

# Graphic Design: Photoshop

## *Getting to know the Type Tool*

### **1. Changing size/scale and placement**

- You can use the Tt: font selection on the top tool bar to change the size of your type while you have the type tool selected. If you want it to be bigger than 72 you can type in any number.
- Once you have typed your letter, you can also click off of the type tool (just select any other tool) and hit Command T while the desired layer is selected to use the free transform tool to change the size, scale, proportion, or alignment of your type.
- You cannot transform your type layer unless you click off of the type tool.
- Use the move tool to move your letter around the composition
- Use the move tool plus the Option key to make a duplicate or Copy of your letter

### **2. Selecting and Changing the Color of your Type**

- While you are on the Type tool, highlight your letter and then click the color box on the top tool bar. Select the color of choice by clicking on the color in the palette.
- You can also use the color swatches to change the color when your type is highlighted.

### **3. Warping and Altering your Type**

Go to Edit>Transform and try the variety of transform tools including:

Skew and Warp. To apply the warp transformation select a warp option in the upper left of the top tool bar.

### **4. Creating Type in Perspective**

To be able to apply the perspective and distort options in the transformation tools you need to:

- 1) Make a new layer
- 2) Place your new layer underneath the type layer you would like to apply the perspective to, by clicking and dragging the layer with your mouse.
- 3) While the Type layer (that is now above your new layer in your layers palette) is selected, go to the drop down menu and select 'Merge Down'. If you are not on the correct layer, merge down will not be available to select.

### **5. Using the Type Character Box to change spacing in between letters**

When you have multiple letters, or a word on one type layer you can use the character box to change the spacing between letters, as well as the height of the letters

- Make sure your letters are highlighted
- Select the AV with horizontal double arrow underneath. Click and move your mouse on the arrow from left to right and watch the spacing increase and decrease. (You can also enter in a number in the tab)
- Select the AV with vertical arrow to change the height of the letters. Type in a number or use the arrows on your keyboard to alter the height.

### **6. Using Layers with Type Tool**

- Whenever you select the type tool and type a letter on your image a new type layer is automatically created.
- To create a new, separate type layer you need to click off of the type tool, and then click on it again.
- When making a new type layer if your composition is full of many type layers the type tool will often select the previously existing layers instead of allowing you to make a new layer. To avoid this problem you can begin typing your new layer in the margins off the edges of your composition and then move it afterwards.
- To select a specific letter you have created, make sure you are on the right layer!