

## INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHICS

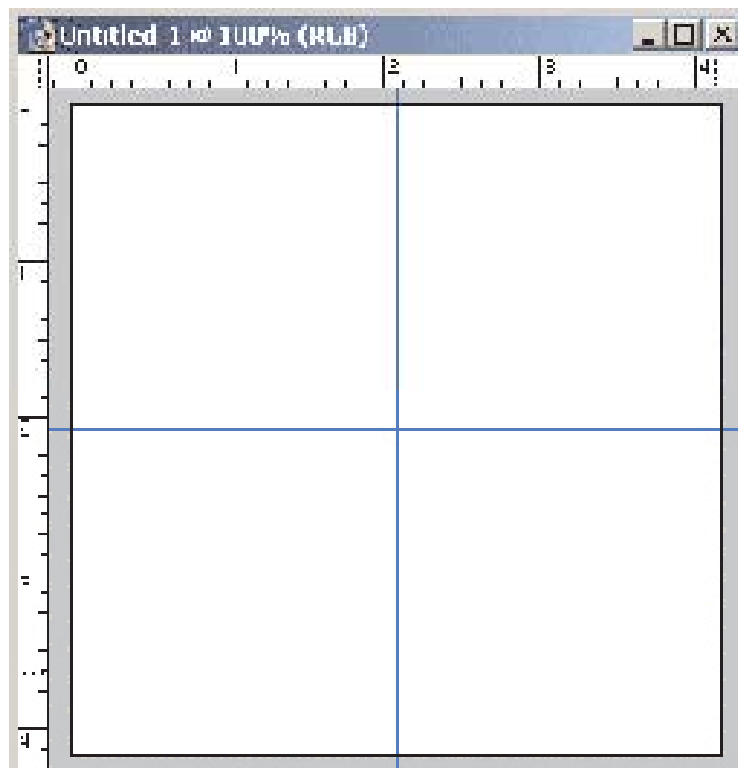
# Circular Wrap That Can Be Edited

Information  
Sheet No.

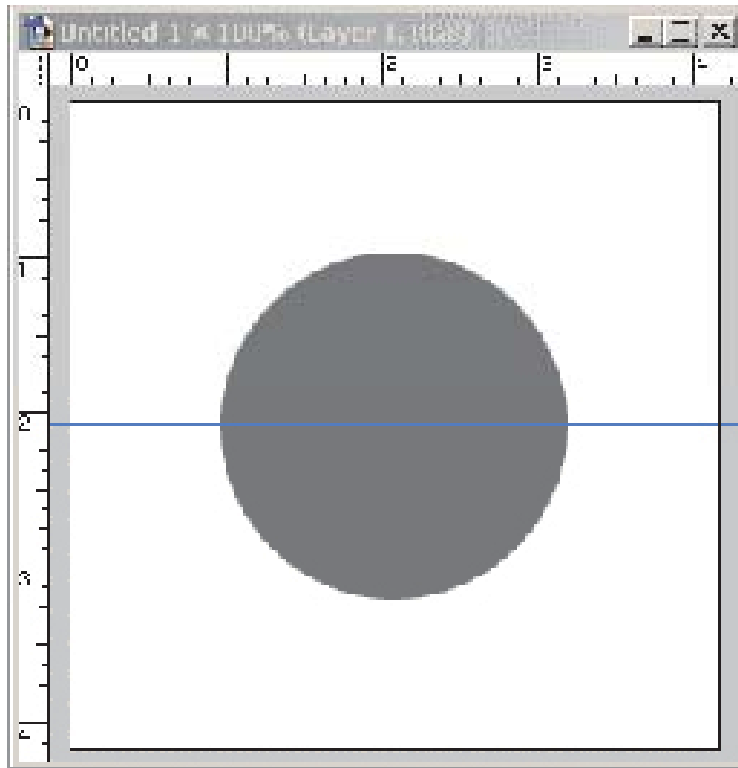


*This Information Sheet will attempt to show you how to use Photoshop to wrap objects around a circular path. If you are an experienced Photoshop user, you've probably seen this done a few times before using the polar coordinates filter or something like that. It can also be done using paths and the brush tool. These methods are fine except for two problems - they do not allow you to resize your image very well and it is somewhat difficult to visualize what the results will be. Using the polar coordinates filter definitely leaves something to be desired in terms of quality and it is not easy to know what your results will look like. Using a path and a custom brush is better but brushes definitely don't resize without losing quality. This technique will allow you to wrap vectorized shapes around a circle - leave them totally editable - and will resize to any size you would like without losing quality.*

