Separating Word Art with the Lasso Tool
by Carla Shute

Separate word art to fit your scrapbook page design using the Lasso Tool and a shortcut.

For this tutorial you will need:
- Word art you would like to separate or the wordart-therapy-AngieBriggs.png file from the download
- Adobe Photoshop or Photoshop Elements

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- Facebook Business Page
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Here is a preview of what we'll be creating together.

Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- Create any sized document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (PS: Choose File > New.) I'm creating a 12 X 12 inch document.
- Open the word art you would like to separate, or the wordart-therapy-AngieBriggs.png file (File > Open) from the downloads.

How to Select Word Art for this Technique

- Select word art that has words that do not overlap.
- Select word art that has a transparent background.
- Select word art strips that do not have borders.
- Do not select word art stickers.

Step Two: Add Word Art to Document

- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, uncheck Auto Select Layer (PS: Auto-Select), but check Show Bounding Box. (PS: Check Show Transform Controls.)
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the word art onto the new document.

NOTE: Holding down the Shift key while adding something to a document ensures that the item will land in the center of the document.

- Press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +) a few times to zoom into the word art. To reposition the zoom, hold down the Space bar and click and drag on the document.

Step Three: Separate the Word Art

- Get the Lasso tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon, set the Feather to 0 px, and check Anti-aliasing.
- On the document, click and draw a selection around the part of the word art you want to move. Do not include other parts of the word art in the selection. I'm going to choose the words "Travel is".
- To close the selection, return to the starting point and release your mouse.

NOTE: Some word art words are very close together. Be careful to include only the words you want separated in the selection.

- Press Shift Ctrl J (Mac: Shift Cmd J) to create a new layer via cut.

NOTE: The document will look the same, but a new layer will be added to the Layers panel.

Step Four: Move the Word Art Piece into Place

- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click and drag the newly separated word art piece to a different position that complements the original piece.
- Press the Left or Right arrow keys to nudge the piece into place if necessary.
- Finish your page as desired.

Here is my finished page. I love how the word art fits with the composition of my page now. I also separated the word art strip into 2 pieces to fit my design as well.

Page & Photos: Carla Shute
Tutorial: Separating Word Art with the Lasso Tool by Carla Shute
Kits: Backroads Collection & Backroads Word Art by Angie Briggs, Ultimate Edition Master Watercolor Brushes by Nathan Brown
Font: Arcon, Traveling Typewriter

Credits for samples:
Hello Lovely Collection by Syndee Rogers
Gratitude Nano Collection by Susie Roberts
Backroads Collection and Backroads Word Art Mini by Angie Briggs
Break Time by Carol W Designs
Just Peachy Collection by Syndee Rogers
Be A Trailblazer: Wild and Free by Kristin Cronin-Barrow