



Amazing Photo Editing

We are using Adobe Photoshop Elements

We will introduce Layers, our beginning into Digital Imaging. Layers are used in almost every application you use on your computer, cell phone, tablet ,or portable device. In the Help Section, there are 50 references to Layers. We will try to cover the basics for Amazing Photo Editing projects



Students will learn

To Make photos look their best

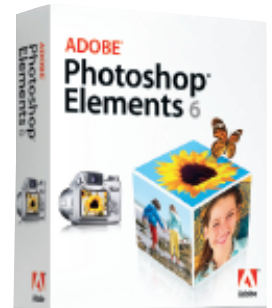
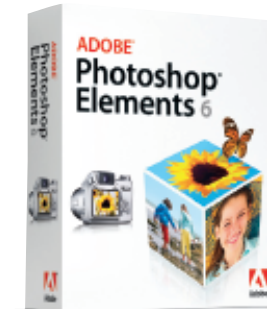
- Create amazing composites with easy-to-use tools
- Brush away wrinkles, unwanted objects, and other flaws
- Make selections in a snap so you can easily adjust specific areas of a photo
- Easily adjust skin tones for a more natural look
- Fine-tune exposure with color curves adjustments and the enhanced Brightness/Contrast control

To Do more with photos

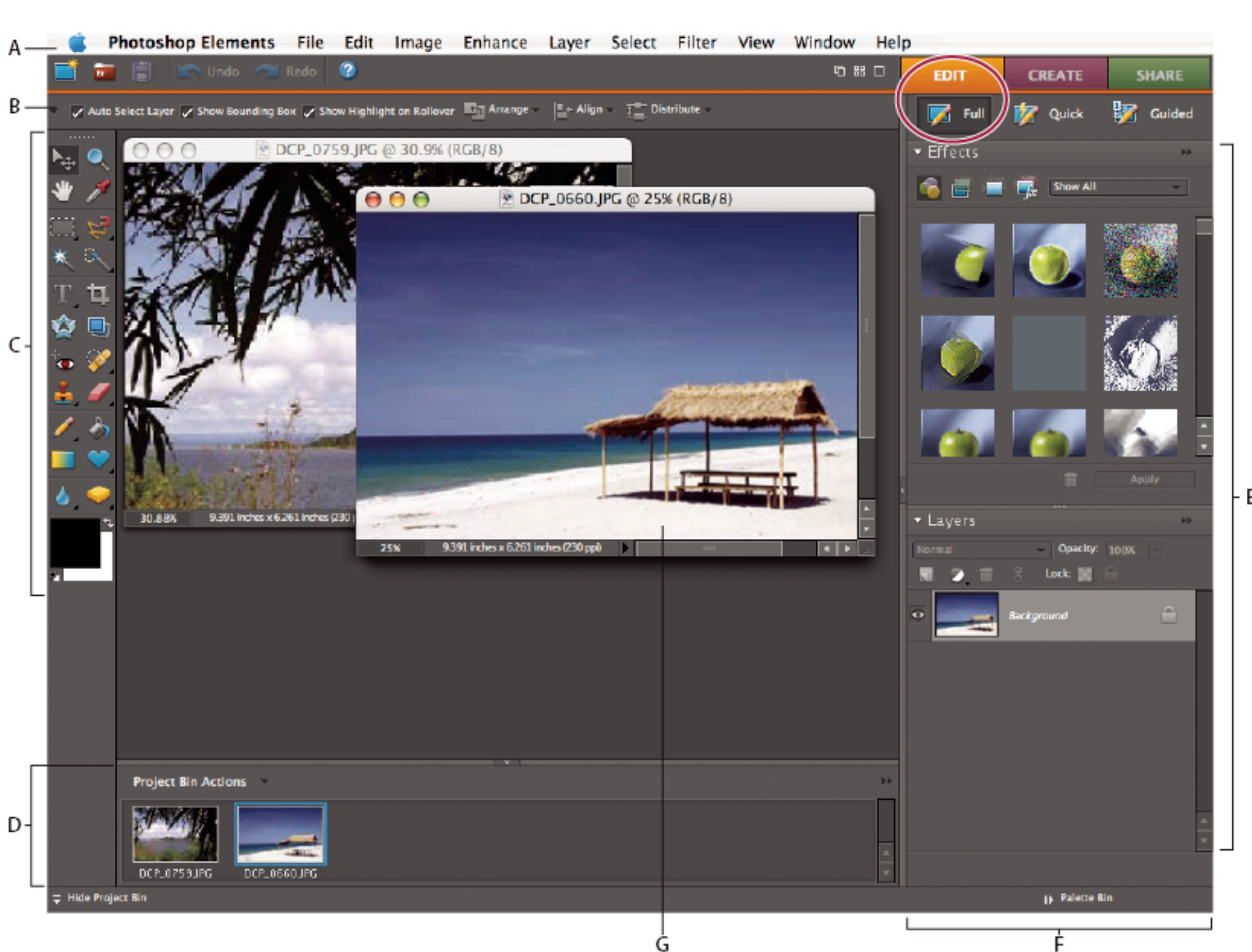
- Start creating quickly, no experience necessary
- Express your ideas in customizable layouts
- Create photo books with greater ease and flexibility
- Entertain friends with custom slide shows and interactive web galleries
- Share with family and friends using a variety of fun options

To Easily find and view all photos and video clips

- Instantly download photos from your camera
- Categorize photos and video clips with easy-to-use visual tags
- Group photos into convenient Albums
- Develop creations more quickly by gathering the photos you need for a specific project in one place
- View and organize your photos quickly, even when your library grows to include thousands of photos



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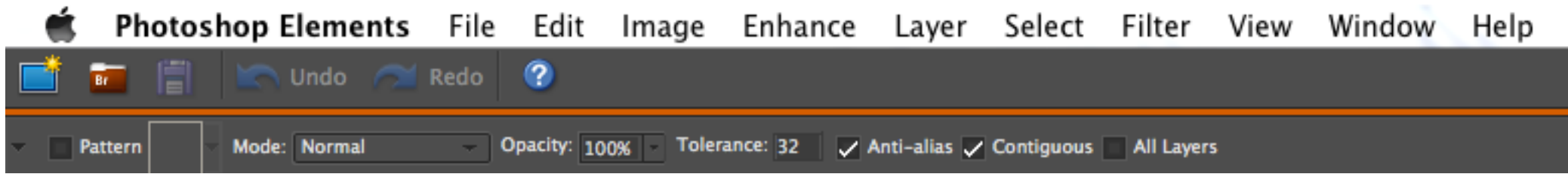


Full Edit workspace

A. Menu bar **B.** Workspace buttons **C.** Toolbox **D** Project Bin **E.** Palettes **F.** Palette bin **G.** Active image area



You should be familiar with Adobe Photoshop Elements before viewing this project. Please review as needed



Menu bar Contains menus for performing tasks. The menus are organized by topic. For example, the Enhance menu contains commands for applying adjustments to an image.

Workspace buttons Moves you between the Guided Edit, Quick Fix, and Full Edit workspaces. These buttons change according to the current workspace.

Toolbox Holds tools for editing images.

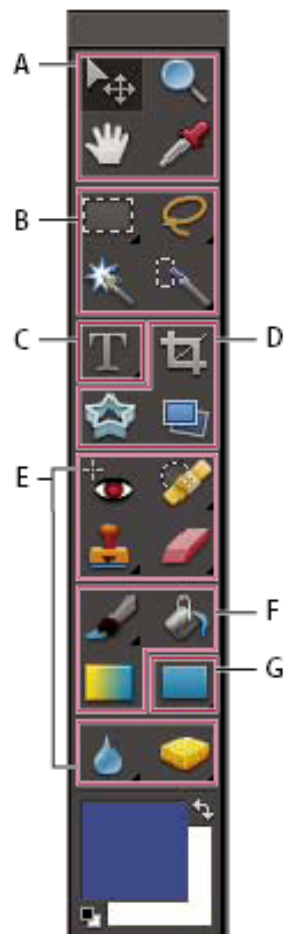
Options bar Provides options for the tool you select.

Project Bin Displays thumbnails of opened images, and lets you easily manage them.

Palettes Help you monitor and modify images.

Palette Bin Helps you organize the palettes in your work area.

Note: To view the area behind open photos, including other open applications, uncheck *Photoshop Elements > Preferences > Fill Workspace Background*. To fill the workspace with a gray backdrop, select the *Fill Workspace Background* option. Do NOT change this.



A Navigation and measuring tools

- Move (V)
- Zoom (Z)
- Hand (H)
- Eyedropper (I)

B Selection tools

- Rectangular Marquee (M)
- Elliptical Marquee (M)
- Lasso (L)
- Magnetic Lasso (L)
- Polygonal Lasso (L)
- Magic Wand (W)
- Quick Selection (A)
- Selection Brush (A)

C Type tools

- Horizontal Type (T)
- Vertical Type (T)
- Horizontal Type Mask (T)
- Vertical Type Mask (T)

D Crop tools

- Crop (C)
- Cookie Cutter (Q)
- Straighten (P)

E Retouching tools

- Red Eye Removal (Y)
- Spot Healing Brush (J)
- Healing Brush (J)
- Clone Stamp (S)
- Pattern Stamp (S)
- Eraser (E)
- Background Eraser (E)
- Magic Eraser (E)
- Blur (R)
- Sharpen (R)
- Smudge (R)
- Sponge (O)
- Dodge (O)
- Burn (O)

F Painting and drawing tools

- Brush (B)
- Pencil (N)
- Impressionist Brush (B)
- Color Replacement (B)
- Paint Bucket (K)
- Gradient (G)

G Shape tools

- Rectangle (U)
- Rounded Rectangle (U)
- Ellipse (U)
- Polygon (U)
- Line (U)
- Custom Shape (U)
- Shape Selection (U)



The TOOLBOX TOOLS

Remember to save often

Layers are like transparent sheets of acetate (clear plastic) that you can stack and rearrange.



About the toolbox

Use tools in the toolbox to select, edit, and view images; some tools let you paint, draw, and type. The toolbox appears on the left side of the Full Edit and Quick Fix workspaces. In the Full Edit workspace, you can move the toolbox by dragging the gripper bar at the top of the box. You must select a tool in the toolbox before you can use it. Once selected, the tool is highlighted in the toolbox, and optional settings for the tool appear in the options bar, which is located below the shortcuts bar at the top of the workspace. Some tools in the toolbox have additional tools beneath them. These are called **nested tools**. A small triangle at the lower right of the tool icon signals that there are nested tools. When you select a tool, any additional nested tools appear in the options bar.