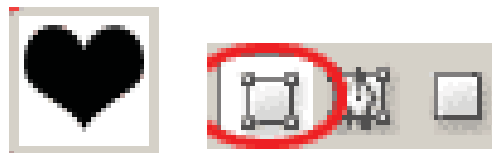
**Step 1:** Create a new document that is 500 x 500 pixels in size. Hit Ctrl + R to turn on your rulers or go to View->Rulers. Also hit Ctrl + Shift + ; to turn Snap on or go to View->Snap. Now drag two guides out - 1 from the top and one from the bottom. Notice that as you approach the center of the canvas the guides will try to snap themselves to the center point. This is a good thing - just slow down your drag as you get to the center and allow the guides to snap into place.



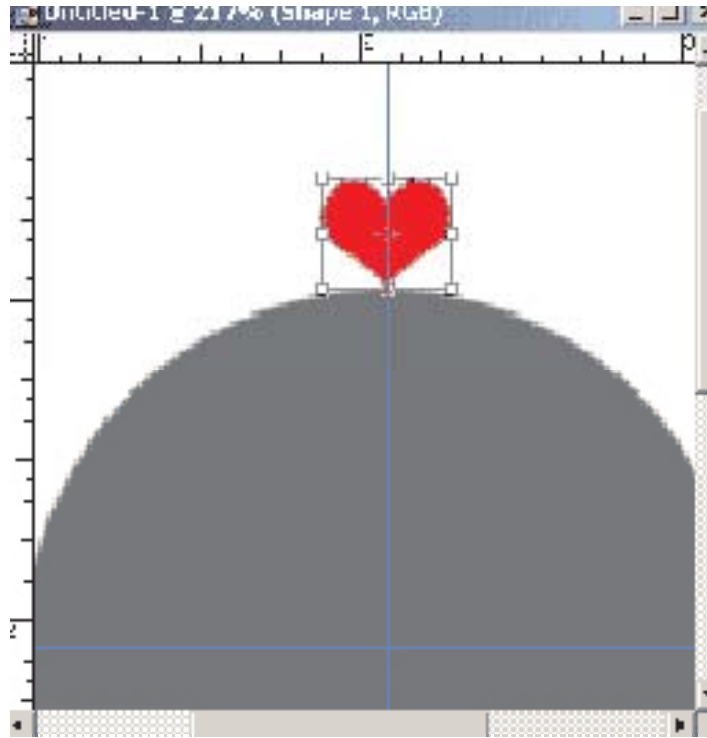
**Step 2:** Next, create a new layer and use the marquee tool to create a circle. Fill it with gray. This will serve as a reference point for what you want to wrap your smaller objects around. Position this circle in the center of the canvas. Again as you drag it, the center of the circle should snap to the intersection of the 2 guides.



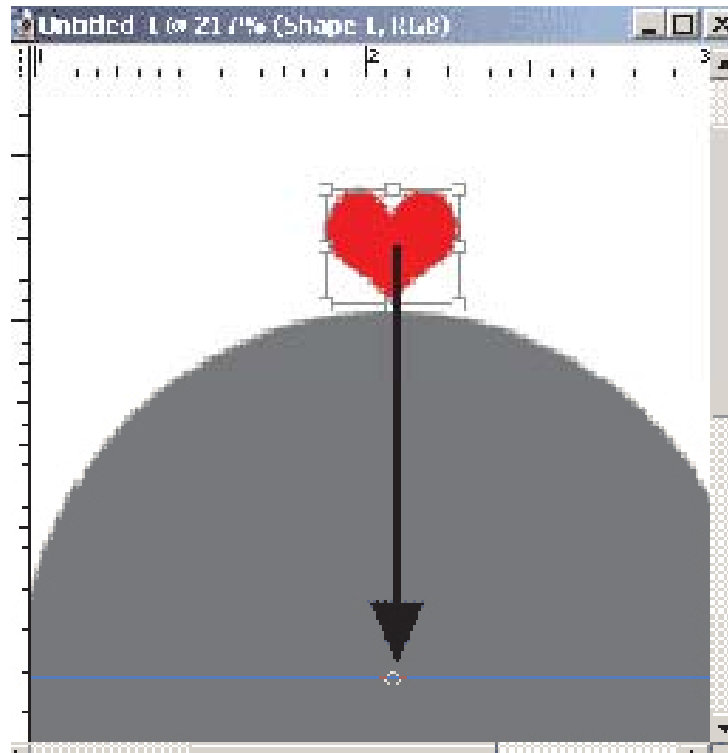
**Step 3:** OK, now go to the Custom Shapes palette and choose the heart shape. Make sure you have this option selected in the top toolbar. Now create a small heart on the canvas like I have here.



