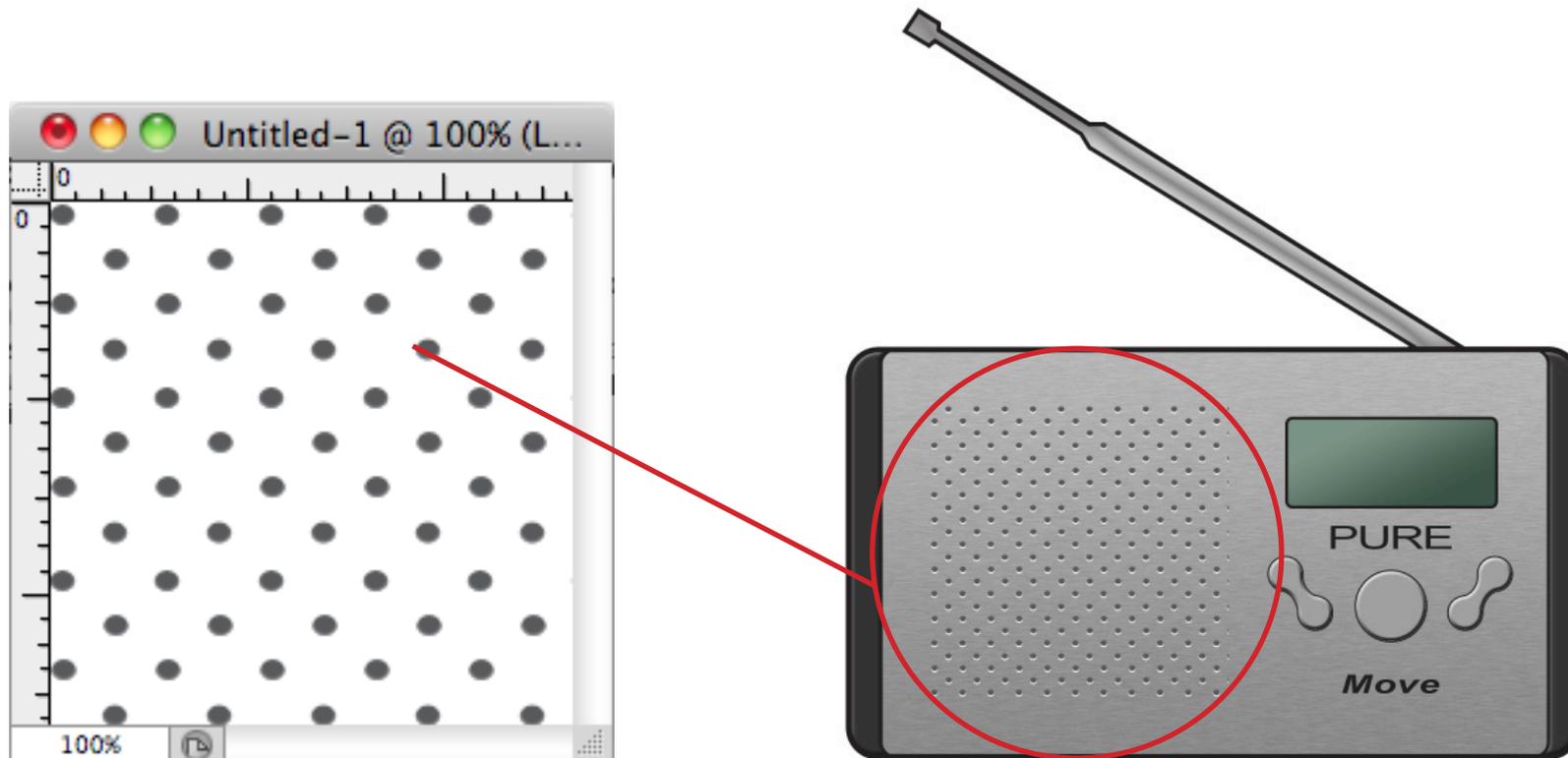
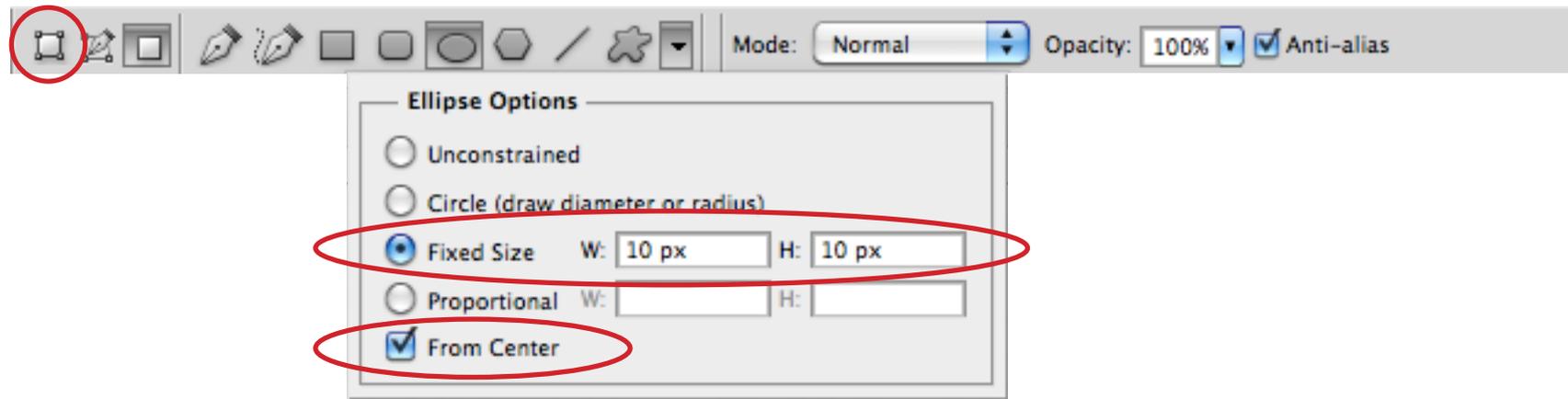


