

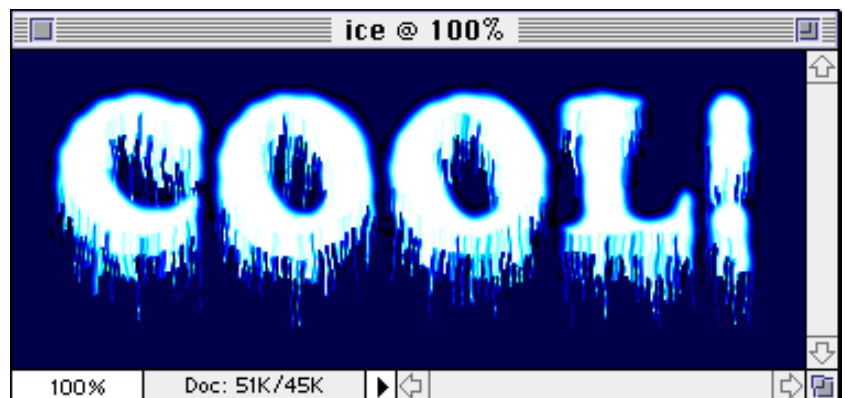
How to...

CREATE ICICLES ON OBJECTS

Using the technique described below, you will be able to easily add icicles to any object. While this is a technique that you will probably not use very often, it is a good example of how a combination of filters, along with some other techniques, can produce interesting results very easily and very quickly.

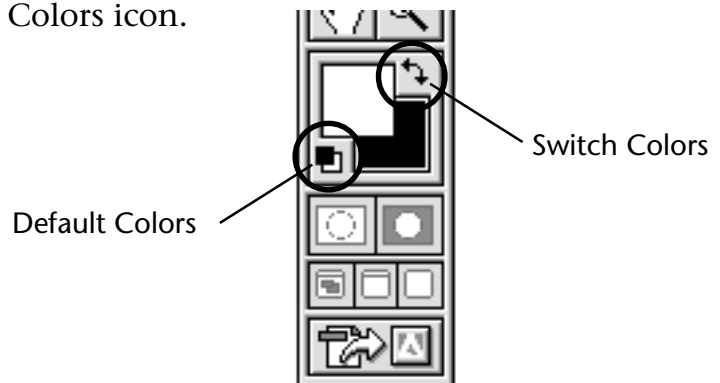
For the purposes of this paper, we have simply used text created in Photoshop. The same technique can be applied to any black and white object created in Illustrator and opened in Photoshop.

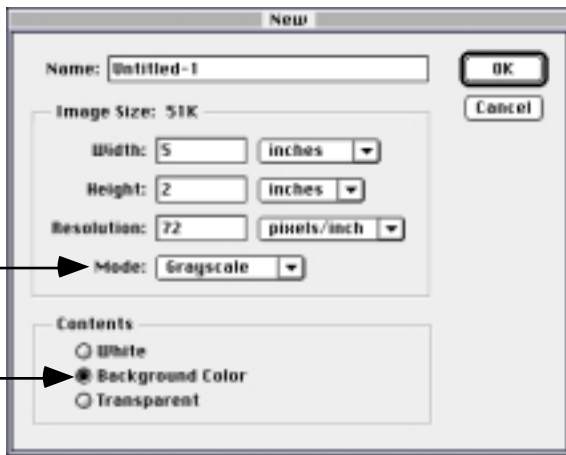
The final result looks much better in color, but even a black and white version should give the viewer an idea of what icy text looks like.



STEP 1: Preliminaries

A: Before creating a new document, set the foreground color to white and the background color to black. The easiest way to accomplish this is to first click on the Default Colors icon and then on the Switch Colors icon.





