



Animation: Text – Word by Word

ANIMATION: TEXT – WORD BY WORD

GIMP® is all about IT (Images and Text)

BACKGROUND IMAGE

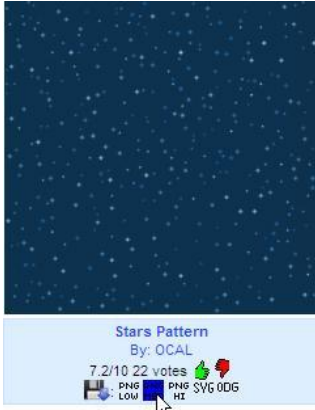
Before you begin the text animation, you will download a public domain stars image that you will save as a GIMP pattern and use for the background of the animation.

Step 1: In the Address Bar of the browser, type <http://www.clker.com/> In the Search box type Star Background and press the Search button.





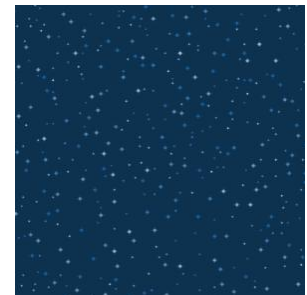
Click on the Stars Pattern




Select a Medium Resolution PNG image.

Right click on the image preview and select “Save Picture As.” Save the image in the PortableApps\GIMP\animation\wordbyword\ folder as stars.png.

Step 2: Open GIMP® and navigate to the PortableApps\GIMP\animation\wordbyword\stars.png image and drag the image onto the GIMP® document window.



Step 3: Since most patterns are saved as a 64 x 64 pixel image, click the Crop Tool  in the Toolbox and draw a rectangle selection (64x64) and click inside the image to accept the crop.

Step 4: From the Menu Bar, select File | Save As... and at the Save Image dialog box, navigate to

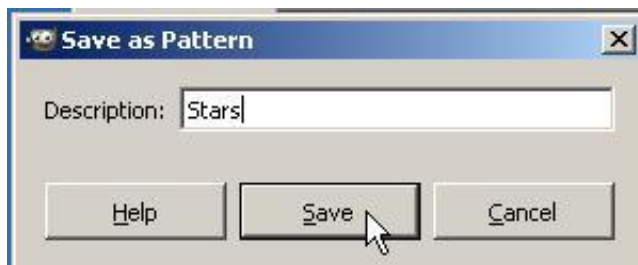


Click the + sign to the left of Select File Type (By Extension) and select GIMP Pattern.

GIMP pattern pat

The Name text box should display `stars.pat`.

Click the Save button. At the Save as Pattern dialog box, type `Stars` and click the Save button.



Note: It is important to type a descriptive name in the Description: text box as this name will be used to describe the pattern in the patterns palette.

Step 5: From the Menu Bar, select File | Close to close the image window.


Step 6: Click the Close button on the GIMP® Title Bar to close the GIMP® application.

Note: It is important to close the GIMP® application as the pattern will not be available in the pattern palette until GIMP is reopened.

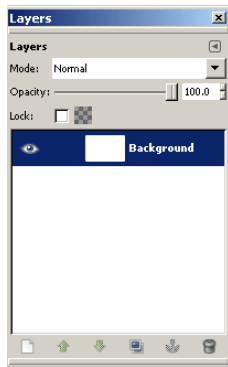
CREATING THE TEXT

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, click the


Template down arrow and select  Web banner common 468x60 . You will need to click the + sign beside Advanced Options to expand the menu. In the Comment text box, describe the image.

Click the QK button.



A new image canvas displays in the GIMP® workspace with image information in the Title Bar and a “Background” layer displays in the Layers palette to the right of the image window.

Note: The background color is not important as you will be adding the star pattern as the background fill in the next step.

Step 2: In the Toolbox, click the Bucket Fill Tool  , and in the Bucket Fill options, select the Pattern fill option, and click the Pattern icon.


At the bottom of the Pattern palette, click the View as list icon



and select  Stars (64 × 64) (the pattern that you saved in the first part of this tutorial).

Click inside the image on the canvas to fill the “background” layer with the Stars pattern.



Step 3: From the Toolbox, select the Text Tool .

Text tool options display below the Toolbox.

Click the Font: icon and select a wide font. I selected Verdana Bold.

Select a font size by typing the size in the font text box or by clicking the up or down arrows to change the font size. I selected 42.


Click the Color: icon to select a text color. Select a color from the palette, type the R-G-B color equivalent, or type the Html notation: I typed #600000. Click the OK button.

Step 4: Click at the left of the image canvas. At the GIMP Text Editor, type `Stars` and click the checkbox to the left of Use selected font to turn on that option.

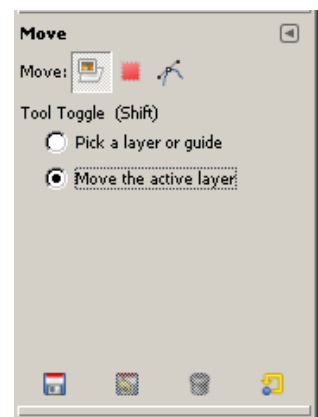
Click the Close button.



The typed text is inserted on the image canvas and a new layer named “Stars” displays above the “Background” layer in the layers palette.

Step 5: With the “Stars” layer selected in the Layers palette, click the Move  tool in the Toolbox and move your cursor into the image window.

When the Move tool is selected, the Move options display below the Toolbox. Click in the radio button to the left of Move the active layer. This changes the cursor to an up-pointing white arrow with a diamond and four squares.