Creating Your Own Custom Pattern in Photoshop

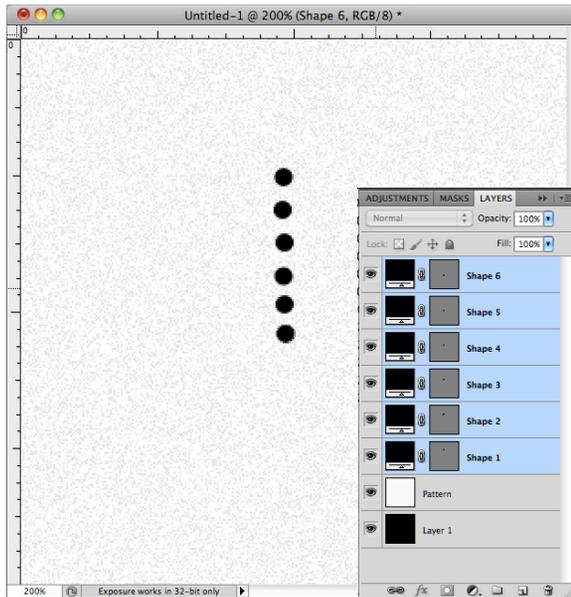
There are many ways to create material textures in Photoshop. This tutorial discusses how to create your own custom pattern in Photoshop so that you can easily apply your own textures to different products. Creating your own custom pattern gives you the flexibility to make patterns and textures look how you want them to. In addition, it allows you to reuse the pattern in the future, thus can save time from doing a texture over and over manually.



Creating Your Own Custom Pattern in Photoshop



You can start with an empty layer. Do not worry about the background color. As it does not matter if you have one because a shape layer will create a new layer. With the Ellipse Tool (U), create six very small circles. I find the best way to do this is by creating a preset fixed size (e.g. 10 x10 px) and making sure its created from the center.