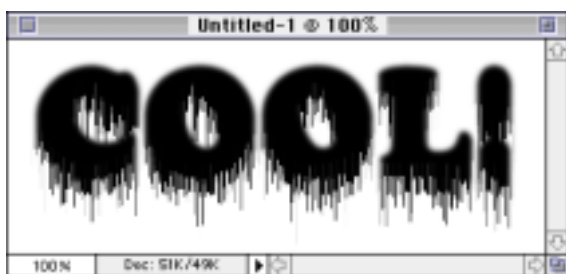
Step 1B



Step 1F



Step 2B



Step 2D

STEP 1: Preliminaries, *continued*

- B: Pull down the File menu to New (Command-N) to create a new document. In the dialog box that follows, enter a width, height, and resolution (we used 5 inches, 2 inches, and 72 pixels/inch, respectively). Set the Mode to Grayscale and the Contents to Background Color (which should be black). Click OK.
- C: Click on the Text tool, and then click in the middle of the drawing. In the dialog box that follows, enter your text. Use a large size font (72 points or larger), set the Alignment to Center, and make sure Anti-aliased is checked. Click OK.
- D: Since the icicles are going to project from the bottom of the text, use the Move tool to drag the text above the middle of the window.
- E: Pull down the Layers palette pulldown menu to Merge Down, so that you have only one layer.
- F: Pull down the Filter menu to Blur and select Gaussian Blur from the Blur submenu. In the dialog box that follows, enter 1.5 pixels. Click OK.

Step 2: Creating the Icicles

- A: Pull down the Image menu to Rotate Canvas and select 90° CCW from the Rotate submenu.
- B: Pull down the Filter menu to Stylize and select Wind from the Stylize submenu. In the dialog box that follows, set the Method to Blast and the Direction to From the Right. Click OK.
- C: Now that we have applied the Wind Filter, we can rotate the image back to its original orientation. Pull down the Image menu to Rotate Canvas and select 90° CW from the Rotate submenu. (The reason for the two rotations is that the Wind filter works only horizontally.)
- D: Pull down the Image menu to Adjust and select Invert from the Adjust submenu (Command-I).



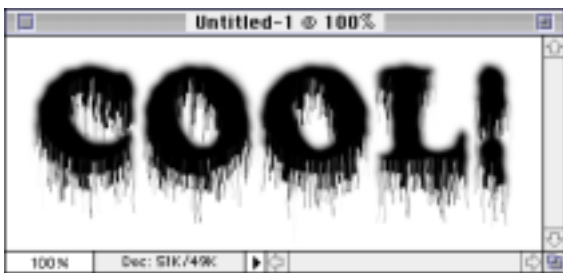
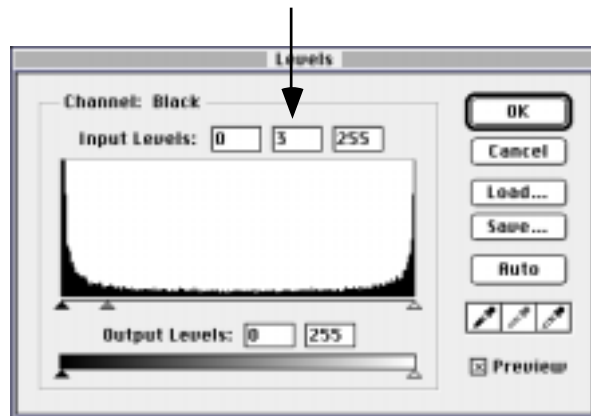
In order to make the wind streaks look more like icicles, we now need to apply an additional filter, then adjust the Levels, and finally add color.

Step 2: Creating the Icicles, *continued*

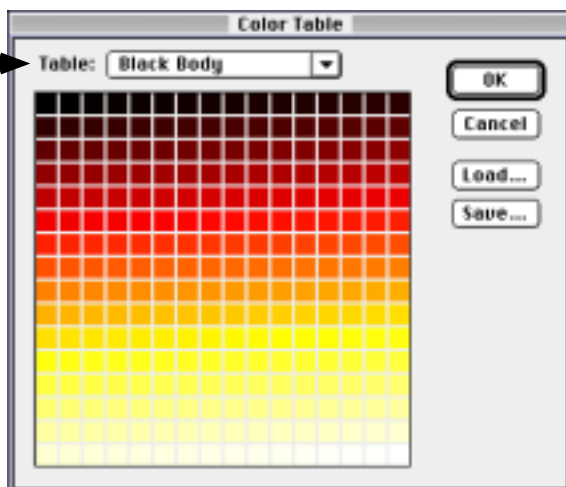
- E: Pull down the Filter menu to Distort and select Ripple from the Distort submenu. In the dialog box that follows, enter 20 for the Amount and click on Large for the size. Click OK.



- F: Pull down the Image menu to Adjust and select Levels. In the dialog box that follows, change the setting in the middle Input Levels box to 3. Click OK.