Note: *You cannot deselect a tool once you select a tool, it remains selected until you select a different tool. For example, if you've selected the Lasso tool, and you want to click your image without selecting anything, select the Hand tool.*

You can view information about any tool in the toolbox by positioning the pointer over it. The name of the tool appears below the pointer, this is called the **tool tip**. You can click a link in some tool tips to see additional information about the tool.

Understanding layers

Layers are like stacked, transparent sheets of glass on which you can paint images. You can see through the transparent areas of a layer to the layers below. You can work on each layer independently, experimenting to create the effect you want. Each layer remains independent until you combine (merge) the layers. The bottommost layer in the Layers palette, the Background layer, is always locked (protected), meaning you cannot change its stacking order, blending mode, or opacity (unless you convert it into a regular layer).

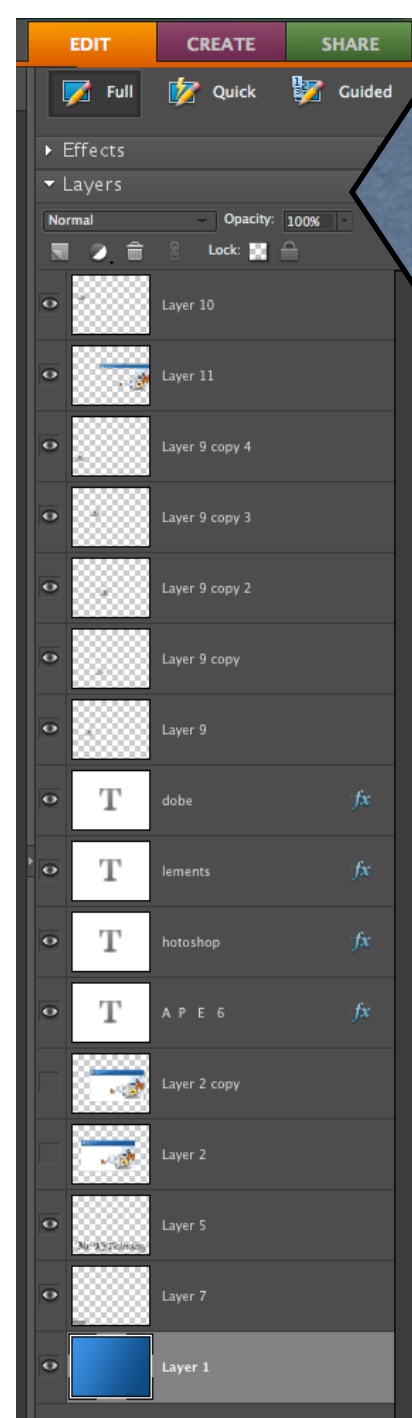
When you create, import, or scan an image in Adobe® Photoshop® Elements (PSE), the image consists of a single layer. You can add more layers to your image, and each layer can then be edited as a separate piece of artwork. This tutorial acquaints you with some layer basics, so you can add a variety of interesting effects to your image.



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Transparent areas on a layer let you see through to the layers below.



The Layers Palette



Layers are organized in the Layers palette. It's a good idea to keep this palette visible whenever you're working in Photoshop Elements. With one glance, you can see the active layer (the selected layer that you are editing). You can link layers, so they move as a unit, helping you manage layers. Because multiple layers in an image increases the file size, you can reduce the file size by merging layers that you're done editing. The Layers palette is an important source of information as you edit photos. You can also use the Layer menu to work with layers.

Ordinary layers are pixel-based (image) layers. There are several other layer types you can use to create special effects:

Fill layers Contain a color gradient, solid color, or pattern.

Adjustment layers Enable you to fine-tune color, brightness, and saturation without making permanent changes to your image (until you flatten, or collapse, the adjustment layer).

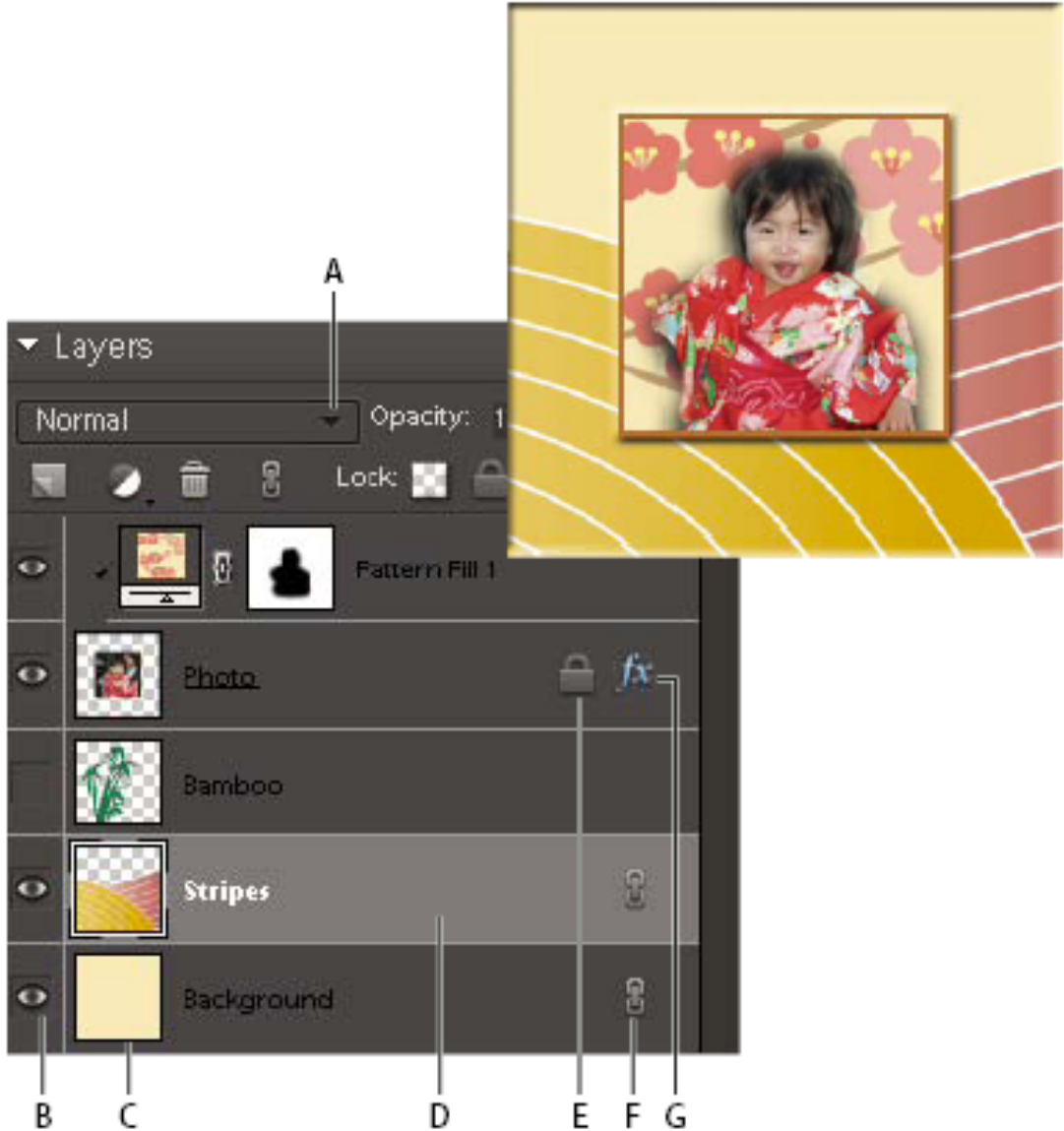
Type layers and shape layers Let you create vector-based text and shapes. You can't paint on an adjustment layer, although you can paint on its mask. To paint on fill or type layers, you first convert them into regular image layers.

About the Layers palette

The Layers palette lists all layers in an image, from the top layer to the Background layer at the bottom. You can drag the palette by its title out of the Palette Bin to keep it visible as you work with it.

The active layer, or the layer that you are working on, is highlighted for easy identification. As you work in an image, it's a good idea to check which layer is active to make sure that the adjustments and edits you perform affect the correct layer. For example, if you choose a command and nothing seems to happen, check to make sure that you're looking at the active layer.

Using the icons in the palette, you can accomplish many tasks—such as creating, hiding, linking, locking, and deleting layers. With some exceptions, your changes affect only the selected, or active, layer, which is highlighted.



Layers palette
A. Blending mode menu **B.** Show/Hide layer **C.** Layer thumbnail **D.** Highlighted layer is active layer **E.** Locked layer **F.** Layer is linked to another layer **G.** Layer has style applied



 The layer is visible. Click the eye to show or hide a layer. (Hidden layers are not printed.)

 The layer is linked to the active layer.

 The layer has a style applied to it. Click to edit the layer style in the Style Settings dialog box.

 The layer is locked.

 The image contains layer groups and was imported from Photoshop. Photoshop Elements doesn't support layer groups and displays them in their collapsed state. You must simplify them to create an editable image.

You use the buttons at the top of the palette to perform actions:

 Create a new layer.

 Create a new fill or adjustment layer.

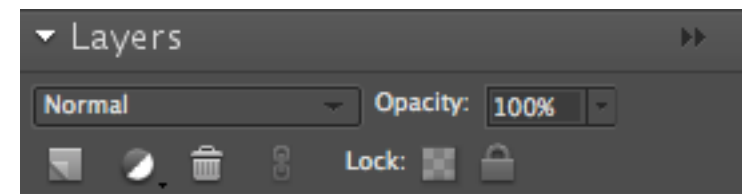
 Delete a layer.

 The layer is linked to another layer.

 Lock transparency.

 Lock all layers.

Also at the top are the palette Blending Mode menu (Normal, Dissolve, Darken, and so on), an Opacity text box, and a More button displaying a menu of layer commands and palette options.



