

1.



## Activity introduction

This activity will help you create a working sticker sheet, also known as a design kit, for your portfolio project in Figma. Your sticker sheet should list all of the most-used components and elements in your design thus far. For example, your sticker sheet should include all of the following UI items:

**Components:** Reusable UI components such as buttons, menus, and cards.

**Typography:** Typographic elements, including fonts and font families.

**Color:** Color choices, including an overall palette and specific component colors.

**Iconography:** Icons representing recurring actions or navigation choices a user might interact with.

To do this, you'll identify relevant elements and develop components to use in your design. Components are UI elements that can be used across projects. Components are made of various types of elements like buttons, text, shapes, and colors. Once you create your components and identify other elements, they will be organized and added to your sticker sheet.

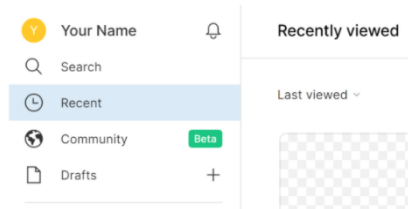
After completing this activity, you'll have the opportunity to compare your work to a completed exemplar in the following course item.



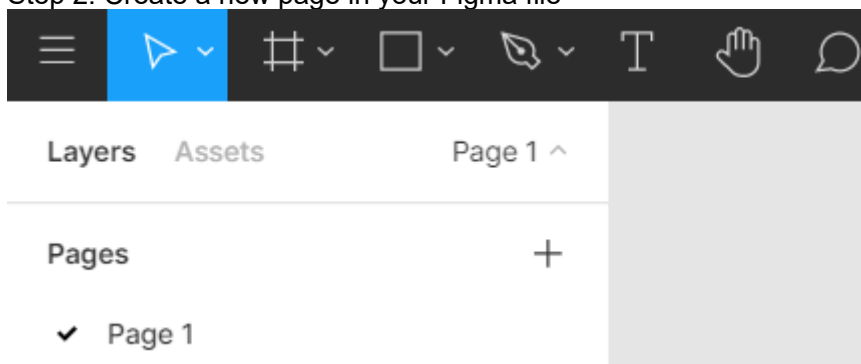
## Step-by-step instructions

**Step 1: Open your project in Figma**

Go to the Figma website or start the Figma desktop app. Make sure you're logged in and click on Recent in the upper left-hand navigation bar, then click on your project to open it.

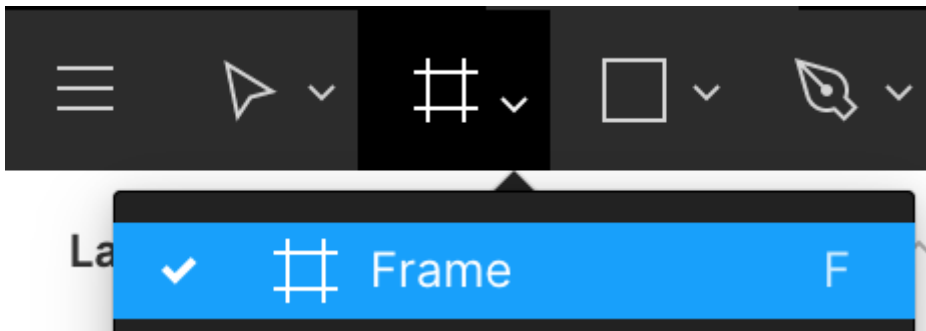


**Step 2: Create a new page in your Figma file**



To help keep things organized in your project file, separate different parts of the project into different pages. To create a new page, go to the Pages section on Figma towards the top left corner of your screen. Click on the + button. Name this new page Sticker Sheet by typing the name and either hitting enter or clicking off the text entry field.

**Step 3: Create a new frame**



Create a new Frame to act as a canvas for your sticker sheet. To create a new Frame, select Frame from the Region Tools menu in the top-left corner of your screen in Figma. You can also use the keyboard shortcut cmd+F (on Mac) or ctrl+F on PC). Select the Frame labeled Desktop. This will give you plenty of room to create your sticker sheet.

Step 4: Select your sticker sheet UI elements

Before you build your sticker sheet, you need to know what you'll place on it. There are a few basic elements you can start creating now to use for your app.

