TRANSLUCENT

Icon Creation Guide

Firstly, thank you for your interest in 'Translucent'. We hope you find this guide helpful, however if you do have any issues, please <u>let us know</u>.

Please read this complete guide before you begin to create icons.

We appreciate you will invest your own time in creating additional icons, but we do recommend you take a look at the both the <u>requested icons</u> and <u>completed icons</u>. This way icons in demand will be created in addition to avoiding duplications.

Once you have created your icon, please share it with the community. <u>Details on how you can do this can be found on our Wiki</u>.

Before you begin, you will need the following:

- The Translucent PSD Template (<u>Download the latest version</u>)
- Adobe Photoshop
- Icon Details

OK, lets start…

In this guide, we'll create an icon for 'Alien Blue', the popular Reddit client.
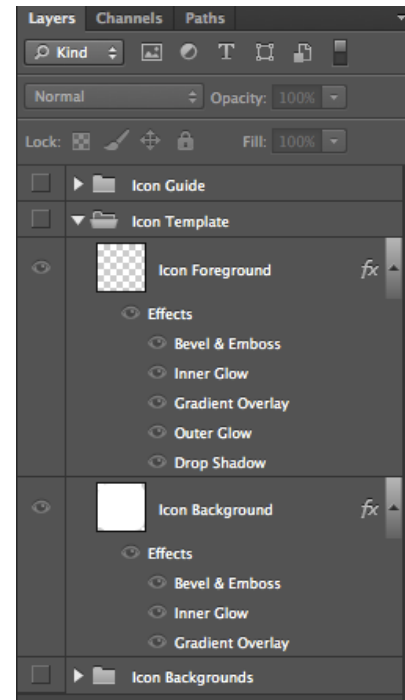
Step One

Open the PSD Template you downloaded.

This PSD should contain the following layers:

- Icon Guide
    - Keep within this guide
- Icon Template
    - Icon Foreground
    - Icon Background
- Icon Backgrounds
    - Pattern
    - Solid Color

For now, you can hide the 'Icon Guide' and 'Icon Backgrounds' folders.
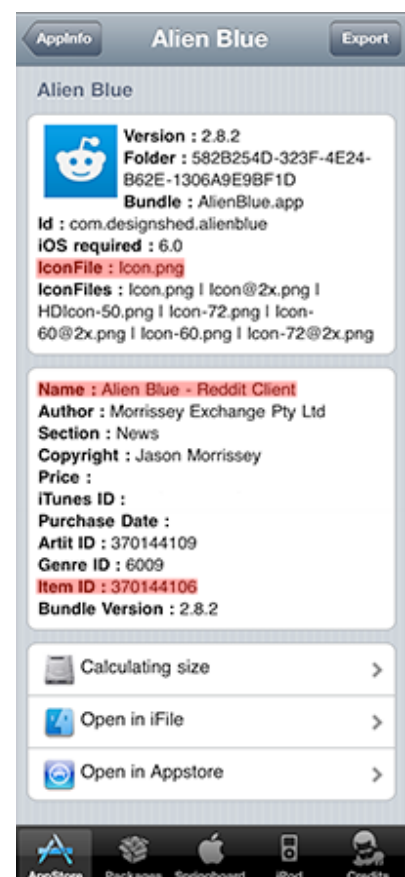
Step Two

You'll need to ensure you have the following information:

- App Name:
- iTunes ID:
- Icon Name:
- App ID:
- iTunes URL:
- Original Artwork:

It should have something like this:

- App Name: Alien Blue - Reddit Client
- iTunes ID: 370144106
- Icon Name: Icon.png
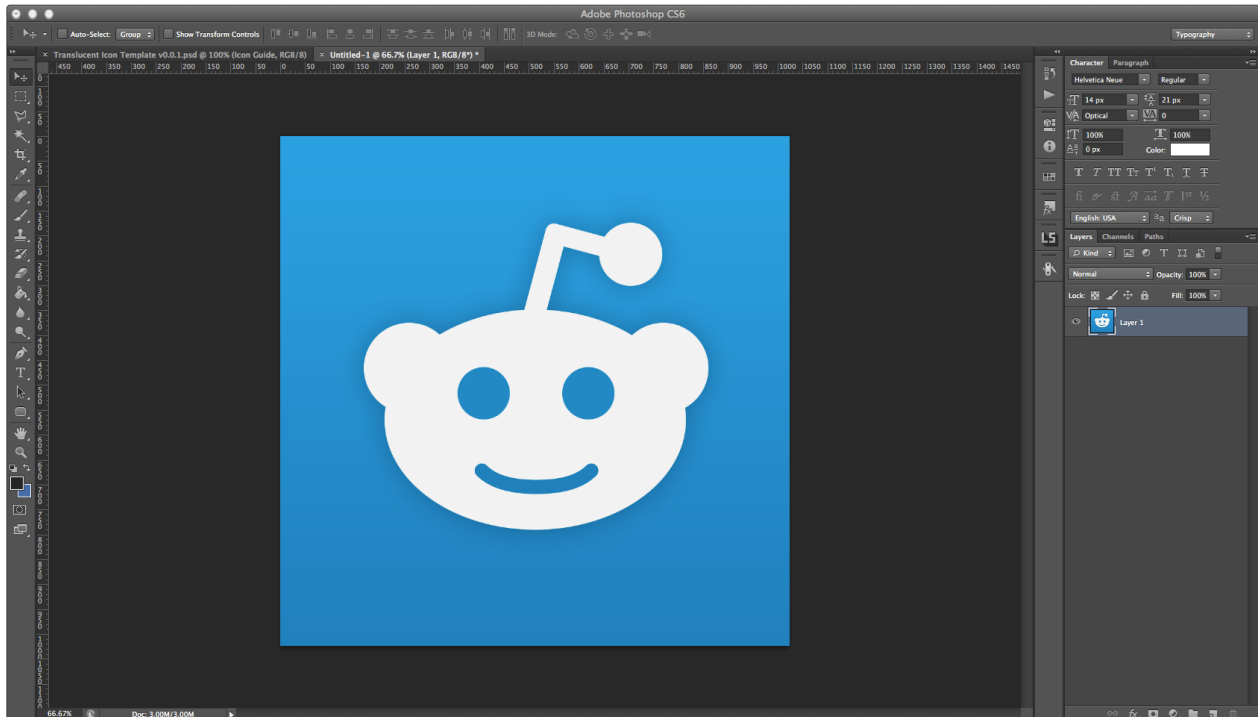- ID: com.designshed.alienblue
- iTunes URL: https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/alien-blue-for-ipad-reddit/id390863118?mt=8

- Original Artwork: http://a3.mzstatic.com/us/r30/Purple6/v4/b0/ac/9f/b0ac9f7e-b677-e972-f051-2fcbed2f0f92/mzl.bxxkvjuj.png

Some of this information is required when submitting your icon to the community. If you are unsure how to find this information, please read our guide.

Step Three
Open the 'Original Artwork' link in a browser and copy the image. You'll need to paste this in to a new layer within Photoshop.

Step Four
Select the white area of the icon, in this case the Aliens face. Once selected, copy the selection.
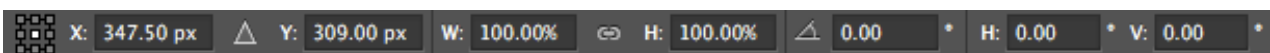
Step Five
Go back to the icon template, and select the 'Icon Foreground' layer. Paste your selection.

Step Six
You now need to transform your layer, 'CMD+T' on the Mac. You'll see a box appear.
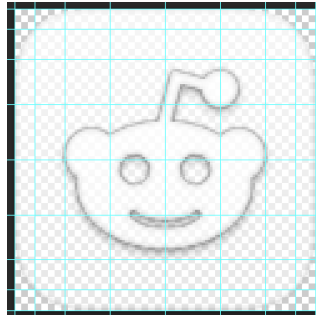
Step Seven
At the top left of Photoshop, you'll see this:

Making sure the middle square is selected, in *X* type 60px, in *Y* type 60px. This will center your icon. In *W* type 80px, select the chain link and in *H* type 80px. Now this layer is centered, you need to ensure the width or height is no greater than 80px in any direction. Hit 'Enter'.

NB: The Icon should be no larger than 80px by 80px. Do not worry if it's not exactly 80px by 80px. Not all icons are square.
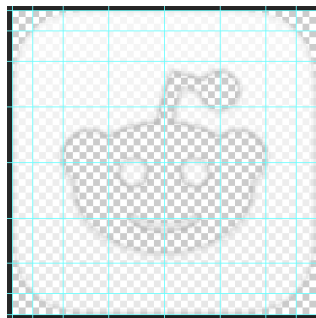
At this point, I would recommend turning on the 'Icon Guide' layer to ensure no part of your icon is visible.

Step Eight

Now you have the icon in the correct position at the correct size, on the layer thumbnail, right click and in the menu 'select pixels'. Hit 'Delete'.

