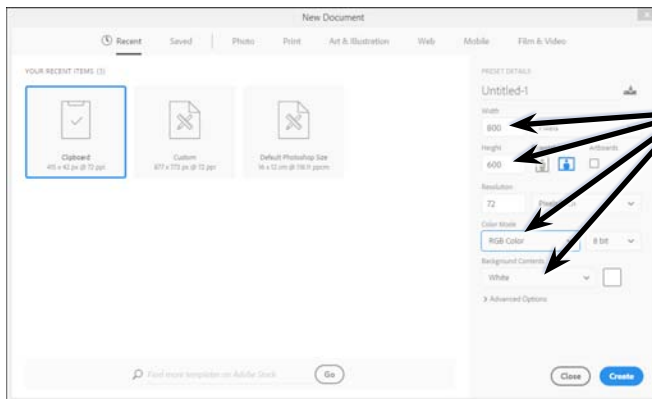# Drawing Shapes

Photoshop provides a range of shapes that can be used with photos or in the creation of your own designs. These tools allow you to create web page buttons, borders for photos, company logos, artistic designs and so on.

Starting a Blank Document

   1   Load Photoshop or close the current file.

   2   Click on the NEW button in the WELCOME screen or select NEW from the FILE menu.

3 Set the WIDTH to 800 pixels, the HEIGHT to 600 pixels, the COLOUR MODE to RGB COLOUR and the BACKGROUND CONTENTS to WHITE.
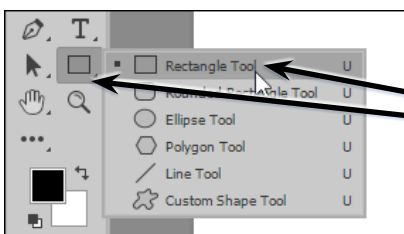
   4   Select CREATE to start the document and set the view to FIT ON SCREEN.
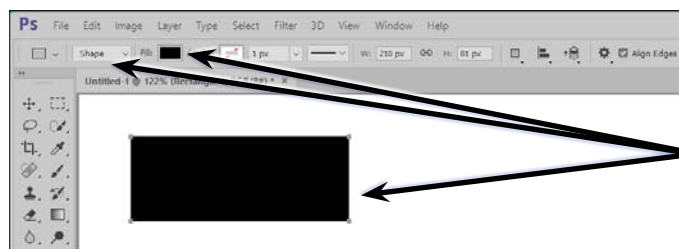
Drawing Normal Shapes

Photoshop provides the normal drawing shapes such as rectangles, ellipses, polygons and lines.

A   Drawing Rectangles

   1   The SHAPES TOOL is at the lower section of the TOOLS panel. It may contain a rectangle, ellipse, line or custom shape depending on which tool was used last.
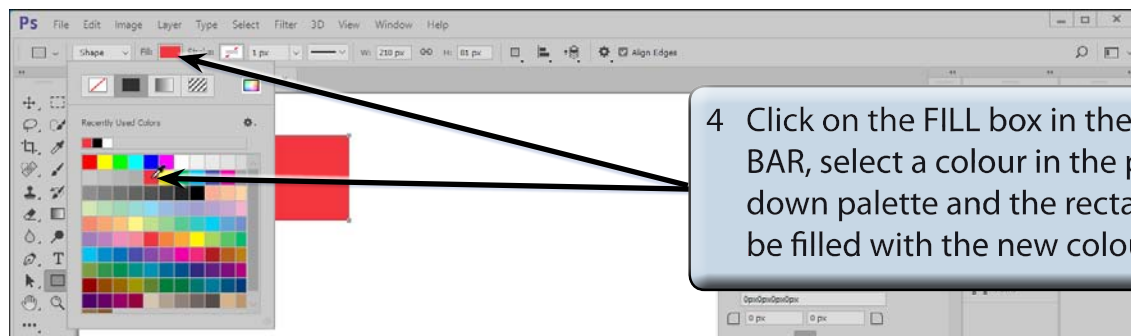