Typography

Select a font that aligns with your product's branding tone and style. For example, if you're creating an app for kids, rounded fonts can be very appealing and playful. If you want the font to appear more serious or professional, choose something simpler. Here's an example of an app we created that's geared toward parents that want to get their preteens and teens involved in art. The app is called GeoShapes. For the app, our UX designer chose the font Yaldevi Colombo. Here's an example of how this font would be implemented into the app:

◆ Typography

## Typography

### Header 01

Yaldevi Colombo SemiBold, 20 px

### Header 02

Yaldevi Colombo Medium, 18 px

### Header 03

Yaldevi Colombo Regular, 16 px

### Body Text

Yaldevi Colombo Light, 12 px

### Sub-body Text

Yaldevi Colombo ExtraLight, 10 px

Above, you'll notice the different font weights, with the most essential information being bold and the least important represented as a lighter weight. Play around with different fonts in Figma and decide what you feel each one communicates. You've been looking at fonts your entire life; so you're an expert already! As you browse through the fonts in Figma, you can also customize your choices by changing their color, spacing, opacity, and more.

Color

Color is an integral part of your branding and can evoke emotion in your users. Color, like typography, is something you've been looking at your entire life. It's a tool that you can use to inspire emotion in users. To learn more about color theory and how the psychology of color can affect users, check out this article from UserPeek:

[What is Color Psychology in UX Design?](#)

Here's the color scheme we chose for the GeoShapes app:

# Colors



The main, or primary, colors for the app are red, purple, and green. Colors often have implied meanings. For example, red represents passion, purple represents creativity and originality, and green represents growth and balance. All of these traits are important for cultivating a love of art. We chose a strong set of primary colors, secondary colors that are less vibrant than the primary colors, and a grayscale with a touch of these colors infused into them.

Think about the color theory behind the colors you choose and how they'll represent the app that you're designing. Once you select your colors, create shapes and fill them with those colors to make color swatches that you feel fit with what you've designed so far. Keep those shapes on the page for reference as you design.

## Buttons

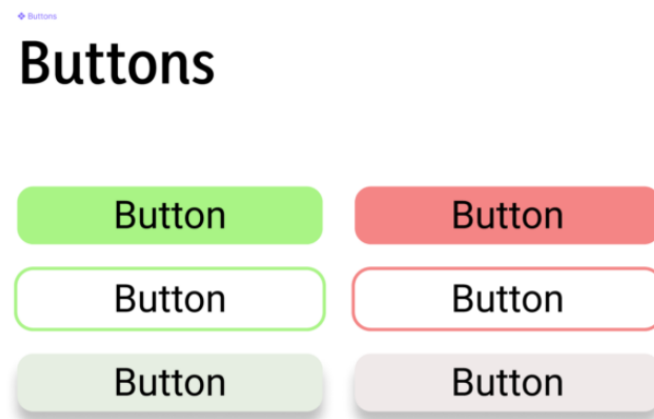
Button styles should reflect your brand's style just as much as your font choice and the colors you choose. As you start to define the style that your app will use, you can cycle through button types to see which you prefer for your app.

As you design your buttons, keep in mind that buttons, like hyperlinks, have an instantly recognizable appearance. They are most often an outline shape on a white background or a shape with a solid fill.

To create a button on Figma:

- . In your Frame, draw a rectangle using the Rectangle tool from the menu at the top left (there's also a shortcut by pressing "R" on the keyboard). Drag the rectangle until you get the dimensions you want for your button.
- . Using the Text button at the top left, add a text box on top of your button.
- . Center the text and change the size using the Design panel to the right of the Canvas.
- . Click back onto the shape layer of your button in the Layer panel.
- . Soften the shape of your button in the Properties section of the Design panel by changing the corner radius of each corner. The higher the number, the more rounded the corners.

Here's how we designed the buttons for the GeoShapes app.



The buttons are in the brand's secondary colors, and the corners of the buttons are more rounded than sharp. Each of these corners is set at 5. The grayscale buttons both have drop shadows set at 25% with a blur of 4.

## Saving Components

Now that you have created the typography, color, and buttons for your app, you can start saving your assets as components.