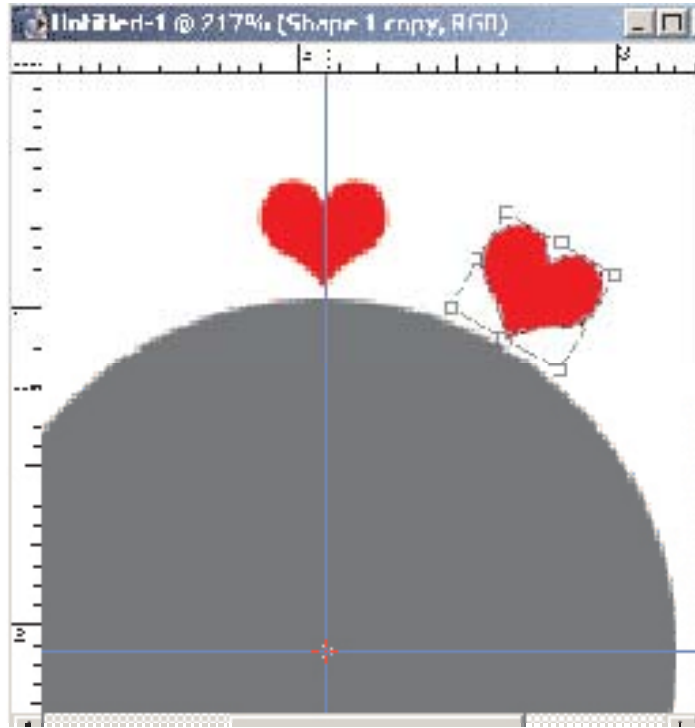
**Step 4:** OK, now zoom in on the heart and top half of the circle. Hit Ctrl + T to bring up the free transform tool. Move the heart so it is perfectly in the center of the guide. It should snap into place with the center point of the heart's bounding box.



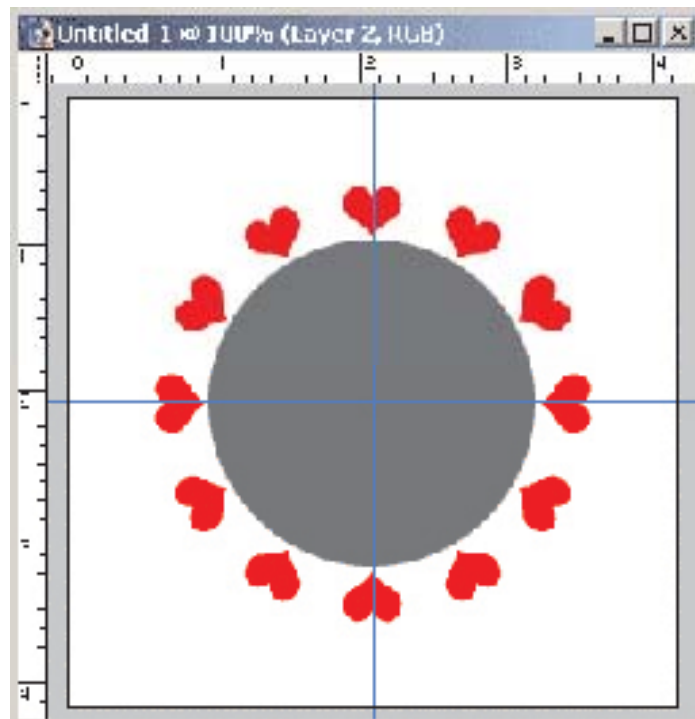
**Step 5:** Now hit Ctrl + J to create a copy of the heart layer. Then, hit Ctrl + T to bring up the Free transform again on that copy. Notice the small circle in the. Hold down Shift and click and drag that down to the center point of the large circle. Right where the two guides meet. See the zoomed in picture below.



