

# YOU'RE MY TYPE

© Elinor Stecker-Orel 2007

## Definitions

A **font** is a complete set of characters—letters, numbers, and symbols—that share a common weight, width, and style.

A **font family** is a collection of fonts sharing an overall typeface design: for example, New Times Roman.

A **type style** is a variant version of an individual font in the font family: for example, Regular, Bold, or Italic.

## Viewing and Choosing Fonts

### Sources

Hundreds of fonts are already installed on your computer.

You can buy DVD collections of fonts

You can download fonts free from the Internet. Google “free fonts.” Some good sources are

[www.dafont.com](http://www.dafont.com)

Fonts are organized into categories

[www.1001freefonts.com](http://www.1001freefonts.com)

<http://eknp.com>

[www.fontgarden.com](http://www.fontgarden.com)

Demos the fonts with fun quotations. Most are shareware

[www.simplythebest.com](http://www.simplythebest.com)

Has links to many sources

[www.typhenow.com](http://www.typhenow.com)

Has links to several sources

### How to download:

At the website, choose Download > Open

On your desktop: Start > Settings > Control Panel > Fonts

Click to open. Drag the font icon from the zip file onto Fonts folder

### Font organizer

If you have hundreds of fonts, it's a good idea to download a font organizer, such as **amp font viewer** available from [www.ampsoft.net](http://www.ampsoft.net). Then you can organize your fonts into categories and easily view them. Google “font organizer”

### Possible organization categories

serif– letters have little strokes at top and bottom; best for extended printed text

sans serif– best for Web

script

decorative (display)

period

foreign style

dingbats

blackletter (gothic, Old English)

## Aesthetics of Using Type

The font should be appropriate in mood to the message.

Choose legible fonts.

Be sure there is contrast with the background.

If using light-colored type on a dark background, make the letters larger.

Limit the number of different fonts to two or three.

Don't use all uppercase letters in text of more than two or three lines.

## Entering type

When you enter type, Photoshop puts it on a new layer; therefore you can move it

**Type tools:** Horizontal, vertical; mask

**Three ways to enter type:** at a point, inside a boundary, and along a path.

### Point

Lines do not wrap to next line

Use right, left, or center justification

“Enter” takes you to next line and puts on same layer

To end the entry, click Commit button (check mark on Option Bar) or any tool

If you change your mind, click the circle with a slash on the Option Bar

### Inside a boundary (“Paragraph Type”)

Useful when you want to create a lot of text

Lines wrap

Create a Bounding Box (Text block)

Drag diagonally to define bounding box or

Hold **Shift** for square

To end, click Commit button

You can **resize** the box (**not the type**) before committing

Drag a corner handle– pointer becomes two-sided arrow

Hold **Shift** to maintain the proportions

Hold **Alt** to drag equally from center

## Setting and Changing Type Size

### Before entering type

Select size from dropdown list or enter your own value; limit is 1296

### Paragraph type– after entering, before committing

Hold **Ctrl** as you drag a handle

### Changing after commitment

1. Make Type tool active, but do not click document: Choose or enter size on Option Bar.  
You may have to hit Enter. The change affects the entire layer  
or
2. Select text with Type tool and select size on the Option Bar  
or
3. Click Move tool and click “show transform controls” on Option Bar  
Hold **Shift** and drag a corner handle diagonally (holding Shift maintains proportion)

## Setting and Changing Font, Color, and Justification

### Before entering type

Set font, color, and justification on Option Bar. Do not set color on color picker

### After commitment:

1. Make type tool active, and enter options on Option Bar. May have to click Enter.  
If use **Ctrl** to make multiple layers active, the changes will affect all those layers  
or
2. Use Type tool to select entire text or individual letters; enter options on Option Bar
3. Use Character Palette

## Character Palette



## Using the Character Palette

Highlight the text you want to change

“Size” changes the letter size in point size.

“Letter height” changes the height by a percentage

“Kerning” changes the distance between two letters

“Tracking” changes the distance between letters, but affects a whole word, or sentence.