Layers Palette is located in the Well or Window > Layers



8000

Adding layers



The power of **layers** is that they allow you to work on one element of your image without disturbing the others. Until you combine, or **merge**, the layers, each layer remains independent. This means you can experiment freely with different compositions without making permanent changes to your overall image. In addition, special features such as adjustment layers, fill layers, and layer styles let you create sophisticated effects.

Newly added layers appear above the selected layer in the Layers palette. You can add layers to an image by using any of the following methods:

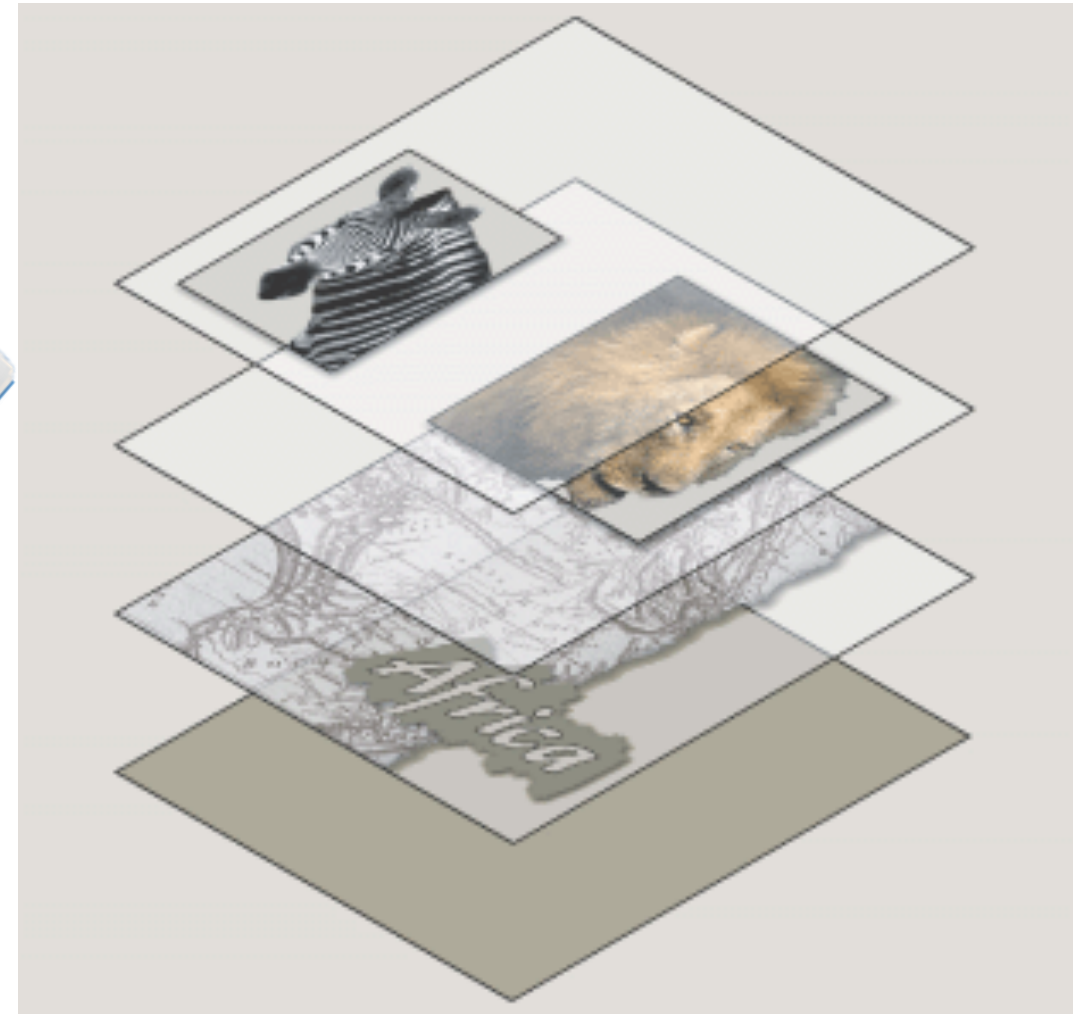
- Create new, blank layers or turn selections into layers.
- Convert a background into a regular layer or vice versa.
- Paste selections into the image.
- Use the Type tool or a shape tool.
- Duplicate an existing layer.

*You can create up to **8000** layers in an image, each with its own blending mode and opacity. However, memory constraints may lower this limit.*

A good way to think of **layers** is as sheets of acetate stacked one on top of the other. Where there is no image on a layer, you can see through to the layers below. Behind all of the layers is the background. In the following illustration, each animal and the map are on separate layers. The dark texture is the background. Depending on how you stack and position the layers, the composition changes.



Changes to an image affect only the highlighted or *active* layer. You select a layer to make it active, and only one layer can be active at a time. You can accomplish many tasks--such as creating, hiding, displaying, copying, and deleting a layer--using the icons in the **Layers Palette**. You can access additional commands and options in the **Layers Palette** menu and the **Layers Menu**.



Transparent areas on a layer let you see through to the layers below.

Create a new layer from part of another layer



You can move part of an image from one layer to a newly created one, leaving the original intact.

1. Select an existing layer, and make a selection.
2. Choose one of the following:
 - Layer > New > Layer Via Copy to copy the selection into a new layer.
 - Layer > New > Layer Via Cut to cut the selection and paste it into a new layer.
3. The selected area appears in a new layer in the same position relative to the image boundaries.



Creating a new layer by copying part of another layer and pasting it into a new layer

The stacking order determines whether a layer appears in front of or behind other layers.



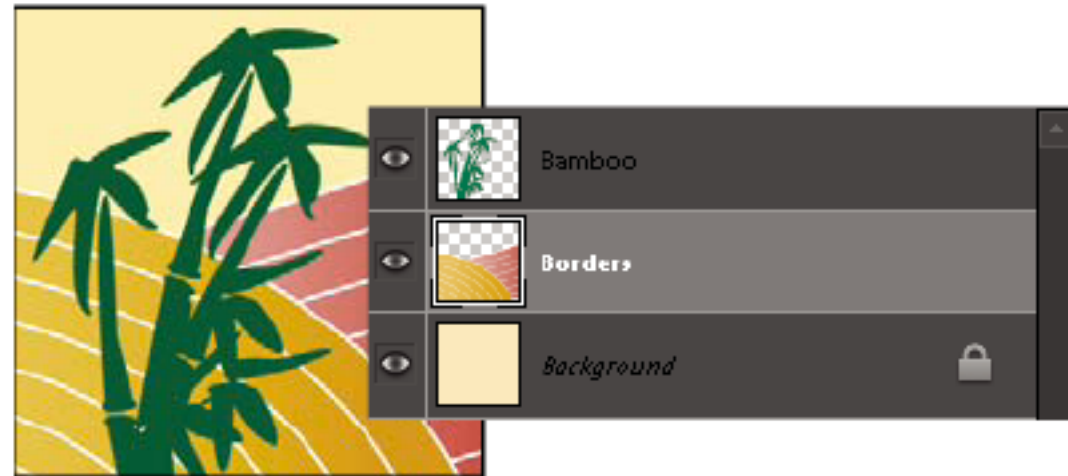
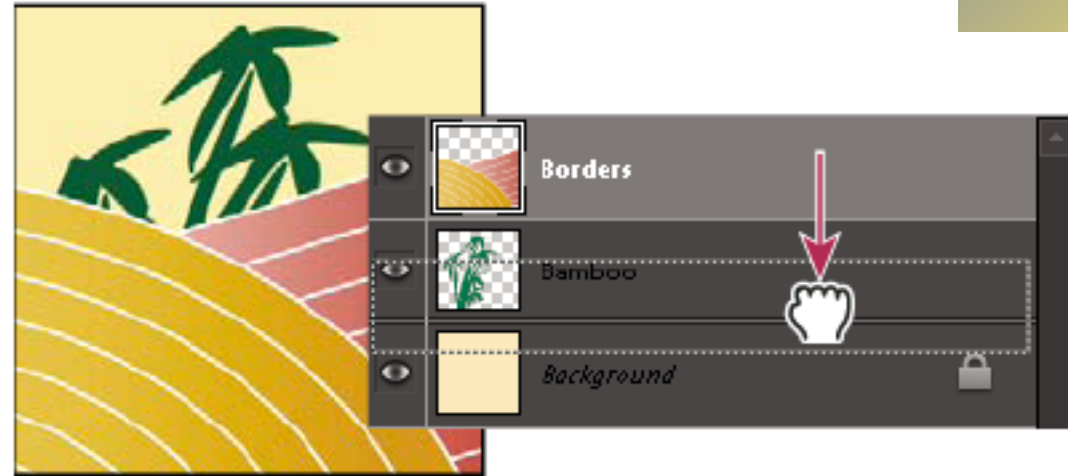
To change the order of a layer:

- 1 In the **Layers palette**, select the layer that you want to move.
- 2 Choose **Layer > Arrange**, and choose an option from the submenu to arrange the layer:
 - * Bring to Front to make the layer the topmost layer.
 - * Bring Forward to move the layer one level up in the stacking order.
 - * Send Backward to move the layer one level down in the stacking order.
 - Send to Back to make the layer the bottommost layer in the image (except for background).

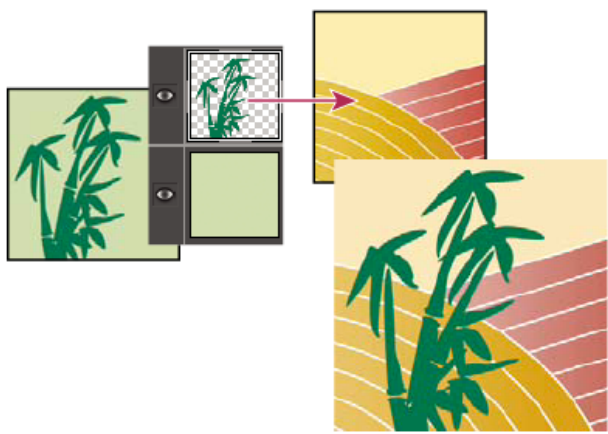
To change the order of layers by dragging:

- 1 In the **Layers palette**, select the layer that you want to move.
- 2 Drag the layer up or down in the **Layers palette**. When the highlighted line appears in the desired position, release the mouse button.

