

GIMP® TEXT EFFECTS



Text Effects: Brush Effect Completed Project

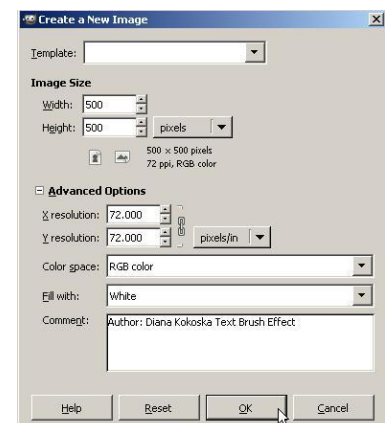
ADD A BRUSH EFFECT TO TEXT

GIMP® is all about IT (Images and Text)

Before you begin this project, you will want to download and install a wide character font, **JUNEBUG** (Instructions to download and install new fonts available on the text effects Web page).

OPEN GIMP®

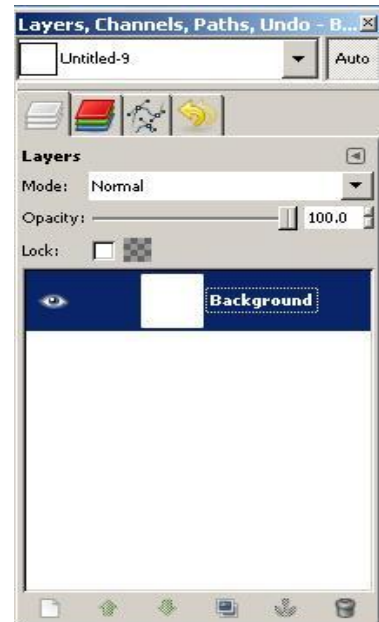
Step 1: To begin a new GIMP® project, from the Menu Bar, select File | New. At the Create a New Image dialog box, select a size and background color for your new image. I




selected 500 x 500 with a White background.

You will need to click the + sign beside Advanced Options to expand the menu. Click the 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.

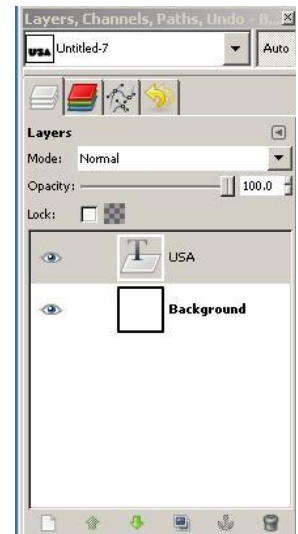


Step 2: Click the Text tool  in the Toolbox.

Text options display below the Toolbox. Click the Font icon and select the Junebug font face. Type 150 in the Size box and click on the Color: icon and select Black.

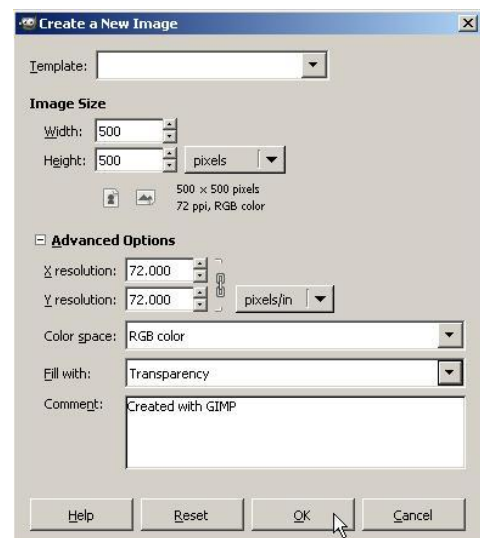
Step 3: Click on the image canvas and in the GIMP Text editor Type USA and click the text box beside Use selected font and click the Close button.

The text appears on the canvas and a new layer named "USA" displays above the "background" layer in the Layers palette.



If you want to reposition the text on the canvas, move your cursor, which is in the shape of an I-beam with a diamond with four squares to any letter and click and drag the text to position it. You may need to close the GIMP text editor again. (It is important that you click on a letter and not in the selection itself as you would then move the entire layer and not the text). Notice when you are not on the text, the shape of your cursor changes.

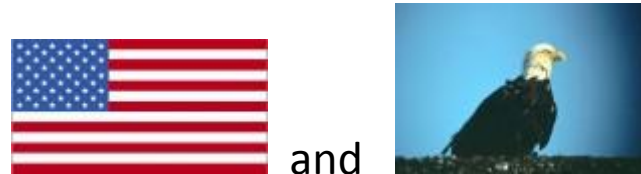
Step 4: Click File | New to open a new project. At the Create a new image dialog box, click the + sign to the left of Advanced options to expand the



menu and click the Fill with: down arrow and select Transparency. Click the OK button.

A new blank canvas appears with a transparent background.

Before beginning Step 5, you will need to download two images:



and save the images as `flag.jpg` and `eagle.jpg`

You can download these from the <http://www.public-domain-image.com> link and save in the PortableApps/GIMP/text_effects/images folder on your flash drive.

