



Creating Shaped Text in Photoshop

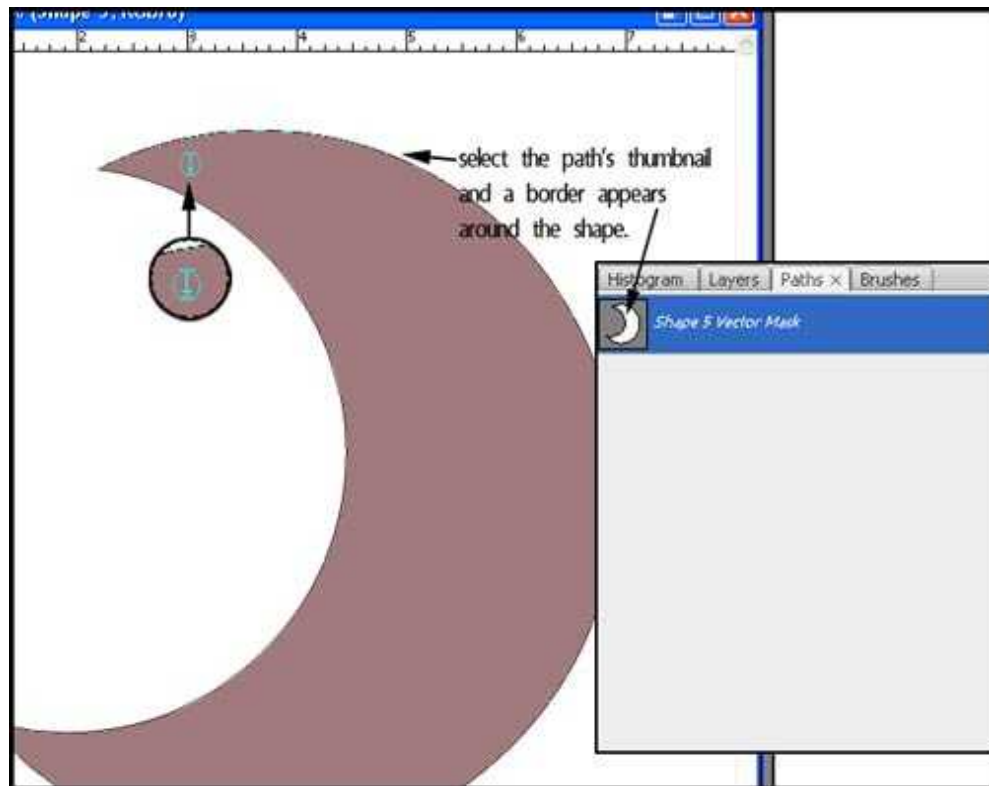
by LaWanna Desjardin

www.desjardindigitaldesigns.com

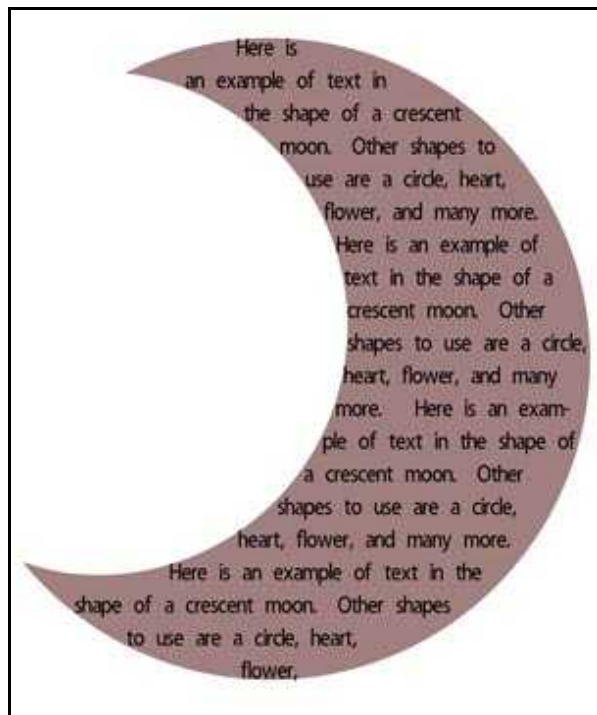
Ldesjardin@gmail.com

Just recently, I discovered by accident a way to create text that wraps to form a shape. Previously, I had thought using Illustrator was required to do this easily, or that you had to manually make the paragraph breaks, which is a pain in the rear. So I was pretty thrilled to discover this effect which uses paths to achieve the look. Unfortunately, as far as I know, this only works in Photoshop, not in Photoshop Elements.

1. Begin by drawing out a vector shape with the shape tool. I have chosen the crescent moon shape. Other possibilities are diamond, circle, the wide heart, arrow heads and some flower shapes. *I have found that this will not work for all the custom shapes in Photoshop.*
2. Now switch to the paths palette. If you cannot see it, you can choose Window>Paths to view it. Now select the path thumbnail to activate the path. You will see a subtle border form around the shape on your canvas.
3. Select the type tool from the toolbox. Hover the cursor inside the bounds of the shape. The cursor will appear to be surrounded by parenthesis.



4. Make sure your desired foreground color is chosen for the text. Now type. The text should automatically form around the bounds of the shape.



5. Now you can get rid of the background shape. Return to the layers palette and *delete or hide* the custom shape you started with.