Change the stacking order of layers



Dragging a layer below another layer changes the stacking order



Dragging the bamboo layer to another image



You can copy any layer, including the Background layer, from one image to another. Keep in mind that the resolution of the destination image determines how large the printed copy of the layer can be. Also, if the pixel dimensions of the two images are not the same, the copied layer may appear smaller or larger than you'd expect.

1. Open the two images you want to use.
2. In the Layers palette of the source image, select the layer that you want to copy.
3. Do one of the following:
 - Choose Select > All to select all of the pixels in the layer, and choose Edit > Copy. Then make the destination image active, and choose Edit > Paste.
 - Drag the layer's name from the Layers palette of the source image into the destination image.
 - Use the Move tool  to drag the layer from the source image to the destination image.

The copied layer appears in the destination image, above the active layer in the Layers palette. If the layer you're dragging is larger than the destination image, only part of the layer is visible. You can use the Move tool to drag other sections of the layer into view.

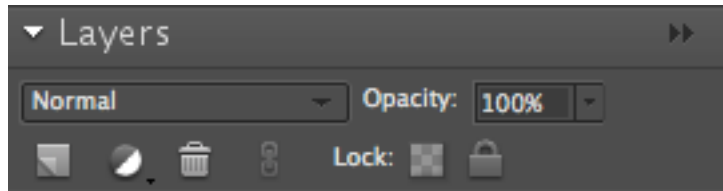


Hold down Shift as you drag a layer to copy it to the same position it occupied in the source image (if the source and destination images have the same pixel dimensions) or to the center of the destination image (if the source and destination images have different pixel dimensions).

Link and unlink layers

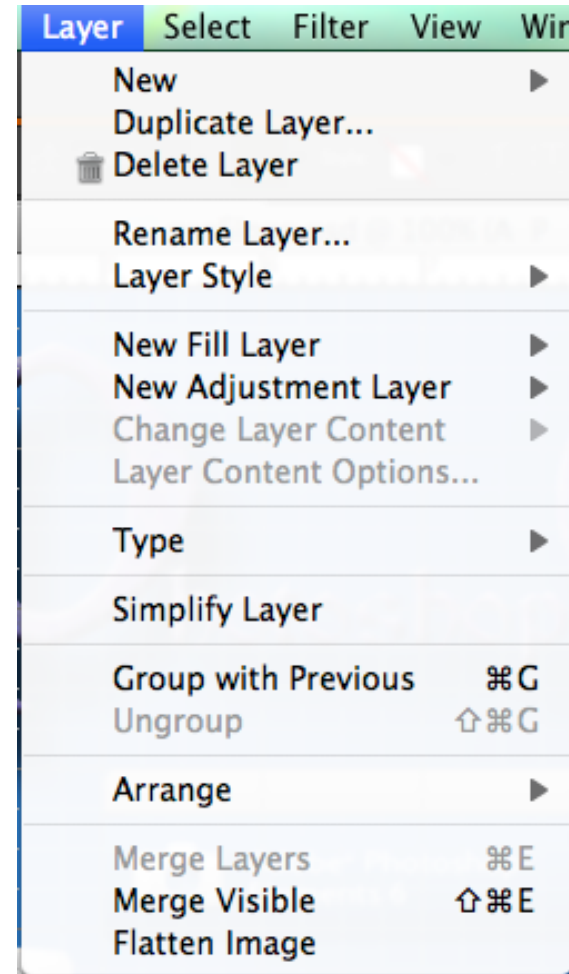
When layers are linked, you can move their contents together. You can also copy, paste, merge, and apply transformations to all linked layers simultaneously. At some point, you may want to edit or move one linked layer. You can simply unlink the layers to work on one layer at a time

1. Select the layers you'd like to link in the Layers palette. To select more than one layer, hold down the Command key and click each layer.
2. Click the Link Layer icon  at the top of the Layers palette. The linked icon  appears in the linked layers.
3. To unlink layers, select a linked layer in the Layers palette and click the Link Layers icon at the top of the Layers palette.



Double-click the layer's name in the Layers palette, and enter a new name.

Note: You can't rename the Background layer unless you change it into a normal layer.



If you don't see the desired results when using a tool or applying a command, you may not have the correct layer selected. Check the Layers palette to make sure that you're working on the desired layer.



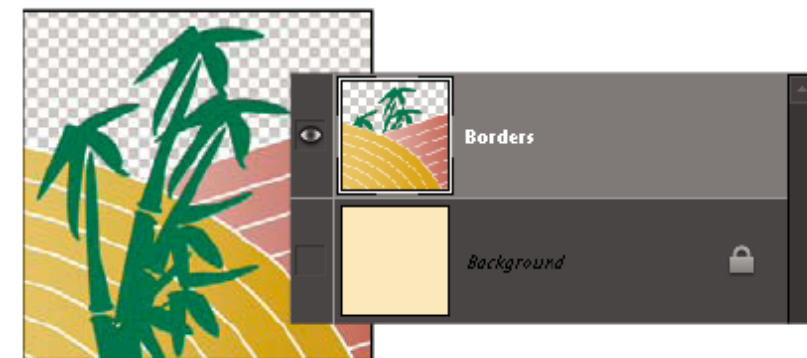
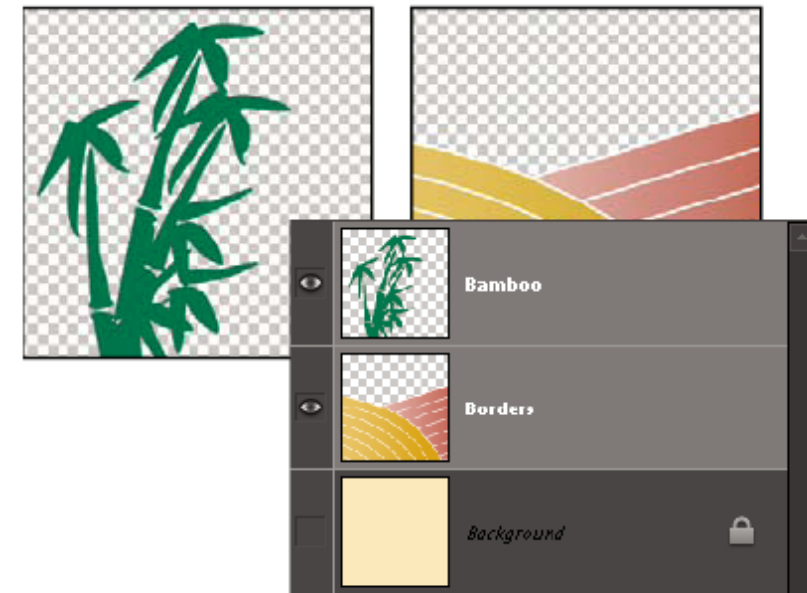
Merge layers

Layers can greatly increase the file size of an image. Merging layers in an image reduces file size. You should merge layers only after you have finished manipulating them to create the image you want.

You can choose to merge only the linked layers, only the visible layers, only a layer with the layer below it, or only selected layers. You can also merge the contents of all visible layers into a selected layer, yet not delete the other visible layers (in this case, there is no reduction in file size).

When you complete work on an image, you can flatten it. Flattening merges all visible layers, discards all hidden layers, and fills transparent areas with white.

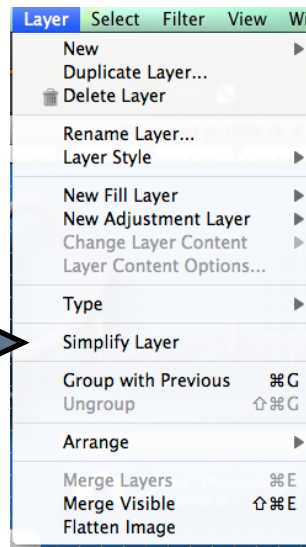
1. Go to the Layers palette and make sure that an eye icon appears next to each of the layers you want to merge.
2. Do one of the following:
 - To merge selected layers, select more than one layer by holding down the Command key and clicking each layer. Then choose Merge Layers from the Layers palette More menu.
 - To merge a layer with the one below, select the top layer of the pair and choose Merge Down from either the Layer menu or the Layers palette More menu.
Note: *If the bottom layer in the pair is a shape, type, or fill layer, you must simplify the layer. If the bottom layer in the pair is linked to another layer or is an adjustment layer, you can't choose Merge Down.*
 - To merge all visible layers, hide any layers you don't want to merge and choose Merge Visible from the Layer menu or Layers palette More menu.
 - To merge all visible linked layers, select one of the linked layers and choose Merge Linked from the Layer menu or Layers palette More menu.
Note: *If the bottom-most merged layer is a type, shape, solid color fill, gradient fill, or pattern fill layer, you must first simplify the layer.*