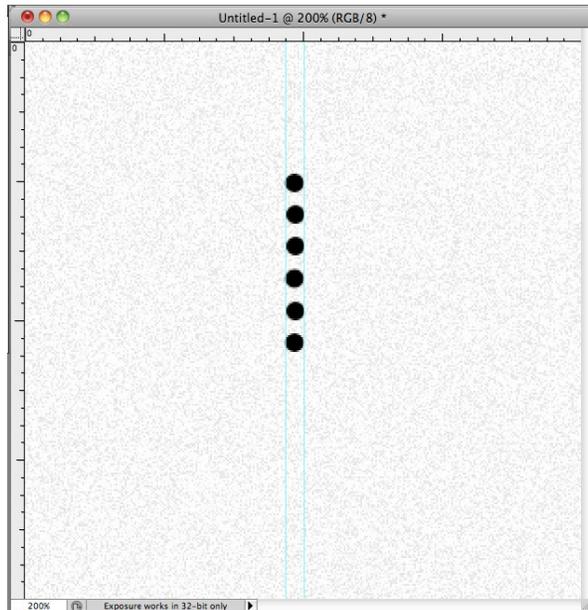
I created the circles vertically stacked on top of each other. Don't worry about whether they are perfectly aligned or not.

Next, because they are shape layers, select/highlight all the layers in your layers tab.

To align them properly, click on the "Align horizontal centers" icon followed by the "Distribute vertical centers" icon. This will vertically align your circles and evenly space them.

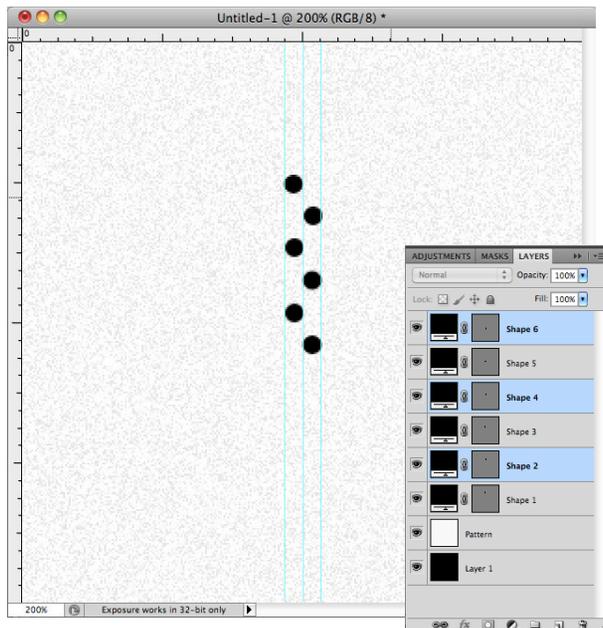


Creating Your Own Custom Pattern in Photoshop



Once your circles are aligned, we want to make sure our rulers are visible. If they are not, go to View > Rulers. Make sure Rules is checked.

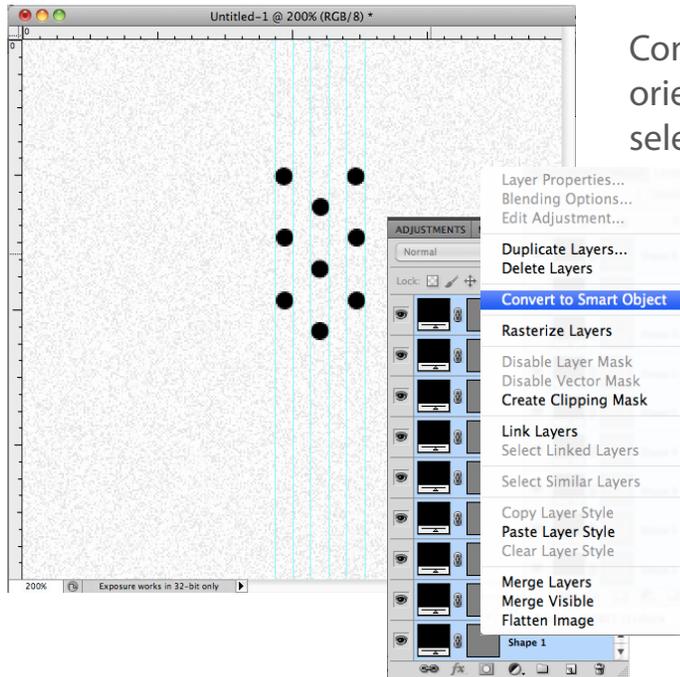
Next, we want to add guides to help make sure our next few circles are properly placed. Add guides on the left and right sides of the stacked circles. To create guides, click on the ruler, hold your left mouse button, and drag. Vertical guides come from the vertical ruler and the horizontal guides come from the horizontal ruler.



