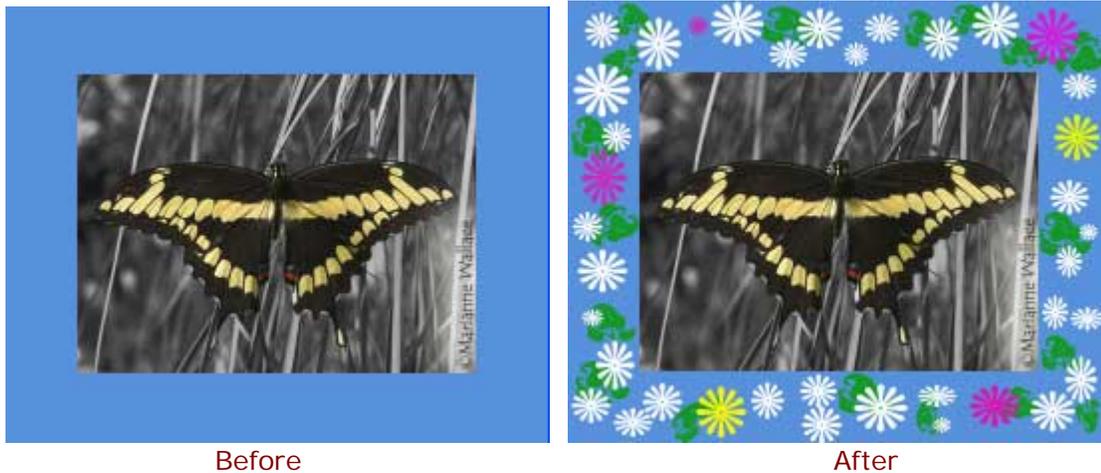
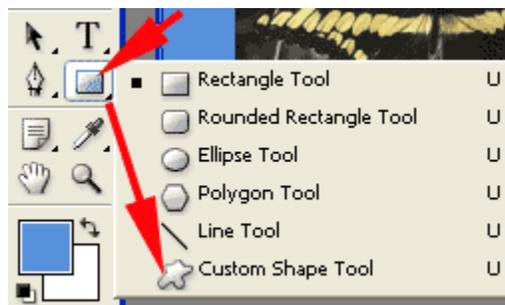


Shape Tool Basics

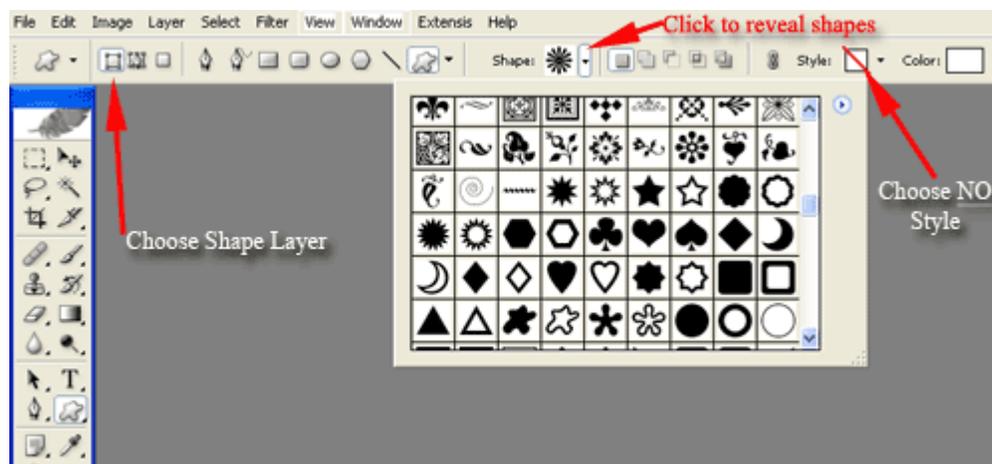


1. Create a new document OR open an image that you would like to add a shape to. For instance, you might want to put a border around an image and then add shape designs to the border as I did above. This can be a nice look for greeting cards.
2. The Shape Tool is right below the Text Tool. Click and hold the Shape Tool Button. It will then show you all the shape options you have. In this tutorial, we'll go straight to the Custom Shape Tool which is the last option.

