



Color Story

Lesson 2: Let's Play with the Color Wheel (Photoshop Elements)

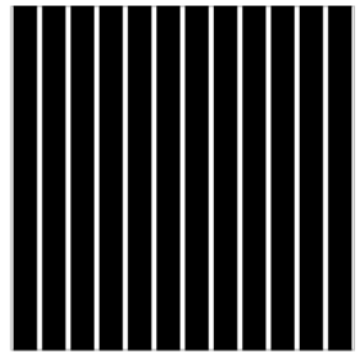
In the last lesson, we put on our thinking caps and learned about color theory and the color wheel, and now it's time to have some fun and play!

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Set Up the Workspace

- Begin in Advanced Mode (Expert Mode for earlier versions) of Photoshop Elements.
- Open the CLR-Stripes.png (File > Open) from the CLR-Class-Files folder.
- In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate. Click OK.
- Close the original CLR-Stripes.png (File > Close).



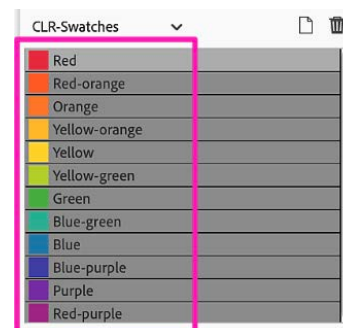
NOTE: You should have Installed the CLR-Class-Swatches.aco, CLR-Class-Brushes.abr, CLR-Class-Patterns.pat, and the CLR-Class-Styles-Bonus.asl in the last lesson.

Add Color

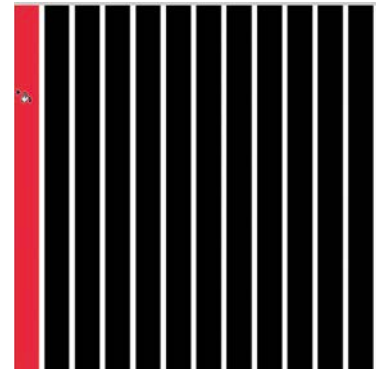
We'll use the Paint Bucket tool to add colors found on the basic color wheel to our black stripes.

- In the Menu Bar, choose Window > Color Swatches.
- Get the Paint Bucket tool. It's nested with the Gradient tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Paint icon, set the Opacity to 100%, the Tolerance to 32, and the Mode to Normal. Uncheck All Layers, check Contiguous and Anit-aliasing.
- In the Color Swatches panel, click on the Red swatch at the top of the class swatches.

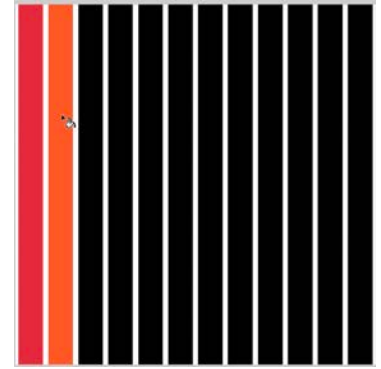
NOTE: The first 12 color swatches are colors found in the basic color wheel. We want to use those to fill our stripes.



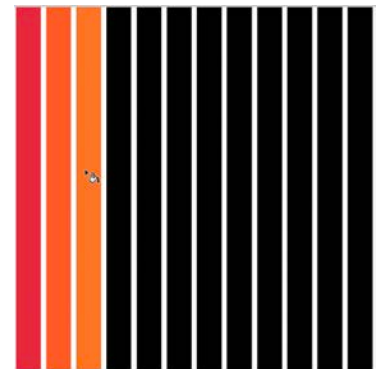
- On the document, click on the first stripe on the left side to fill the stripe with color.



- Choose the Red-orange swatch in the Color Swatches panel.
- On the document, click on the second stripe to fill it with color.



