

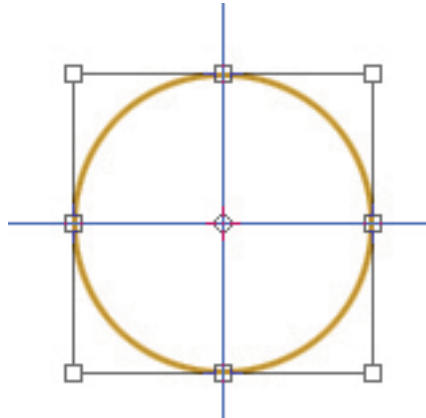


# Valentine Hearts in a Circle

This illustrates a basic routine but you can obviously substitute hearts or other symbols for the letters to meet your needs. The exercise is basically one to teach the creation of type on a path, using type layers that can still be edited after the fact, to change font, color, etc.

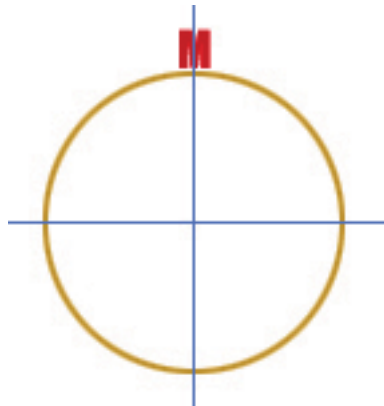
## Step one:

On a new layer, create a circle by using the Marquee selection tool and adding a stroke. To find the center of the circle use Free Transform (Cntrl T) and then drag guides off the rulers. Press esc to get out of Free Transform.



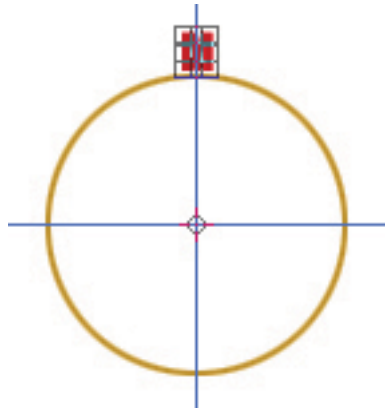
## Step two:

With the Type tool, type one letter (or symbol) just above the circle, centered on the vertical guide line. (Here the "M" was used since it is such a wide letter). Then hold down Option/Alt and choose Free Transform from the Edit menu.



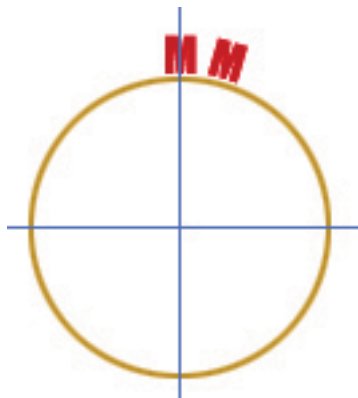
**Step three:**

Click in the middle of the transform handles and drag the reference point (or rotation point) down to the center of the circle as indicated by your guides.



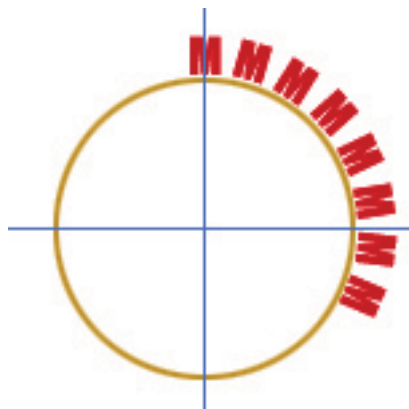
**Step four:**

Rotate the letter slightly to the right, leaving the space you want between letters or symbols. Press return or enter. Don't do anything else yet. Note that this has automatically created a new layer (probably called M copy or something like that).



**Step five:**

Press Control-Alt-Shift-T each time you want a new letter. The letters will each be rotated the same amount, and a new layer will be created (M copy 1, M copy 2, etc.) Repeat for as many letters as you require.



**Step six:**

Double-click on the appropriate layer in the layers palette to change to a different letter. (If you have a hard time picking the correct layer for the letter you need to edit, Control-click with the Move tool and that will pick the right layer for you). Once you've typed all the "new" letters, link them all to rotate them around the circle. It will only look as though the last letter is selected, but they'll all move. Move the rotation point back to the center point and rotate to the position you want.



**Step seven:**

If you like, hide the circle to show only the type.

**Step eight:**

You'll end up with a large list of letter layers, but this way you can easily change



font, size etc. If you need to change the spacing after you change font etc., just pick one layer, and use Free Transform with the reference point at the center of your guides. Needless-to-say, this technique of repeating a transformation can be used for many different purposes, well beyond type on a curve (we all know it would be easier with Illustrator or some plug-in). This technique can be used for putting objects in perspective on layers or creating animated gifs, etc.

