Photoshop 7 Working with Text

Type added to an image in Photoshop is added as pixels, but Photoshop preserves the vector data making resizing of text without loss of sharpness possible. This also enables text to have smooth edges even after resizing. Rasterizing a text layer will eliminate this ability, (and makes the text un-editable) so when you need to do something that requires the text to be rasterized, create a duplicate layer first and rasterize that. You can make the original text layer invisible if necessary, but it will always be available if you need to edit the text.

Part One- Creating a Clipping Mask from Text

I. **Adding Guides to an Image**
    A. Fit the image to the screen for easier viewing of the whole image (Ctrl 1)
    B. Make the rulers visible if they are not already
        1. View> Rulers or
        2. Ctrl+R
    C. To add a guide
        1. View>New Guide…
            a. In the New Guide dialog box enter the placement point measurement into the Position field
            b. Select the appropriate radio button for Orientation
            c. Click OK or press Enter
        2. Click inside the Vertical Ruler bar and drag a guide into position
            a. In Photoshop CS5, use the cursor position indicator in the Horizontal ruler bar at the top
            b. In Photoshop CS6, a position indicator will appear beside the cursor to aid in precise positioning

Anytime free-standing text is being used in an image, or even multiple free-standing elements of an image, placing an array of guides is often helpful in composing the layout. Most graphic designers start a layout by adding a grid of guides across the canvas. When using the View>New Guide… command, you can set percentages for positioning your new guides (25%, 50%, 75%) both vertically and horizontally. With a book or magazine cover, or a book page, an extra margin is often necessary on the bound side to accommodate the binding process. This varies from one publisher and one binding technique to the next, but ½ inch is usually a good starting point with pages close to letter size and ¼ inch on smaller ones.

Many printers are still using older techniques in the press process and specific positioning of an image on a page is imprecise. If an edge bleed is used on an image, placing guides at about ¼ inch on all four sides is a good way to avoid losing part of an image off the edge.

Once your guides are in place you can enhance them by selecting View>Show>Smart Guides. Smart Guides will flash red when an object being moved is centered or aligned on them. When the alignment of image elements is important, this makes placement quick and easy.

III. Adding Type
A. Activate the Type tool (T) in the Tools panel
B. Set the font, size, and other options in the Options bar
C. Type the text you want
D. Click the Commit Edits check button in the Options bar or press the Enter key on the number pad
E. With the Type tool still active, holding the Ctrl key will temporarily activate the Move tool. Holding the Shift key will restrict movement to a perfectly straight line to move the text layer… or
F. Activate the move tool (V) in the Tools panel and move the text (You can still hold the Shift key to restrict movement to a straight line

IV. Creating a clipping mask from text

A clipping mask is an object or group of objects whose shape masks a lower layer so that only the area the shape of the clipping mask shows. Clipping masks are typically made with text, but any shape can be used as a clipping mask.

A. Placing the image to be clipped
1. Make sure the text layer you want to clip through is active
2. In Bridge, click and hold the file you want to place
3. Move it to the Photoshop icon at the bottom of your monitor and hold
4. When the Photoshop window appears, move the image into the open image area in Photoshop and release it
5. It will appear in a Transform box centered on the image
6. Move it into the desired position, resizing if necessary. Remember to hold the Shift key to maintain aspect ratio and only resize from the corners
7. When you're satisfied with the size of the layer, press Enter

B. Making the mask
      1. With the newly-placed layer active, right-click on it in the layers panel
      2. Select "Create Clipping Mask"

You can double click on the thumbnail icon of any text layer to select all of the text on that layer. This is a good bit easier than clicking on the text itself and sweeping across it. When text is selected, you can right click on it to open the context menu for that text. One of the most useful recent additions to the Photoshop Type tool is the ability to check your spelling.

Part Two- Text on a Path

Text that is placed on a vector path will follow the path, even if the path is modified. Using the Horizontal Type tool will result in text that is perpendicular to the path. Using the Vertical Type tool will result in text that is parallel to the path. The Direct Selection tool and the Path Selection tool are often necessary to drag anchor points along the path to allow the text to continue past a point determined by the automatic placement of anchor points along the path.

I.   **Placing Text on a pre-made path**
    A. Make sure the Background layer is selected
    B. Select the Paths tab in the Layers panel group
    C. In the Paths panel, select the path you want to use
    D. Select the Type tool from the Tools panel
    E. Open the Character Panel
        1. Window>Character or
        2. Click on the "Al" icon of the parked panel
    F. Set your preferred font options in the Characters panel
    G. Move the type tool over the path and notice the slanted line that appears across the Type tool cursor
    H. Click near the beginning of the path and carefully type in your text
    I. Some or all of the text may not be visible. Text cannot jump across an anchor point on a path.
    J. To reveal hidden text
        1. Using the Direct Selection tool (A) point at the area around the end of the text until the tool cursor becomes a text tool with an arrow at its base
        2. Click and drag carefully to the right, along the path, until the text is revealed

II. Duplicating and Modifying a Text Path

    A. In the Layers panel, right click on the text layer you want to duplicate and select "Duplicate Layer"

    B. Name the new layer

    C. With the Type tool, make the appropriate modifications

    D. To Transform a text path layer

        1. Edit>Transform Path or

        2. Ctrl+T

    E. Move the box to where you want it, resize if necessary

    G. Press Enter to commit the Transformation

Part Two- Warping Text

I.   Zoom in so that the text you want to warp

II.   Make sure that only one layer is selected and right-click on the text layer

III.   Select "Warp Text," choose a style and adjust your settings

Part Four- Designing Paragraphs

I.   **Adding more guides-**Place guides to demark the area you where you want to put your text

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In the typical design environment, you will likely have a text document with the copy to be included in a layout. Photoshop will allow you to copy and paste text from a number of text editors like Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, and Notepad or Word pad. To avoid hopping back and forth between programs, you can place sticky notes inside an image to refer to later, which will make copying and pasting less of a trial.

The Note tool is under the eye-dropper tool at the bottom of the selection tools section of the Tools panel. With the Note tool, you just click on a convenient spot and key in or copy and paste the text you want to use later. A note will not show in a printed image and will not be saved in a format other than PSD.

II.   **Adding Text From a Sticky Note**

    A. Double-click the sticky note near the bottom right of the image

    B. Select the text that you want to use from the Notes panel and copy it

    C. Using the Type tool, drag a text box to fill in the area depicted by your guides

    F. Paste the text into the text box

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