

Photoshop CS3

Creating a simple icon

Step1

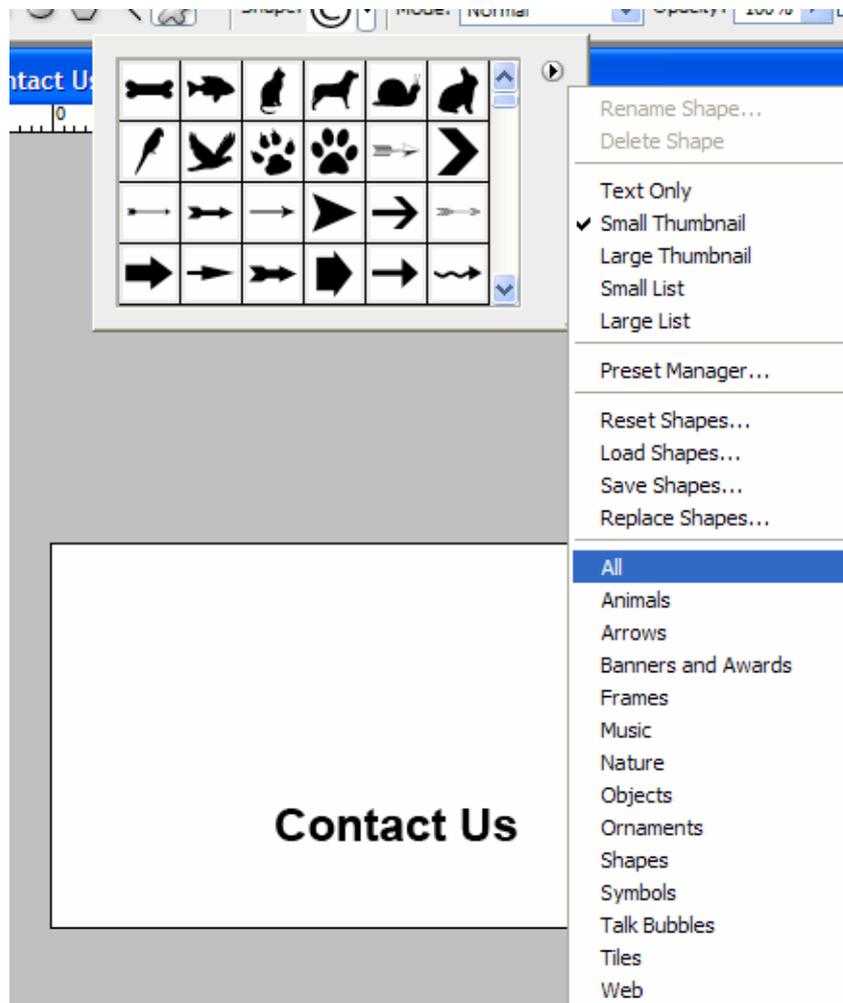
Create a new document 400x200

Step2

Select the type tool, change the font to arial, size 20 and colour black.
Type 'Contact Us' in the middle of the screen.

Step 3

Select the custom shape tool and from the top menu click on the arrow next to the shape to open the panel.



Step 4

From the options select all, and then scroll through the items until you find a solid black envelope. Create a new layer, ensure the fill pixels option is selected (found next to the path option in the top) and then drag to draw the envelope above the text.

Step 5

Apply a drop shadow effect to the envelope (If you were to save this with and without the drop shadow you could easily create a rollover effect in flash or a web page).



Contact Us

Step 6

Now see if you can a a store label and use the shopping cart to create another icon.

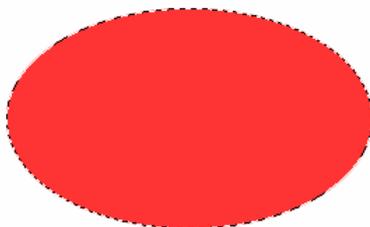
Creating a Gel Button

There are many ways to create Aqua like buttons. The tutorial below is a simple example that you can build on to create your own translucent objects.

1. Create a new document 400x250 pixels.
2. Click on the corner of the **Rectangular marquee tool** and change it to the **Elliptical Marquee tool**.

