



Stroked Title with an Echo Effect

by Gina Harper

Give your title an echoed effect using the Rectangular Marquee tool and a Stroke.

For this tutorial you will need:

- Photoshop Elements or Adobe Photoshop
- A chunky, bold, sans serif font: for example, Impact or Arial Black

Important Links:

- Find this [tutorial on our blog](#).
- [Terms of Use](#)
- Website: www.DigitalScrapper.com
- [Facebook Business Page](#)
- [Circle Community Group](#)
- [YouTube Channel](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

©2022 Digital Scrapper

See What Others Are Creating

- [Join & visit our Community on Circle](#).

Here's an image of what we will be creating together.



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 the Title

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a sans serif font. I'm using Impact Regular.
- **Photoshop Elements Only:** Set the Size to 100, the Leading to Auto, and the Tracking to 0. Click on the Center Align icon. Click on the Color Chip and choose black.
- **Adobe Photoshop Only:** Set the Size to 100. Click on the Center Alignment icon. Click on the Color Chip to open the Color Picker. In the Color Picker, choose black and click OK. In the Character panel (Window > Character), set the Leading to Auto and the Tracking to 0.

NOTE: I recommend using a font size between 90 and 125, depending on the font you are working with.




What fonts work best?

- Sans serif
- Bold or chunky

Font Choices	
	
Best Choices	Poor Choices
• BOLD OR CHUNKY	• thin
• SANS SERIF	• <i>script</i>
	• <i>italicized</i>

When to adjust the Tracking?

- Tracking is the amount of space between letters.
- Some fonts are designed with more space between each letter.
- If the font you're using has too much space between the letters, this tutorial will work best if you reduce the Tracking.
- Make sure **not** to reduce the Tracking so much that the letters overlap.

B A B Y		The letters are too far apart
B A B Y		The letters are too close
B A B Y		the letters are more equally spaced

- On the document, click once in the center of the document to place the cursor.
- Type a word in all caps. I'm using the word SHINE.
- Click the checkmark to commit the type.

NOTE: Uppercase letters work best for this tutorial because all of the letters will be the same height.



Step Three: Center the Title

- Get the Move tool. In the Tool Options, Auto-Select should be unchecked.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select the entire document.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Align Horizontal Centers (Middle) icon and the Align Vertical Centers (Center) icon.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the type layer to 50%.

NOTE: Reducing the opacity of the type layer will allow us to see the next steps more clearly.

Step Four: Create a Selection Outline

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on the thumbnail of the type layer to get a selection outline.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Stroke (Outline) Selection. (PS: Choose Edit > Stroke.)
- In the dialog box, set the Width to 10 px. Click on the Color Chip, choose black, and click OK. Set the Location to Inside, the Mode to Normal, and the Opacity to 100%. Uncheck Preserve Transparency. Click OK.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the new layer and rename it "Echo Bottom." Press Enter or Return to commit the change.

Step Five: Divide the Stroked Outline

- The Echo Bottom layer should still be the active layer. If it's not, click to make it the active layer now.
- 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 12 in and the Height to 6 in.
- On the document, click and drag the selection all the way to the top of the document.
- Press Shift Ctrl J (Mac: Shift Cmd J) to cut the selected pixels to a new layer.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the new layer and rename it "Echo Top." Press Enter or Return to commit the change.

Step Six: Move and Duplicate the Stroke Outline Layers

- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the top echo up until it's positioned slightly above the solid title. Make sure to leave a small gap between the solid title and the top echo. See the images as a reference,
- Use the Arrow keys to nudge it up or down as needed.
- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the Echo Top layer to 50%.

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



- On the document, hold down Shift Alt (Mac: Shift Opt) and click and drag a copy of the top echo up until it's positioned slightly above the first top echo. Make sure to leave a small gap between the two top echos. See the image as a reference.

NOTE: Holding down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) while clicking and dragging will duplicate the layer. Holding down the Shift Alt (Mac: Shift Opt) together will create a duplicate and maintain the horizontal or vertical position of the duplicate layer.

- Use the Arrow keys to nudge it up or down as needed.
- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the duplicate Echo Top layer to 20%.



- In the Layers panel, click on the Echo Bottom layer to activate it.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the bottom echo down until it's slightly below the solid title. Make sure to leave a small gap between the solid title and the bottom echo. See the image as a reference.
- Use the Arrow keys to nudge it up or down as needed.
- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the Echo Bottom layer to 50%.



- On the document, hold down the Shift Alt (Mac: Shift Opt) and click and drag a copy of the bottom echo down until it's positioned slightly below the first bottom echo. Make sure to leave a small gap between the two bottom echos. See the image as a reference.
- Use the Arrow keys to nudge it up or down as needed.
- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the duplicate Echo Bottom layer to 20%.
- In the Layers panel, activate the original type layer and increase the Opacity to 100%.



Step Seven: Save the File

- Finish your project as desired.
- Save the document (File > Save As) as a layered PSD file with a unique name.

Here's what my finished page looks like after recoloring the layers of the title. To do that:

- Click on the Background Color Chip to open the Color Picker. Choose a color and click OK. I chose an orange color.
- In the Layers Panel, click on a layer of the title to activate it.
- Press Shift Ctrl Backspace (Mac: Shift Cmd Delete) to fill the layer with the background color.



Credits:

Photos & Page: Shine by Gina Harper

Tutorial: Stroked Title with an Echo Effect by Gina Harper

Kit: Making Spirits Bright by Kristin Cronin Barrow

Font: Chelsea Market, Impact

The echoed effect was the perfect touch for the title of this card. It was just what I needed for a recent Baby Shower I attended.



Credits:

Card: Baby by Gina Harper

Tutorial: Stroked Title with an Echo Effect by Gina Harper

Kit: Ethereal Magic by Kristin Cronin Barrow

Font: Arial Rounded MT