“Baseline shift” raises or lowers the line of letters

“Leading” (pronounced “ladding”) changes the distance between lines. This is often helpful with multiple lines

## Editing

### Repositioning text

Text is on a layer so you can move it

### Transparency

To make text semitransparent: lower Opacity on Layers palette

To make text transparent: on the Layers palette click effects icon, add Stroke; then lower Fill

### Insert, change, or delete specific letters

Use type tool to select (highlight) desired letters

You can delete, change color and size, insert letters

# BASIC EFFECTS

## Transform

Adds a bounding box so you can manipulate type. There are three methods:

Click **Move tool** and check “**show transform controls**” on Option Bar. This is the same as **Edit > Free Transform**.

**Squeeze or expand** – Drag any handle

**Rotate**– put cursor just outside the box, it turns into curved arrow ; drag it diagonally

**Skew**–Hold **Ctrl** and drag any handle diagonally

**Flip** horizontal or vertical – drag a center handle past midpoint

**Edit > Transform**— You select a particular change except for Warp

**Again** repeats last transformation

## Warp

### 1. From Text Warp icon on Option Bar (icon looks like a “T” above a curved line)

Activate Type tool

Click Text Warp icon

Select style from drop-down menu

Play with sliders

Can warp a text box

Can change later or unwarped; double-click Warp icon on Option Bar

### 2. From Transform tool— gives precise control

Rasterize type layer (Layer>Rasterize>Type)

Edit>Transform>Warp

## Skew, Distort, Perspective

### Rasterization method (Layer >rasterize > type)

Edit > transform > **Skew**; drag a corner handle

Edit > transform > **Distort**; drag any handle

Edit > transform > **Perspective**; drag a corner handle

or

### Without rasterizing

Layers>Type>Convert to Shape

Edit >Free Transform Path

Hold Ctrl or Alt and drag a corner handle

## Styles

Open Layers palette

Make type layer active

Click effects icon on bottom of palette

Be sure effect name is checked and highlighted

Usually use 100 % opacity and Normal mode, but try others

Try combinations such as Stroke and Outer Glow

To create a double stroke, make a stroke from Styles; rasterize the type; Edit >Stroke

## SPECIAL EFFECTS

### Placing a photograph within letters

#### Clipping Mask method

Enter type on blank canvas

On the photograph, select All

Drag or copy and paste image onto the type document

Create a Clipping Mask: Layer> create clipping mask (Alt +Ctrl+ G)

You can use the Move tool to move image or type, depending on the layer you're on

Merge the type and image layers; then you can move the type around without moving the image

You can add a Style to the type layer

#### Hand-drawn lettering

Open a new document with transparent background

Write desired words

Drag or copy and paste image onto the type document

Create a Clipping Mask: Layer> create clipping mask (Alt +Ctrl+ G)

#### Type Mask method

Use Type Mask tool to type the word on blank or colored canvas; commit

On desired photograph, Select All; Copy

On type canvas, Edit> Paste Into

Can add Styles

Can move image

## Adding Filters

### Rasterizing

To add filter effect, must rasterize the type layer– turns it into regular layer.

Type word and commit.

Click desired filter; it may ask if should rasterize

If it doesn't rasterize automatically: Layer> rasterize> type

Many filters, e.g. Artistic and Brush Strokes do not have an effect because type is a single color. Some work better with light colored type. Before typing, change the colors on the Toolbar or the Color Picker for different effects.

Try these:

Pixelate: Messotint, Pointilize

Render: Fibers

Sketch: Conte crayon, Graphic pen, Note paper

Stylize: Wind Blast

Texture: Craquelure, Grain, Mosaic tiles, Texturizer, Stained Glass

Try combining filters

Try adding Styles once you've added texture

Try Filter > Texture>Craquelure plus Stroke plus Emboss

## Paths

Type can follow along the edge of a shaped line – (workpath) or take the shape of a closed shape

### Typing along an Edge

#### Creating a workpath with Freeform pen

On Toolbar, select Freeform pen – icon of pen with a curvy line (second one in fly-out menu)

On Option Bar, select icon of pen within a square--second square from left

Draw desired path

#### Typing along the Workpath

Click Type tool

Choose left justification

Bottom of I-Beam becomes curvy and must rest on the line

Type the words and commit

To reposition, use Move tool to grab within the typed area

If the words are too large to fit: commit, change size on Option Bar  
 Reposition by clicking Spacebar before or after committing  
 To hide path, click Background layer with Move tool  
 Can further distort with Edit> Transform Path

### **Typing along a selection made with the Marquee tool**

Make circular selection

Turn it into a Workpath: On bottom of the Paths palette, click clicking the fourth icon from the left. It looks like circle within a tent

Choose left justification

Type along the line

To rotate, click the Move tool and use the Transform Controls on the Option bar; rotate near a corner.

