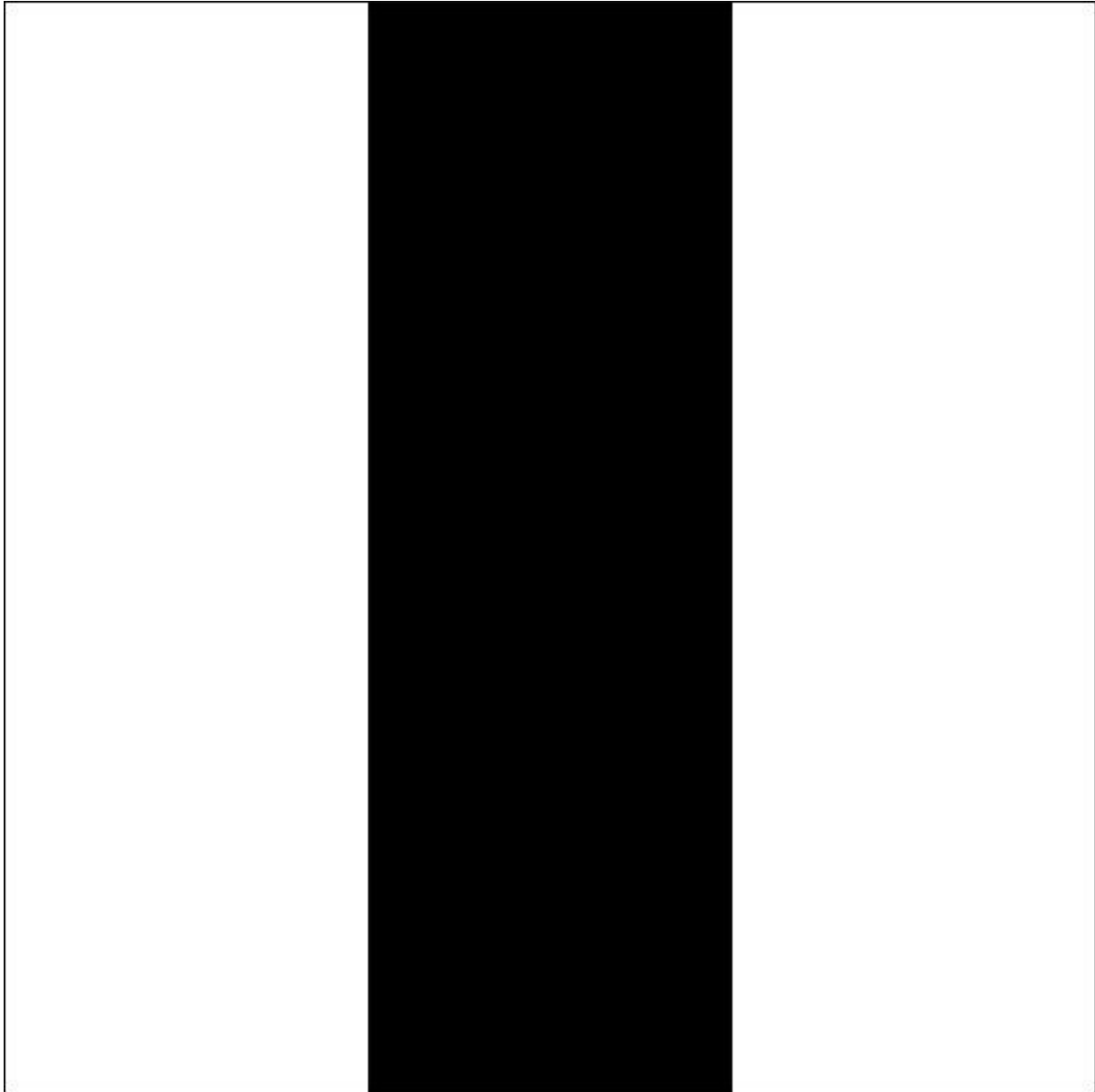
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Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (PS: Choose File > New.)
- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

