

SOLAR MODEL CAR BODY SHELL DESIGN INSTRUCTIONS

USING PHOTOSHOP/ELEMENTS

1. Open Adobe Photoshop in the Start menu, or from the desktop.
2. Open the File Menu and choose Open.
3. Find the folder where you downloaded the files 2Q_bodyshell_top_template.pdf & 2Q_bodyshell_base_template.pdf.
4. Select 2Q_bodyshell_top_template.pdf and click open. A dialogue box will open; click OK without changing any options.
5. Now follow the same procedure of steps 2 – 4 to open 2Q_bodyshell_base_template.pdf.
6. You will now have two windows open. You can move between the two with the Window menu.

FINDING OUT ABOUT LAYERS

1. Left click on 2Q_bodyshell_base_template.pdf window. This window is now active for working. Newxbaseevo.psd is made up of six layers. Layers are like having a number of windows sitting on top of each other or floors in a block of flats. Each layer allows you to work freely in a chosen layer without altering any of the layers above and below it. You can only work in one layer at a time. That layer must be selected first for use, by left mouse button clicking on that layer in the Layers window selection box.

SPECIAL NOTE

Do not work in grey areas of the cars body.

There are many tools that can be used in Adobe Photoshop Elements Tools bar, but we would like to keep this workshop simple by just using a few set tools. (If you are familiar with Adobe Photoshop then feel free to work as you like to make your car's body look great.)

HOW TO WORK WITH THE TOOLS

Background and Foreground colour boxes.

The colours that we will use are chosen from either of the two boxes near the bottom of the tools selection window. The first window represents the foreground colour and the second window represents the background colour. Left mouse click in either colour box will make that colour active. That colour becomes the colour for all the tools that users colours in your window. Left mouse button click in either colour box brings up the Colour Picker window. Here you will see a big colour box, a colour bar and a small colour box. The little box is your current selected colour. The colour that all your tools are going to use. The colour bar is your pallet to choose colour from. The large colour box is a single colour with all its shades to white and all its shades to black. Your cursor has changed to a circle so you can see what colour it is over. Left mouse button click to choose the colour you're over than click OK to select that colour. Now this is the new colour your tools will be using.

Brush Size window.

The Brush size window is where you choose different brushes of various sizes. The brush sizes start from very small sizes for fine detail work, to big sizes for large area coverage. Choose the different brush sizes by left mouse button click on the brush size you want to use in the Brush Size window. When that choice is made all the tools that user's brush sizes as bases of how detailed or the coverage that tool will use as you work, are now updated to your new brush size choices.

Rectangular Marquee and Elliptical Marquee Tool.

Select the Rectangular Marquee Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. To select the Elliptical Marquee Tool, hold down the left mouse button until you see a popup window with more icons of that type to choose from. Go to the second icon from the left and choose Elliptical Marquee Tool. Your curser is now a plus sign. Select your window and layer. Hold down the left mouse button and drag your curser around your window. You will see a rubber band animated dotted rectangular marquee. Moving your curser around makes rectangular marquee bigger or smaller. You can also see the shapes become more boxes like or more rectangular. For the Elliptical Marquee the shapes become more circular or more elliptical. The rectangular and elliptical marquee shapes will stay on screen until you deselect them by opening a new marquee or going to Select, Deselect in Photoshop Elements main drop down bar. You may only have one marquee open at a time. A new marquee will cancel the old one. While the marquee is open in your selected window and layer, everything you do within that layer will only appear within your animated marquee. Everything outside of the marquee will not appear. This means that you can have nice rectangular and elliptical shapes of various sizes and shapes. Using the Move Tool and once the marquee has something in it can be drag around your window and layer to new locations.

Move Tool

Select the Move Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. This turns your curser to a black arrow with a plus sign next to it. Select your window and layer. The Move Tool is used for dragging images in that layer you are working on around your selected window. While holding down the left mouse button, move your image in any direction you want. Then depress the left mouse button leaves the image in its new location.

Lasso and Polygonal Lasso Tool.

