

Creating Accurate Shapes

Photoshop provides the tools to create accurate shapes. Let's say that you have been contracted by the software producer, ArtSoft, to produce an image of the box for their recently released graphics program, Splosh Strokes, so that it can be placed on their web site. The following image will be produced:



Starting a New Document

1 Load Photoshop or close the current files then display the FILE menu and select NEW.

New		x	
Name: L	Untitled-1	ОК	
Preset: Custom Size: Width: 8 Height: 6 Resolution: 7 Color Mode: F Background Contents: V	500 Fusis 72 Pixels/Inch RGB Color 8 bit	Cancel Save Preset Delete Preset Image Size: 1.37M	Set the WIDTH to 800 pixels, the HEIGHT to 600 pixels, the RESOLUTION to 72 pixels/inch, the COLOUR MODE to RGB COLOUR, 8 BIT and the BACKGROUND CONTENTS to WHITE.

3 Select OK to start the document and set the zoom to FIT ON SCREEN.

Setting the Ruler and Grid Units

You will be using RULERS and a GRID to accurately create the box, so the settings need to be checked.

1 On the Windows system display the EDIT menu, highlight PREFERENCES and select UNITS & RULERS. On the Macintosh system display the PHOTOSHOP menu, highlight PREFERENCES and select UNITS & RULERS.

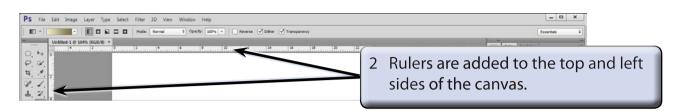
references					
General	Units	OK			
Interface	Rulers: Centimeters	Cancel			
File Handling		Carcer			
Performance	Type: Points				
Cursors	Column Size	2 In the UNITS frame set the RULERS			
Transparency & Gamut	Width: 180 Points -				
Units & Rulers	Vidul. 180 Points	box to CENTIMETRES and the TYPE			
Guides, Grid & Slices	Gutter: 12 Points -	box to certimerites and the title			
Plug-Ins Type 3D	New Document Preset Resolutions	box to POINTS.			
	Print Resolution: 300 Pixels/Inch 🔹				
	Screen Resolution: 72 Pixels/Inch -				
	Point/Pica Size				
	PostScript (72 points/inch)				
	Traditional (72.27 points/inch)				

Preferences		
General Interface File Manding Performance Cursors Transparency & Gamut Units & Rulers Ouides, Grid & Silce Plug-Ins Type 3D	Guides Color: Cyan • Style: Lines • Smart Guides Color: Magenta Grid Color: Custom • Gridine Every: 2 contimeters •	3 Open the GUIDES, GRID & SLICES category and, in the GRID frame, set the GRIDLINE EVERY box to 2 cm, the SUBDIVISIONS to 4 and select OK.
	Style: Lines Slices Line Color: Light Blue Slice Numbers	

NOTE: You can also use the GUIDES, GRID & SLICES section to set the colour of the grid and guide lines.

Turning on the Rulers and Grid

1 Display the VIEW menu and select RULERS.



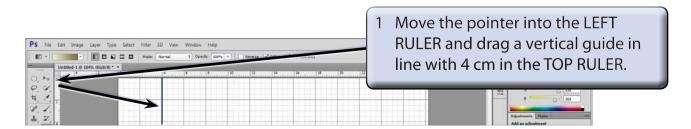
3 Display the VIEW menu again, highlight SHOW and select GRID.

	Hode	Normal	t Opacityo 200	ta • CRow	in 🗹 Dither 🔽	Transparency		1	A grid is added to the canvas to
itted-1 @ 104% (RGB/8) ×	2	4		10 11	- 24	16 1	1	4	A griu is added to the canvas to
									match the units of the RULERS.
						-			match the units of the notens.
				1-					

NOTE: You can RIGHT+CLICK or CONTROL+CLICK on the RULERS to quickly change their units

Setting Guide Lines

You can add guide lines to the canvas to help you layout a sketch. In this case guide lines will be needed for the front and side of the box.



	2 Drag three more vertical guide lines in line with 16 cm, 18 cm and 22 cm		
PS File Edit Image Layer Type Select Filter 3D View Window Help To + The File Edit Image Layer Type Select Filter 3D View Window Help To + The File Edit Image Layer Type Select Filter 3D View Window Help To + The File Edit Image Layer Type Select Filter 3D View Window Help	in the TOP RULER.		
Image: Control + N United 3 + 10% (SCU10 ⁺ + N) Or + 10 14 12 10 14 14 18			

NOTE: You can move guide lines to new positions by selecting the MOVE TOOL, moving the pointer over the guide line until it changes to parallel lines with arrows and dragging the guide line to a new position. Dragging a guide line back to its RULER removes the guide line from the screen.