Example of merging



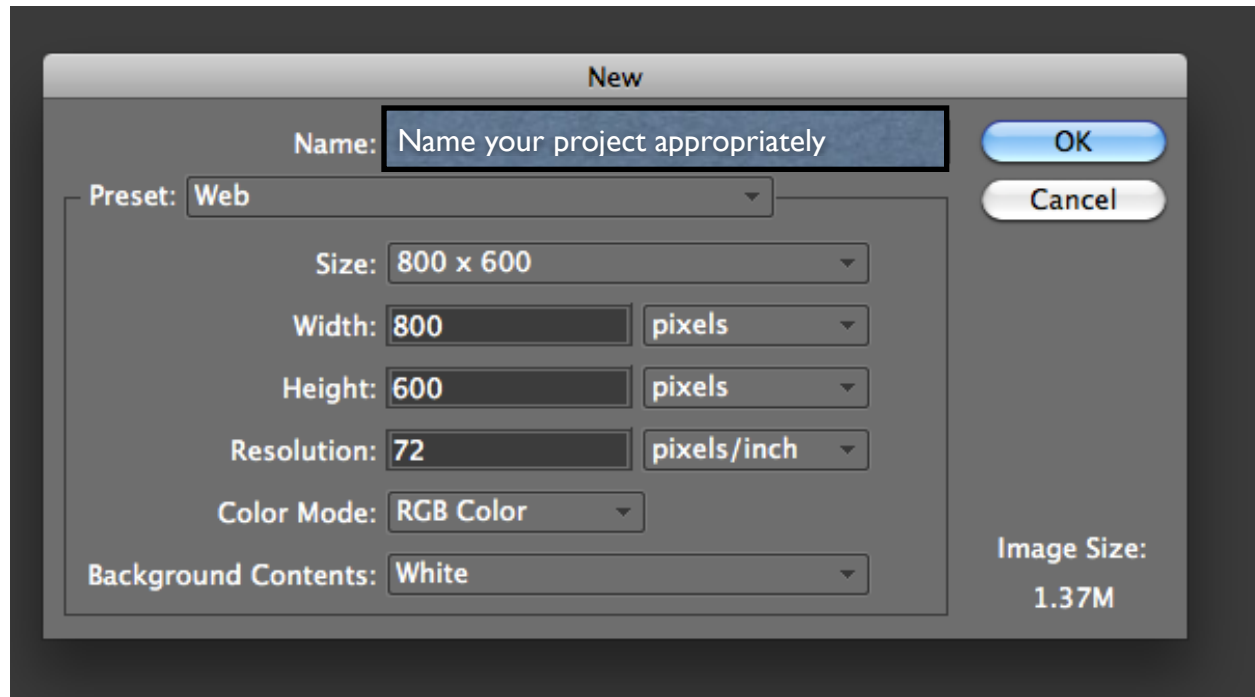
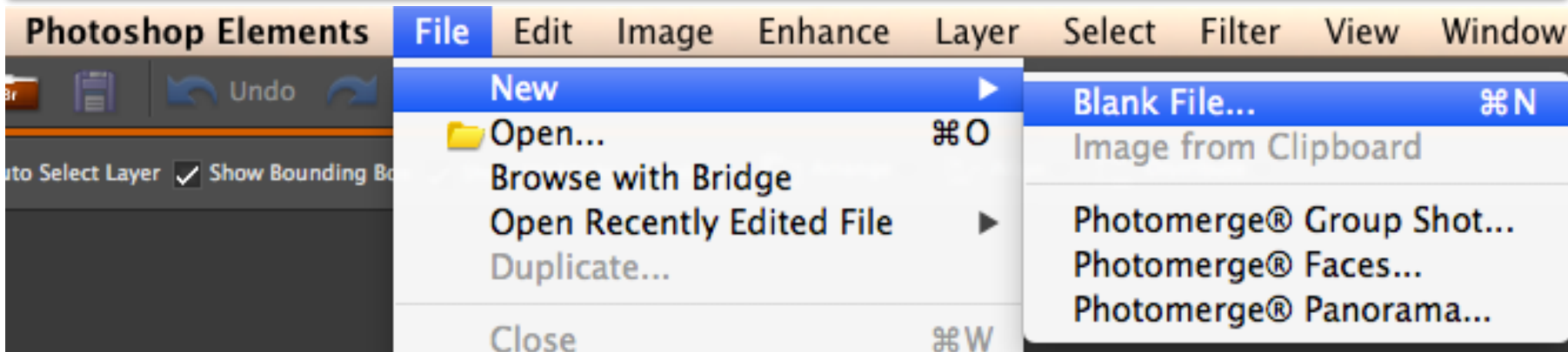
Simplify a layer



You simplify a smart object, frame layer, type layer, shape layer, solid color layer, gradient layer, or pattern fill layer (or a layer group imported from Photoshop) by converting it into an image layer. You need to simplify these layers before you can apply filters to them or edit them with the painting tools. However, you can no longer use the type- and shape-editing options on simplified layers.

1. Select a type layer, shape layer, fill layer, or a Photoshop layer group in the Layers palette.
2. Simplify the layer or imported layer group:
 - If you selected a shape layer, click Simplify in the options bar.
 - If you selected a type, shape, or fill layer, or a Photoshop layer group, choose Simplify Layer from either the Layer menu or the Layers palette More menu.

Let's try some Layer stuff

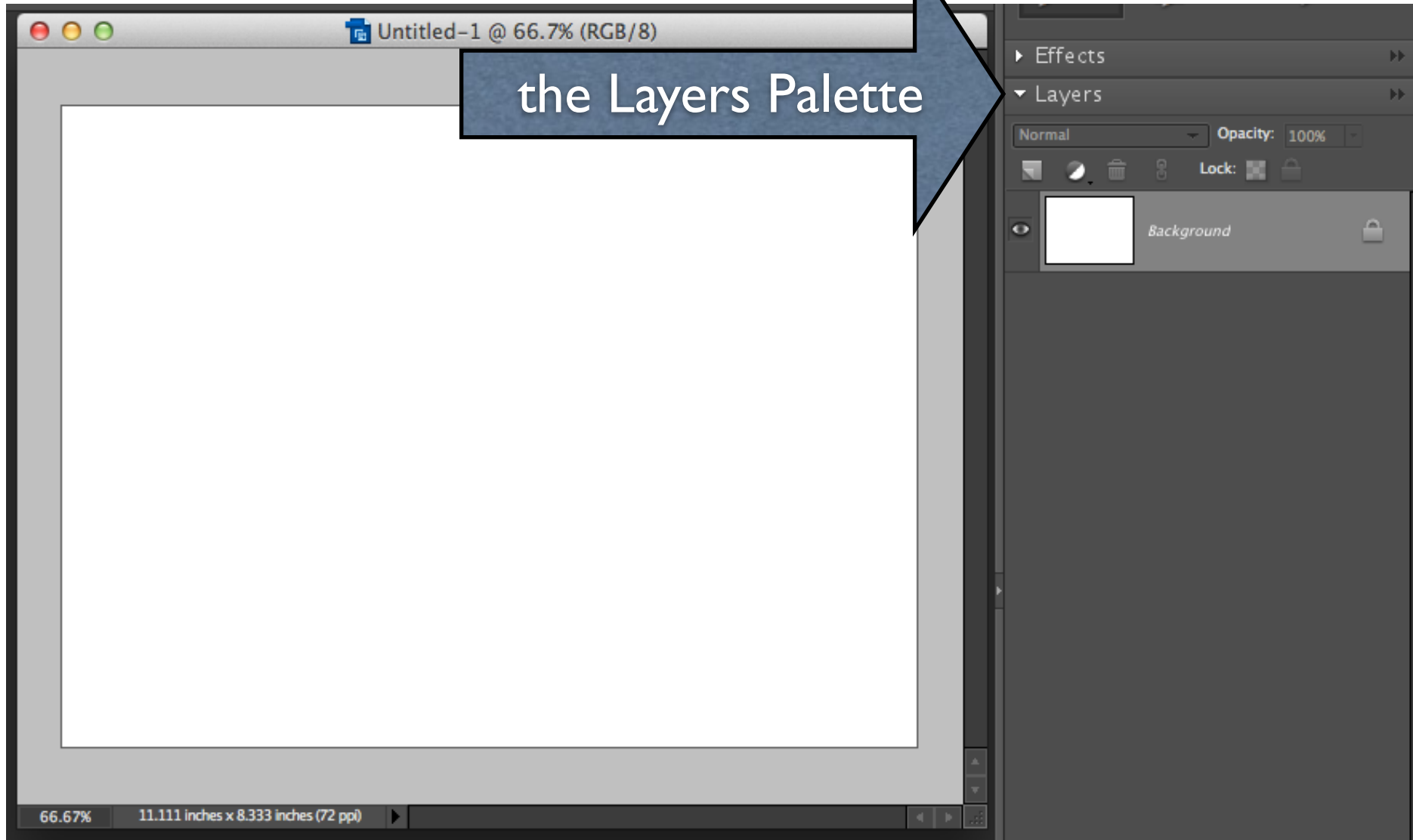


Open a new document and make it 800 pixels wide by 600 pixels tall. We use 72 pixels per inch and a white background



You created a layer

the Layers Palette



The Background Layer is the only layer in our Palette so far, let's add a few more

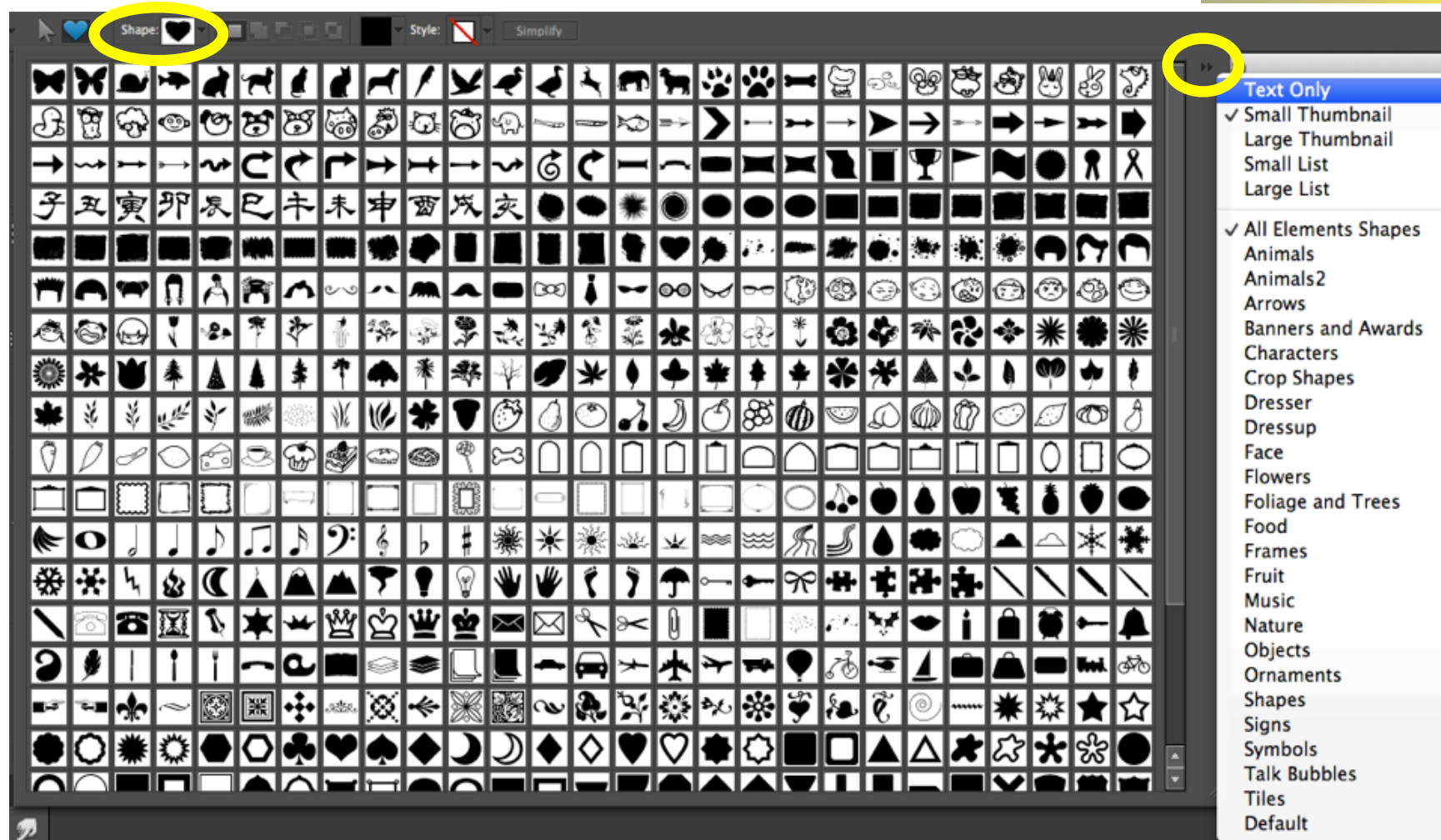
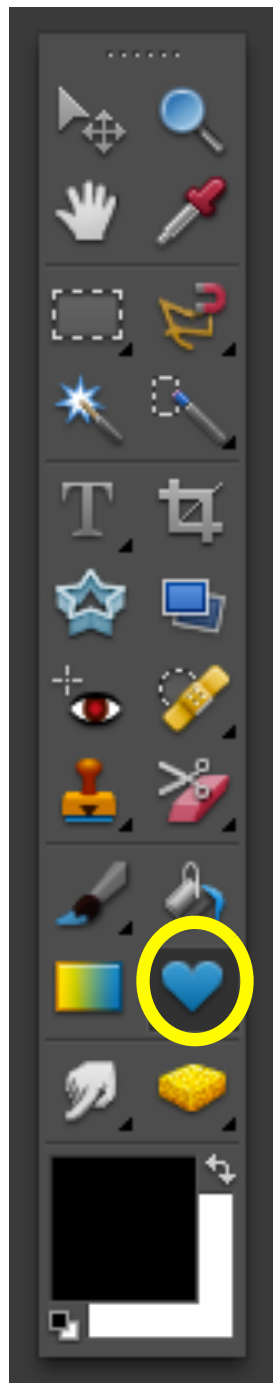