Before selecting the *Move the active layer* option from the options box, the cursor had two shapes – one when it was positioned on the image window and one when it was positioned on the image text. Selecting the *Move the active layer* option makes it easier to move just the text.

Step 6: Click on the text and drag it to the desired position on the image canvas.



Step 7: With the Text Tool still selected, click after the word Stars, and at the GIMP Text Editor, type and. Click the Text options Color: icon and select white.

With the “and” layer selected, drag “and” to the right of “stars.”



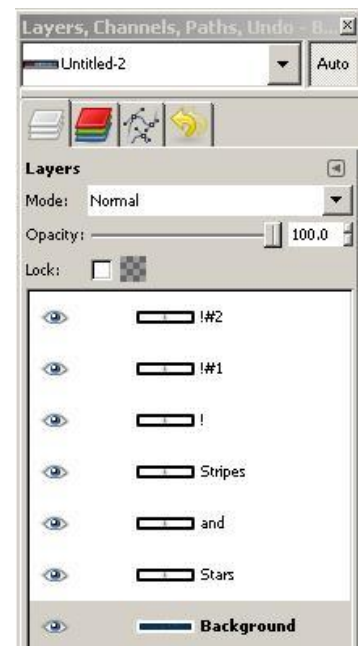
Click the Close button on the GIMP Text Editor.

Step 8: With the “and” layer selected in the Layers palette, click in the image and at the GIMP Text Editor type Stripes. Change the font color to a light blue.

One by one click on each Text layer in the Layers palette, and position as shown below:



Step 9: Now add three exclamation points in individual text layers, one red, one white, and one blue.






ANIMATING THE TEXT

The next set of steps will animate the text so each word and exclamation point appears individually and then repeats.

Since a GIMP® animation is simply a series of frames displaying in a timed sequence, you will need to specify the number of milliseconds (1/1000 of a second) you want each frame layer to display. If you want a frame to display for one second you would use 1000ms.

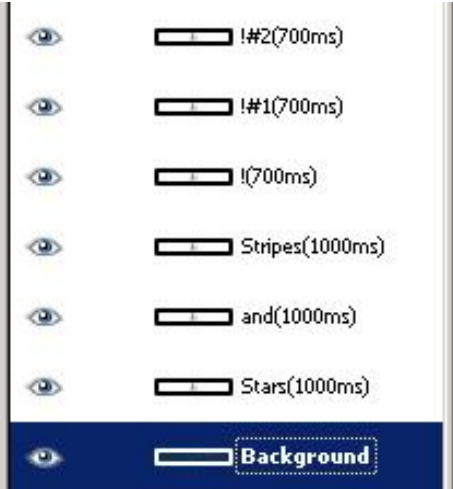
You want the “background” layer to display on every frame, so you will not animate the “background” layer.

Step 1: In the Layers palette, double click the name of the “Stars” layer and add (1000ms) to the end of the name

 and press the Enter key.

Repeat Step 1 for the “and” and “Stripes” layers.

Step 2: In the Layers palette add (700ms) to the end of the “!,” “!#1,” and “!#2”



layers.

Step 3: From the Menu Bar, select Filters | Animation | Playback... At the Animation Playback:Untitled screen, click the Play button.



Once you have previewed the animation, click the Rewind button and Play again or click the Close icon to close the Playback window.

Modify the image as required and preview again.

Step 4: From the Menu Bar, click File | Save and at the Save Image dialog box, save the image in the `\PortableApps\GIMP\Animation\wordbyword\` folder as `stars_and_stripes_mm_dd_yy.xcf`.

Step 5: From the Menu Bar, select Filters | Animation | Optimize (for GIF). From the new “Untitled” window, click File | Save and at the Save Image dialog box, save the image in the same folder with the same name.

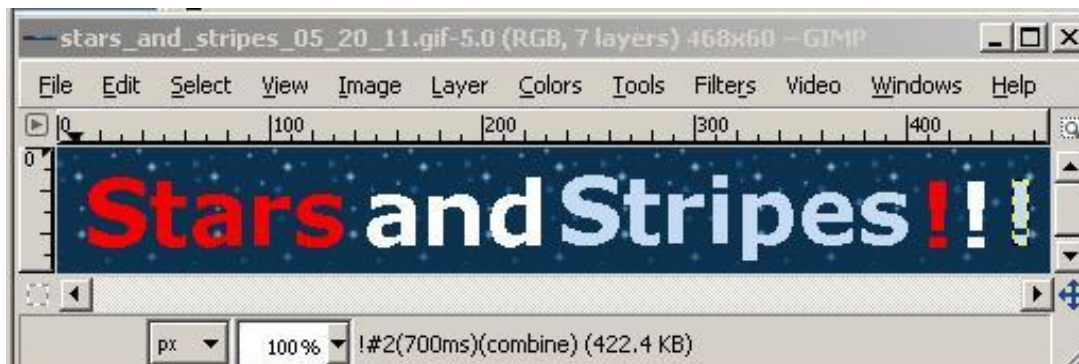
Click the + sign to the left of Select File Type (By Extension) and select



Click the Save button.

At the Export File dialog box, select the **Save as Animation** radio button and click the Export button.

At the Save as GIF dialog box, add a comment and click the Save button.



Step 6: Close the GIF image window.

Step 7: Close the XCF image window.

Step 8: Close the GIMP® application.

PLAYING THE ANIMATON IN THE BROWSER

Step 1: Navigate to the location of the `stars_and_stripes_mm_dd_yy.gif` file.

Step 2: Right click the file and select Open With and select either Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox.

The image should animate in the browser.