Step Two: Create a Shape

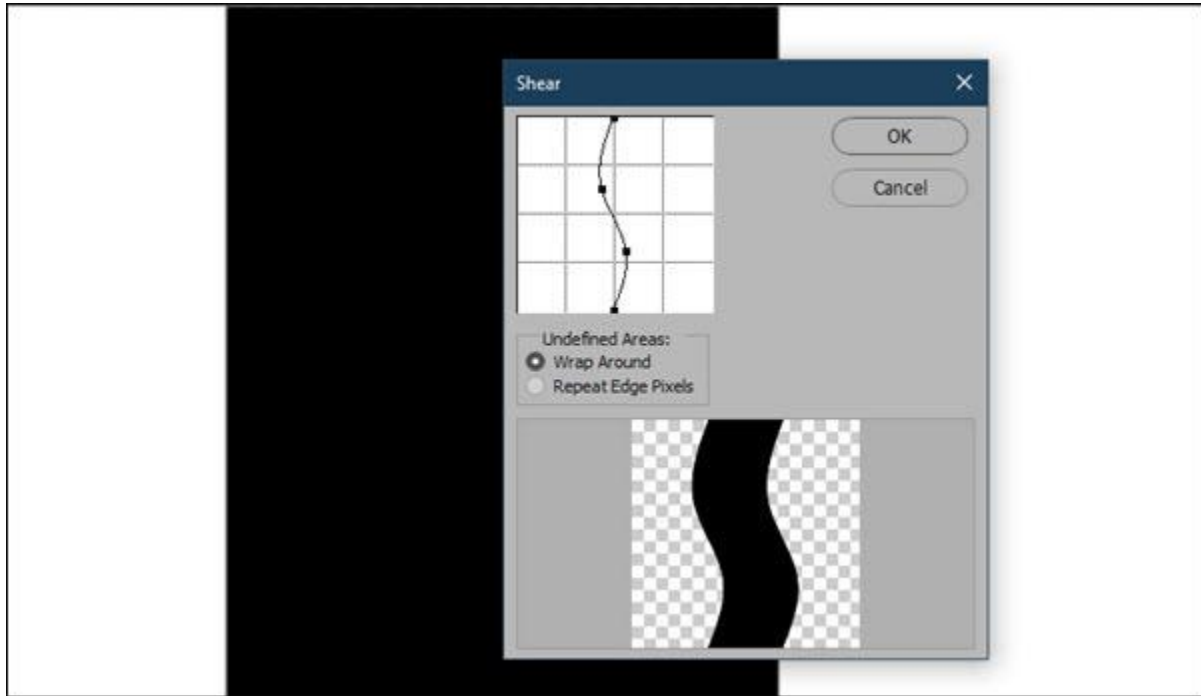
- Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 and the Aspect to Fixed Size. (PS: Set the Style to Fixed Size.) Set the Width to 4 inches and the Height to 12 inches.
- On the document, click near the top center of the document.
- Press Alt Backspace (Mac: Opt Delete) to fill the selection with black.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.



Step Three: Distort the Shape

- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Distort > Shear.
- In the dialog box, click at the intersection of the vertical line and the first dotted line. Drag approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way into the box to the left.
- Click at the intersection of the vertical line and the third dotted line and drag approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way into the box to the right.
- Set the Undefined Areas to Wrap Around and click OK.