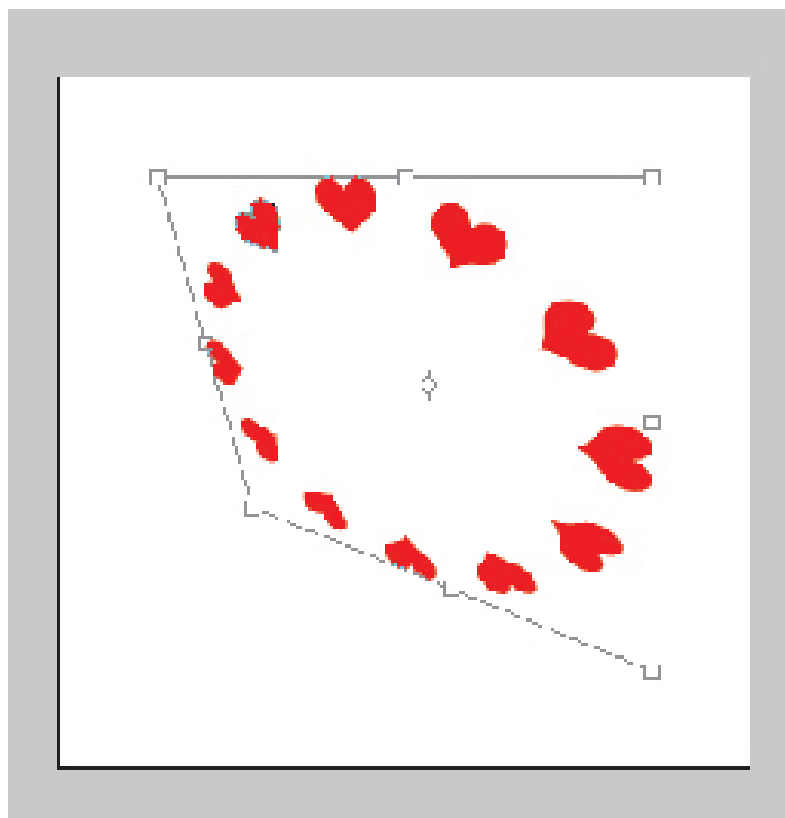
**Step 6:** Don't hit Enter yet. Move your mouse back up to the bounding box around the heart. Move it just outside of the bounding box until you see the little curved arrow. Now click and drag to rotate the heart into a position you desire. Holding Shift down while you do this can help snap it into a good place as well. Hit Enter to confirm your changes when you're happy with the result. You can always hit the Escape key to get yourself out of Free Transform mode too.



**Step 7:** Now the rest is simple. Just take your "Claw" (a.k.a. Hand) and hold down Ctrl + Shift + Alt and hit the T key repeatedly. Watch in awe as hearts appear before your eyes perfectly around the circle.