Step Nine

Whilst the icon is still selected, choose the 'Icon Background' layer and again hit 'Delete. This
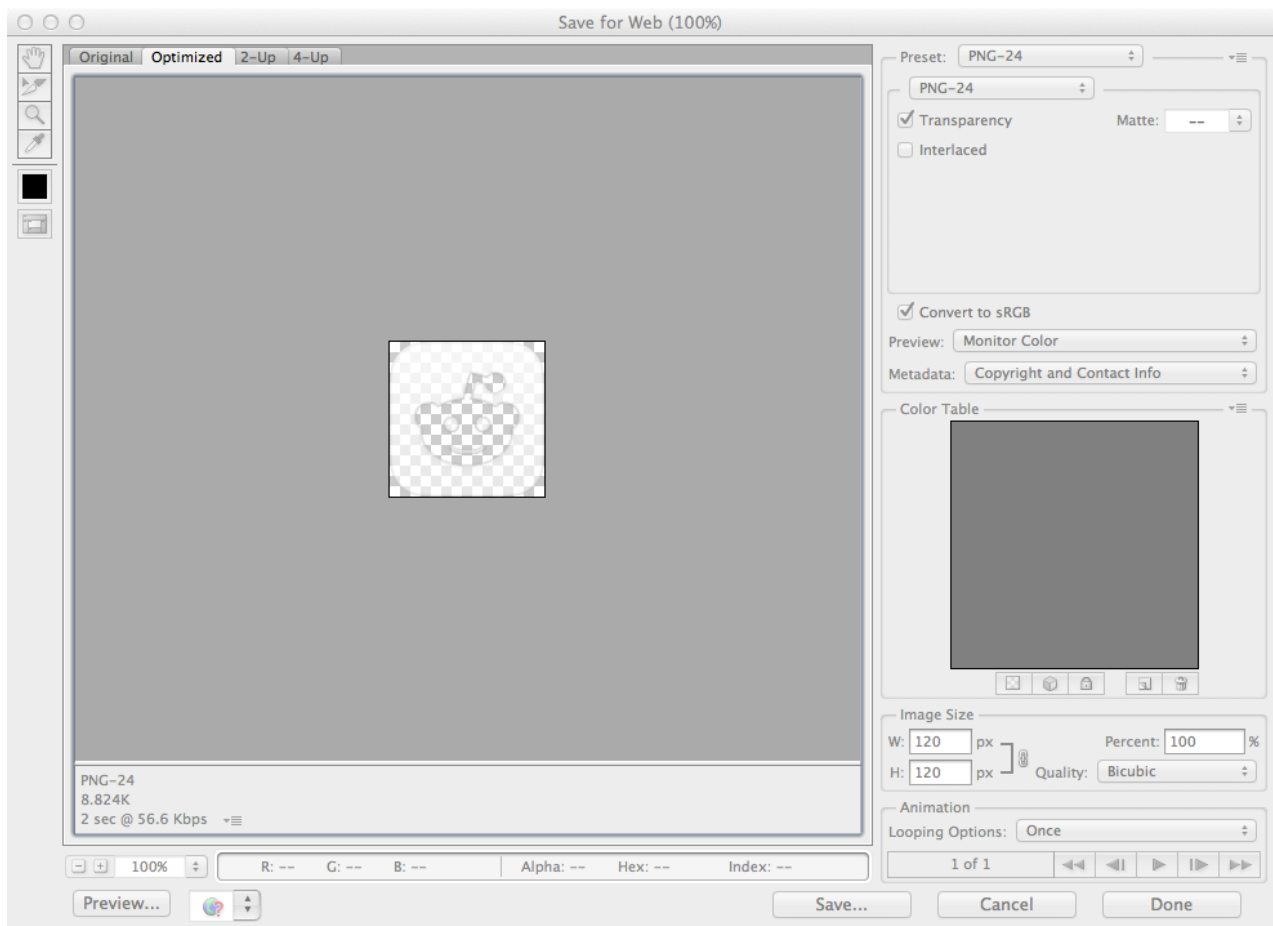
will now show the translucent effect.

At this point you can turn on and off the 'Icon Backgrounds' layer to see the effect. However, ensure they are hidden before continuing.

Step Ten

Now to save your file, simple select 'Save For Web', the following window will appear.

Ensure 'PNG-24' is selected, 'Transparency' checked in addition to 'Convert to sRGB.

Click 'save'.

You'll need to save the file in the folder with the same name ad 'ID' you found earlier. In this case, the folder will be called: *com.designshed.alienblue* - The file name must be the same as the file name you also found earlier. In this case, *Icon.png.*

NB: Both the folder and file name are case sensitive.

Submitting Your Icon

Once you have created your icon, please visit our GitHub site and submit a new icon request, and immediately reply with the icon attached. For an example please take a look at the Alien Blue request.

If you are unsure how to do this, please send an email to translucent@subordination.co.uk with the following information:

• App Name:

• iTunes ID:

• Icon Name:

- App ID:
- iTunes URL:
- Original Artwork:
- Credit:

Ensure you also attach the icon file.

If you would like to be credited, please include the name & email address you wish displayed. If this information is not provided at the time of submission, we are unable to add this at a later date.

NB: Please only send one email per icon submission.

We update the theme on a very regular basis, if all the information supplied is correct and the icon conforms to the template, your icon will be included in the next update.

Questions

If you have any questions at all, <u>please leave a message here</u> or drop us a line on <u>Twitter</u>.

Thank you for contributing to this community theme, without you it wouldn't be possible.