GIMP Practice 4
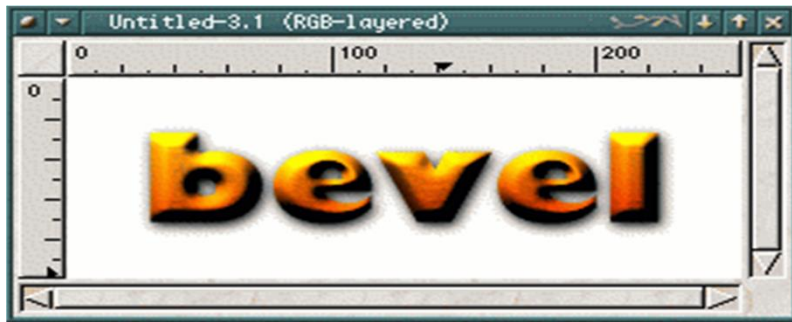# Beveled Text, Knock Out Text, Logo Effects, and Adobe Brushes

If you want to view a screencast of your instructor you can use these four links. You will need a Flash plug-in for these screencasts.
https://yoda.tc.uvu.edu/barthoki/ScreenCasts/GIMPPractice4/GIMPPractice4PartA.swf
https://yoda.tc.uvu.edu/barthoki/ScreenCasts/GIMPPractice4/GIMPPractice4PartB.swf
https://yoda.tc.uvu.edu/barthoki/ScreenCasts/GIMPPractice4/GIMPPractice4PartC.swf
https://yoda.tc.uvu.edu/barthoki/ScreenCasts/GIMPPractice4/GIMPPractice4PartD.swf

Create this beveled text graphic in GIMP

Step 1. Create a new image in GIMP.
Create a new image in GIMP using the File=>New menu.
Go to the Advanced Options and choose the background color to be white.
Set the Canvas size to have 400 pixels Width and 300 pixels Height.
If the Layers Panel is not already opened, use the Windows=>Dockable Dialogs=>Layers menu option to open it.
Save the file in the native GIMP format, as Beveled.xcf on your desktop.

Step 2. Create your text.
Set the foreground color to be black in the foreground color swatch.
Click on the Text tool. Choose a font with big fat letters like Berlin Sans FB Bold.
Set the font size to be about 75.
Type the word: bevel in the text box.
Try to type the text in the middle of the layer, or use the Move tool if you need to.

Step 3. Add a gradient color.
Important: Click the Lock alpha channel button on the Layers Panel.
Select a yellow as the foreground color and dark red as the background color swatches.
Make sure the text layer is selected.
Click the Blend tool and click your mouse above the text and drag the mouse below the text.
This should color your text in a gradient.

Step 4. Create a new white Layer.

Duplicate the existing Text layer.
Name the top most layer: White.
Important: Make sure the Lock alpha channel button is set to *locked*
for this new White layer.
Choose white as the foreground color in the color swatch.
Using the Paintbrush tool, and a really large brush, paint the letters all white.
You should now have white text in the top layer.
Important: Now unlock the Lock alpha channel button of the White layer.
Use the Filters=>Blur=>Gausian Blur.
Use the RLE (reduced using run-length coding) and set
the blur radius to be about 6px. Click OK.

Step 5. Make a bump map.

Now select the original text layer. Using the Filters=>Map=>Bump Map
(creates small bumps on the surface to give it texture)
Set the Elevation to be 28 and the Depth to be 38; then click OK.
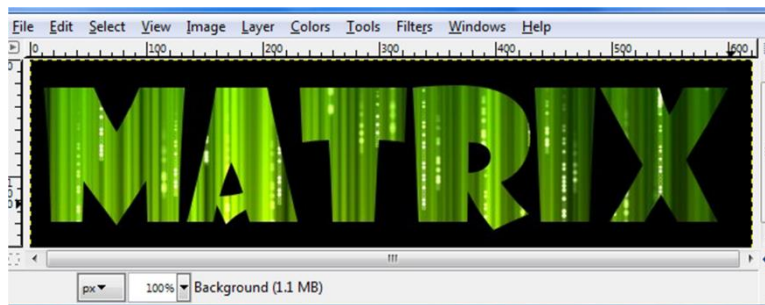
Step 6. Modify the white layer.

Select the White Layer.
Move it below the colored text layer.
Select Colors=>Invert to change the white text to black. With the
black text layer still selected choose Layer=>Transform=>Offset
and set X to be 2 and Y to be 3. Click Offset.

Step 7. Saving the beveled text graphic.

Crop and save the text graphic as a GIMP .xcf file to preserve the
layers. To display the graphic on the Web, export as a .jpg, .png,
or .gif if you have transparency you want to preserve.

Create this knockout text in GIMP

Step 1. Create a new image in GIMP.

Create a new image using the File=>New menu.
Go to the Advanced Options and choose the background color to be white.
Set the Canvas size to have 600 pixels Width and 300 pixels Height.
If the Layers Panel is not already opened, use the Windows=>Dockable
Dialogs=>Layers menu option to open it.

Save the file in the native GIMP format, as Matrix.xcf on your desktop.

Step 2. Open text graphic as a Layer.
Using the File=> Open as Layers menu option, open the GreenBackground.jpg file in the GIMP4 folder.
Notice the image is now opened in a new layer.

