

SIMPLE IMPRINT ICON QUICK TUT (Gimp 2.8+) by Nidhogg@GimpChat.

Requirements: Layerfx.py plug-in, basic knowledge of Gimp and its functions.

Step 1.

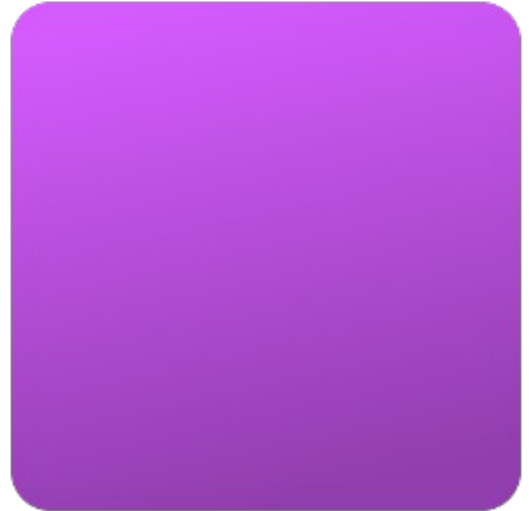
Create 512x512 canvas. Activate rectangular selection tool.

Select all (ctrl+a), shrink selection by 8px. In tool options box, enable corner radius and use the slider to drag it to 50.

Set your foreground color to d55bff, and background color to 7b3396.

Step 2.

Switch to blend tool (aka gradient), FG to BG linear. Drag from upper edge to the lower edge of the selection. You can drag vertically straight or alternately use small angle (110 degrees).



Step 3.

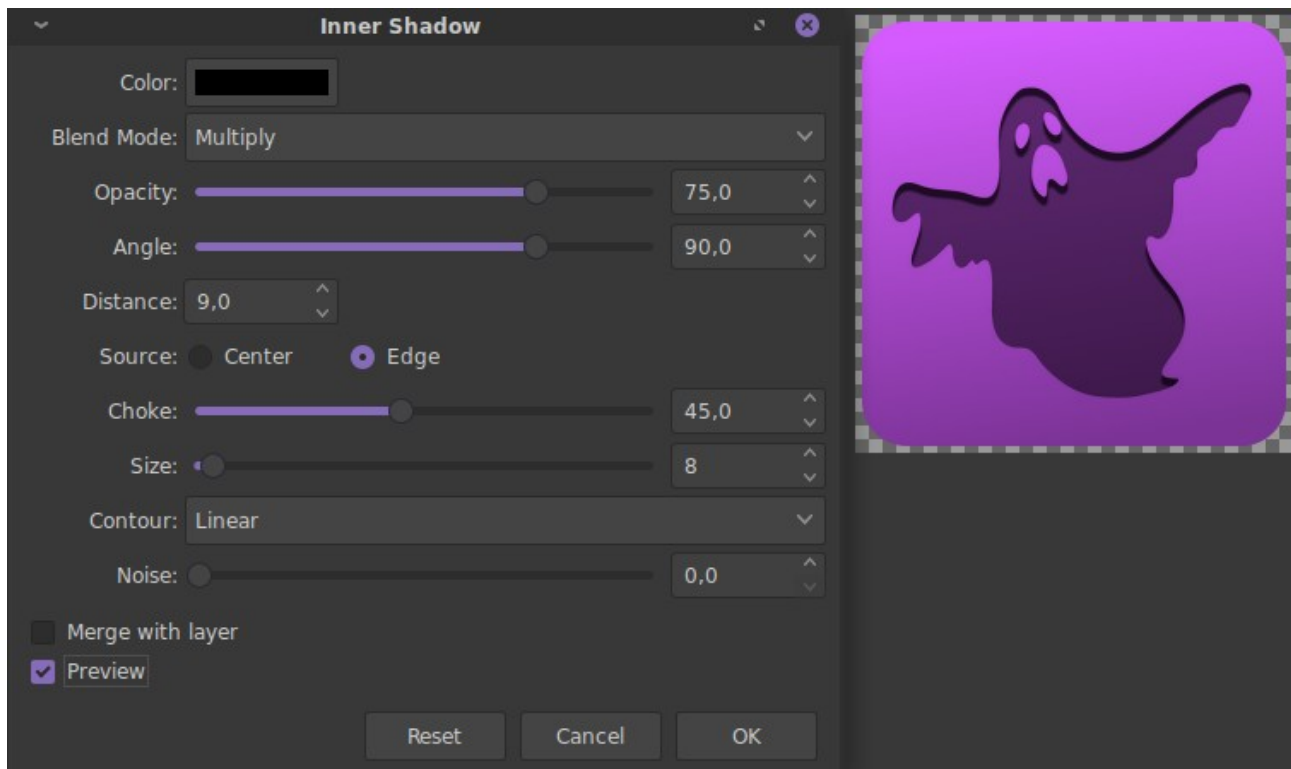
Create the motif for your icon. It should be black, simple silhouette with a transparent background.

Open it, add it as new layer above the button and align it to the center of canvas.