As your users interact with the products you create, every element in your design should match with the other elements that you've created. An easy way of ensuring that your elements look the same is to make all of the elements that you create components.

By documenting your design elements as components, you'll improve the consistency of your designs and save yourself valuable time as you continue designing your product.

- First, ensure that you've named each asset in your Layer panel. This is particularly important for assets with a few pieces, like buttons or color swatches.
- Next, select your asset, either in the Layer panel or on the Canvas.
- Then, right-click on that asset and click Create Component, or select the icon with 4 diamonds (shown below) on the top bar.



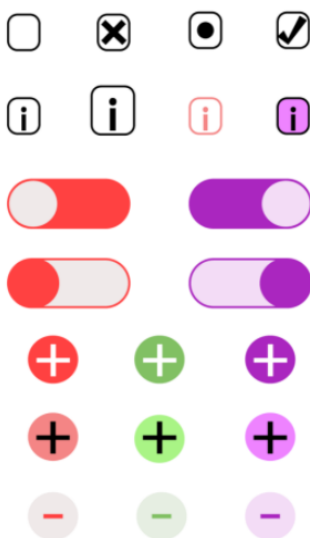
Once you save your assets as components, any updates to the component will automatically change across any files that the asset is used in, called the instance. In other words, the component represents the original appearance, while the instance follows any changes that are made to the component.

## States and variants

One thing to keep in mind as you design is that some of your components won't always look the same. The buttons used in the GeoShape Navigation have two different versions in the image above. This is what is known as the component's "state." States are visual representations of the status of a specific component or interactive element in your designs. For example, you might include an active and an inactive version of every button on our app. These are states.

It's important to include these various states in your sticker sheets as well. Luckily, Figma has already factored that process into their platform. These are called "variants." Variants allow you to group and organize similar components into a single container. An example of this is the checkbox's checked and unchecked state from the GeoShapes sticker sheet above.

## Controls

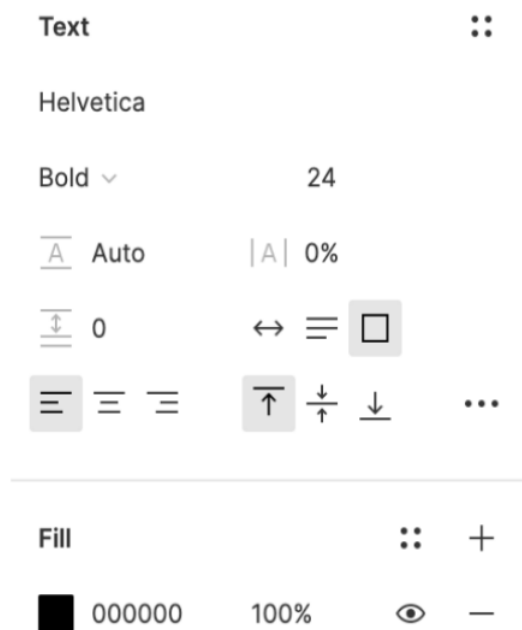


Making variants helps organize your components and improve the design experience of your product for you and your fellow designers. Do you want to get into the nitty-gritty of creating variants for your interactive buttons? Figma has a guide that will show you the best way to create variants for your button's states and the best way to use them in their article titled [create and use variants](#).

