



INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHICS

Rewording Signage

Information
Sheet No.

PS940

In just a few minutes you can change the wording on street signs with Photoshop.



1. Open the image in Photoshop. Make a copy of the background layer, and name it Layer 1. Rename the original background layer Layer 0.



2. On Layer 1, make a selection of the yellow inside the sign's black border and

outside of the shadow coming from the arm, using the Polygon Lasso tool. Choose Select > Save Selection, and name the new alpha channel "Sign Mask." With the selection still active, choose Layer > Add Layer Mask > Reveal Selection.



3. Select Layer 0, and in the Channels palette, Command-click the Sign Mask channel. Choose Select > Modify > Contract and change the Contract By amount field to 1 pixel. Select Layer > Add Layer Mask > Hide Selection.



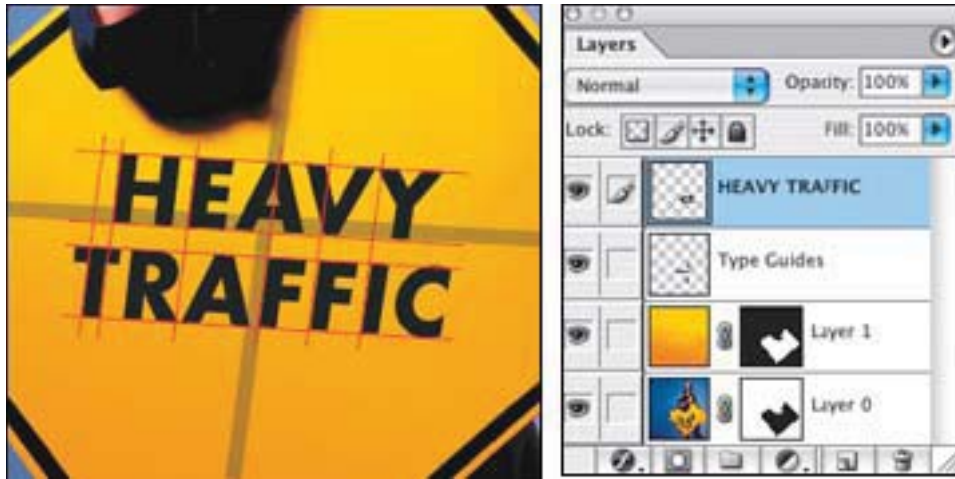
4. On Layer 1, use the Eyedropper tool to select the yellow from the sign's top and bottom as your foreground and background colors. Using the Gradient tool, drag from the top of the sign to the bottom. Select the yellow from both sides (outside of the sign's black border) and paint with a 300-pixel Airbrush at 5% Opacity so the yellow inside and outside the black border matches. Using the Clone Stamp tool, carefully retouch the two areas where the @ sign runs into the shadow. Apply a 1% Noise Filter so the grain of the sign matches the rest of the photo.



5. To make type perspective guides, click on the Create a new layer icon, and rename the new layer "Type Guides." Using the Line tool, click-drag from the very top point of the sign to the bottom. Repeat this step from the left corner of the sign to the right corner to make a horizontal line. In the Layers palette, drop the Opacity of the Type Guides layer to 20%.



6. Create a new type layer and type the words HEAVY TRAFFIC, set in 48 point Futura Bold. With the HEAVY TRAFFIC layer selected, choose Edit > Transform > Rotate to align the type with the horizontal guide. Select Layer > Rasterize > Type. Choose Edit > Transform > Distort to align the type to the vertical guide.



7. Finally, apply a 10% Noise Filter to the HEAVY TRAFFIC layer, and delete the Type Guides layer.