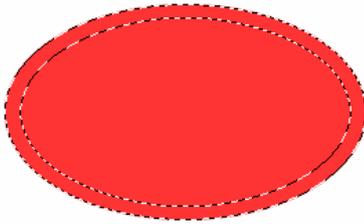


4. Create an oval shape on a **new layer**. Choose a bright colour and use the **paint bucket tool** to fill the shape.

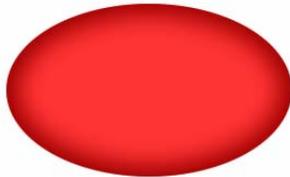


Now reduce the selection by clicking **Select/Modify/Contract** by 10 pixels. We now need to apply a feather, **Select/Feather**, of 10 pixels. Now Invert the selection **Select/Inverse** and then click on the layer of the oval while holding **Ctrl-Alt-Shift** to intersect your actual selection and the selection of your oval.

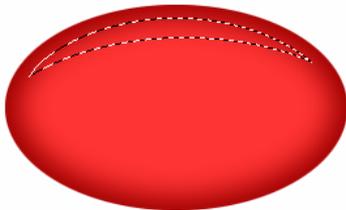
5. Your image should now look something like this:



6. Now that you have a feathered selection of the edges of the oval you can apply an adjustment layer. At the bottom of the layers palette click on the **Create a New Fill or Adjustment Layer** and select **Brightness/Contrast** and lower the brightness to -100. This gives a slight three dimensional effect to your oval.



7. Click on the oval layer and use the **magic wand tool** to select the oval again and then **Select/Modify/Contract** by 10 pixels. Next we now need to apply a feather again, **Select/Feather**, 10 pixels. Select the **Elliptical Marquee tool** again and **press Alt** while drawing another oval selection over the existing one that will cut off most of the selection, but leave a slice. It might take you a few attempts to do this one so use the history palette to go back a step if you make a mistake! You should end up with something like this:



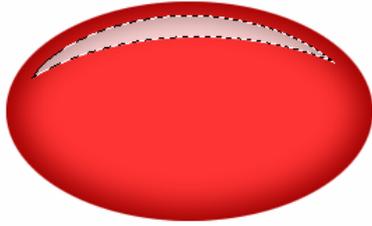
8. This will be our primary reflection. Make sure the foreground colour is set to white. **Create a new layer** and use the **paint bucket tool** to fill up this selection with the white foreground colour on the new layer.

9. Select **Filter/Blur/Gaussian** and put 5 pixels to get a diffused look.

10. In the layers pallet change the **opacity 80%**.

11.

12.

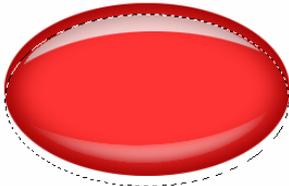


13. Now in the layers palette right click this new layer and select **Duplicate Layer** to make a copy of your layer. Click **Edit/Transform/Rotate 180** to rotate your new layer by 180 degrees by selecting and use the **Move Tool** to place it symmetrically on the bottom of the button.
14. With this new layer still selected, Select **Filter/Blur/Gaussian** and put 5 pixels to get a diffused look, which is supposed to be a reflection of a reflection on the top. In the layers palette change the **opacity to 50%**.



15. Now select the magic wand and click on the oval to make a selection of it again and move the selection down slightly using the down arrow on the keyboard. Apply a feather (**Select/Feather**) of just 5 pixels.

Now in the layers palette **create a new layer** and make sure it is between the background layer and the oval layer, you can click and drag the layer to move it.



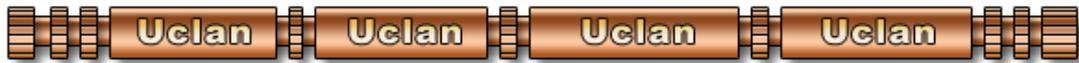
16. Use the **paint bucket tool** to fill the selection with the same colour that you used for the oval. This is going to be the shadow layer. Set this new shadow layer to **60% opacity**. The shadow is coloured since our object is translucent and the light goes through it, so the shadow will also have a color cast.



