

## Gradient text trick by Cindy O'Hora

Use the gradient feature to make interesting text in paint. Here's how:

1. Open a new paint document
2. First - the text - using A tool. Choose the font, style, and size you desire **BEFORE** typing the text. Click on the page and enter the text. As long as the gray text frame outline is visible you can make changes to the text by highlighting it. Once you click away from the frame, you **cannot** make changes to the text. You must reenter the text in a new frame.
3. Click on the rectangle draw tool. Use the paint can gradient palette to select the desired gradient.



4. Drag on the document to create a rectangle slightly larger than the text you typed.
5. Click on the dotted rectangle selection tool.

Hold down the command key ⌘ as you drag across the text to select it. You'll see the "marching ants" are tight around the text. (You can also use the lasso tool to select the text.)

**Gradient text trick**

6. With the text selected GO Edit ... Duplicate. (⌘...d)



7. Move the cursor over a letter of the text until it changes to an arrow. Hold down the mouse button and drag the text down over the gradient filled rectangle. **DO NOT CLICK!**



8. **Go Transform ... Pick Up. Do Not Click!**

9. Use the cursor to drag the text away from the gradient rectangle. Wonder of wonders the text is filled with the colors!

**Gradient**

## What about the white "hollow" areas in letters like a, d and e?

Magic wand to the rescue! The magic wand tool selects all of a single, continuous color in an area of the image.

1. Click on the magic wand tool. 
2. Enlarge your view. (Click the larger mountains at the window's bottom left corner.) 
3. Click on the white spot in the letter e in the original black and white text. You'll see it is selected.
4. The cursor will change to the arrow tool. Drag the selected white area to the gradient letters and position it appropriately.
5. Repeat this process "fixing" each letter.

Check out the finished product in the title of this tutorial page.

Once you have touched up the text select and copy it. Use either the lasso tool or the dashed rectangle to select the graphic.

Paste it where ever you desire.

You could use it as a title on a web page.

You could add it to a slide show.

You can enhance the text of a Hyperstudio project

You could really jazz up your newsletter titles.

How about on the program cover of a special event?

You could even use it to make a clever T Shirt iron-on.

You can save it in your Scrapbook Utility under AppleMenu

You can tuck it for safe keeping, in your AppleWorks images files

The possibilities seem endless.

## Alternatives:

You can also use this technique with photos or web page background gifs.

Begin by inserting or pasting the photo jpg or image gif into a paint document.

Check out this text I "picked up" over a photo of a field of flowers. **Cindy O'Hora**  
Pretty spiffy, don't you agree?

"From the beginning of time nothing was accomplished without women and nothing has been ignored more than their accomplishments." ~Captain Barbara A. Wilson, USAF (Ret)

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