## Step 5: Arrange UI elements onto the sticker sheet

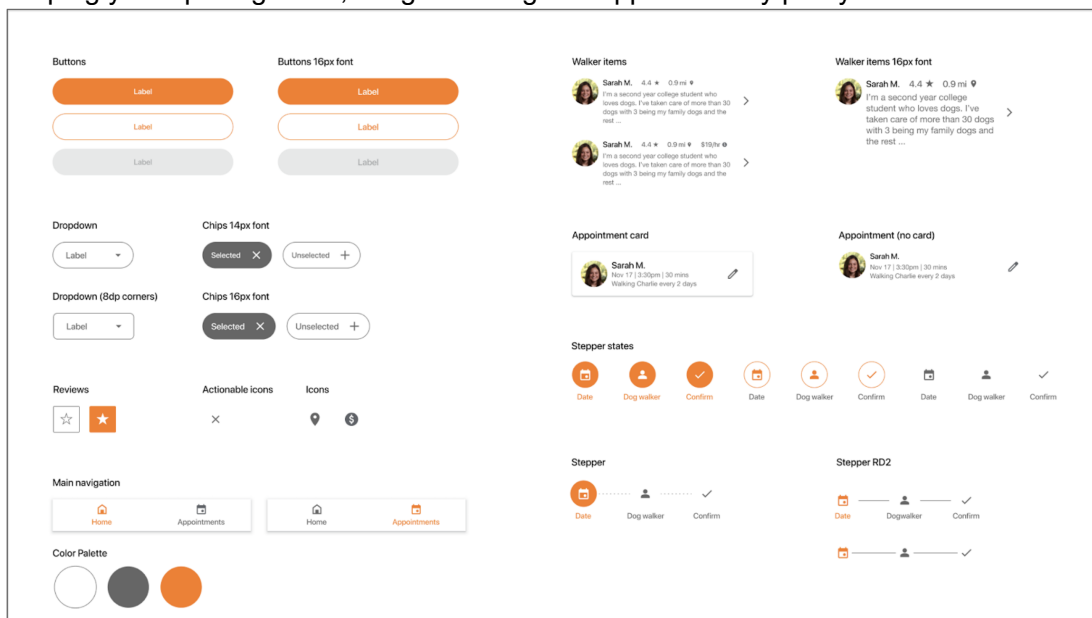
Now that you have selected the UI elements that you'll include on your sticker sheet, it's time to begin arranging them.

Start by choosing a font to use as a heading for the items in your sticker sheet.



Use a font that's different from the fonts you are using in your design to avoid confusion. A standard typeface like Helvetica, Roboto, or Arial should work well, for example. Using one of these typefaces makes it easier for a viewer to differentiate between a category label on your sticker sheet as opposed to a UI element from your project.

Begin arranging items in your sticker sheet by category. Keep all the buttons together, all the icons together, etc. Make sure to keep an eye on the spacing between your elements in your sticker sheet. Feel free to use a grid if it helps you keep things aligned. Without keeping your spacing inline, things can begin to appear messy pretty fast.



## Step 6: (Optional) Reference a completed sticker sheet

If you haven't yet, it might be helpful to review [Figma's material baseline design kit](#). It is an example of a full-fledged design kit and would make a useful reference for formatting your sticker sheet.

For example, under the Material Theme page you are given an excellent example of how to showcase the typography in a design:

# Typography

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Headline 1

# H1/Roboto/Light/96px

Headline 2

## H2/Roboto/Light/60px

Headline 3

### H3/Roboto/Regular/48px

Headline 4

#### H4/Roboto/Regular/34px

#### Step 7: Save your work

As you complete these activities, remember to:

- . Take photos of your progress and save them. These can include progress photos of sketches, photos of different stages of the activity, pictures of brainstorming sessions, and even photos of you working.
- . Save all of your work to your computer, a hard drive, or a Google Drive folder to make sure you have all the resources you'll need later in the course for your portfolio.

#### Long-term benefits of sticker sheets

Sticker sheets help UX designers work faster and smarter. From fonts to buttons, logos to animations, and more, you can collect every key element and component for your designs and have them available to use any time.

Sticker sheets also ease the collaboration process if you're working as part of a large team. When you share your designs with developers, a sticker sheet will clarify the coding process as they work on each component. The sticker sheet will also serve as a style guide for fellow designers and help them stay consistent as well. For example, if a product's buttons have rounded edges, your team will know not to create sharp rectangular ones.

#### Discover more

If you're curious about how components can be used and what the best practices are, here's an article from Figma to jump start your research:

[When to start creating components for design systems](#)<sup>[↗]</sup>.

There are many different types of buttons that you can use in your designs. This demonstration from Medium will guide you step-by-step through button styles and the logic behind choosing a specific button type: [How to Create Buttons in Figma](#)<sup>[↗]</sup>.

Here's another article from Medium that gives you some expert tips on creating and using components in your sticker sheet: [10 tips on using components in Figma](#)<sup>[↗]</sup>.

Curious about what real-life sticker sheets and components made by a Googler might look like? Here is one to check out:

[Thrive from Lisa](#),<sup>[↗]</sup> under "Icons" and "Design System"