

qt-TypingOnSelections-ps-transcript



Typing On Special Selections (Adobe Photoshop)

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TRANSCRIPT

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Use my slick and savvy shortcuts to add type to a special selection outline. This video is available for both Photoshop Elements and Adobe Photoshop. This is the Adobe Photoshop version. When I created this card, I envisioned my sentiment following the curve of this cream colored paper. Here in Photoshop, we'll do just that with a path and the Horizontal Type Tool.

Begin by opening either the quick page or the grayscale template that comes in the download for this video. Both of these documents include a curved clipping mask layer that extends all the way from one side of the document to the other. In the Layers panel, you'll want to activate the layer that contains the shape you want your text to follow. On this quick page, I want my text to follow the curve line of this cream colored paper. So in the Layers panel, I'll activate the top-most paper layer. I know this is the layer that I'm after because if I turn on and off the Visibility icon, I can see the layer revealing and hiding. If you're using the template, you would want to activate the top Paper Clipping Mask layer. I'll go back to the quick page and then we'll want to reset the Color Chips by pressing the letter D.

The next step is to get a selection outline. Holding down the Ctrl key in Windows, or the Cmd key on a Mac, click on the thumbnail of the active layer in the Layers panel. You should now see a selection outline around that cream colored paper on the document. At this point, we could turn this selection into a path and then type on that path, but here's the thing. The default for typing on a path is for the text to be on the outside of the path and wrap around in a clockwise direction. So the type would be upside down and it would go from right to left. What we want it to do is to be on top of the path going from left to right. One way around that is to select the opposite of what we have here. So instead of the top being selected, we want this bottom portion to be selected. And the way to do that is to go into the Menu Bar and choose Select > Inverse. Now the bottom half of the document is selected and the top half is

not.

Now let's turn the selection into a path. We'll do that in the Paths Panel. To get the Paths Panel, go into the Menu Bar and choose Window > Paths. In the Paths Panel, click on the flyout menu, that's the icon that has four horizontal bars, and choose Make Work Path. In the dialog box, keep the Tolerance set to 2 px and then click OK. Now the bottom half of the document, instead of being surrounded by a selection outline, is surrounded by a path, and this is what we can actually type on. I'll go back to the Layers panel and that top paper layer is still the active layer.

Now get the Horizontal Type Tool. In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a good title font. For this tutorial, I would recommend typing in all caps or choosing a font that's all caps. So I'll choose, Oh Wonder Sans. I have three other options that would work good for this tutorial and you can find them in the manual that's included with this video. Also in the Tool Options, you'll want to set the Size to around 20 pts. Click on the Left Alignment icon and the Color Chip should already be black. Now on the document you'll want to hover your cursor near the place where you want your sentence or phrase to begin. When you see the Type on a Selection icon appear, you can click once to place the cursor. Then, type in your phrase or phrases. I'll type in happy birthday several times. You'll want to be mindful of the very end of the path where the type is going to fall off the edge and start wrapping around the other side. In just a second I'll show you what to do to scoot that back onto the page, but for now when you have your phrase or sentence all typed out, go ahead and click the checkmark to commit.

Since this is just a regular type layer, we can alter this text in any way. We'll do so with their Character Panel. In the Menu Bar, choose Window > Character. And then, in the Character Panel you can alter the length of the line of your type by changing the size of the font. So I'll move mine down just one point and see what a difference that makes. You could also use the Tracking slider. This will put space between your letters if you move it to the positive side or it will reduce the space between your letters if you move it to the negative side. I'll keep mine at 0. And then, I'll go back to the Layers panel and there's one more thing that I wanted to cover.

My line of type is sitting a little bit too close to that curve, so I'd like to bump it up a little bit. I'll do that with the Move Tool. So get the Move Tool and then just use your keyboard Arrow keys and click on the Up Arrow key to nudge that type up four or five times.

So that's how you can add type to a special selection outline in Adobe Photoshop. If you'd like to learn more about what can be done with the Type Tool, I recommend checking out Secrets of Terrific Type by Jenifer Juris. You'll find a link to this class along with a discount coupon in the manual for this video. This has been Jen White with Digital Scrapper.