

Putting Text Inside a Shape

Written by Jennifer White, ScrapKitty Design

©2008 ScrapKitty Design - All Rights Reserved – Do not reproduce in whole or part in any media without written permission of the author.

One of the timeless paper-scrap techniques is writing your journaling to conform to the shape of your journaling block!

In Photoshop, you can do this easily because you can draw paths with a couple of different tools.

In PSE you need to have a file with the paths and type already in there. You can then change the type to what you like.



I'll give you PS instructions first, then tell the PSE users how to get by, and provide you a link to a file that will help you!

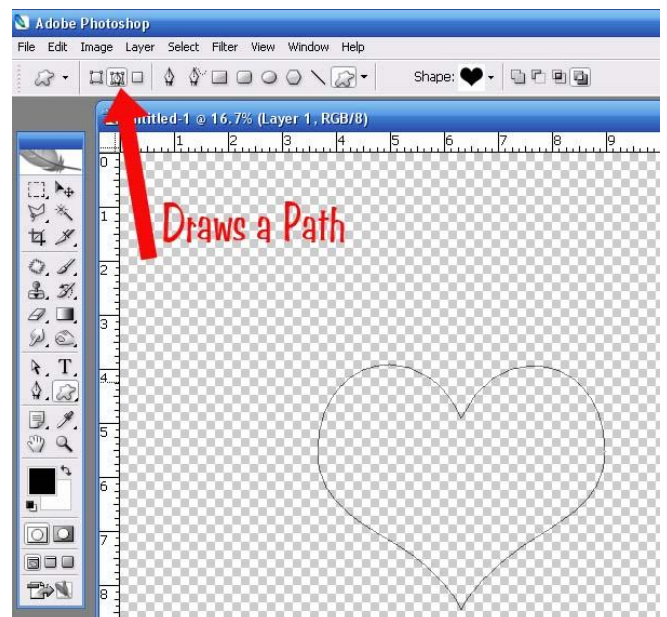
All screen shots are PSCS2.

1. MAKE YOUR SHAPE - Make the shape you want to add type to however you like. For this tutorial, I will use the shape tool. You can cut your shape out of paper (like I did in the example above) or just fill with a background color.

2. DRAW YOUR PATH – with your custom shape tool still selected, change the drawing mode in the tool options bar at the top. You want to choose the center box, the one with the pen in it.

Now when you draw your shape, you will get a skinny line. This is your path. Draw it where you want the words to go. If it doesn't end up where you want it, choose the Path Selection Tool (on the left, just over the pen) and click on the path, then you can drag it around.

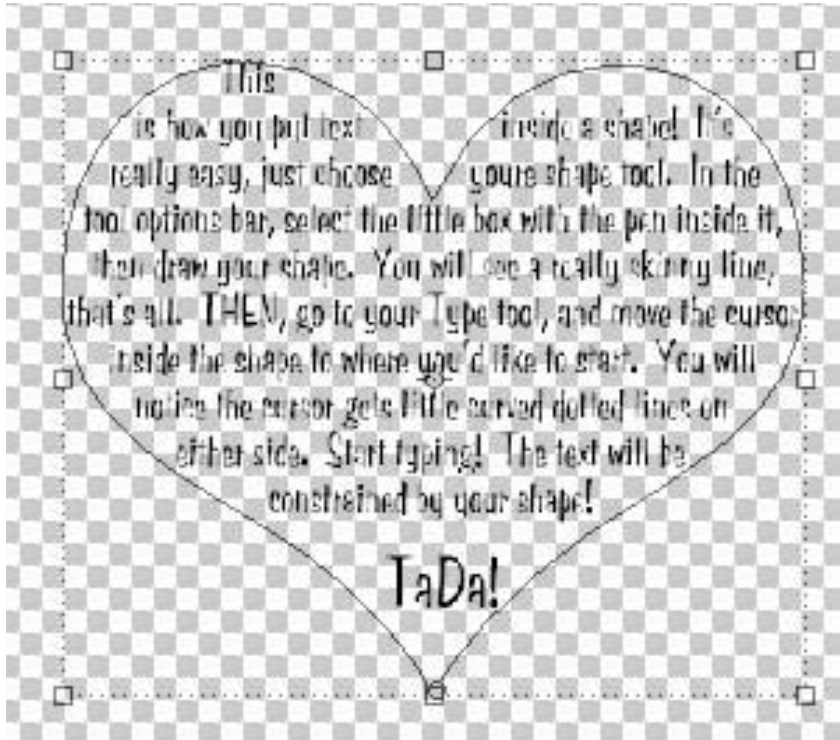
3. TYPE YOUR TEXT – Now choose your Type



tool. Set your font, color and size as usual. Now drag your cursor inside the path you drew! It will change to look like something like this:



Notice the curved dotted lines around the cursor. That tells you the text will be constrained by the path. Now type away!! The text will wrap within the path you drew.



If you wish, you can then use your move tool to resize the text block, or move it around. The little line will not show when you save as a .jpg, but if you don't want it to show in the .psd file either, just go to Window>Path and click in the blank space on the palette to unselect that path layer.

*****PSE USERS*****

You can download a heart template with a path and type already there. [CLICK HERE](#) to download file.

1. Open the file in PSE. You will NOT SEE the skinny black line.
2. Choose your Type Tool.
3. Move the cursor into the heart. It will NOT change, like the PS cursor.
4. Highlight the text that is already there, and start typing! It will constrain to the path just as the previous text did.
5. Make friends with a PS user who will make you paths!! LOL! Actually, you can find templates with the type in shapes if you look hard enough. Or you can pester your favorite PS designer for some ;)

Happy Scrapping!