Select every other circle (if you did not rename them, they are likely Shape 2, Shape 4, and Shape 6) from the first column and move them as I did in the image below. The left side of these three circles should be touching the rightmost guide.

Once again, add guides to the right most side of the newly placed circles.

Creating Your Own Custom Pattern in Photoshop

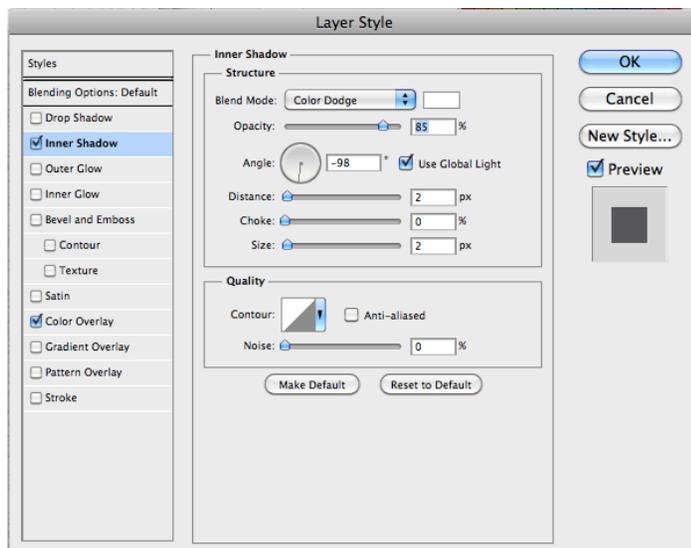


Continue to place guides and drag the circles until you have them orientated as they are on the left. (To duplicate circles, you can simply select Shapes 1, 3, and 5, right click and select “duplicate layers.”)

Next, select all the shape layers, right click, and select “Convert to Smart Object.”

If you are not using a CS2 or CS3 version of Photoshop, just go to Layer > Merge Layers.

Now double-click on the layer to open the Blending Options. First add a color overlay with either a dark grey or black (I used 80% grey).

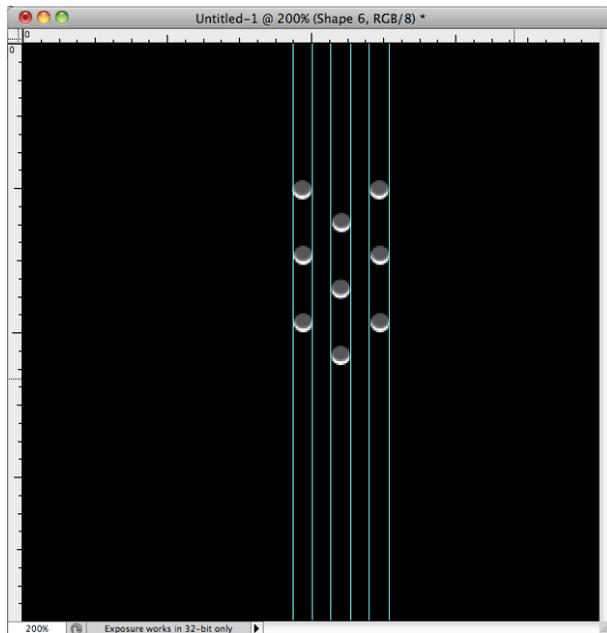


Then add an inner shadow. Make sure the blend mode is “Color Dodge” and set the opacity to about 85%. Your angle can be at about -97 degrees.

