

Using Blurs in Animations

Blur effects can be used in animations to highlight important parts by making those parts gradually come into focus. To illustrate this a short animation advertising a car will be created.

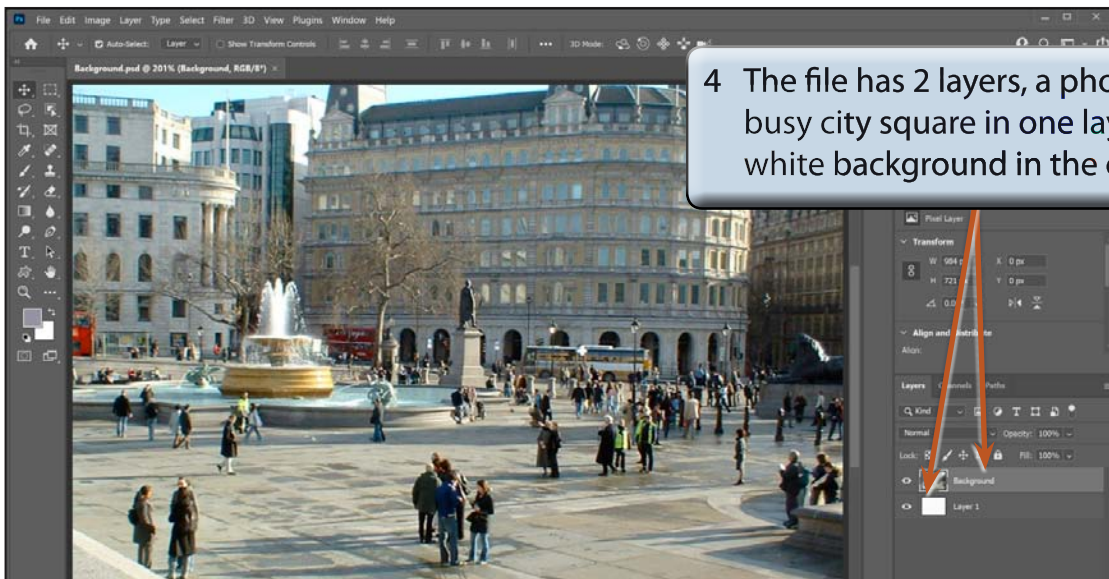
Creating the Layers

The first step in creating an animation in Photoshop is to set up the required layers.

A Loading the Background Layer

The background will be a photo of a busy city square.

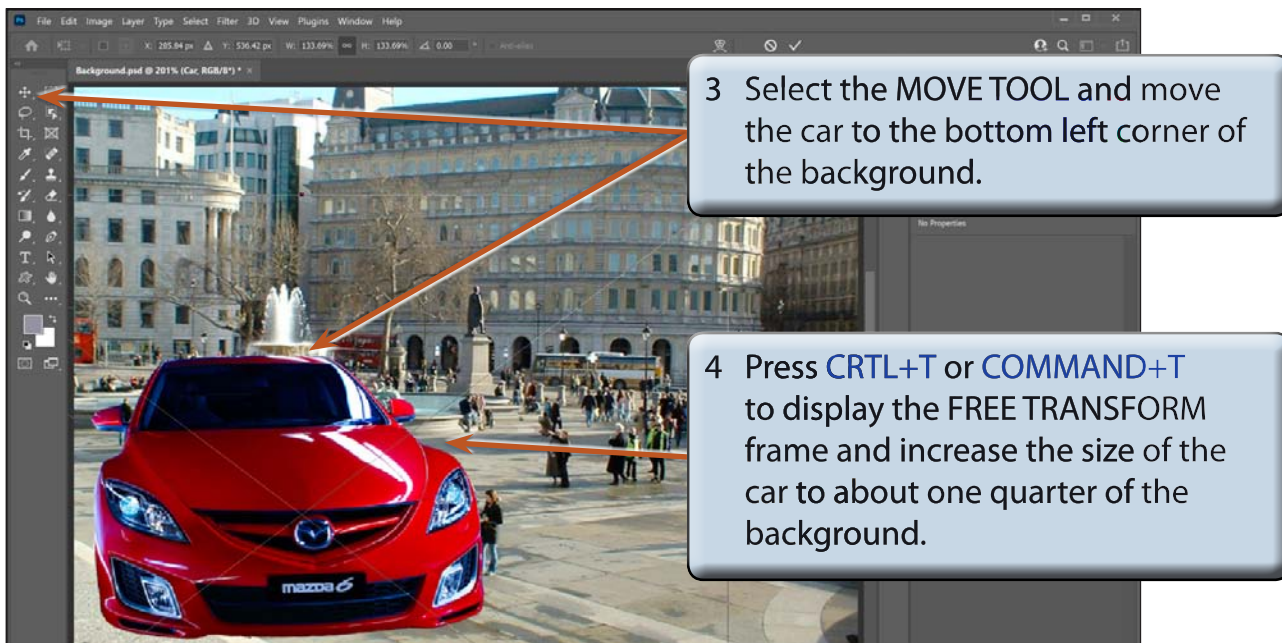
- 1 Load Photoshop or close the current files and select OPEN from the WELCOME screen or FILE menu.
- 2 Access the PScC SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 34 folder and OPEN the BACKGROUND file.
- 3 Set the view to FIT ON SCREEN.



