

Joined-up Text and Circular Themes: Help Sheet 1

Overview of work involved:

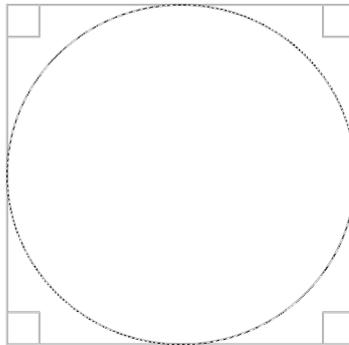
Create a circle as a path > create some joined-up text > make a text path around the path of the circle > make a selection from the text path > create a new layer and fill the selection

Obviously, before you start, you need to have the current version (3) of the script and the JoinerVariations font installed. It will make life a lot easier if you have the Paths Tool dialog available to work with in your Tool Dock. If not click on the downward pointing arrow (Configure this tab) in the Tool Dock and follow Add Tab>Path.

1. Create a new image. (Mine 1900 x 1900 pixels.)

2. Use the Ellipse Select Tool to draw a selection in the centre of your new image.

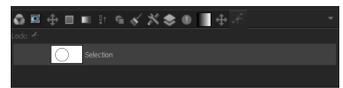
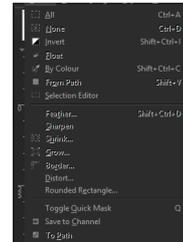
Leave some room around the selection for some of the text to occupy. (Mine 1500 x 1500 pixels)



3. Make a path from this selection with Select>To Path

4. Dismiss the selection from the display with Select>None

You can view the selection by clicking on Paths in the Tool Dock.

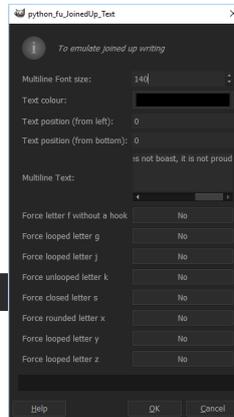
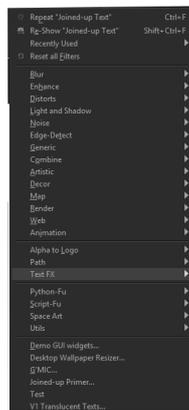


5. Open the Joined-up Text dialog with Filters>Text FX >Joined-up Text

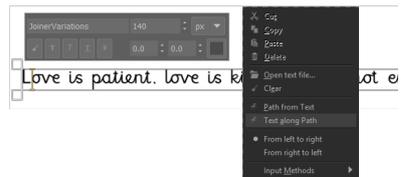
Enter your text into the Multiline Textbox but in a single line.

My text: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

Change the font size to 140 and set any of the other options that you require.

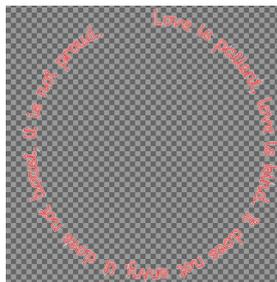


6. Click on the Text tool and then on the text you created in the last step. Open the context menu for the text (right click Windows).



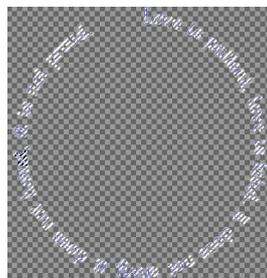
7. Click on the Text along Path option. If you find that the words do not go round the circumference or, perhaps, they are not all displayed, you may have to delete the path and change the size of the font with the Text tool context menu again.

There is no exact science here - it just depends on the size of the circle path and the size of the font. Just have a play.



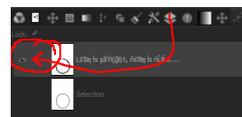
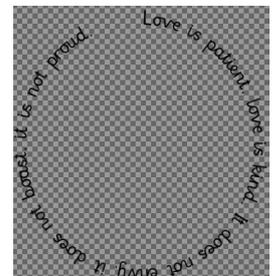
8. Add a new layer either with Layer>New or from the Layers dialog in the Tool Dock. I tend to rename the layer as Words.

9. With your new layer set as the active layer make a selection from the path with Select>From Path.



10. Set your foreground colour and fill the selection with Edit>Fill with FG Colour.

11. Dismiss the selection border with Select>None and hide the path outline by clicking on the eye next to the gobbledegook path in the Paths dialog in the Tool Dock area.



12. If you haven't already done so, delete the text layer created by the Joined-up Text Filter - or hide it by clicking on the eye next to the text layer in the Layers dialog in the Tool Dock area.

You should now have a circle of text ready to use as part of your image. You will almost certainly want to edit it further by applying filters and/or dropped shadows. If you want to use it without modifying the outline of the text you will probably want to tidy up sections of the text that have been dragged out of line as the Text to Path tool has deformed it to fit around the circumference of the circle.

The following pages attempt to explain how to repair any 'holes' visible within words in the text that you have created.