

JoinedUp Text Filter for Gimp 2.8 Help Sheet (Version 2.16)

Reducing the size of the Text

Reducing the size of the text along the path creates a pleasing flowing effect – lending itself, especially, to paths that follow the lines of plants. Here the text of 100 characters starts at size 100 and reduces by steps of -1 with each character (excluding spaces). Since the same text with a step size of zero filled the path this effect occupies just over half of the path (100 characters reduced by -1 multiplied 87 times leaves the final character at size 13: 100 characters – 13 spaces = 87).



curae congue ac putina

*Inset to show the last
three words of the text*

To make the text flow all the way along the path we just need to increase the initial size by 50% to about size 150. Size 150 didn't quite fit – but 149 did the trick. Knowing the size that works to fill the whole path helps you to make estimates about changing the size later on and this generally saves time.



Lyrics from Hair with reducing step size

An alternative way to reduce the size along the path is to set the 'change size with spaces' to Yes. This can help to make the text more legible towards the end of the path or produce a more gradual reduction in very long paths. If you were to use a step size of -1 with this text (containing 13 space characters) you would only end up with a size of 87 for the last word in the text string – not much of a change. A step of -5 on the other hand would lead to a final word size of $100 - (13 \times -5)$ i.e. 35; a greater reduction in size and give a much better effect.



To force the text to justify itself along its length, set the 'Repeat text along the path' option to Yes. There is plainly only room for one repetition of the text here, but setting this option forces the filter to use padding space between the words to make it fit along more of the path.