Let's start with the Custom Shape Tool.
As you can see, there are lots to choose from
when you click the Custom Shape Picker.
There is even a pullout menu with a list!



We are
going to
use the
smiling frog



Draw a custom shape

The Custom Shape tool provides many different shape options for you to draw. When you select the custom shape tool, you can access these shapes in the options bar.

1. Select the Custom Shape tool . If necessary, press and hold another shape tool in the toolbox, and then choose this tool from the list that appears.
2. In the options bar, select a shape from the Shape pop-up palette. Click the arrow at the top right of the palette to list the shapes you can choose from and how to display them.
3. (Optional) In the options bar, select the Geometry options triangle to use the following options:
Unconstrained Lets you set the width and height of a rectangle, rounded rectangle, ellipse, or custom shape by dragging.
Defined Proportions Draws a custom shape based on the proportions with which it was created.
Defined Size Draws a custom shape based on the size at which it was created.
Fixed Size Draws a custom shape as a fixed shape based on the values you enter in the Width and Height text boxes.
From Center Draws a custom shape from the center.
4. Drag within your image to draw the shape.



Our Custom Shape
created it's own layer



Let's add a Text Layer

Add text

1. Select the Horizontal Type tool or the Vertical Type tool .
2. Do one of the following:
 - To create a single line of text, click in the image to set an insertion point for the type.
 - To create paragraph text, drag a rectangle to create a text box for the type.
3. The small line through the I-beam marks the position of the type baseline. For horizontal type, the baseline marks the line on which the type rests; for vertical type, the baseline marks the center axis of the type characters.



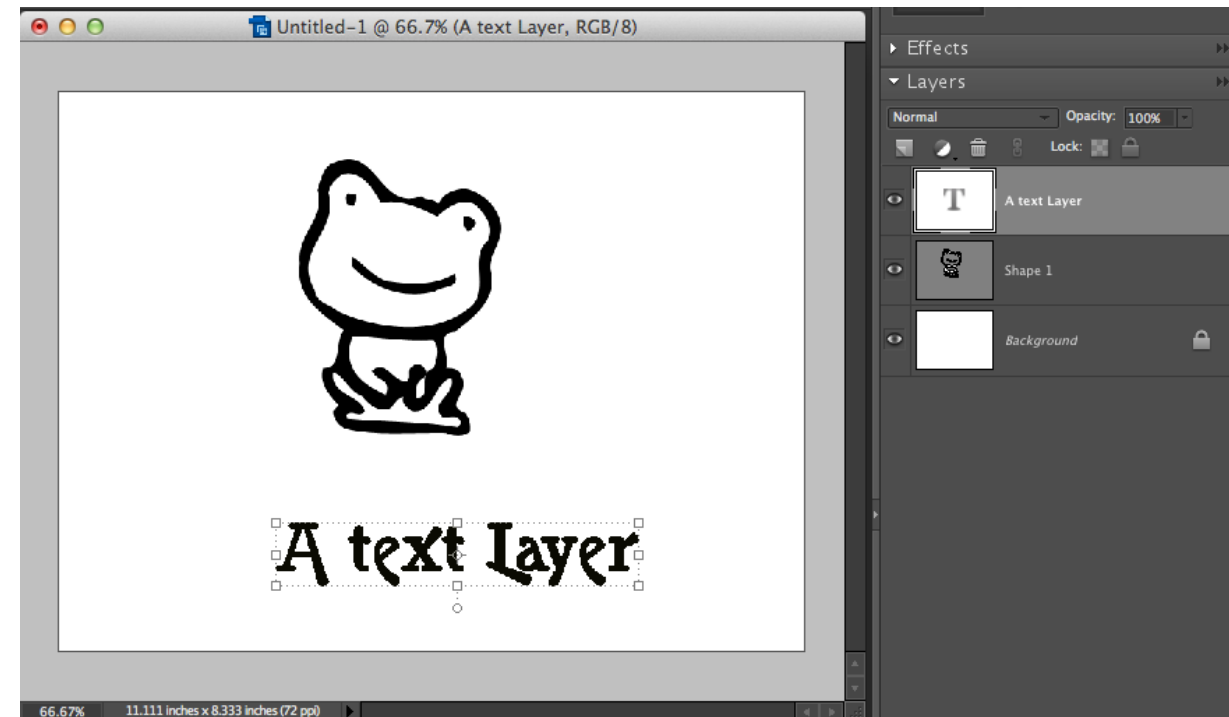
4. (Optional) Select type options, such as font, style, size, and color, in the options bar.
5. Type the characters you want. If you did not create a text box, you can press Return to create a new line. The text appears in its own layer, which is called a **text layer** .
6. Commit the text layer by doing one of the following:
 - Click the Commit button in the options bar.
 - Press the Enter key on the numeric keypad.
 - Click in the image, outside of the text box.
 - Select a different tool in the toolbox.



Note: To discard the text layer before you commit it, click the Cancel button.



Notice when we add a layer it is placed on top in the Layers Palette



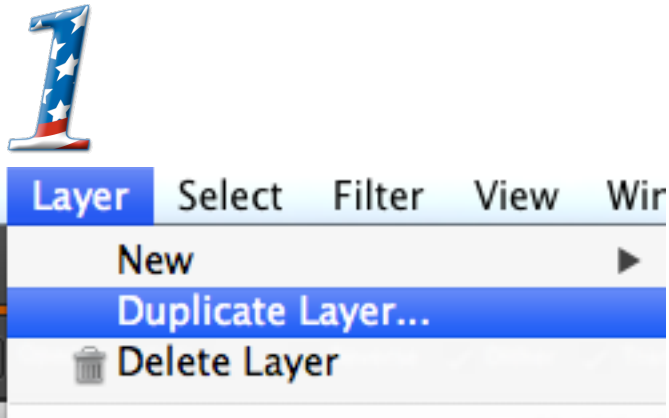
Duplicate a layer within an image

You can duplicate any layer, including the Background layer, within an image.

Select one or more layers in the Layers palette, and do one of the following to duplicate it:

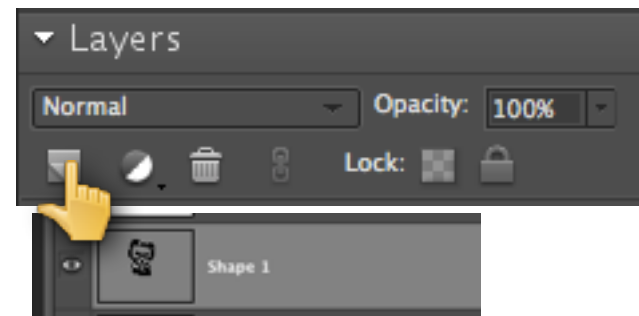
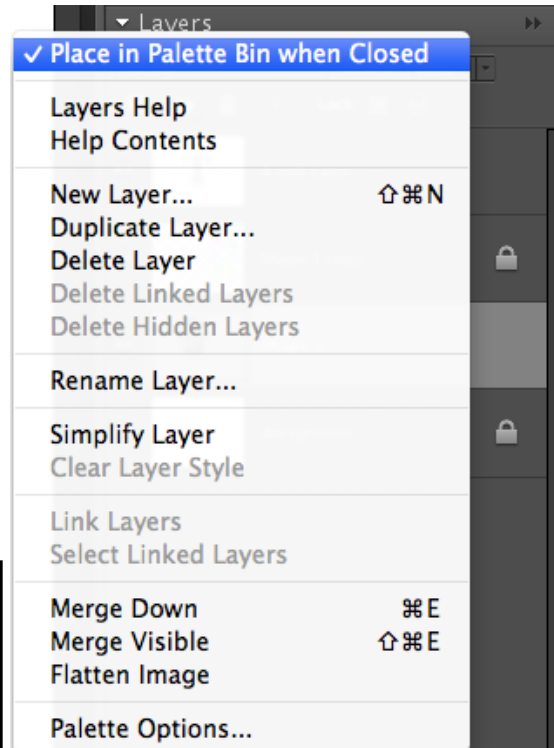
- To duplicate and rename the layer, (1) choose Layer > Duplicate Layer, or (2) choose Duplicate Layer from the Layers palette More menu. Name the duplicate layer, and click OK.
- To duplicate without naming, (3) select the layer and drag it to the New Layer button at the top of the Layers palette.
- (4) Right-click the layer name or thumbnail, and choose Duplicate Layer.