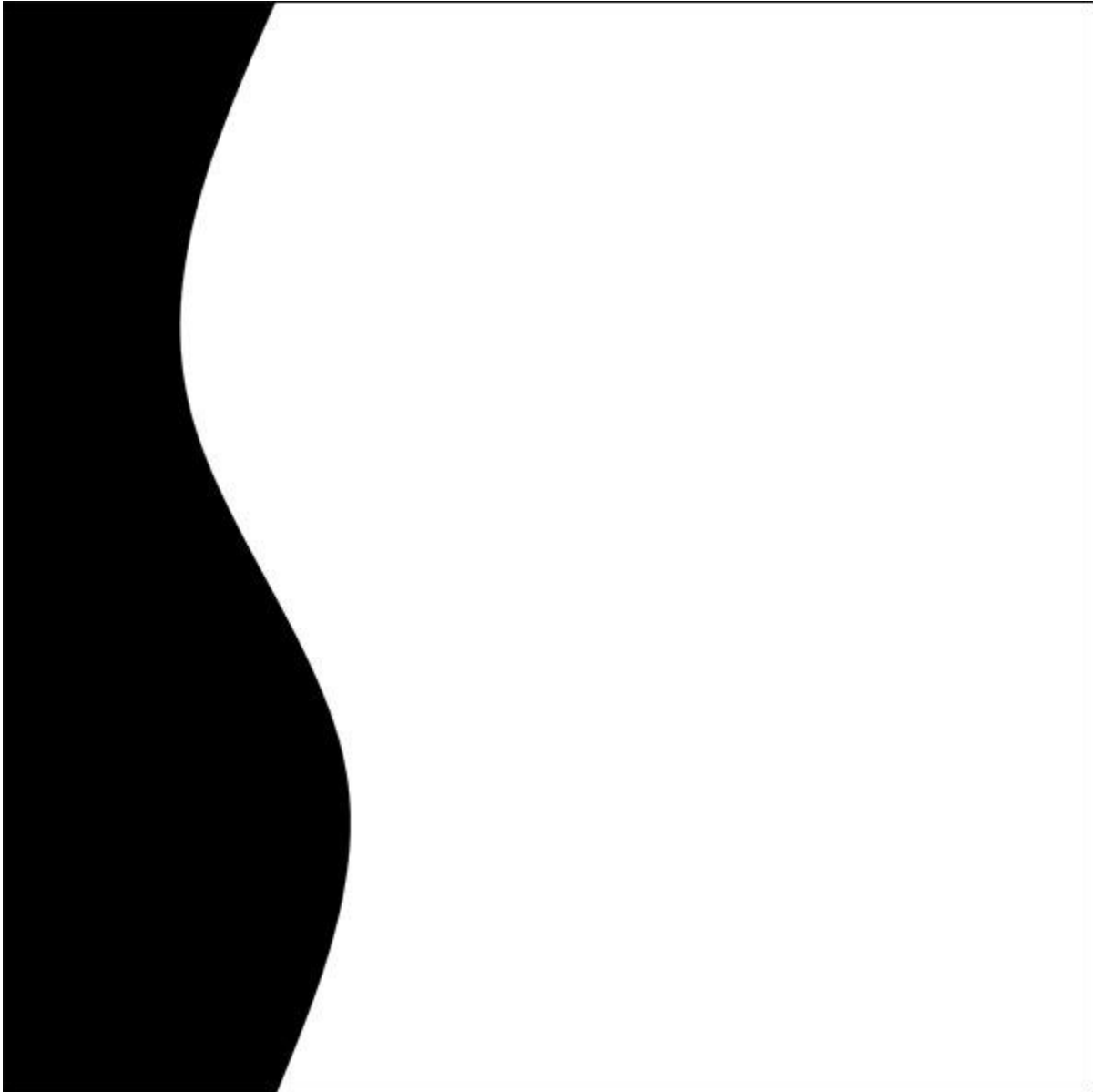
NOTE: To set the vertical line to default settings, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click Default.



Step Four: Position Your Shape within Your Document

- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag directly on the shape to reposition it on the left edge of the document.

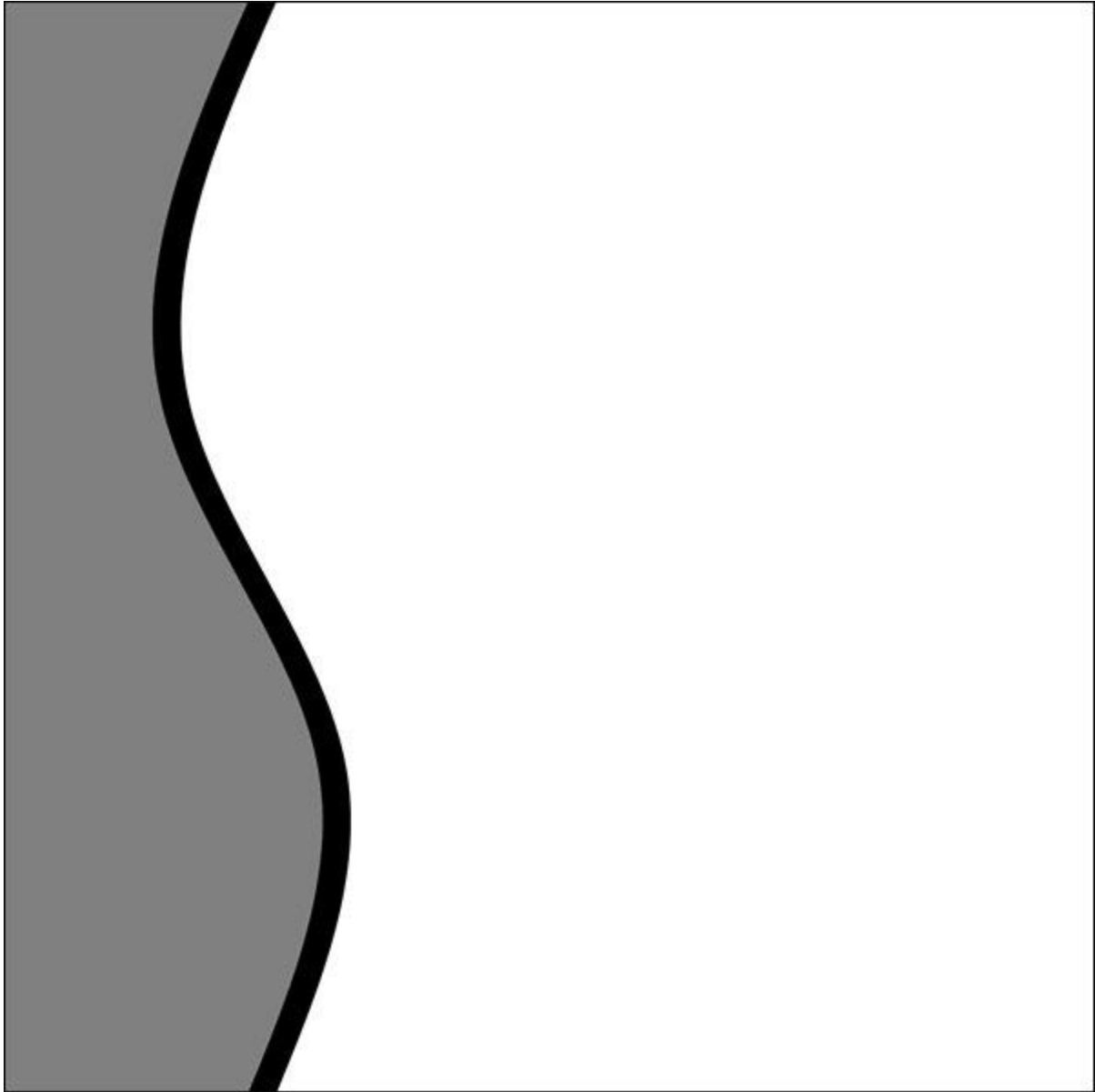
NOTE: Holding down the Shift key while clicking and dragging ensures that the item maintains its horizontal or vertical position.