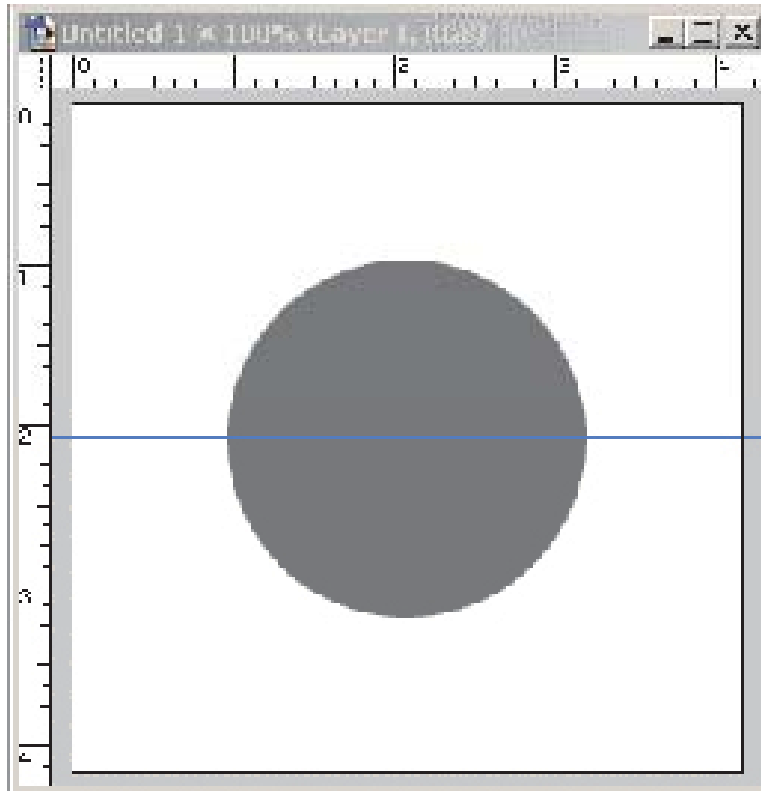


**Step 8:** Finally, you can turn off the circle layer. Link all of your heart layers together and go to the layers palette menu and select "New Set From Linked...". This will put them all into one layer set. Now you can hit Ctrl + T on that layer set and move all of them if you like. Resize, skew, do whatever. They are still all vector shapes and will retain their quality no matter what you do. Below is a picture of how I linked them all together and skewed all of them at once. They are still vectors though so I won't lose any image quality like I would if I rasterized them.

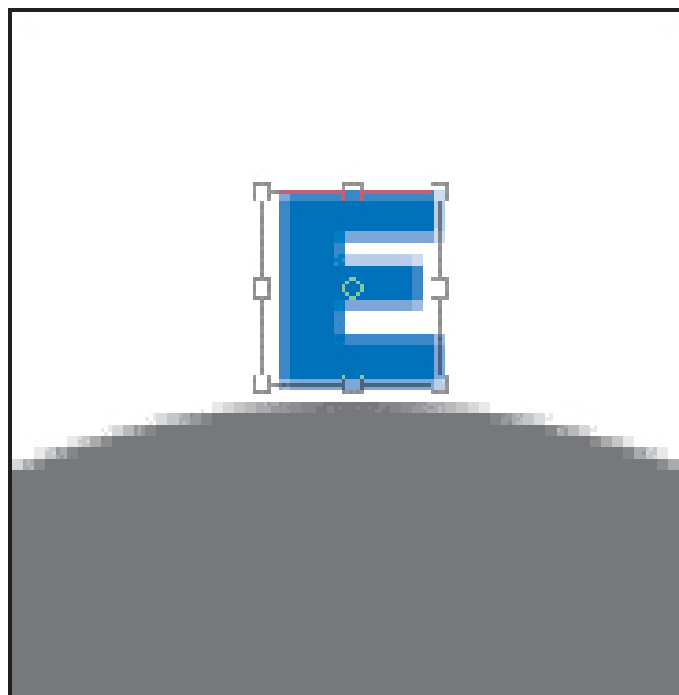


# Variation 1 - USING TYPE

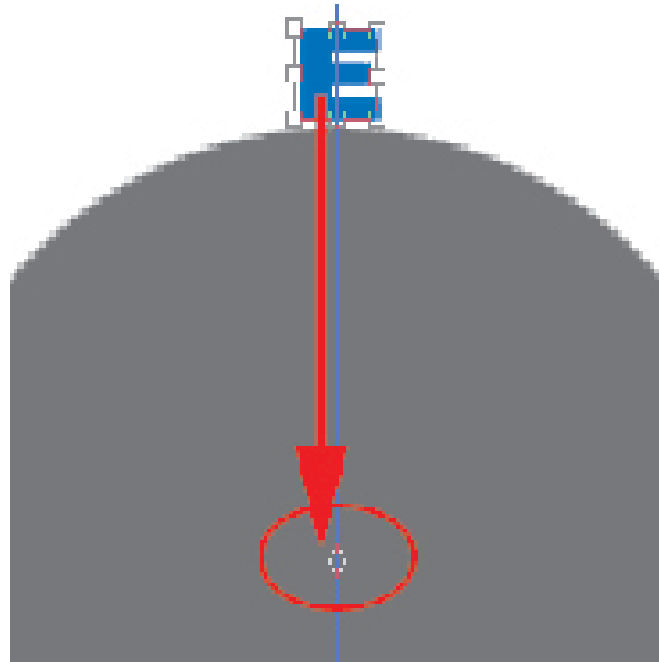
**Step 1:** Open up a file similar to the one we started with last time. Follow step 1 and 2 just as we did the first time. You should be left with something like this.