Lower the opacity of the silhouette to 58%. (*)

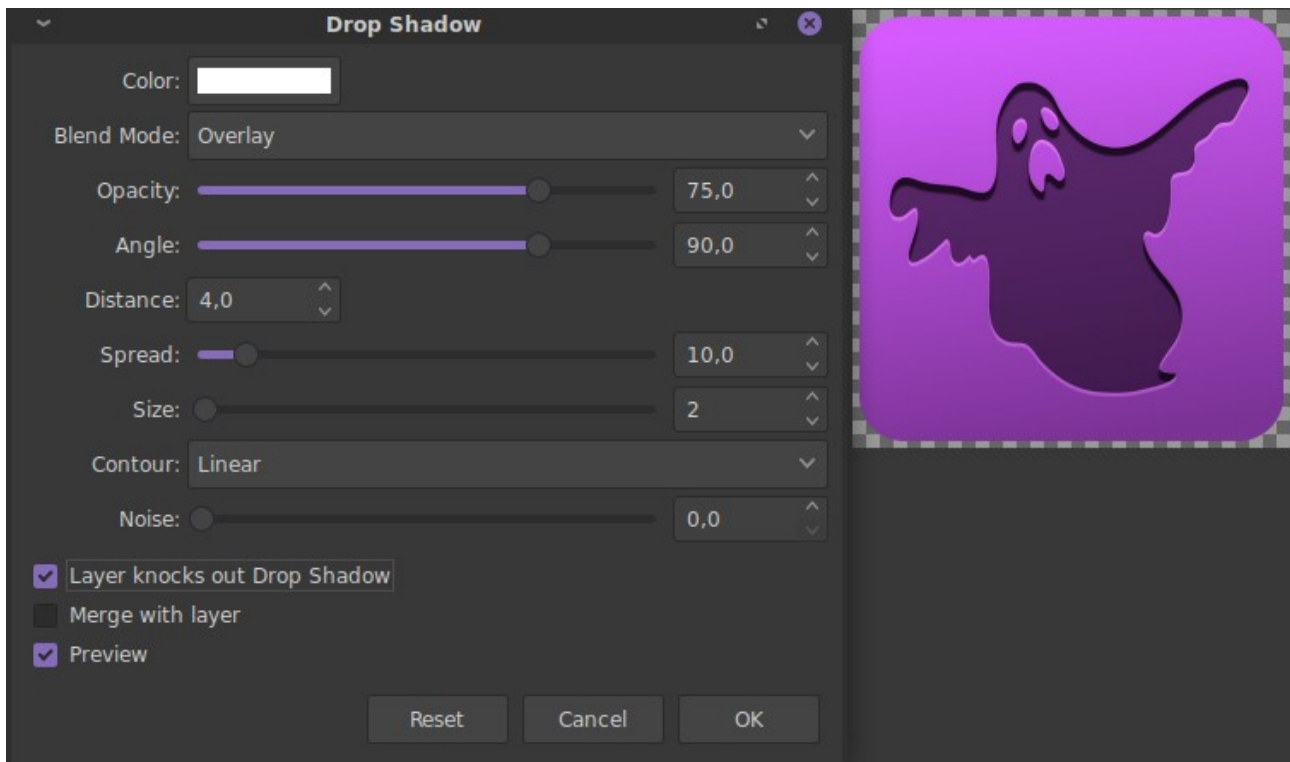
Step 4.

On the silhouette layer, we will now use the Layerfx plug-in to create inner shadow with following settings: (color is black)



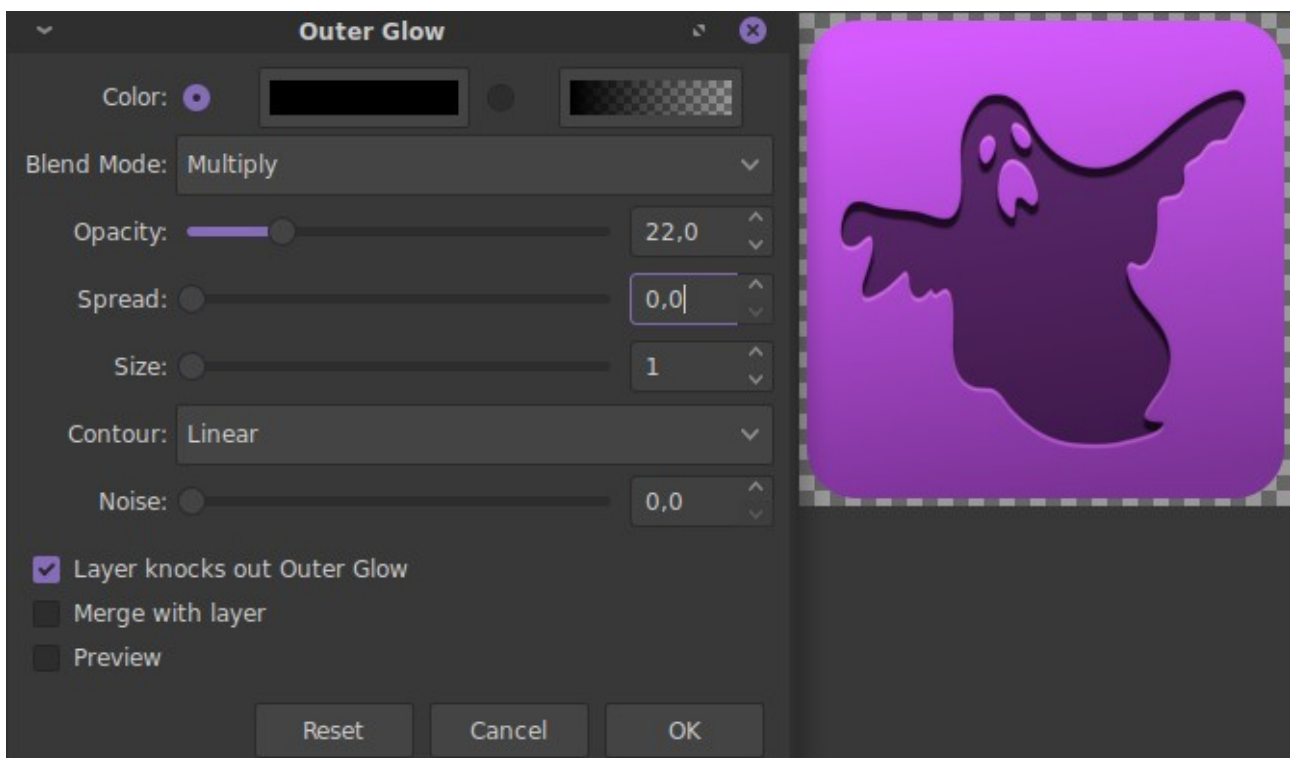
Step 5.