### **Turning a corner and making vertical type**

Make square selection and turn it into a Workpath

Type along an edge to turn a corner.

Or type along a side to print vertically; use left justification on right side to make type go downward, and vice versa.

## **Typing within a closed shape: Calligramme**

Shape must be a Path

### **Turning selection into a path**

Create any selection

Make Workpath from the selection by clicking fourth icon from left on bottom of Paths palette. Looks like circle within a tent.

### **Entering the type**

Click Type tool; place **inside** the shape near the top; I-beam has a little circle

Use small font size

On Paragraph Palette, choose full centered justification– second group, second icon.

You can fill in the selection with color before changing it to a Workpath

### **Using a shape selected from the Option bar**

Shapes are paths

Click shape icon on Tool bar; choose custom shape.

Select shape from drop-down list on Option bar

Make sure Path icon (pen within a square) is selected on Option bar–  
 Draw shape  
 Click Type tool; place inside shape near the top.  
 Use full centered justification and small font size

## **Adding your own shapes to the dropdown shapes list**

Draw or select a shape from any source  
 Fill shape with black  
 Select the shape with Magic Wand  
 On Paths palette, convert to Workpath by clicking fourth icon from left on bottom of Paths palette (circle within a tent).  
 Edit > Define Custom Shape. Enter a name for the new shape in the Shape Name dialog box.  
 The new shape will appear in the Shape drop-down box.  
 Save the shape by selecting Save Shapes from the drop-down list.

## **Effects with the Type Mask Tool**

Type Mask does **not** automatically create a layer so you must use it on a new layer if you want to move the text.

### **Outline around transparent type over a background image**

Layer> New layer  
 Select Type Mask tool  
 Type text on the new layer  
 Click Commit to remove mask  
 On text layer, Edit > Stroke (do **not** use Style Effects)  
 Deselect

If you want to move the text, before adding the stroke, click the Marquee tool and use it to grab and move the selection.

### **Embellishing the stroked outline**

Use a large width when making the stroke

#### **Apply a Style from Layers Palette**

Try Stroke– this gives you a second outline  
 Try Pattern Overlay, Emboss.

#### **Apply a filter effect**

Try these filters:

Sketch > Note paper, Graphic Pen,  
 Texture > craquelure,  
 Texturizer > brick, burlap, canvas, sandstone

## Color on Same Color or White-on-White or

Type in same color as background

Style > Bevel Emboss– Inner Bevel; Size whatever looks good

Add Drop Shadow at a distance that makes it look like a cast shadow, giving a 3D effect.

You can change the color by flattening and using the hue/saturation slider

## Transparent type over image

Type in any color

Style>Bevel Emboss> Inner bevel

Change Fill to 0

## Copyright brush

Open a new document with a white background

Draw a copyright symbol from custom shapes

Change path into selection (third icon from left on Paths palette–dashed circle)

Layer > New > Layer via copy

Style > Drop Shadow or Inner Bevel

Type your name in white, sizing to match ©

Style> Drop Shadow or Inner Bevel

Reposition and resize type if necessary

Delete background layer

Flatten

## Making the brush

Select words and ©

Edit> Define brush preset

Name the brush “copyright”

The brush will appear at the bottom of the currently opened brushes

Save it in the flyout menu

To use, make color white or black for contrast, depending on the photo. Resize as for any brush

**For tutorials on lots of special text effects, see**

<http://tutorialoutpost.com/tutorials/photoshop/text-effects/>

<http://www.tutorialized.com/tutorials/Photoshop/Text-Effects/>