B Adding the Car Layer

A photo of a car has been prepared for you and it needs to be added to the BACKGROUND file.

- 1 Display the FILE menu and select PLACE EMBEDDED.
- 2 Access the CHAPTER 34 folder of the PScC SUPPORT FILES, select the CAR file and click on PLACE.

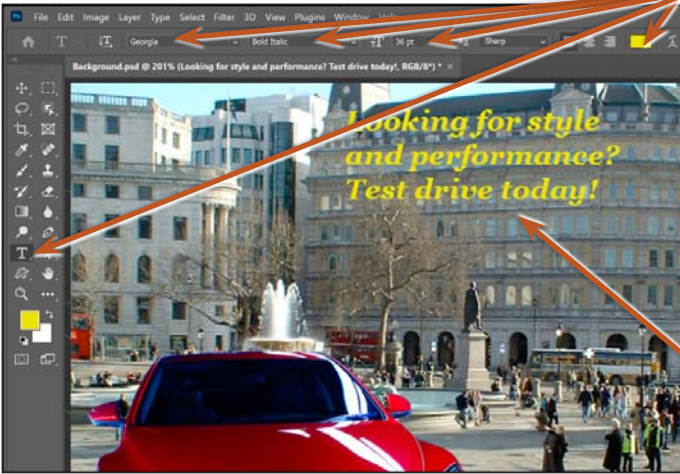


- 5 Press <enter> or <return> to accept the transformation.

NOTE: PLACE EMBEDDED places the image in the file and increases the file size. PLACE LINKED can be used to simply link the file to a saved image. This can reduce the file size, but if the saved image is moved or deleted, it will not show in the file. Also, if you want to share the file with someone else the saved image would also need to be provided. PLACED EMBEDDED is safer if the files are relatively small in size.

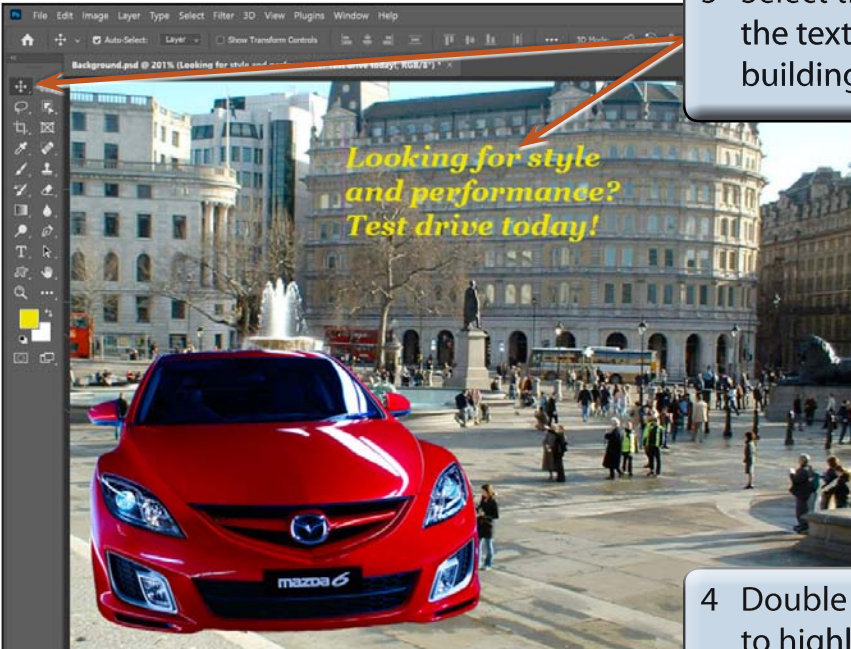
C Adding the Text Layer

Some text will be added at the top of the background.