Select the Lasso and Polygonal Lasso Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. To select the Polygonal Lasso Tool, hold down the left mouse button until you see a popup window appear with more icons of that type. Go to the second icon from the left and choose the Polygonal Lasso Tool. Your curser now looks like a lasso. The Lasso and Polygonal Lasso Tool works in the same way as the Rectangular and Elliptical Marquee Tool once the marquee is opened in your selected window and layer. The Lasso and Polygonal Tool gives you the freedom to make any shape you like. To use the Lasso Tool, hold down the left mouse button and move around your selected window and layer. You will see the shape being drawn out with a solid black line. When you are happy with your shape depress the left mouse button. Now your shape has turned into an animated marquee still keeping your shape. To use the Polygonal Lasso Tool left mouse button click in your selected window and layer (do not hold). You will see a black rubber band line between where you clicked first and your curser. Move in any direction within your window and layer and left mouse button click again. The rubber band line is now solid between your starting point and your present point. Each time you make a solid line between two points the second point always becomes the start point for your next curser movement. Repeat until you have the shape you like. The shape you create must end where you started or as close to the start point in order for the animated marquee to appear. Then use the marquee as mentioned before for the Rectangular and Elliptical Marquee Tool.

Airbrush Tool.

Select the Airbrush Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. Your curser has changed to an airbrush icon. Select a colour and brush size to work with and then go to your selected window and layer. Hold down the left mouse button and make shapes, fill areas in or just shade and highlight areas. The brush just works like a real airbrush. The bigger the brush size the more of an area will be covered as you work. Use smaller brushes for finer details.

Paintbrush Tool.

Select the Paintbrush Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. Your curser has changed to a paintbrush icon. Select a colour and brush size to work with and then go to your selected window and layer. Hold down the left mouse button and make your design. The bigger the brush size the more of an area will be covered as you work. Use smaller brushes for finer details.

Eraser Tool.

Select the Eraser Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. Your curser has change to an eraser icon. Choose brush size. Bigger the brush size the more of area will be erased and the smaller brushes the finer erased area. Used in the same way as the Airbrush and Paintbrush Tool but instead of adding colour it takes colour way. So what ever is on the layers below can now be seen in you select to layer.

Line Tool.

Select the Line Tool by going to the pencil icon and holding down the left mouse button until you see a popup window appear with more tool of that type. Go to the second icon from the left and choose the Line Tool. Your curser has change to a plus sign icon. Select a colour and brush size to work with and then go to your select window and layer. Like the Polygonal Lasso Tool left mouse click were you want to start from. You will see a rubber band appear from that point to your curser. Move to a new location and left mouse click again to make the line solid in the colour and line size you chose.

Linear Gradient Tool.

Select the Linear Gradient Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. Your curser has change to a plus sign icon. By holding down the left mouse button until you see a popup window appear with more tool of that type that gives you other styles of gradient effects. The Linear Gradient Tool works by fading from one colour to another colour. The two colours the Gradient Tool uses are the Foreground and Background colour in the Icons window. Select two colours one foreground and one background and go to your selected window and layer to work in. Works like the Line Tool. Left mouse click were you want the fade to start from. You will see a rubber band appear from that point to your curser. Move to a new location and left mouse click again were you want the fade to end. The Linear Gradient Tool will cover the full screen unless you are using a marquee tool.

Paint Bucket Tool.

Select the Paint Bucket Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. Your curser has change to a Paint Bucket icon. Select a colour then your window and layer to work in. Left mouse button click in you're your shape or outside of your shape to start the fill proses's. Paint Bucket works by filling a whole area and keeps filling until the window is totally filled with that colour you chose. When using Paint Bucket you have to make sure that the shapes you are working on have a solid lines around the edges. If your shapes do not have solid edges Paint Bucket will fill you shape your working on then the rest of the screen or vice versa. Like bucket with a whole in it.

Eye Dropper Tool.

Select the Eye Dropper Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. Your curser has change to an Eye Dropper icon. The Eye Dropper Tool is for picking colours from your window and layer you are working on. Move you curser other the colour you want to use and left mouse button press on that colour. This will select that colour and depending on where the foreground or background colour box is selected, that colour will change to the new colour you have just selected using the Eye Dropper Tool.

Zoom Tool.

Select the Zoom Tool by left mouse button click on its icon in the Tools window. Your curser has change to a magnifier icon. Select your window you're working on. Go to the area you want to zoom in to by placing the magnifier glass curser over it and left mouse button click once. That area will become bigger. Repeating the proses will zoom in again and again. To zoom out again, same as before but this time hold down the Alt key on the keyboard at the same time will allow you to zoom out. Repeating the proses will zoom out again and again.