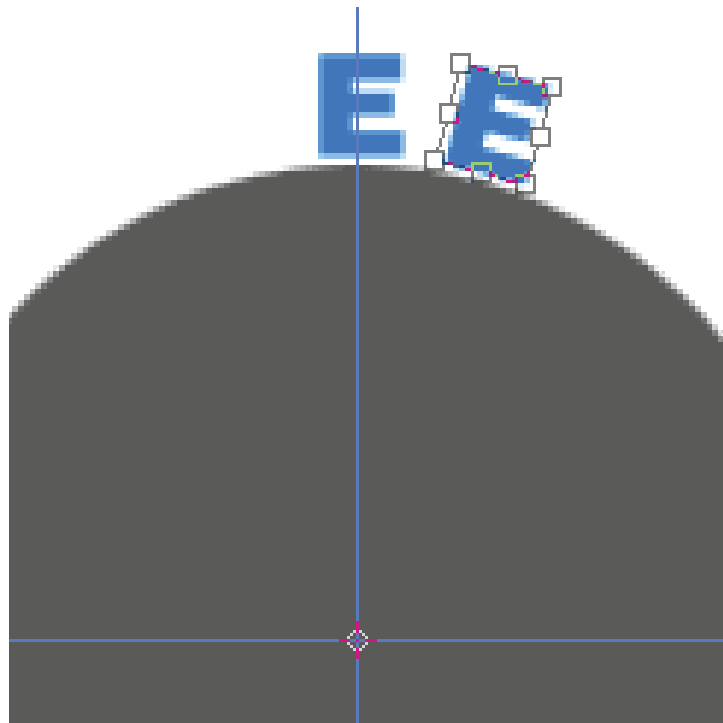
**Step 2:** Now, instead of create a shape, create the first letter in whatever word it is you would like to have wrap around a circle. Now just like you did last time in Step 4, zoom in and make sure the center point is aligned with the center vertical guide using the Free Transform tool (Ctrl + T). Hit enter when you're done to apply it.



**Step 3:** Now duplicate that letter by pressing Ctrl + J. Select the new duplicate layer and go into Free Transform mode by hitting Ctrl + T. Drag the center point from the bounding box down to where the two guides intersect. Don't apply this yet though.

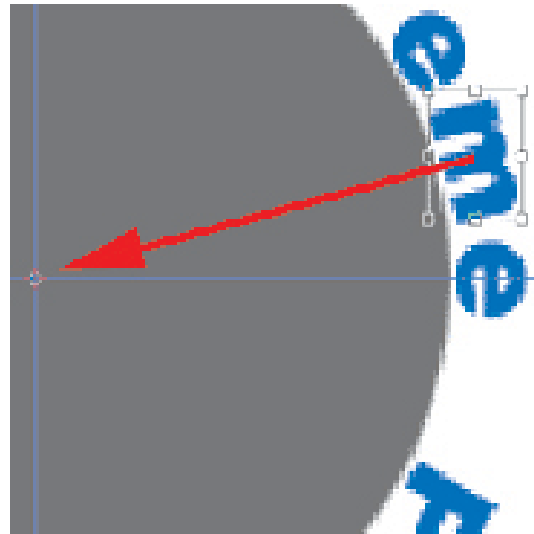


**Step 4:** While still in Free Transform mode, move your cursor so it is just outside the bounding box and you see the little curved arrow. This signifies that you will be rotating. Go ahead and rotate the letter to the right until it looks like a good distance away from the first letter. Hit Enter to apply the changes when you are happy with the result.