17. As a final step you can add the text or graphics on the top of your button with a slight shadow and you are done.



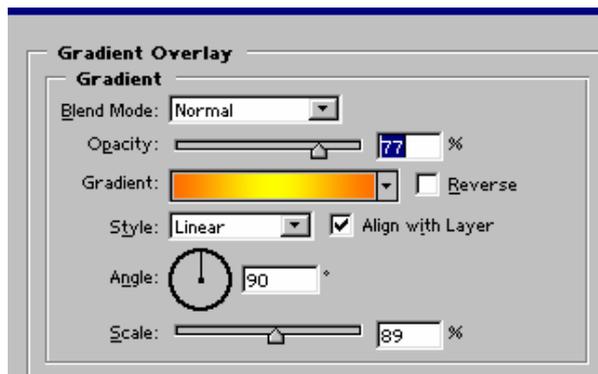
Navigation Panel



1. Open a new image - white background, 650 x 50 pixels.
2. **Create a new layer** and select the **Rectangular Marquee Tool**.
3. Select an area about the same height as in my image and fill it with any colour.



4. Click on the **add layer style** in the layers palette.
5. Add a **Gradient Overlay**, with the following settings (change the gradient colour to the orange yellow orange option).



6. Then add **Stroke Effect** - 1 pixel - Outside - Opacity 100 % - Colour Black.
7. Then add a **Drop Shadow** leaving the settings to the default. You should end up with something like this.



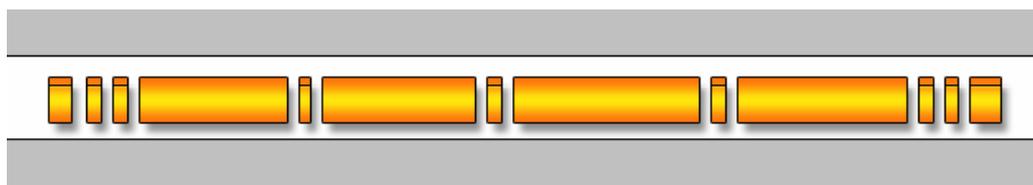
8. Right click on the layer and choose **Duplicate Layer** and then move the new layer to below the original button layer. Click on the **eye** at the side of the layer to hide the new button layer copy - we'll soon get back to it...
9. Then it's time to add some details to the button bar.
10. Select the original Button layer. Use the **Rectangular Marquee Tool** to select the desired areas to remove and then hit the **Delete** key to get rid of the selected areas. You should finish with something like this. (Use the history panel if you make a mistake!)



11. We are going to add some lines to add more details.
12. Select the **Single Row Marquee Tool**. (To select the Single row marquee tool just left click and hold down the mouse button until the alternative selections are shown. Then select the tool.)
13. Click to place the **single marquee tool** on your image, it will make a line across the image. You can move the selection by using the arrow keys to get it in the right place. One touch with the arrow keys = 1 pixel.
14. Create a **new layer**. Make **black your foreground colour** and select the **Paint bucket Tool**. Fill your selection with black, zoom in if necessary and use the paint bucket to fill the area.
15. Now **create a new layer**. Make **white your foreground colour** and fill the selection with white using the **paint bucket tool** (this should be directly on top of the black line you just created). Click **Select/Deselect**. Your image should now look like this:

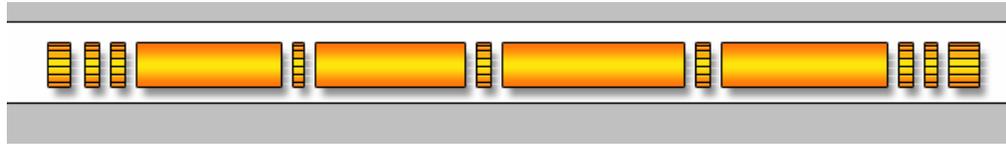


16. Select the **Move Tool**. Now with the **white line layer selected** move the white line 1 pixel down by pressing the **down arrow key** once. Change the **layer mode** for this layer from Normal to **Soft Light**.
17. Zoom into the image and use the **rectangular marquee** to highlight the places where you do not want the lines to be and press delete(ensure that the layer with the black line on is selected and repeat for the white line layer), i.e. in the white spaces and on the buttons. So that you end up with an image like this:

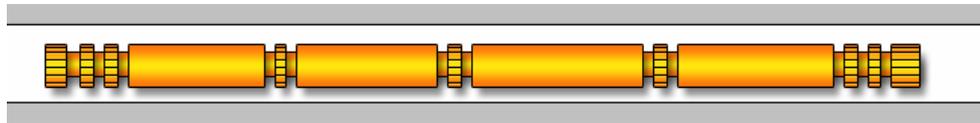


18. Rather than having to repeat this several times we can just copy the two layers. Duplicate both the black line and the white line layers (right click on the layer and press duplicate) and move them down a

few pixels (select the move tool and use the down arrow to move them). Repeat this process several times till you end up with something like this.

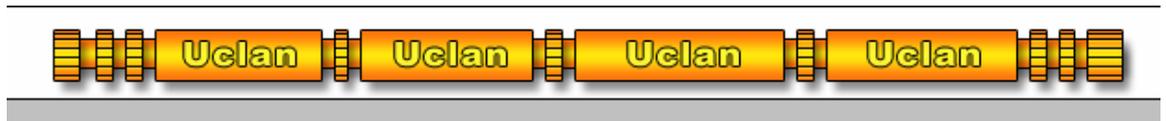


19. Select the **Button copy layer** that we copied earlier on.
20. Select **Edit /Transform/Scale** – and in the top menu options set the **Height to 56%**. (Hit Return 2 times to set the new height). Then select the **move tool** and move the layer 1 pixel up by pressing the **up arrow key** once.



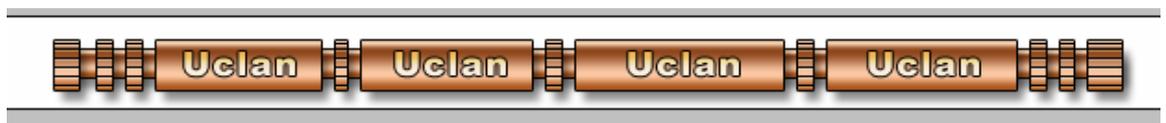
Text

21. Now it's time to add some text to our button bar.
22. Select **the text tool**. Choose a font, I used Arial, bold, 18.
23. Type your text.
24. Set the Layer mode to **Overlay**.
25. Set the **layer effect to Inner Glow** with these settings (colour: #FFA520).
26. And the **Stroke Effect** to 1 pixel outside - colour black.



Changing the colour

27. Once you have finished you can actually change the colour very easily.
28. Select the button layer and open click on the **layer style**. In the **gradient overlay** change it to the **copper gradient**.
29. Do the same with the button copy layer.
30. You should end up with something like this:



31. Save the image as navbar.psd

Another Button but a lot quicker and Smart Objects

Step 1

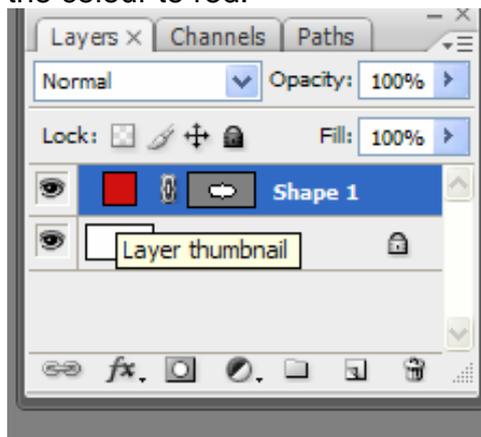
Create a new document 400x200

Step 2

Select the Ellipse tool and draw a oval in the centre of the screen and ensure the shape layer is selected.