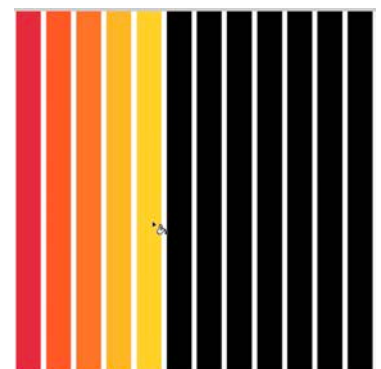
- Choose the Orange swatch in the Color Swatches panel.
- On the document, click on the third stripe to fill it with color.



- Choose the Yellow-orange swatch in the Color Swatches panel.
- On the document, click on the fourth stripe to fill it with color.



- Choose the Yellow swatch in the Color Swatches panel.
- On the document, click on the fifth stripe to fill it with color.



- Following the previous instructions, continue filling the stripes using the remaining colors from the first 12 swatches in the class swatches.



Add a Filter

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the stripes layer.
- In the Layers panel, double-click on the name of the layer and rename it Starburst. Press Enter/Return to commit the change.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Distort > Polar Coordinates. In the dialog box, choose Rectangular to Polar. Click OK.



Starburst Variation

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the layer.
- In the Layers panel, double-click on the name of the layer and rename it Starburst twirl. Press Enter/Return to commit the change.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Distort > Twirl. In the dialog box, set the Angle to 50° and click OK.



Add Texture Using a Filter

- Click on the Visibility icon of the active layer in the Layers panel to hide it.
- Activate the Starburst layer.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the layer.
- Double-click on the name of the layer and rename it Starburst pointillize. Press Enter/Return to commit the change.
- Click on the Foreground color chip and choose the Red swatch from class swatches. In the Color Picker click OK.
- Click on the Background Color Chip and choose the Yellow swatch from the Color Swatches panel. In the Color Picker click OK.

- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Pixelate > Pointillize. In the dialog box, set the Cell Size to 10 and Click OK. This gives our starburst background a more aged, retro feel.



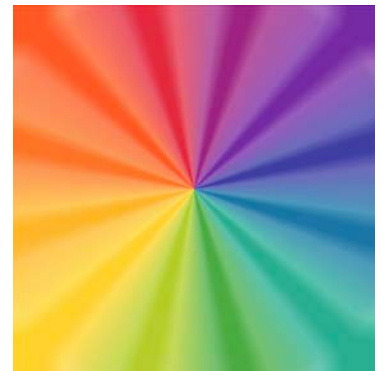
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the active layer to hide it.
- In the Layers panel, activate the Starburst twirl layer and click on its Visibility icon to turn it back on.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the layer.
- Click on the Visibility icon of the original Starburst twirl layer to hide it.

- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Pointillize from the top of the filters list, or press Ctrl F (Mac: Cmd F) to run the filter with the same settings.
- In the Layers panel, double-click on the name of the layer and rename it Starburst twirl pointillize. Press Enter/Return to commit the change.
- Close the Color Swatches panel.
- Click on the Visibility icon of the active layer in the Layers panel to hide it.

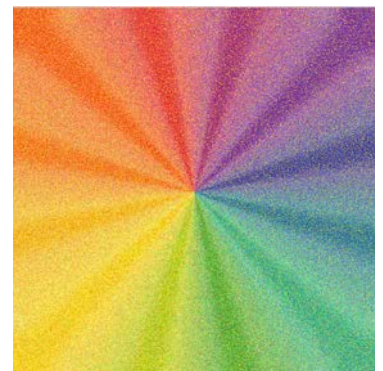


Create Variation 2

- In the Layers panel, activate the Starburst layer.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the layer.
- Optional: Click on the Visibility icon of the original Starburst layer to hide it.
- Double-click on the name of the duplicate layer and rename it Starburst blur. Press Enter/Return to commit the change.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Blur > Radial Blur. In the dialog box, set the Amount to 20, the Blur Method to Spin, and the Quality to Good. Click OK.



TIP: Leave the Starburst blur layer as is or follow the previous instructions to add the Pointillize filter.



Save the Document

- Save your document (File > Save As) as a layered PSD file.
- Give the file a name.
- Save the document in the class folder for this lesson. Click Save.