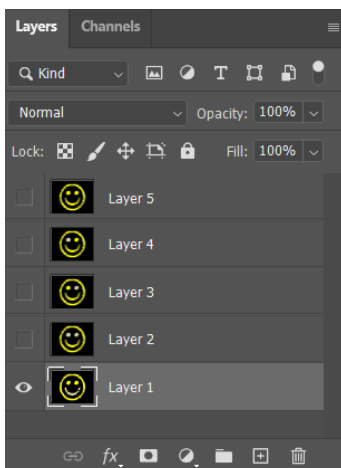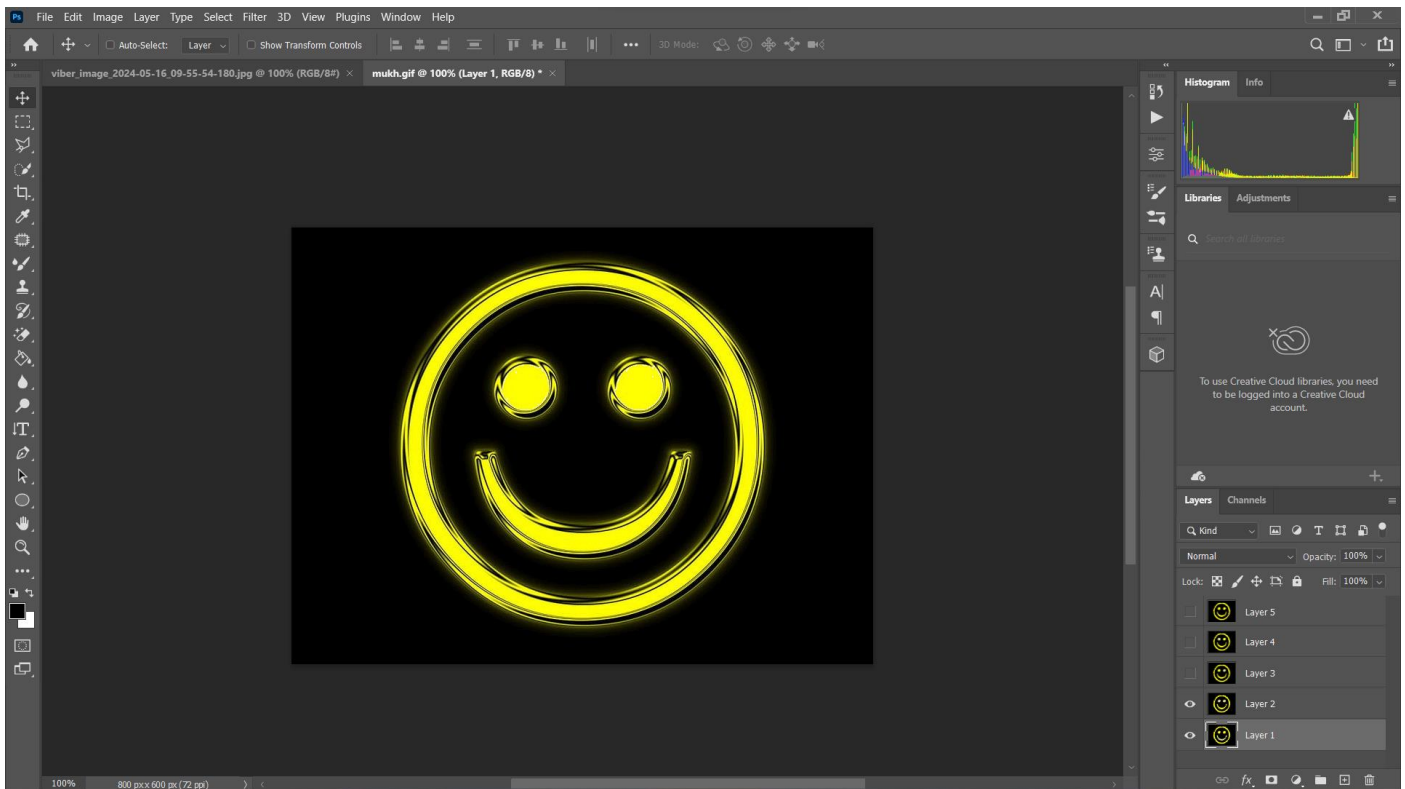# Lab 3: Using Photoshop Create a GIF

Concept:

GIFs (Graphics Interface Format) are ideal for small graphics on websites and in emails. If you see any small animated image on the internet, you are probably looking at a GIF. However, GIFs are limited to just 256 simultaneous colors, so they can't achieve photographic quality. Although they are not compressed, these files are typically small and highly portable. That makes them well suited for web images. And, of all these image file types, only GIFs can be animated. GIFs were well enough suited for their original purpose: displaying logos, line art, charts, and such on the web. Today, though, we think of them primarily as short, looping animations.
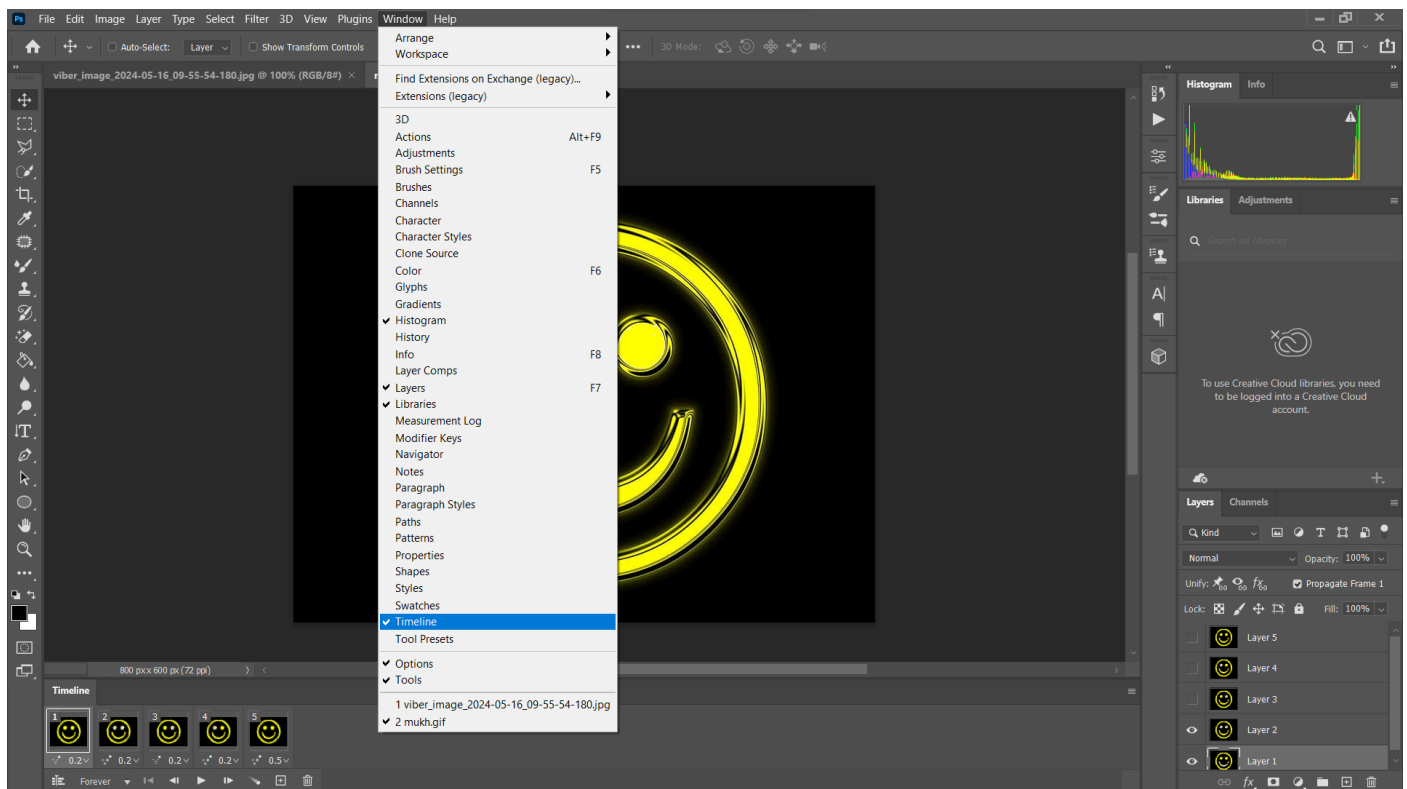
Procedure:

Step 1: Open Photoshop and import image file that you want to make gif with. And, Upload your images and open each frame as a layer in the Photoshop file.
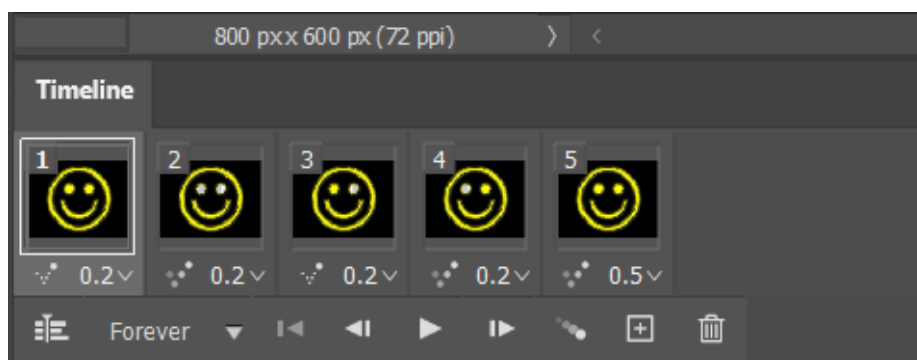

To import the frames (source files) into Photoshop by going to File > Load Layers. Choose two or more files to load into an image stack, add all the frames, and press OK.

Make sure, all the layers you imported should have different images with different shape or size so the Changes can be noticed during the GIF animation. Here we took a simple Smile Image and made changes in the image layers.

Step 2: Open the Timeline panel and select Create Frame Animation. With your Photoshop layers open, go to Window > Timeline and click Create Frame Animation.

Step 3: Convert your layers into animation frames. Select Make Frames from Layers from the menu in the right corner of the Timeline panel. This will allow you to take your layers and separate them into frames within the window. Preview the animation by either pressing Play on the Timeline or using the spacebar on your computer.

Set your GIF to Loop by clicking the repeat (Forever) menu. Within the Timeline you can adjust how long each individual frame is on screen and decide how long the GIF should loop.

Step 4: Export your GIF and save it. Once you're happy with your animated GIF, export it by selecting File > Export > Save for Web. Then make sure you save it as a GIF in the proper folder.

Output:

The output comes in the above form with a loop from left to right in Video Format. Since this is report file it is represented in pictures.

Conclusion: Creating GIFs in Photoshop can be a fun and creative way to express yourself or convey a message. Whether you're using it for personal enjoyment, social media, or professional projects, the process allows for endless possibilities. By following the steps outlined in this guide, you can harness the power of Photoshop to bring your images to life through motion and animation.