4
ways



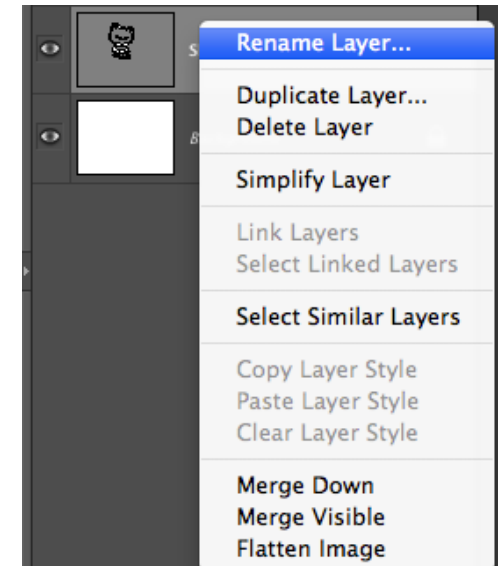
2

Duplicate the frog



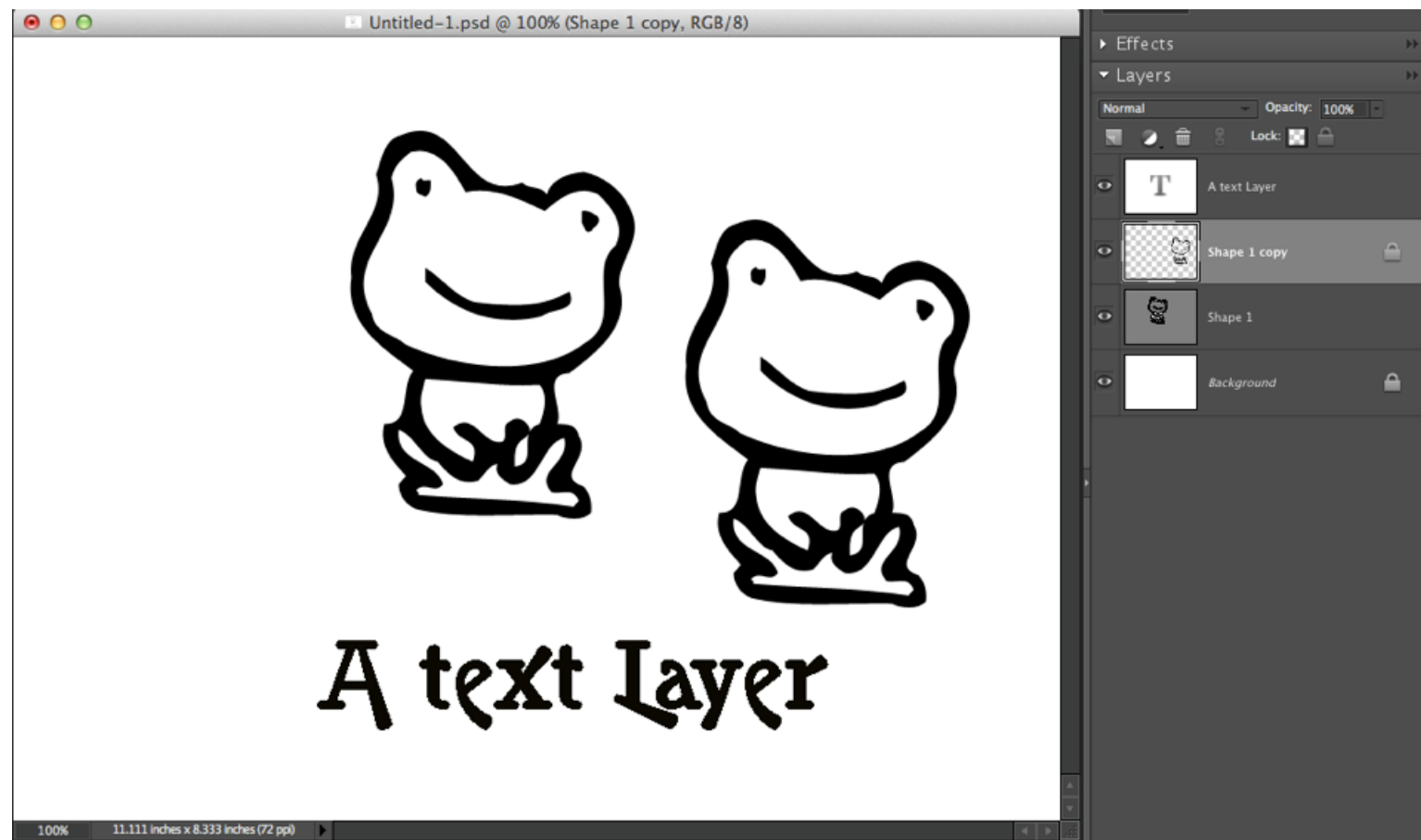
3

Move the copy

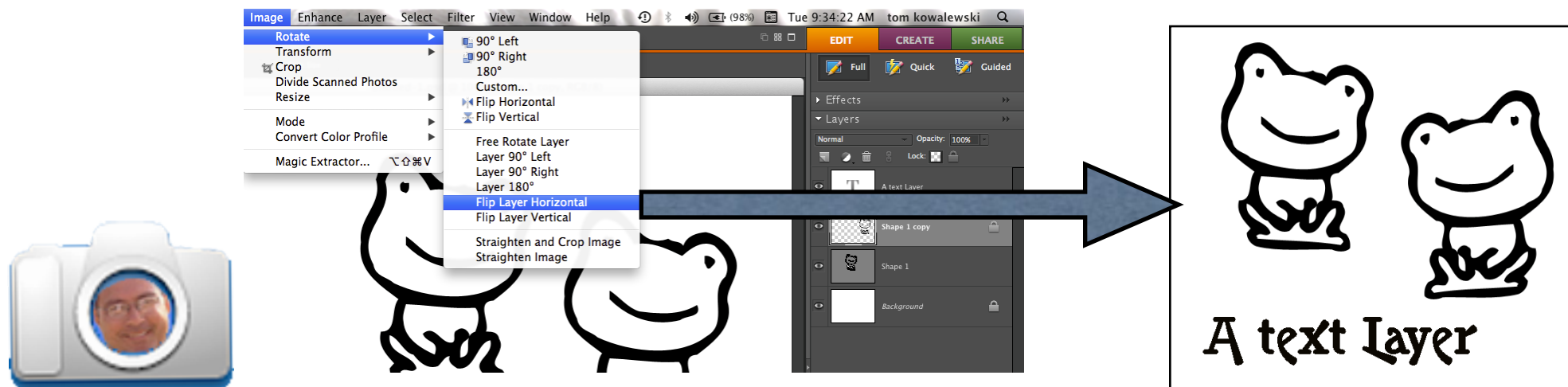


4





After duplicating your frog, your Layer Palette should look like this one

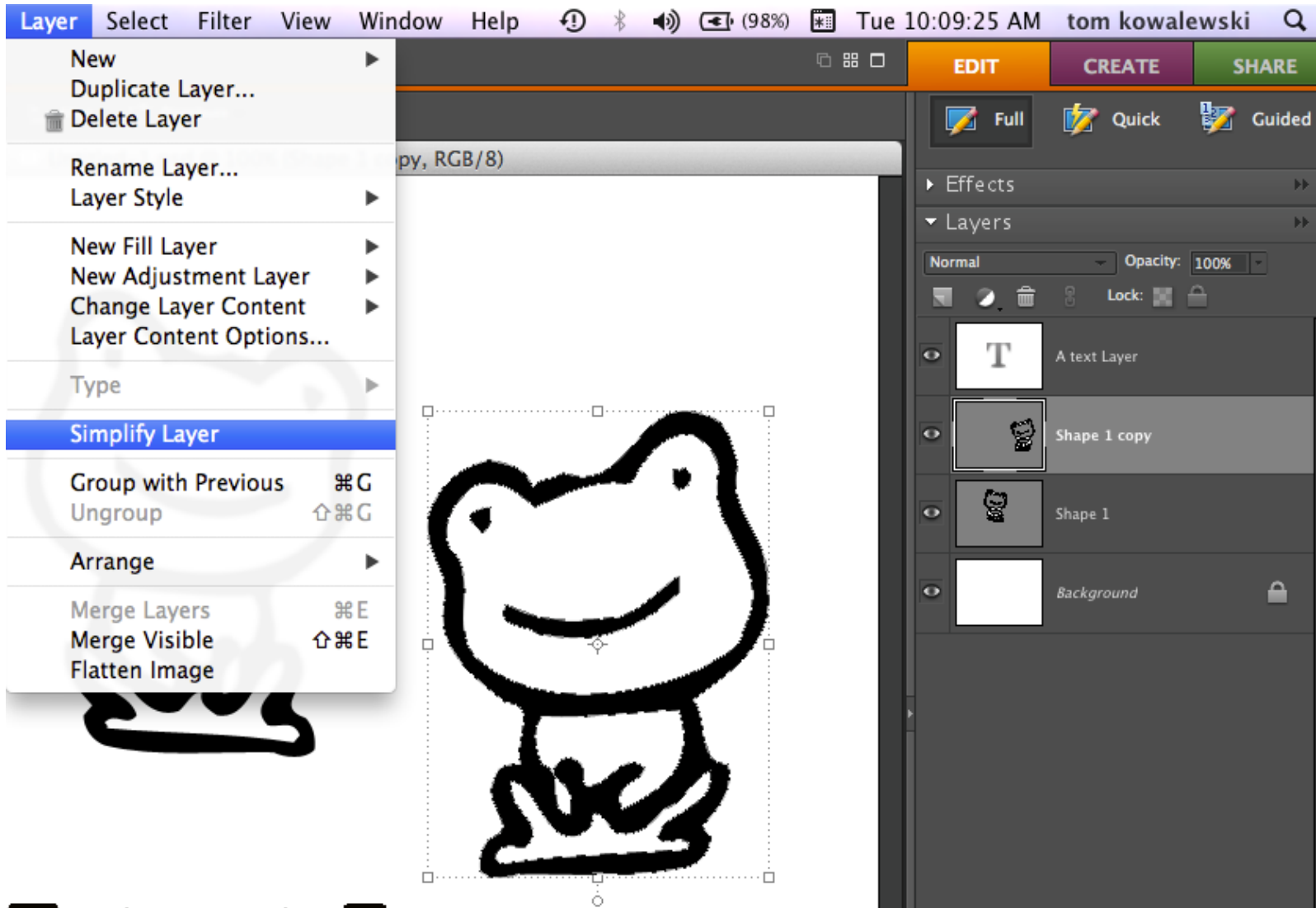


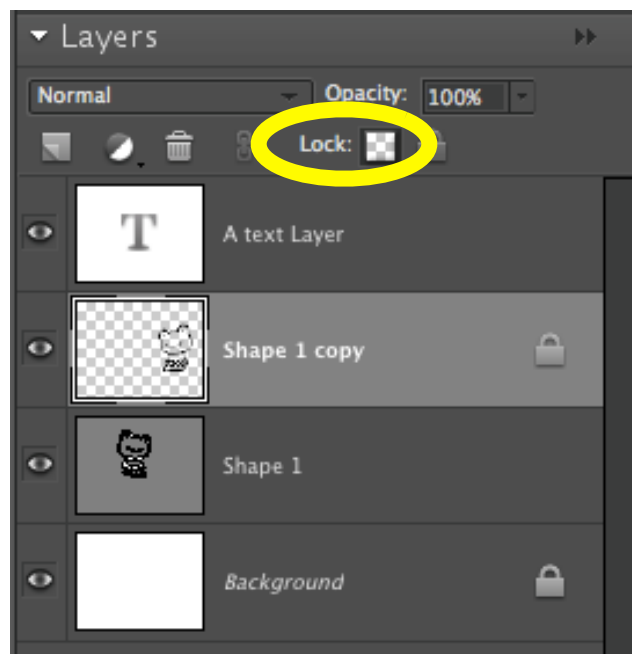
Go to the Image Menu, select Rotate, then select Flip Layer Horizontal

If you need to review Simplify Layer before going further, please [go back](#).



Simplify the frog copy
