

# Quick & Easy Traveling Type

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White **Quick and Easy Traveling Type**  
by Jen White

Train your type to travel sensibly over the shadowed terrain of 3D objects with quick and easy Layers panel magic.

## The Problem with Traveling Type

Type is considered a 2D object. Which means it's two dimensional. It lies flat on a document (image or scrapbook page) with no shadow.



Because type does not contain a shadow, it shouldn't ever travel across the edge of an object with 3D properties, such as a strip of paper. Why? Because as you can see in the image below, the shadow of 3D object is lost below the 2D object.



## A Quick and Easy Solution for Traveling Type

In this tutorial I'll show you the quick and easy steps for manipulating the Layers panel when you need type to travel across a 3D object. Can you see the difference in the image above and the image below? Let me show you how it's done.



### Step One: Open a Document

To complete this tutorial, the requirement is a document that contains a 2D layer (like word art) and at least one shadowed layer (like paper).

- [Download my practice template](#) that includes the word art and two shadowed paper layers, or open a document that contains the requirements.

NOTE: This particular technique for traveling type works best with lighter colored titles.

NOTE: The WORD ART layer in my practice template could be replaced by anything with 2D properties, such as a regular type layer, an overlay, or paint.

Here is a screen shot of the practice template and a screenshot of the Layers panel.

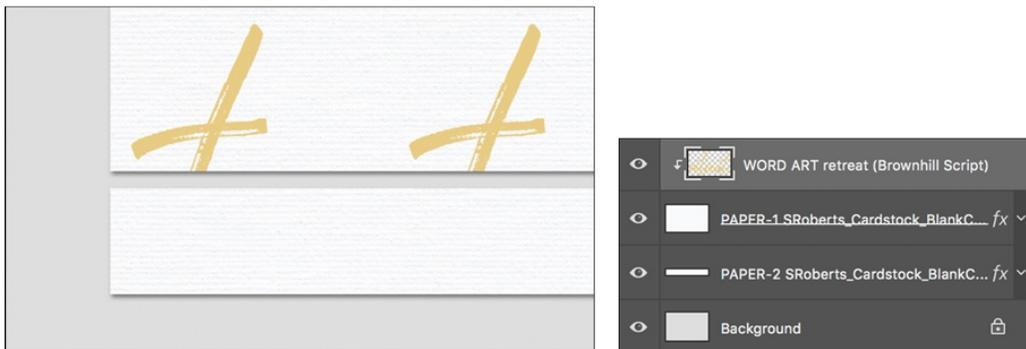


## Step Two: Create Multiple Copies and Clip Them Down

As stated before, the problem is that the 2D word art is traveling across the edge of shadowed paper layers. That's a no-no unless you know this quick Layers panel trick.

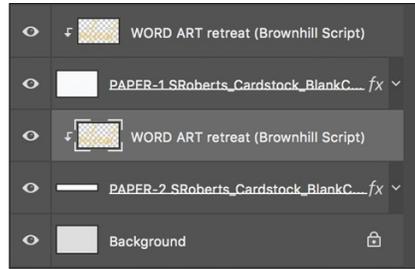
First, clip the word art to one of the paper layers.

- In the Layers panel, click on the WORD ART layer to activate it.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.



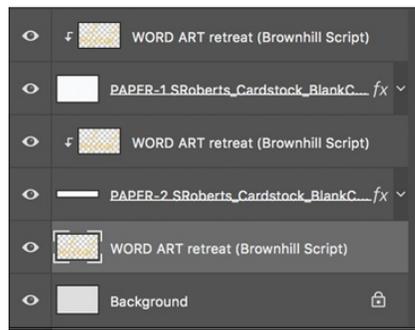
Next, clip a copy of the word art to any additional paper layers that it travels over.

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a copy of the WORD ART layer above the PAPER-2 layer.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.



Finally, place a copy of the word art below all the clipped layers.

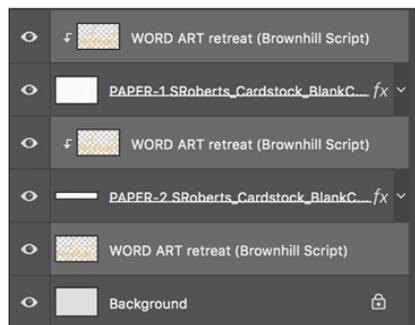
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a copy of the WORD ART layer directly under the PAPER 2 layer.



### Step Three: Move the Word Art Independently

This technique is non-destructive, meaning that whatever you have clipped down can still be moved.

- In the Layers panel, click on the top WORD ART layer to activate it.
- Hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on any additional word art layers you created. Now all the word art layers should be active.
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click and drag directly on the word art to move it.



Here is the scrapbook page I made using this technique. If you are interested in learning additional design no-no's

for digital projects, check out the [Design Beautiful Pages](#) class.



Page: BFF Retreat 2017 by Jen White

Photos: Jen White

Template: QwikLearn | [Design Beautiful Pages](#)

Kit: Simple Joys by Anita Designs

Fonts: Aleo, Brownhill Script

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