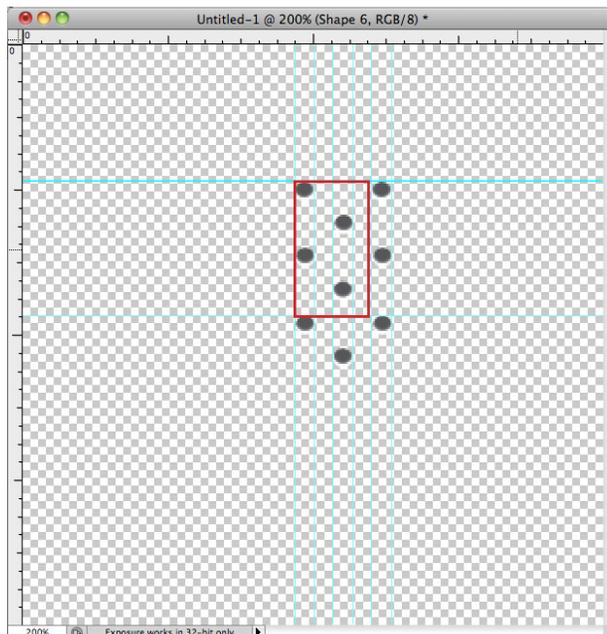
Check Global Light and set Distance and Size to 2px. Choke should be 0px.

Click OK.

Creating Your Own Custom Pattern in Photoshop



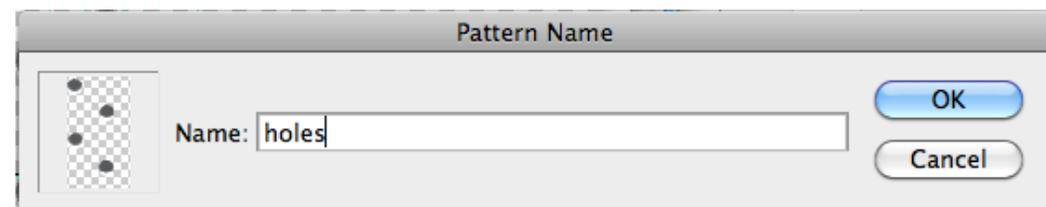
In case you can not see the effects of your Blending changes, I have converted the background to black ONLY so you can see the effects.



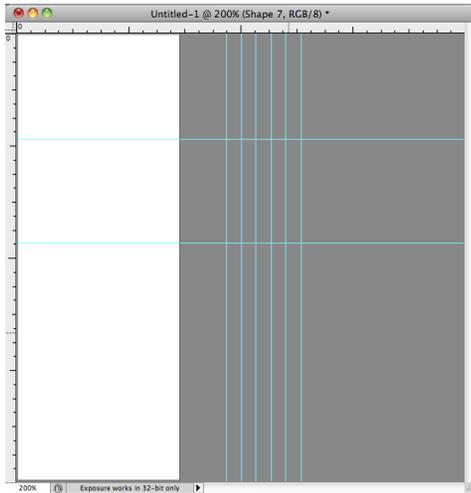
Select the red boxed area with your selection tool. This will be your pattern. Go to Edit> Define Pattern.

A box like the one below will pop up. You can name it holes.

Click OK.



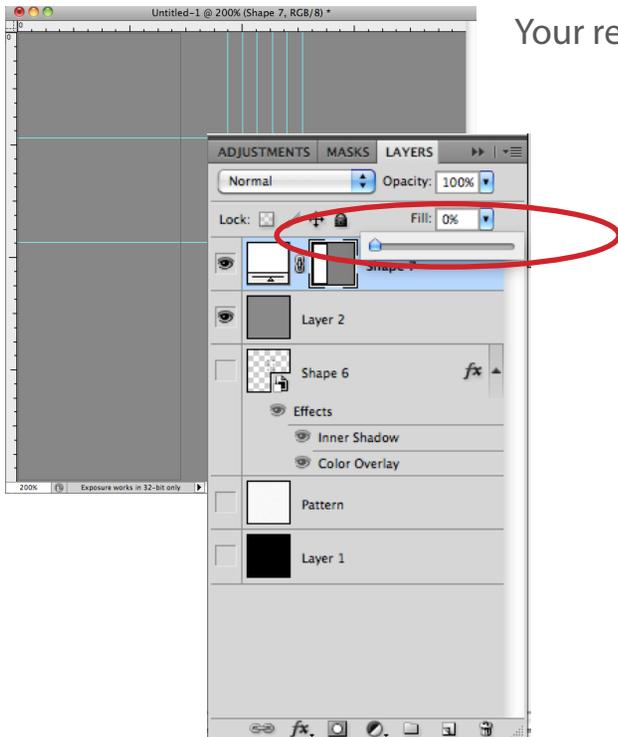
Creating Your Own Custom Pattern in Photoshop



