OPEN GIMP®

Step 1: To begin a new GIMP® project, from the Menu Bar, select File | New. At the Create a New Image dialog box, select a size and background color for your new image. I selected 500 x 500 with a white background.

You will need to click the + sign beside Advanced Options to expand the menu. Click the Fill with: down arrow and select White.

Notice that the default new layer background fill is transparency. Click the Ok button.
A new canvas displays in the GIMP® document window, information about the new image displays in the Title Bar, and a layer named “Background” displays in the Layers palette.

**Step 2:** At the bottom of the Layers palette, click the Create New Layer icon and at the New Layer dialog box, name the layer *Circle Rim*. Click the OK button.

A new layer named “Circle Rim” displays above the “Background” layer in the Layers palette.

**Step 3:** From the Toolbox, select the Ellipse Select Tool. Move the cursor on the image canvas and draw a circle 176 pixels x 176 pixels. Notice that the pixel dimensions display below the image.
canvas. (I selected a number that was evenly divisible by 4 as icons are usually saved in multiples of 4).

**Step 4:** In the Toolbox select dark gray (I selected 6f6f68) for the FG color and a white for the BG color.

**Step 5:** Click the Blend tool in the Toolbox and in the Blend options, click the Gradient: icon and select FG to BG (RGB). Click the checkbox to reverse the gradient. Since you are working with a circle, you may want to click the Shape down arrow and select Radial rather than Linear.

Click at the top of the circle and drag down to the bottom.

The circle is filled with the gradient color as shown below:

![Gradient Circle](image)

**Step 6:** From the Menu bar, click Select | Shrink and at the Shrink
Selection dialog box, type 15 and press the OK button.

The marching ants move 15 pixels inside the outer circle.

**Step 7:** Using the same gradient (blend), drag from the bottom of the marching ants to the top of the marching ants.

This provides the depth as shown below:

![Diagram of a circle with marching ants moving inside]({attachment:image.png})

**Step 8:** At the bottom of the Layers palette, click the Create new layer icon and at the New Layer dialog box, type **Inner Circle** for the layer name. Click the OK button.

**Step 9:** In the Toolbox, change the FG color to the color you want for the inner circle. I selected neon green. From the Menu bar select **Edit | Fill with FG color**.

Note: You could also click the Bucket Fill Tool in the Toolbox and at the Bucket Fill options, select the select FG as the Fill type:
Step 10: To add a glow to the inner circle, with the neon FG color and a white BG color, click the Blend tool from the Toolbox and in the Blend tool options, click the Gradient icon and select FG to BG (RGB) and click check the reverse option checkbox. Drag from the bottom of the inner circle to the top of the inner circle. (White to Neon)

Step 11: In the Layers palette, click the Create New Layer icon and at the New Layer dialog box, type Glow in the Layer name: text box. Click the OK button.

There are several ways to add a glow effect to the top of the icon.

- Select the Ellipse tool from the Toolbox and draw a small oval at the top of the inner circle. Change the FG color to White and from the Menu bar, select Edit | Fill with FG color.
- Select the Paintbrush Tool, change the FG color to white, and in the Paintbrush options, click the Brush icon and select a large brush (Circle (17)).

Note: There are two types of brushes - the circle brush and the fuzzy brush. You may prefer to select the fuzzy brush as it is more washed out.
Drag the Scale slider to the right until your brush size matches the size of the glow you desire when you move the brush cursor over the circle. Click when the brush covers the part of the button face you want to glow.

Using either method, with the "Glow" layer selected in the Layers palette, drag the Opacity: slider to the left until the white blends in with the neon.

**Step 12:** In the Layers palette, right click the "Inner Circle" layer and select Alpha to Selection to put the "marching ants" around the neon circle. Right click the "Inner Circle" layer and select Duplicate Layer. Double click the "Inner Circle copy" name and type Shadow and press the Enter key.

**Step 13:** From the Menu bar, click Select | Grow... and at the Grow Selection dialog box, type 4 and press the OK button.

*Marching ants* display 4 pixels outside the Inner Circle.

**Step 14:** In the Toolbox, change the FG color to a dark gray and from the Menu bar select Edit | Fill with FG color. In the Layers palette, drag the “Shadow” layer below the “Inner Circle” layer.
**Step 15:** To add text to the image, from the Toolbox, click on the Text tool \( \text{A} \) and in the Text options, select a font face (I selected Rockwell Extra Bold, Ultra), a font size (I selected 60) and a font color (I selected White). Click on the button face and type 2.0. Close the Edit Text dialog box and click the Move tool \( \text{ }, \) from the Toolbox and move the text layer to position it in the center of the button.

**Step 16:** Click the Crop tool \( \text{ } \) in the Toolbox and drag a rectangle around the button on the image canvas. Use the sizing handles to adjust the size of the rectangle. Click the center of the selection to complete the crop.

**Step 17:** Save the image in the\( \\text{PortableApps\GIMP\icons\images folder as Windows_icon_mm/dd/yy with an .xcf extension (replacing the mm/dd/yy with the current month, day, and year).} \)

*Note: If you do not already have an icons folder and an images folder, click the Create folder button at the Save As dialog box to create the new folders.*

**Step 18:** To size the image so it can be used as a Microsoft Windows icon, from the Menu Bar, select \( \text{Image | Scale Image} \) and at the Scale Image dialog box, click the Measurement down arrow and select Percent. Change the Width: or Height: value to 25 and
press the Enter key. Because the lock is "locked", if you change the width:, the height: will change in proportion and vice versa.

Click the Scale button.

**Step 19:** In the Layers palette, click the Visibility icon 🔄 to hide the “Background” layer and turn on transparency.

**Step 20:** Save the image again as windows_icon_mm/dd/yy with an .ico (Microsoft Windows icon) extension. At the Save as Windows icon dialog box, click the Save button.

**Step 21:** Select File | Close to close the current image window.

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Directions to add the icon as a fav icon in the browser are available in the Icons section of the course Web site.