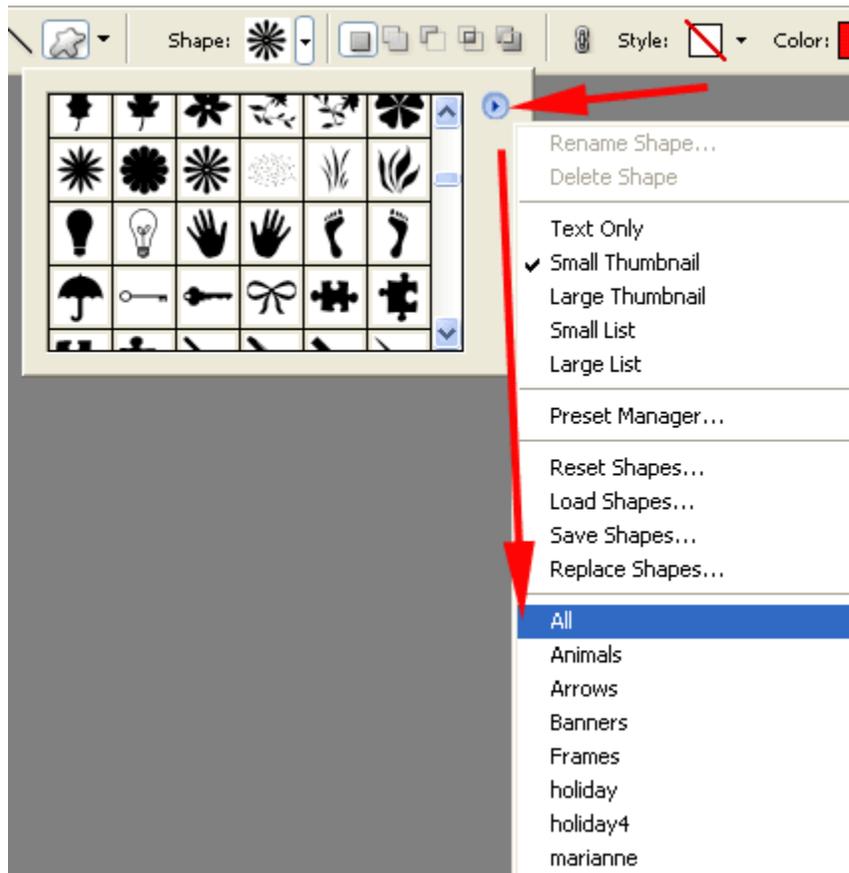


3. The Options for the Custom Shape tool are along the top tool bar. Set the first option to "shape layer". On the far right, make sure there is a little white box with a red line through it. This means no "styles" will be applied when you draw your shapes. You can add styles later.

To see your Custom Shapes, click and hold the little arrow to the right of the word "Shapes". Unless you have already added some shapes, you will not have very many.



- There are many more shapes available in the Photoshop folder on your hard drive so if you don't see anything that works for your project and you want to add more, just click the little arrow on the Shapes Display box. Look toward the bottom for more shapes. You might want to click "ALL". A box will come up asking if you want to replace or append. Click "replace" since the ones you already have will be included in the ones you are about to add. If you're only choosing a single category, then click on "append".



- Once you have added shapes either from your hard drive or from the web, you MUST go to the Preset Manager and save them if you want to ensure that they will not be lost.

If you happen to reset your Shapes, for instance, you will lose any that you have created yourself or ones that you added from other sources. If you save them in the Preset Manager, they will be listed in the above list. Note that there is one called "marianne". That is a collection of all my favorite shapes.

- Now choose a shape.** CLICK/HOLD/DROP on your document without lifting the mouse. Hold the space bar to reposition as you're dragging. Once it's like you want, let go of the mouse.

If you decide you want it larger, just bring up "Free Transform" (control/command T) to resize, rotate or even flip vertically or horizontally. If you want your object to be a different color, click on the first part of the shape layer in the Layers Palette. This brings up the color picker. Click in the color box to change the color.

Continue to drag out as many shapes as you want. Even add different shapes if desired. I used a flower shape and a leaf shape in my project above. You will get a new (editable) layer for each.

You can add **styles** to your shapes if desired. Highlight the object you want in your Layers Palette. Now just click the "F" at the bottom of the Layers Palette and choose whatever you want. The sky is the limit!!!

HAVE FUN!!!