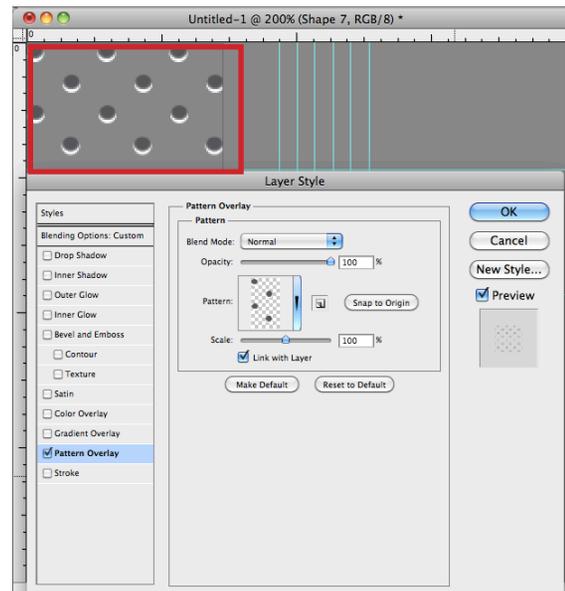
To show you the results of our made pattern, I hid the circles shape layer. I added a grey background fill. Then, I created a box with the rectangle tool.

To remove a color from your box (like the white one I have), go to the shape layer and change the Fill to 0%.

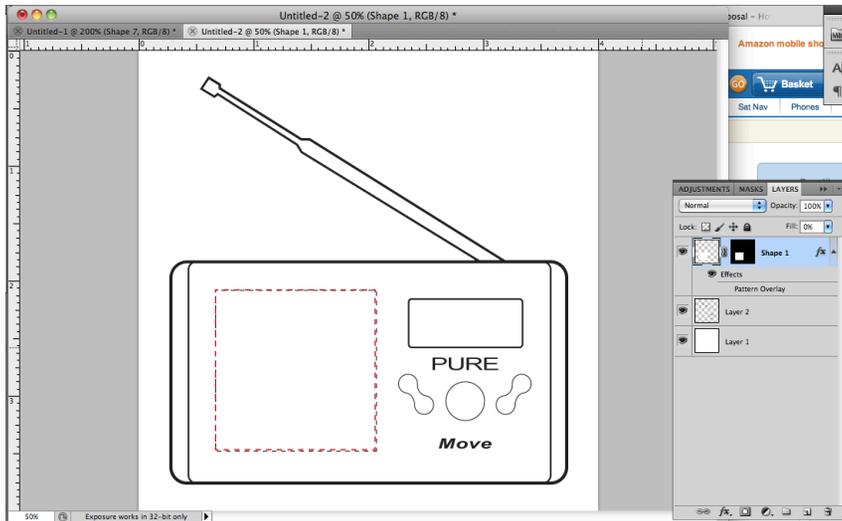
Now, double-click on the rectangle shape layer to bring up Blending Options and turn on your Pattern Layer. Next, change your pattern to "holes."



Your rectangle should now be filled with your new pattern.



Creating Your Own Custom Pattern in Photoshop



In the case you have a product, you can select the area in which you would like the perforation to occur and mask the layer.

Then, go to your Blending Options as before and apply the pattern overlay.

And now you are able to apply your custom-made pattern to different products!