2 Click and hold the mouse button on the SHAPES TOOL in the TOOLS panel and select the RECTANGLE TOOL from the pop-up list of tools.
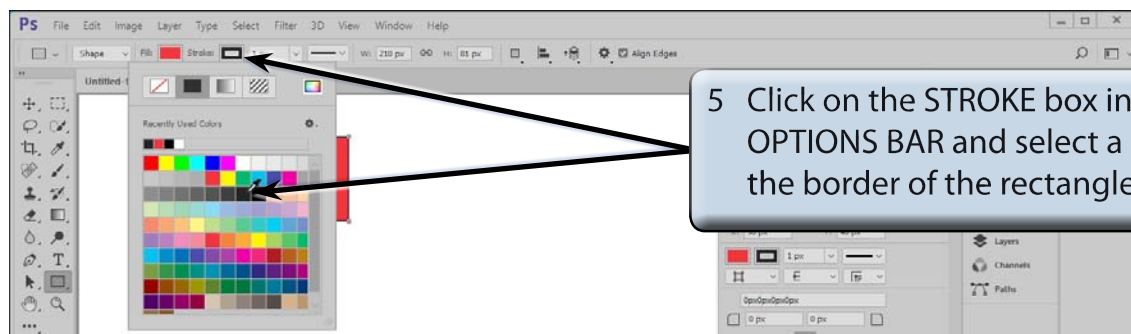
3 In the OPTIONS BAR check that the PICK TOOL MODE box is set to SHAPE, drag a rectangle on the canvas and it will be filled with the FILL colour displayed in the OPTIONS BAR and have a border colour displayed in the STROKE box.

NOTE: When the PICK TOOL MODE box is set to SHAPE a new layer is created each time a shape is drawn. PATH is selected when you want an unfilled outline of the shape and PIXELS allows you to draw over a shape.
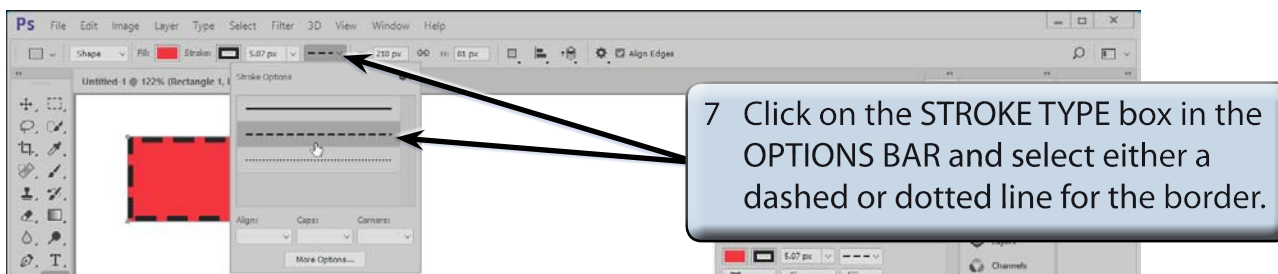

4 Click on the FILL box in the OPTIONS BAR, select a colour in the pop-down palette and the rectangle will be filled with the new colour.

NOTE: There are GRADIENT, PATTERN and COLOUR PICKER boxes at the top of the FILL palette that can be used to apply different types of fills. The NO COLOUR box at the top left removes the fill and makes the shape transparent.

5 Click on the STROKE box in the OPTIONS BAR and select a colour for the border of the rectangle.
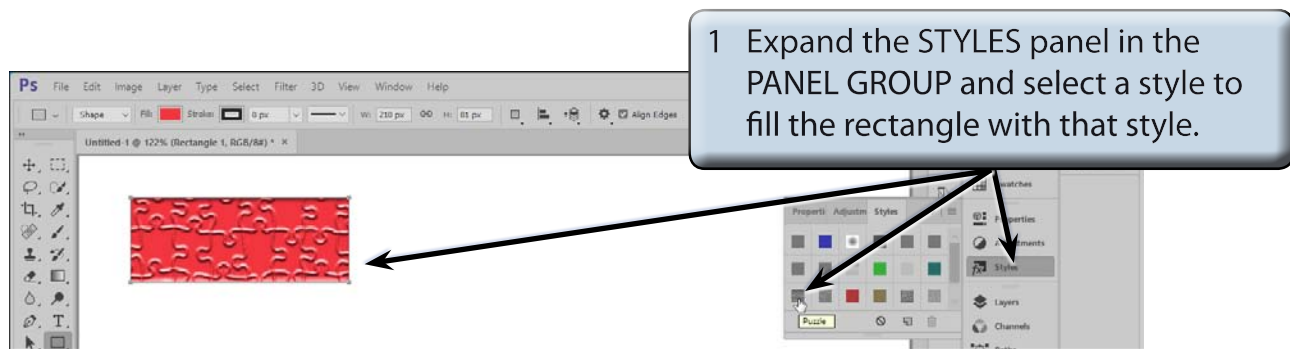
6 Click on the STROKE WIDTH box arrow in the OPTIONS BAR and increase the stroke width to see the border more clearly.