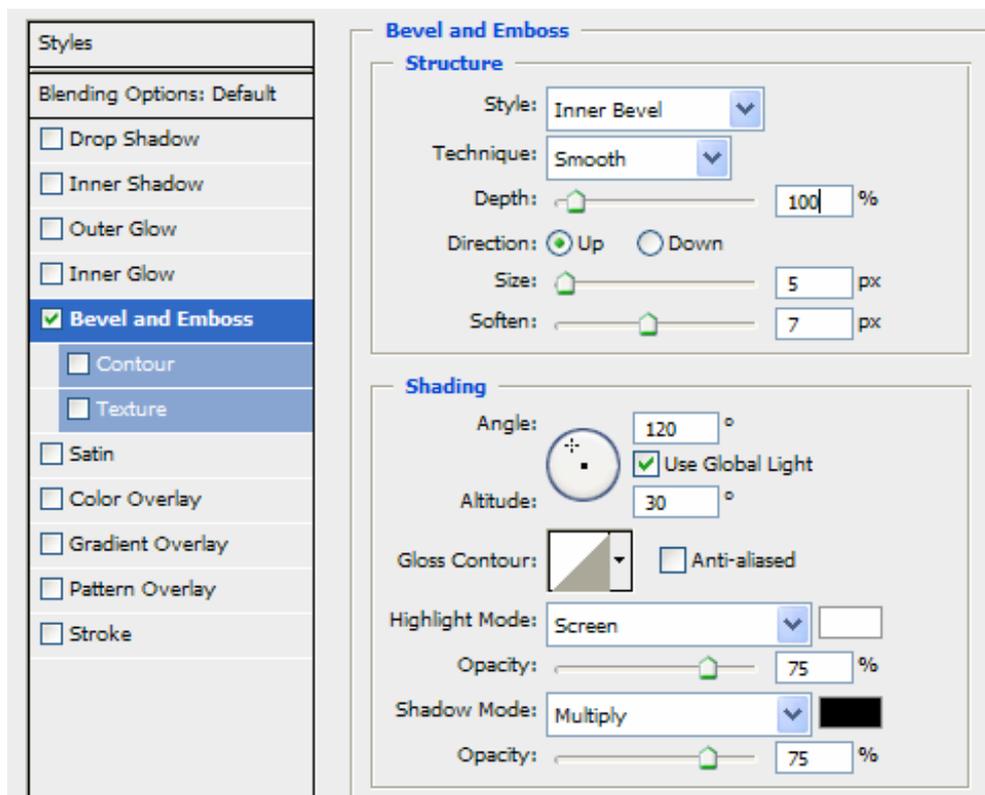
Step 3

Double click on the black colour thumbnail in the shape layer and then change the colour to red.