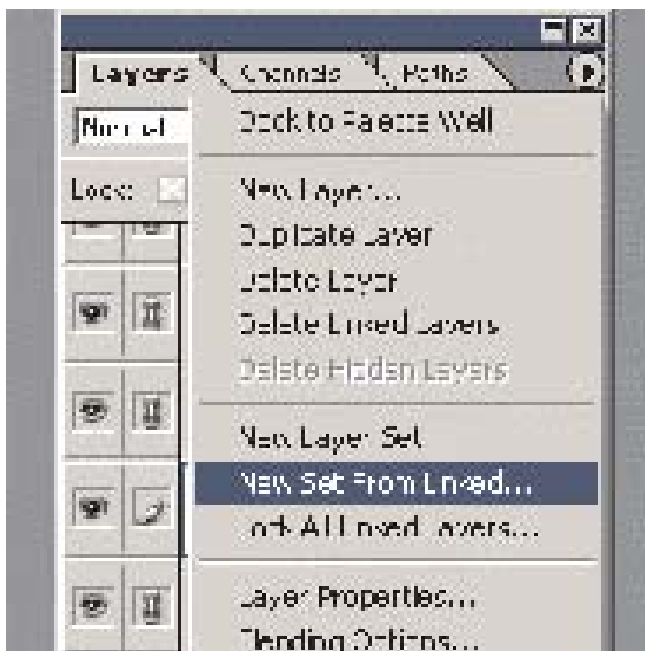




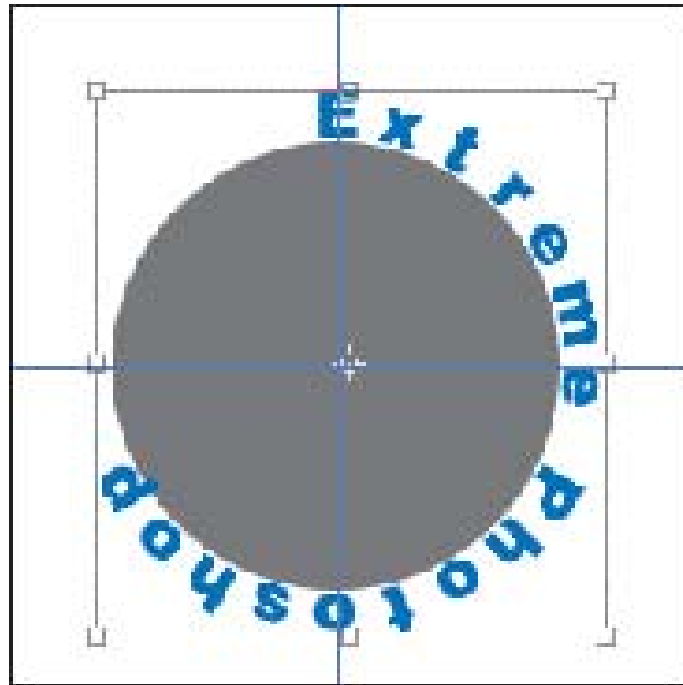
**Step 7:** Now, if you noticed, some of the letters didn't quite turn out right when changed. They are a little too close while others around it a further away. Fix this by clicking on the layer of the letter you want to change and going into Free Transform mode again. Just drag that little center circle to the middle where the two guides intersect and rotate the letter to a place that suites you. Hit Enter when you are happy with its placement. The screenshot here shows moving the 'm'. The 'e' was also moved slightly.



**Step 8:** Now put all of these into a layer set. You do this by linking all of the letter layers and going to the layer palette options and selecting "New Set From Linked".



**Step 9:** Finally some finishing touches. I'm not crazy about where the words are placed around the circle. Its great that you do not have to select and rotate each letter like in step 7. Put them all into a layer set so now we can just click on the layer set folder and press Ctrl + T to enter Free Transform mode again. Notice the bounding box around all of the letters now.



**Step 10:** To rotate them, just drag that center point to the intersection of the two guides and rotate until it looks good. Hit Enter when you are done. (Tip: You may have to zoom in, in order to drag the center point. At small sizes it may try to snap to a different area - zooming in let you move it more precisely.) One key point here - notice that every time you rotate you are dragging that center point of the bounding box to the center of the document where the two guides intersect. Just remember to do that anytime you want to adjust any/or all of the letters and you will always stay in a perfect circle. Also, if you need to adjust a single letter at a later time, just go in and unlink it from the rest. You'll still be able to select the layer set and rotate all of them if needed.



**Step 11:** Notice how you never rasterized any of the text layers. So now your text is still editable. I can go back and change properties like the font and color whenever you choose. This technique creates a lot of layers to change and is not particularly easy but it does produce editable text in a circle, which often times is a must.