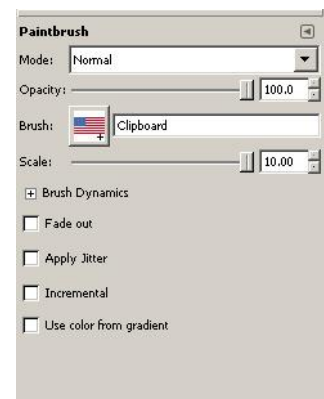
Step 5: From the text_effects folder, drag the `flag.jpg` icon onto the transparent canvas.




Step 6: From the Menu bar, select Edit | Copy. Select File | Close to close the second document window. Click the Don't Save button.

Step 7: In the Layers palette, click the “USA” layer. Place a checkmark in the Lock: checkbox above the USA layer to lock the alpha channel.

Note: Why lock the alpha channel? When you plan to save your image as a transparent image, if you lock the alpha channel, everything that you do will NOT affect the transparent areas of the image – only the opaque areas. For example, if you were to take your paintbrush and color these letters red without using the Lock Alpha Channel, you would be able to “color outside the line.” It works in much the same way as the Alpha to Selection, but in a little simpler way.



Step 8: Click the Paintbrush icon  in the Toolbox. The Brushes dialog box below the Layers palette displays the flag image as the active brush and the Flag displays in the Brushes dialog below the Layers palette.



You will fill the bottom half of the letters with the flag image. Move

the cursor onto the canvas and place the rectangular brush shape over the bottom of the letter "U". If the



rectangular brush does not cover the bottom half of the "U", adjust the size of the brush by dragging the thumb on the Scale: slider until the rectangle fits over one half of the letter. (I used about 1.15).

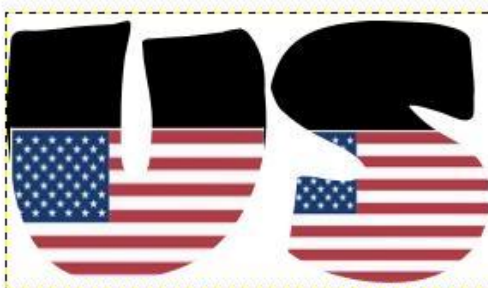


Click the mouse. The bottom half of the letter "U" is filled with the flag image. If it does not cover the bottom of the image correctly, you can select Edit | Undo Paintbrush to remove the brush fill from the image and try it again.

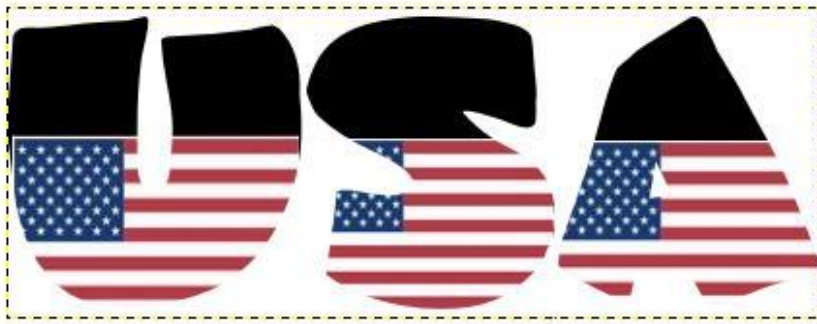


Step 9: Move the brush cursor over the letter "S". Since the "S" is narrower, you will want to drag the thumb on the Scale slider to the left until the brush rectangle fits over the letter "S". Click the mouse.

The bottom half of the "S" is filled with the flag image.



Step 10: Repeat for the letter "A".



Step 11: To change the brush shape to an eagle image, select File | New. Use a transparent background. Drag the eagle image onto the canvas.

Select Edit | Copy. Close the new document window. Do NOT save.

Step 12: Click the Paintbrush tool in the Toolbox. The eagle image displays as the active brush.

Move the rectangular cursor over the top half of the Letter "U" and adjust the slider until it covers correctly. (You may want to do each side of the "U" separately).

Click the mouse. The left top half of the letter "U" is filled with the eagle image.




Step 13: Repeat for the Letter "S" and the Letter "A".



Step 14: To remove the extra white background with the “USA” layer selected in the Layers palette, from the Menu Bar, select Image | Autocrop Imageg to remove the unwanted white background.

Note: If the Autocrop option does not crop the image the way you want, select Edit | Undo and use the Crop Tool in the toolbox to crop the image.

Step 15: In the Layers palette click the Visibility icon

 **Background** (the eyeball) to the left of the “Background” layer to make the background layer invisible.

The image displays with a dark gray/light gray checkerboard, indicating that it is transparent.



Note: If you prefer, you may save the image with a white background.

Step 16: To save the image, from the Menu bar click File | Save and at the Save Image dialog box, in the Name text box, type `text_effects_brush_04_25_11`. (Replace the mm/dd/yy with the current month, day, and year).

From Places, select PortableApps/GIMP/text_effects/images to save the image.

Click the + sign beside Select File Type (By Extension). Select GIMP XCF image and click the Save button. Saving as a GIMP® .`xcf` file will allow you to edit the image later.

Step 17: In order to insert the image on a Web page, it must be saved in a Web-friendly format that supports transparency, such as a `.gif` or `.png`. To save the image again, from the Menu bar, click File | Save As, click the + sign to the right of Select File Type (By Extension) and select GIF image or PNG image and click the Save button. At the Export File dialog box select Export and then click the Save button.

Step 18: Click File | Close to close the image.