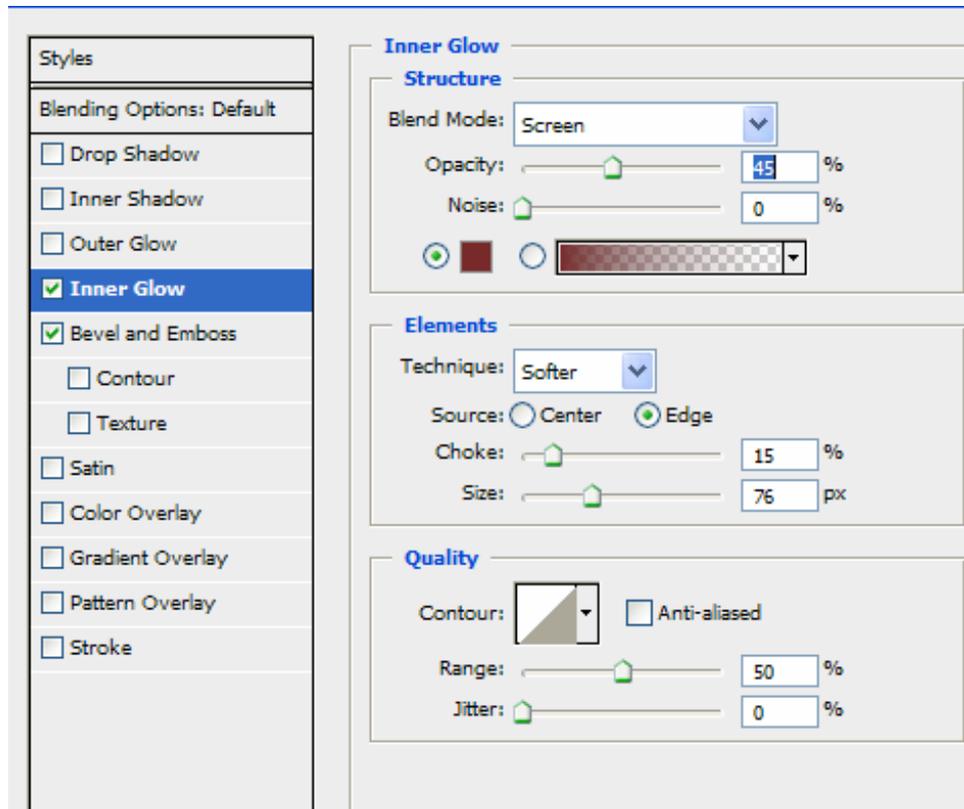
Step 4

Select filter then bevel and emboss and change your settings to match below.



Step 5

Select the inner shadow option and change your settings to below, change your colour to a dark red option.



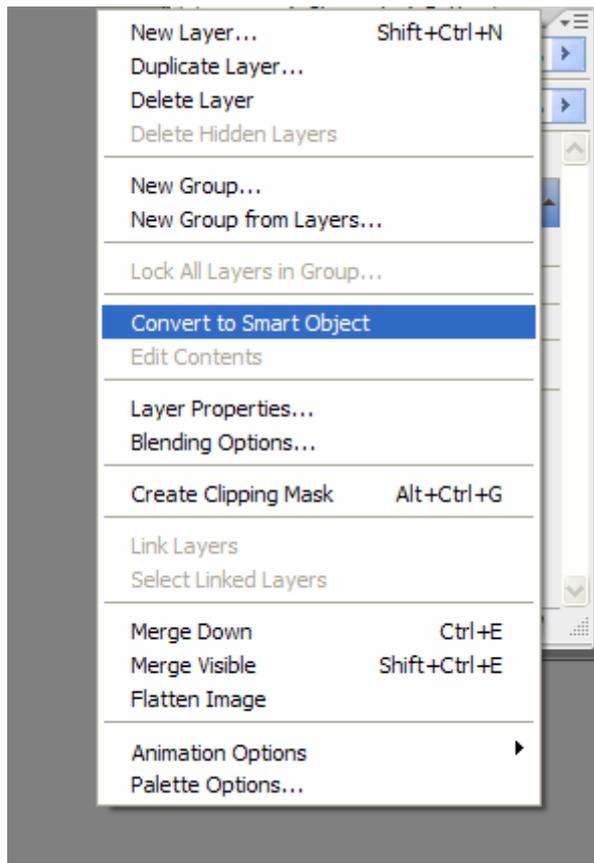
Step 6

Select the type tool and then type products in arial font and centre it on the button.



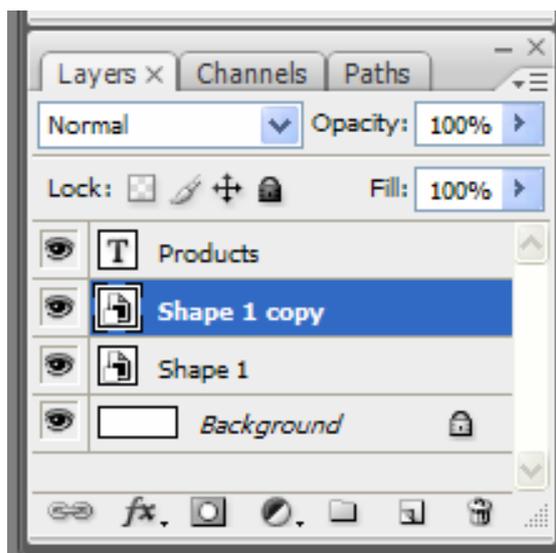
Step 7

Creating smart objects, select the shape layer, in the layers panel click on the small arrow in the top right corner and from the drop down menu select convert to smart object



Step 8

You will notice that the layer has been flattened and this is now a smart object. Duplicate the layer by right clicking the layer and selecting duplicate. Then select the move tool and drag the button to the right of the products button (You might need to increase the canvas size).



Step 9

Double click on the Shape 1 thumbnail and this will open the button to enable you to edit the object. When the panel appears simply press ok, then change

the colour to green and the inner shadow colour to a dark green. Finally press file / save and your buttons will have been updated to green.