Now the layer is editable.
We can paint it,
we can apply filters,
we can apply patterns,
we can apply gradients.





Now click the Lock
Transparent Pixels button.
This allows you to select
only the frog

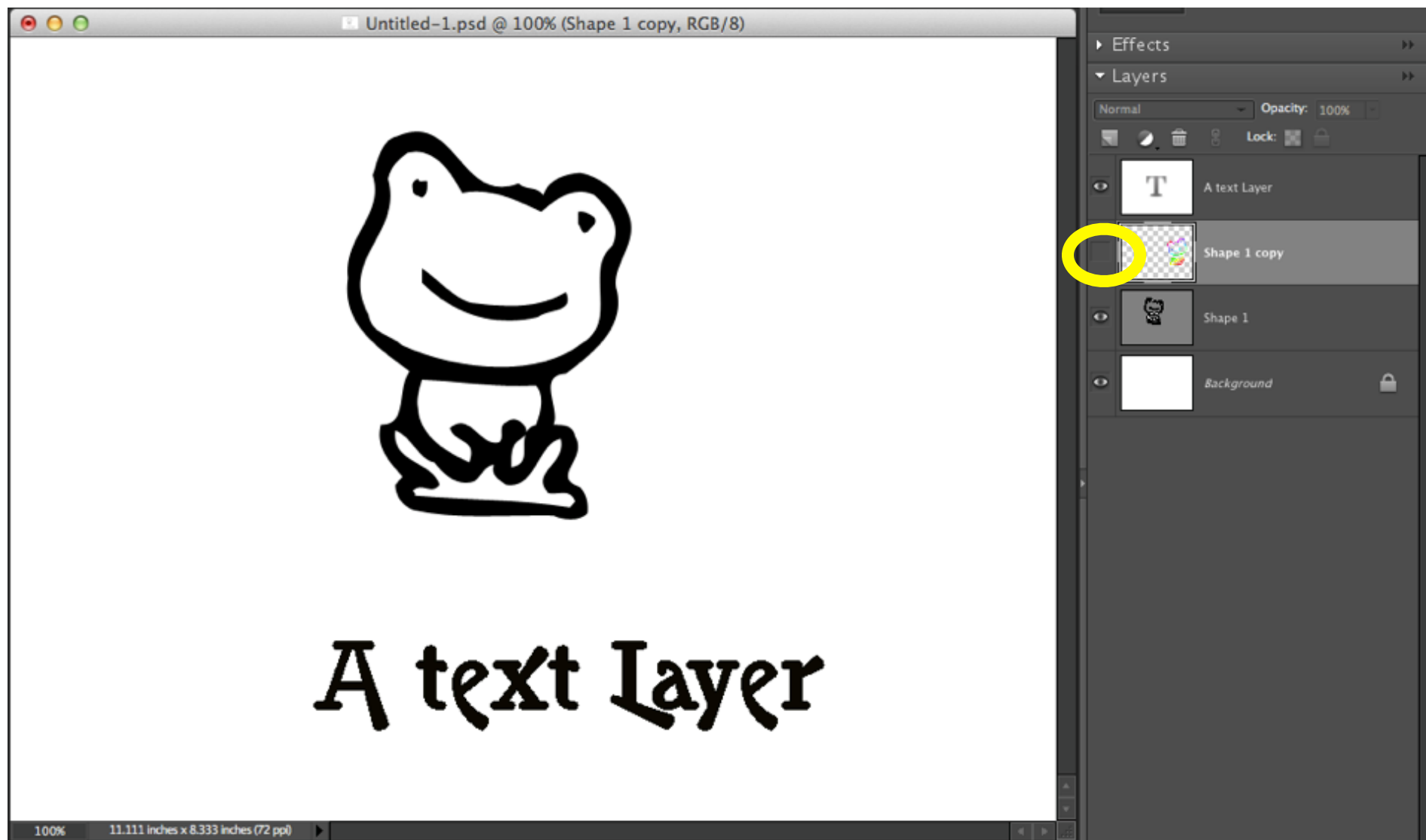


We added a gradient
but you can add color
and other layer styles



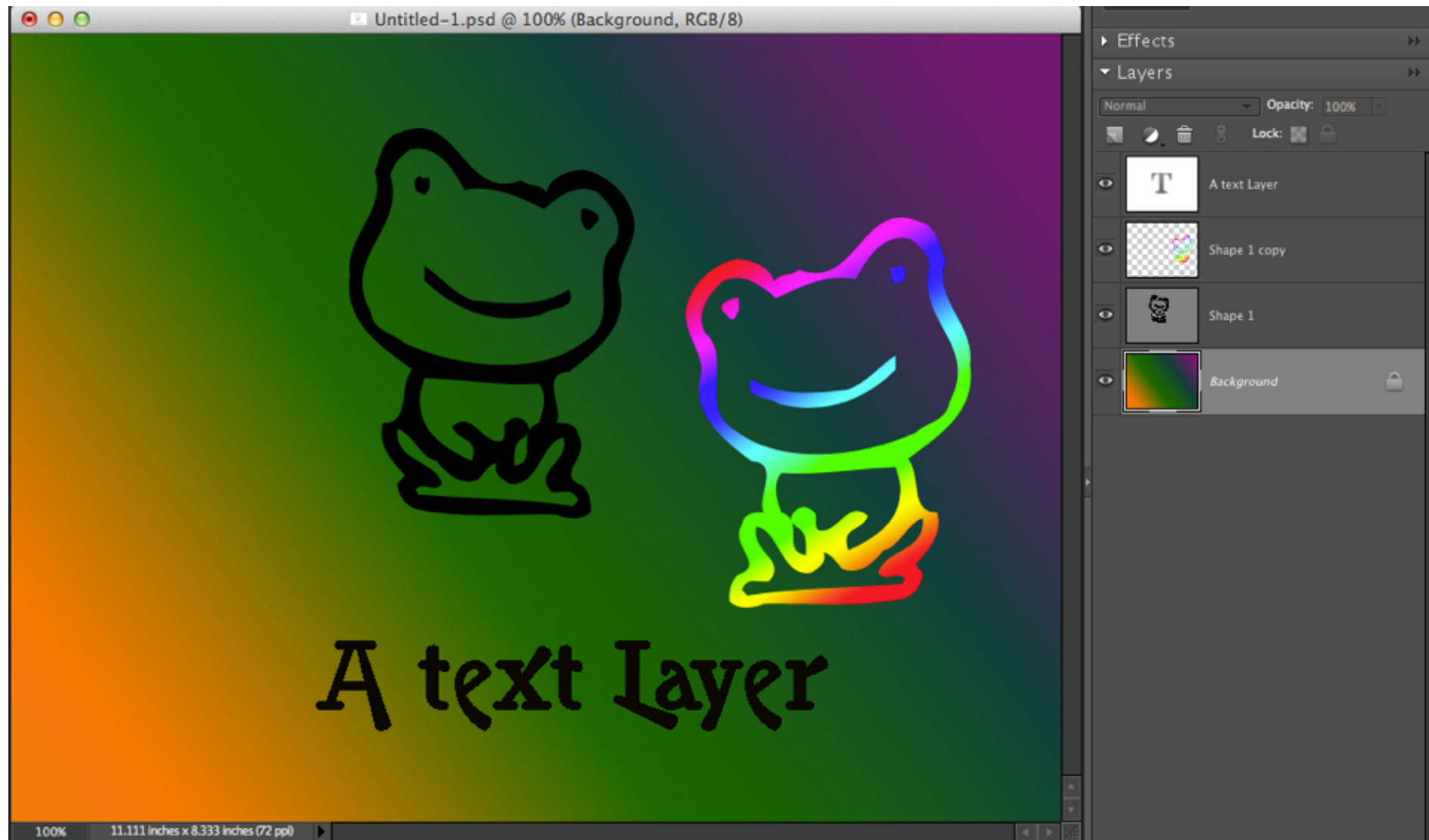


Turning off the eye icon removes the layer from the display but not from the Layer Palette



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