Intersecting Frame (Photoshop Elements)

Tip of the Week by Jen White on October 4, 2011

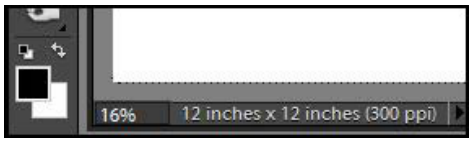
"Sometimes you feel like a nut.
Sometimes you don't."
I've got that little Almond Joy jingle stuck in my head!

It was driving me crazy until I applied it to my scrapbook page.
Sometimes I feel like square cornered frames.
And sometimes I just don't!

Today, I shall have it both ways... square corners AND rounded ones.
I just love it when things work out!

Check out this sweet little frame I've added to my scrapbook page.
I know you'll want to make one too! So, here's how...

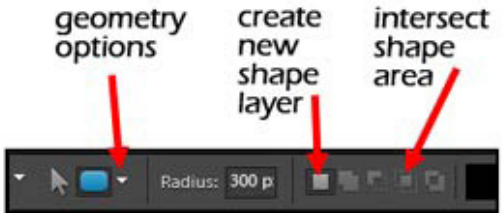
Step 1: Create a New Document

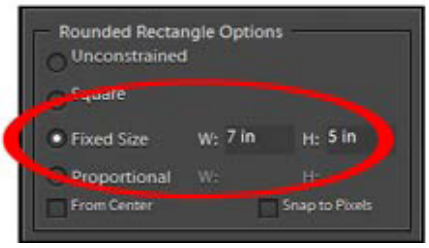


- Create a new document (File > New > Blank File) at 300ppi.
- Press D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black and white.

Step 2: Create a Rounded Rectangle

- Get the Rounded Rectangle tool.
- In the Options Bar, open the Geometry Options and choose a Fixed Size of 7 x 5 inches.
- Enter a Radius of 300 px.
- Click once on your document to place the new shape.





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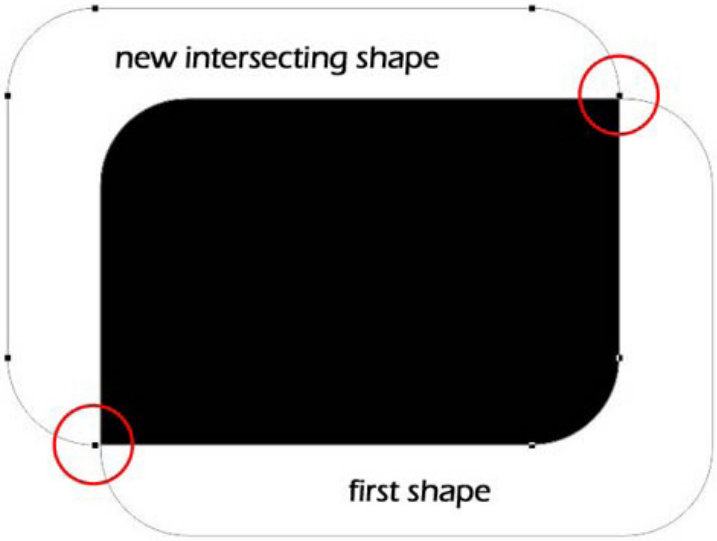
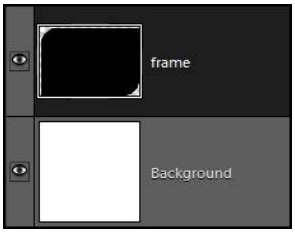
Step 3: Intersect the Shape

- In the Options Bar, click on the Intersect Shape Area icon.
- Click once on the document to place the new intersecting shape.
- Holding down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) click on the new intersecting shape and move it into place as shown in the image below.
- Note: the circles indicate where the Bounding Box handles should be resting on the first shape.

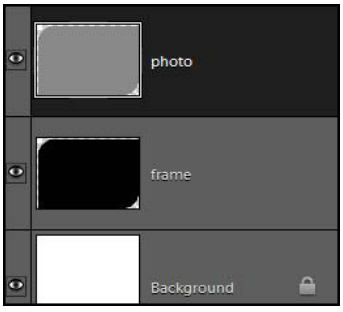


Step 4: Create a Grey Photo Mask Layer

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Simplify Layer.
- In the Layers panel, rename this layer frame.



- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the frame layer.
- Rename this layer photo.
- Click on the background Color Chip (white) to change its color.
- In the Color picker, choose a grey color and click OK.
- Press Shift Ctrl Backspace (Mac: Shift Cmd Delete) to fill the photo layer pixels with the new background color.



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• Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.

• In the Options Bar, change the Width and Height percentages to 98%.

• Double click inside the Bounding Box to commit the changes.

Step 5: Trim the Black Frame Mask Layer

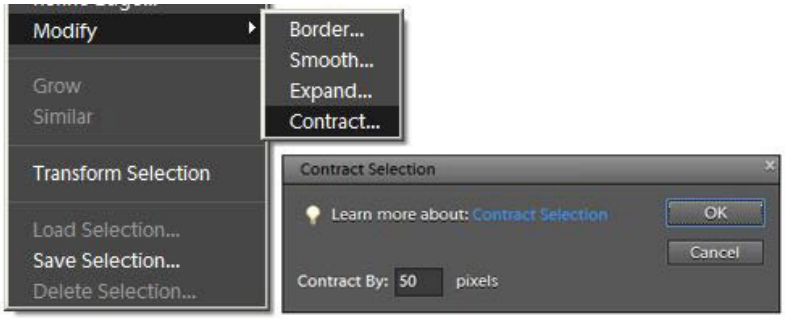
• In the Layers panel, drag the photo layer below the frame layer.

• Activate the frame layer by clicking on it.

• Ctrl click (Mac: Cmd click) on the thumbnail of the frame layer to get a selection outline.

• In the Menu Bar, choose Select > Modify > Contract.

• In the dialog box, enter 50 pixels and click OK.



• Press the Backspace key (Mac: Delete key) to remove the inside of the frame.

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

Step 6: Link the Frame and Photo Layers Together

• In the Layers panel, click on the frame layer to activate it.

• Shift click on the photo layer to make both layers active at the same time.

• Click on the Link Layers icon at the bottom of the Layers panel. This will keep these two layers together

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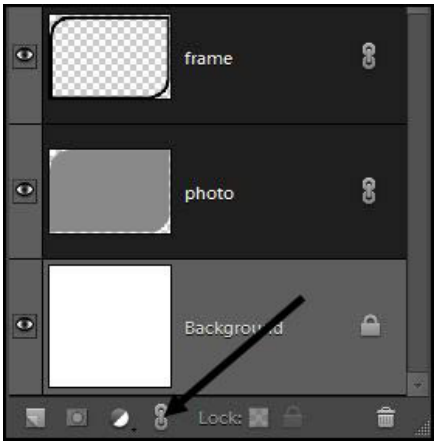
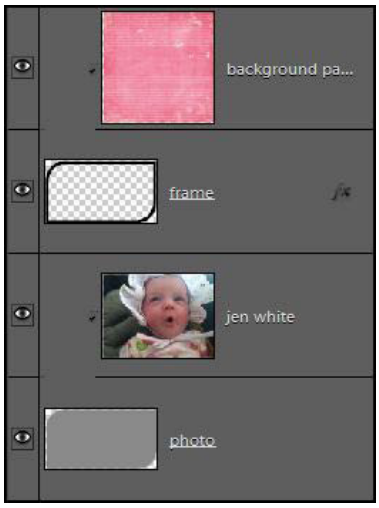
regardless of where you move the frame when creating the scrapbook page.



Step 7: Finish Up the Frame

- Add a small drop shadow to the frame layer. Do not add any effects to the photo layer.
- Move a photo above the photo layer and clip it to the photo layer (Layer > Create Clipping Mask [or in some versions: Group Layers])
- Clip a background paper to the frame layer.



And here is my scrapbook page after I've finished designing it with Amanda Rockwell's *Love You Always* kit. Be sure to show us all your own creations in the Tip of the Week Gallery at Scrappers Guide!

Credits:
Tip of the Week: Intersecting Frame by Jen White
Software: Photoshop Elements 9.0
Paper and Elements: Amanda Rockwell, *Love You Always*
Scrapbook Page and Photo: by Jen White

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