Step 2F



Step 3A

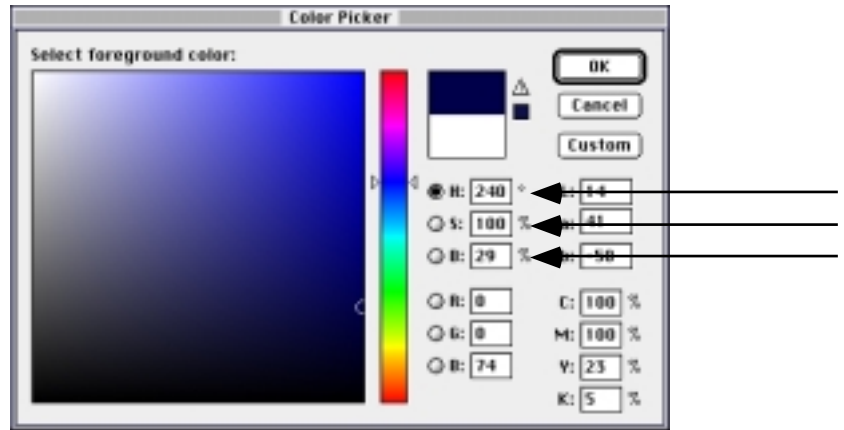
STEP 3: Adding Color

- A: Pull down the Mode menu to Indexed Color.
B: Pull down the Mode menu again to Color Table. In the dialog box that follows, use the Table pop-up menu to select Black Body. Click OK.
C: Pull down the Mode menu again to RGB Color.
D: Pull down the Image menu to Adjust and choose Invert from the Adjust submenu.

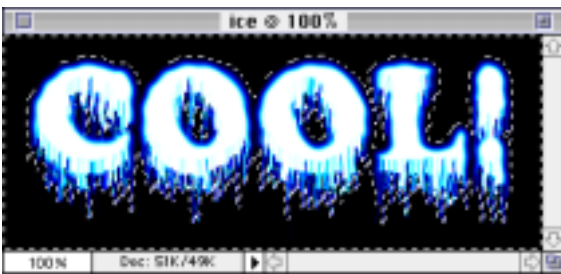
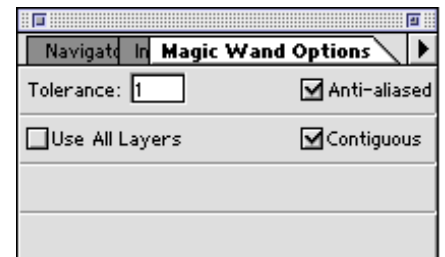
STEP 4: Finishing Touches

As it is right now, the picture is too harsh because of the black background. We will change it to a dark blue instead.

- A: Click on the Foreground Color icon in the Toolbox. In the Color Picker that follows, choose a dark blue color. We used the HSB boxes to enter H: 240, S: 100, and B: 29, since this color matches the darkest blue in the icicles (we used the Eyedropper tool to determine this). Click OK.

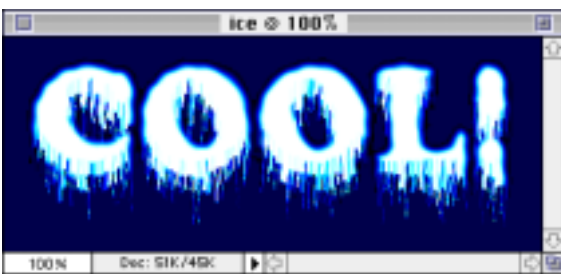


- B: Double click on the Magic Wand in the Toolbox to bring up the Magic Wand Options palette. Enter a value of 1 for the Tolerance and make sure Anti-aliased is checked.



Step 4D

- C: Move the cursor into the drawing and click anywhere in the black background.
- D: Pull down the Select menu to Similar. This will also select any black inside letters with “holes.”
- E: Hold down the Option key on the keyboard, and press the Delete key on the keyboard. The black areas should be filled with the dark blue you chose in Step 4A (holding down the Option key while deleting fills the selection with the Foreground color instead of the Background color, which is what happens when you press the delete key alone).
- F: Choose Deselect from the Select menu (Command-D) and enjoy the result.



Step 4F