



Spectrogram Anchor with the Wave Filter

by Gina Harper

Turn an ordinary rectangle into a spectrogram anchor by using the Wave Filter to add texture and a fading edge.

For this tutorial you will need:

- striped-paper1-DS.jpg from the download folder
- Photoshop Elements or Adobe Photoshop

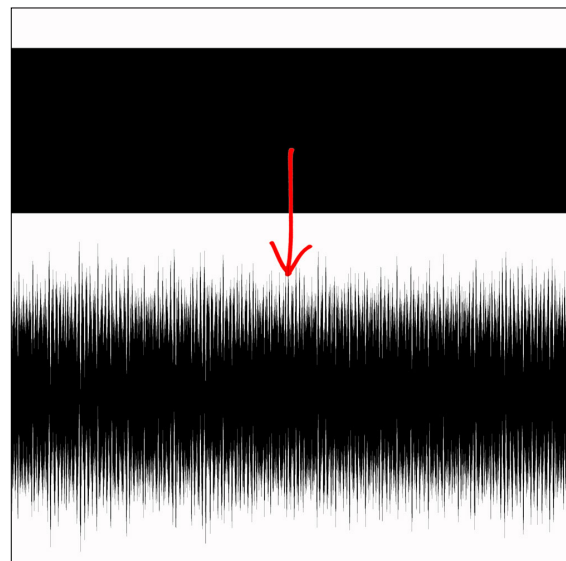
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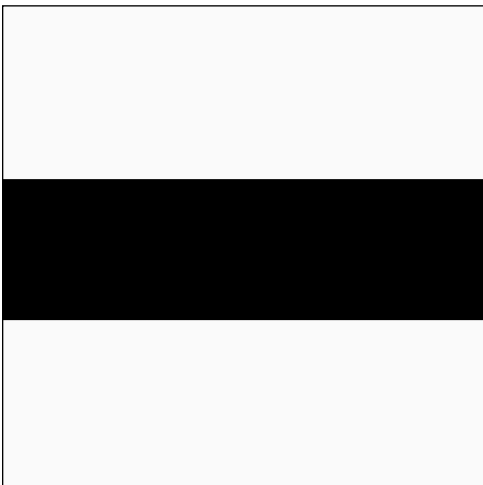


Step One: Prepare the Workspace

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

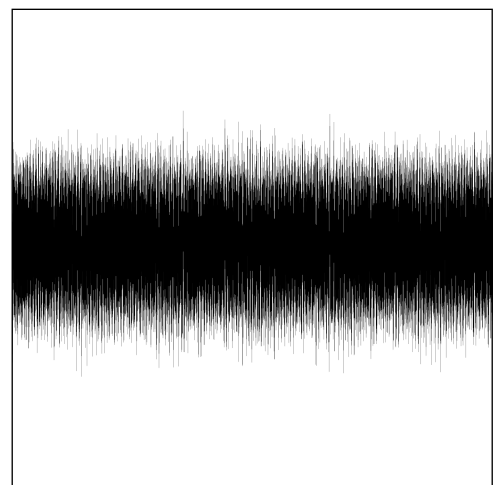
Step Two: Create a Clipping Mask

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new layer and rename it CLIPPING MASK.
- Press Enter or Return to commit the change.
- Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 and the Aspect to Normal. (PS: Set the Style to Normal.)
- On the document, click and drag out a rectangle approximately 12 inches wide by 3.5 inches high near the center of the document. To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar.
- Press Alt Backspace (Mac: Opt Delete) to fill the selection with black.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.



Step Three: Add a Wave Filter

- In the Layers panel, the CLIPPING MASK layer should still be active.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Distort > Wave.
- In the dialog box, set the Number of Generators to 10. Set the Wavelength Minimum to 1 and the Maximum to 14. Set the Amplitude Minimum to 78 and the Maximum to 83. Set the Scale Horizontal to 1 and the Scale Vertical to 100. Set the Type to Sine and the Undefined Areas to Repeat Edge Pixels. Click OK.



(Optional) Add a Gaussian Blur

NOTE: Add a Gaussian Blur if you'd like to soften the look of the spectrogram.

- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur.
- In the dialog box, set the Radius to 1px. Click OK.

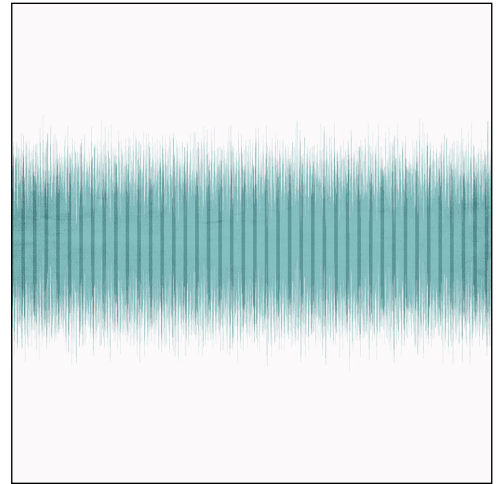
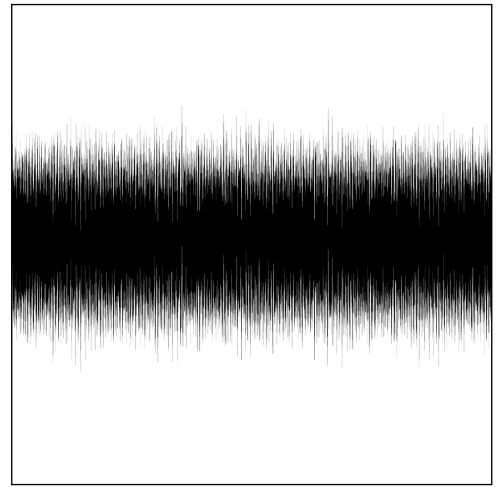
Step Four: Add a Paper

NOTE: When using a striped patterned paper, make sure the stripes are parallel to the wave.

- Get the Move tool.
- Open the striped-paper1-DS.jpg or a patterned paper of your choosing.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the paper onto the document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.

Step Five: Save the Document

- Finish the document as desired.
- Save the document (File > Save As) as a high-quality JPEG file with a unique name.



Here is a card I created for my daughter's birthday! Using the Wave Filter was a great way to add some texture to the anchor behind the cluster. On my scrapbook page, the Wave Filter was just the right touch to help my anchor fade into the background and not have a harsh line edge.



Card: Gina Harper
Tutorial: Spectrogram
Anchor with the Wave Filter
Kit: Seize The Day by
Bellisae Designs
Font: Atmosphere



Photos & Page: Summer Snow
by Gina Harper
Tutorial: Spectrogram Anchor by
Gina Harper
Kit: Frozen by Bellisae
Font: Caroni