(Optional) Step Five: Create a Second Shape

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to create a duplicate of the shape layer.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on the thumbnail of the duplicated layer to get a selection outline.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Fill Selection.
- In the dialog box, set the Use to 50% Gray, the Mode to Normal, and the Opacity to 100%. Click OK.
- Press the Left Arrow key to nudge the shape to the left.

- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.



Step Six: Crop and Save Your Document

- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select the entire document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Crop.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- Save the template (File > Save As) a PSD file with a unique name.

Here's a scrapbook page I created using my new curved border template.



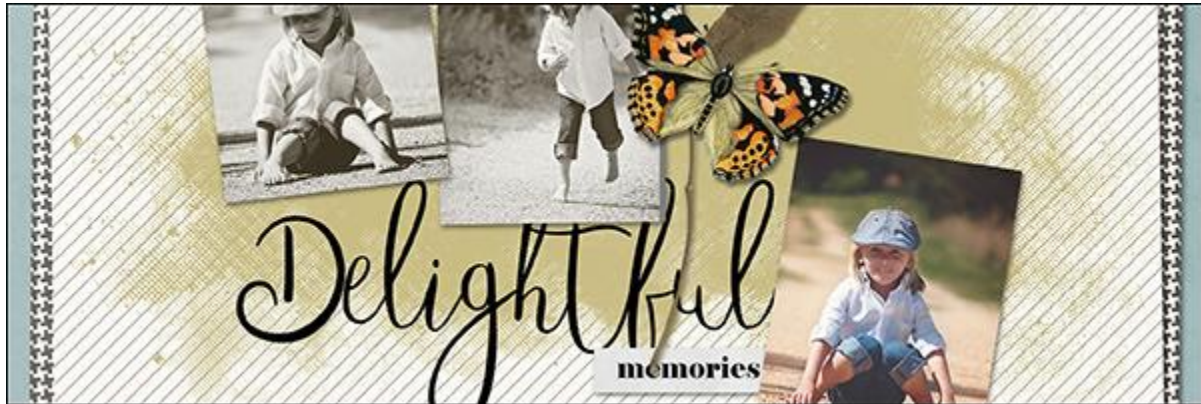
Credits:

Page: Color Outside the Lines Kit by Karen Schulz (Snickerdoodle Designs)

Font: Appalachi

Glitter Layer Style: My Little Chickadee Glitter Style by Karen Schulz (Snickerdoodle Design)

Photo: Karen Schulz



For help clipping papers to the layers of your curved border, check out [A Scrapper's Guide to Clipping](#) in our FREE Fundamentals class. This class is free, but it does require a classroom account.