7 Click on the STROKE TYPE box in the OPTIONS BAR and select either a dashed or dotted line for the border.

NOTE: i   There are more options at the base of the STROKE TYPE palette that allow you to control the border appearance.

ii   The W and H boxes in the OPTIONS BAR allow you to accurately set the dimensions of the shape.

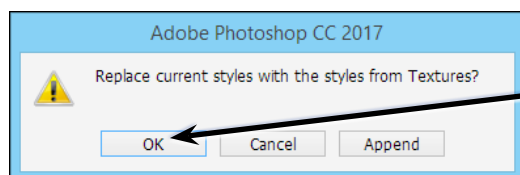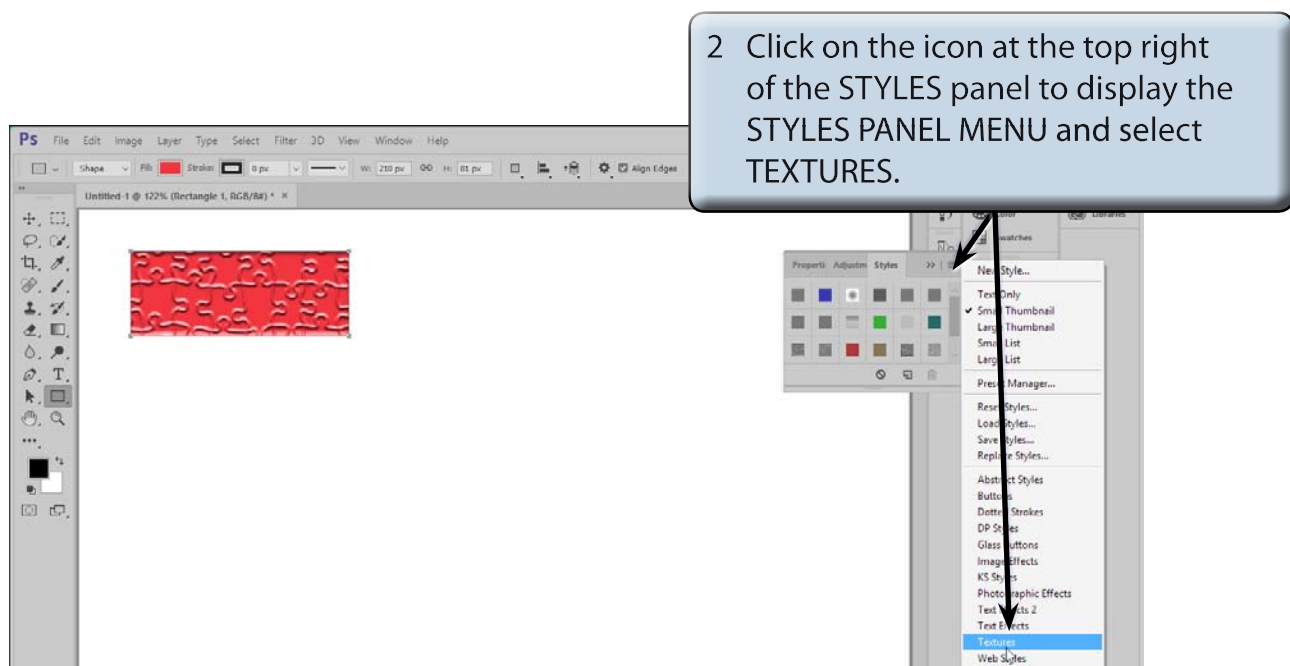iii The PROPERTIES panel can also be used to adjust the rectangle's appearance.

8 In the PROPERTIES panel set the STROKE TYPE to SOLID and the STROKE WIDTH to 0 so that there is no border around the shape.

B Rectangle Styles

There are numerous styles that can be applied to a shape.

> 1 Expand the STYLES panel in the PANEL GROUP and select a style to fill the rectangle with that style.

> **NOTE:** If the STYLES panel is not in the PANEL GROUP, select STYLES from the WINDOW menu to add it to the PANEL GROUP.

> 2 Click on the icon at the top right of the STYLES panel to display the STYLES PANEL MENU and select TEXTURES.

> 3 Select OK to replace the current styles with the TEXTURES styles.