1 Select the HORIZONTAL TYPE TOOL and, in the OPTIONS BAR, set the FONT to a serif font such as GEORGIA or CAMBRIA, the STYLE to BOLD ITALIC, the SIZE to 36 pt and the TEXT COLOUR to YELLOW.

2 Click at the top left of the centre building and enter:
 Looking for style <enter>
 and performance? <enter>
 Test drive today!



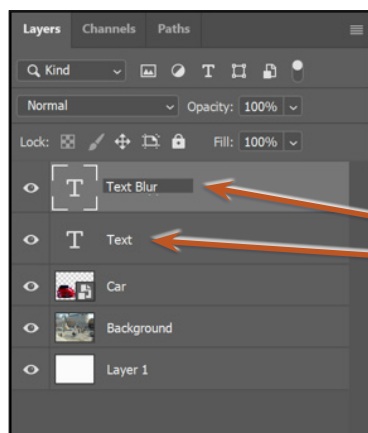
3 Select the MOVE TOOL and move the text to the centre of the main building.

4 Double click on the text layer label to highlight it and rename it:
 Text

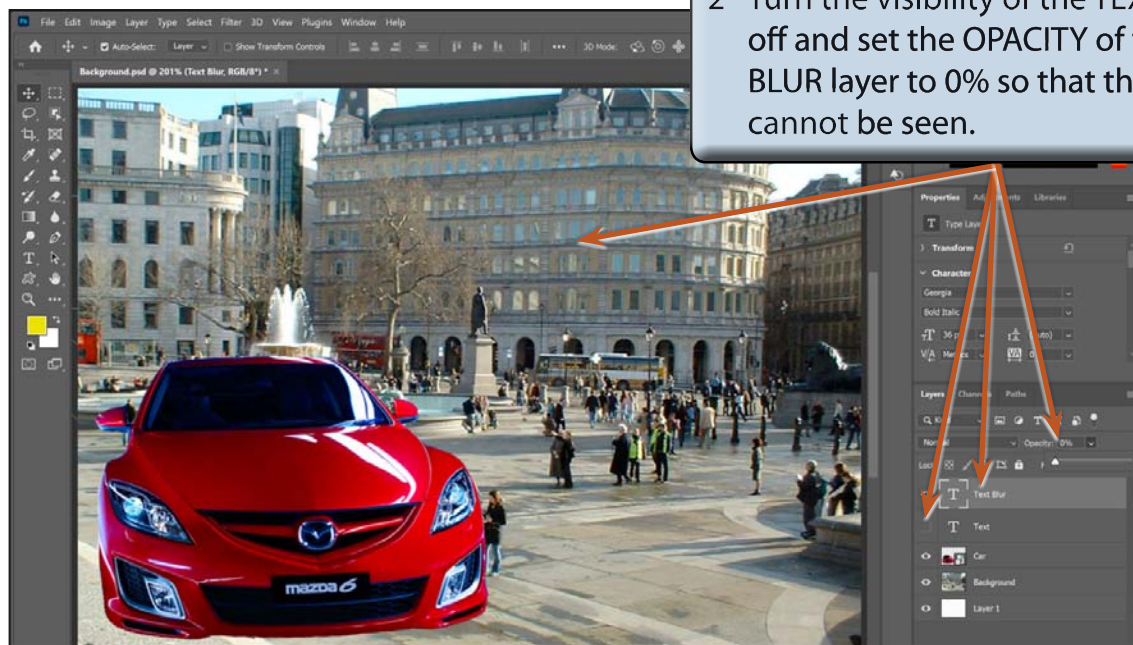
Creating the Blur Layers

Each layer will be duplicated and its copy blurred or its opacity reduced.

A Blurring the Text



1 With the TEXT layer selected, press **CTRL+J** or **COMMAND+J** to duplicate the layer and rename the duplicate layer:
Text Blur



2 Turn the visibility of the TEXT layer off and set the **OPACITY** of the TEXT BLUR layer to 0% so that the text cannot be seen.

NOTE: Setting the **OPACITY** of the **TEXT BLUR** layer to 0% will mean that it can be set to gradually display at full opacity (100%). The **TEXT BLUR** layer will then be replaced by the **TEXT** layer in the animation.