Step 3. Create your text.
Set the foreground color to be black in the foreground color swatch.
Click on the Text tool. Choose a font with big fat letters like Showcard Gothic.
Set the font size to be about 140.
Type the word: Matrix in the text box.
Try to type the text in the middle of the layer, or use the Move tool if you need to center the text.

Step 4. Knocking out the text.
With the text layer selected, choose Layer=>Transparency=>Alpha to Selection.
This will just select the text.
Now you can click on the Text layer and delete it.
Choose Select=>Float, this will float the selected text.
Right-Click on the floating text in the Layers dialog, choose To New Layer. You can now delete the GreenBackground layer.

Step 5. Add drop shadow and adjust color levels.
Choose Filters=>Light and Shadow=>Drop Shadow.
Set the X offset to 0 and the Y offset to about 1, the Blur Radius to 8 and the Opacity to about 50%.
Choose Colors=> Levels, to modify the color levels by adjusting the sliders in the Input Levels area.
Adjust the black, gray and white arrows to get the effect you want. I adjusted the gray arrow to the left to darken the text.

Step 6. Set background color and save file.
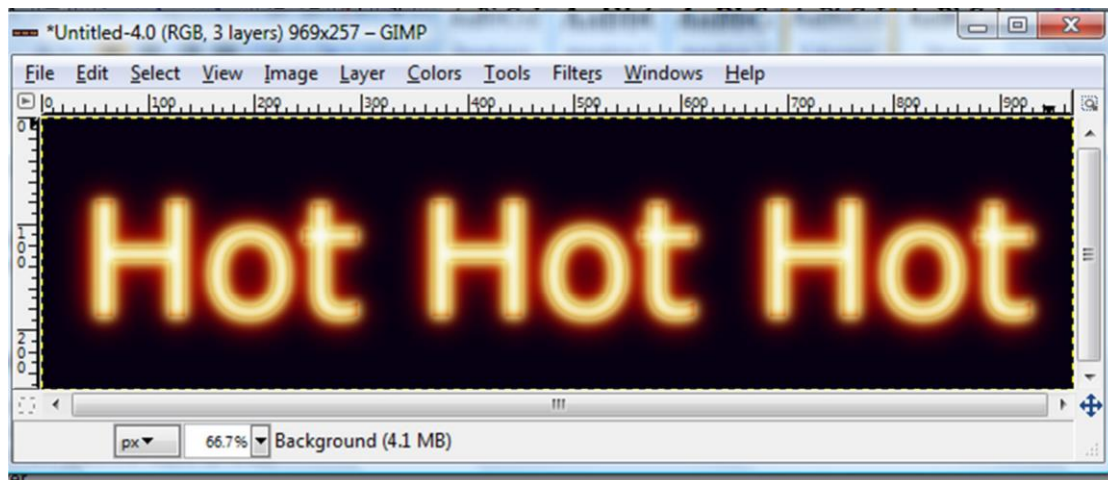Click the background layer.
Set the background swatch to be black.
Choose Edit=>Fill with BG Color.
Crop and save your file as Matric.xcf.
Choose Image=>Flatten Image, to flatten image layers.
Save the file as Matrix.jpg. Compress the image as you wish.

Create a Logo Effect in GIMP

Step 1. Create a Logo effect graphic in GIMP.
Choose File=>Create=>Logos=>Glowing Hot.
Enter the text you want for this text graphic: Hot Hot Hot.
You can choose the background color you want for this graphic.
A new image will be created and multiple layers automatically added to create this special effect.

Step 2. Experiment with other Logo effects.
There are many different logo effects available in the File=>Create=>Logos menu.
You may want to experiment with these. You may find an effect you wish to use for your Project 5.

Using Imported Adobe Brushes for Stamped Images or Brush Effects.

Step 1. Using an imported Adobe brush for image effects in GIMP.
While there are a few decorative brushes pre-loaded in GIMP, you can import many interesting Adobe Photoshop brushes (.abr) for use in GIMP.
Importing too many brushes will slow down the load time for your GIMP

application.
A good site for non-restricted brushes is:
http://www.brusheezy.com/brushes.
These brushes are usually made available for down load in zipped files.

Unzip the brushes and copy the .abr files into your GIMP brush folder which is usually found:
C:// Program Files/GIMP-2.0/share/gimp/2.0/brushes/

Step 2. Using a brush from GIMP.

Restart GIMP after placing brush .abr files in the GIMP programs folder.
Select the background layer.
Choose the paintbrush tool.
Select the brush you want from the brush options.
Set the Forecolor swatch to be the color you want to use.
The color used in this example was a dark red.
Set the size of the brush with the Scale slider.
The brush used on the background layer of the Hot Hot Hot image was actually a flower brush with a very large size.
Either stamp the brush once or drag to create lines for more movement.

Step 3. Save your image.

To preserve layers, save your logo image with its brush effect as a GIMP .xcf file.
Export the image for the Web as a .jpg, .png, or gif.

Conclusion: You can modify text layers with filter effect to create your own bump maps, drop shadows or lighting effects.
The Logo effect found in the File menu can be used to create new interesting text graphics.
More creative images and brush effects can be used by importing Adobe brushes and using them to stamp images or draw lines or flowing shapes.
There is no limit on new, interesting uses for these tools and features.