

## Creating Shadowy text in the Paint by Cindy O'Hora

We will use the Lighter and Shear features to create an interesting text effect. Be sure to save frequently when using Paint. I suggest you only have AppleWorks on to optimize memory allocation. If you are working with larger text you should increase the memory for AppleWorks. (Use the File ... Get info window to do that.)

Open a new Paint document.

1. Click on the text tool. (the letter a) Make your settings for the text. Select the font, style, and size before typing the text on the document. I'm using the freeware font Headhunter in bold style at 36pt. (Once you click away and deactivate the text frame you cannot make changes to the text. You will have to retype the text if you find a misspelling or desire a change of style.)

2. Select the text - Click on the dotted rectangle tool.

Hold down the command key ⌘ and drag across the text. The "marching ants" should be adhering to each letter like a cookie cutter. Go Edit ...Copy (⌘...c).

**DON'T** click anywhere! [More selecting tips.](#)



3. With the text still selected go **Transform ...Lighter**. Repeat this 5 or six times. The text will lighten to a gray. **DON'T** click! (You can lighten colored text, too.)

4. **Go Transform ... Shear**. Place the cursor on the lower right hand hollow square handle. Drag straight to the right until the inside edge of the handle you are using passes the outside edge of the upper right handle. This is a small movement to the right.



5. Click one time in a blank area to cancel shearing. The hollow handles should vanish.

6. Go Edit ...Paste. (⌘...v) You now have a copy of the original dark, unsheared text on the document. The marching ants should have the darker text selected. **DON'T** click!

7. Use the cursor to drag the dark text over the lighter, sheared text. Line up the bottoms of the letters. Now you can click.



8. [Select the text](#) and move it to another document. (Card, newsletter, poster)

If you drag the handle down as well as to the right in Shear, you'll lengthen the text proportionally. You might try this for a more dramatic effect.

**BONE BRIEFS**

There's no bones about it. Paint lets you create some cool text effects. I just HAD to write that! There is also a way to [make shadow text in Draw](#).

PLEASE: Don't email asking for me to send you the Headhunter font or asking where you can get it. Use a web search engine to find it yourself.

Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things  
brought together. ~Vincent Van Gogh

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