Let's continue with Layerfx. The outer glow does not have distance alteration, so we'll be using drop shadow and white color to create the light reflection and round look on the lower edge.



Step 6.

This adds roundness to the upper edge.

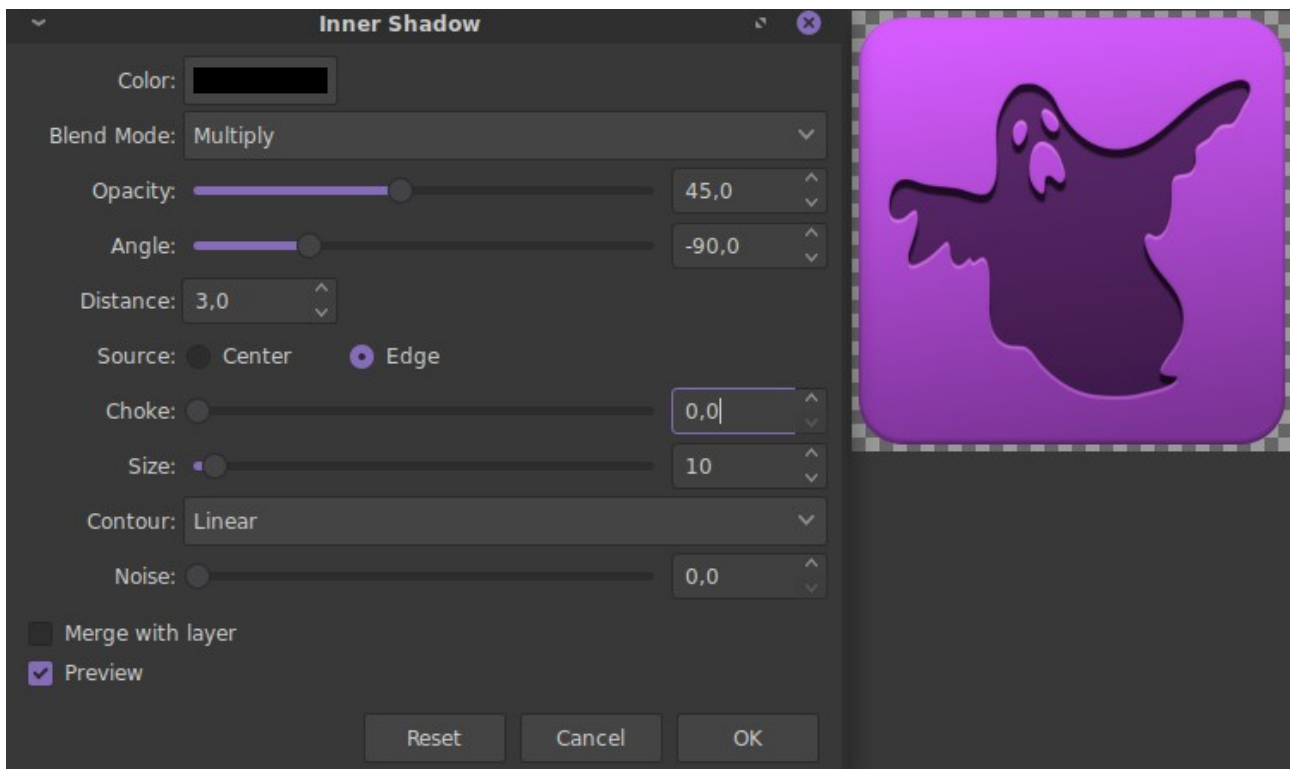


That's it for the silhouette. Now we'll continue with the button layer.

Step 7.

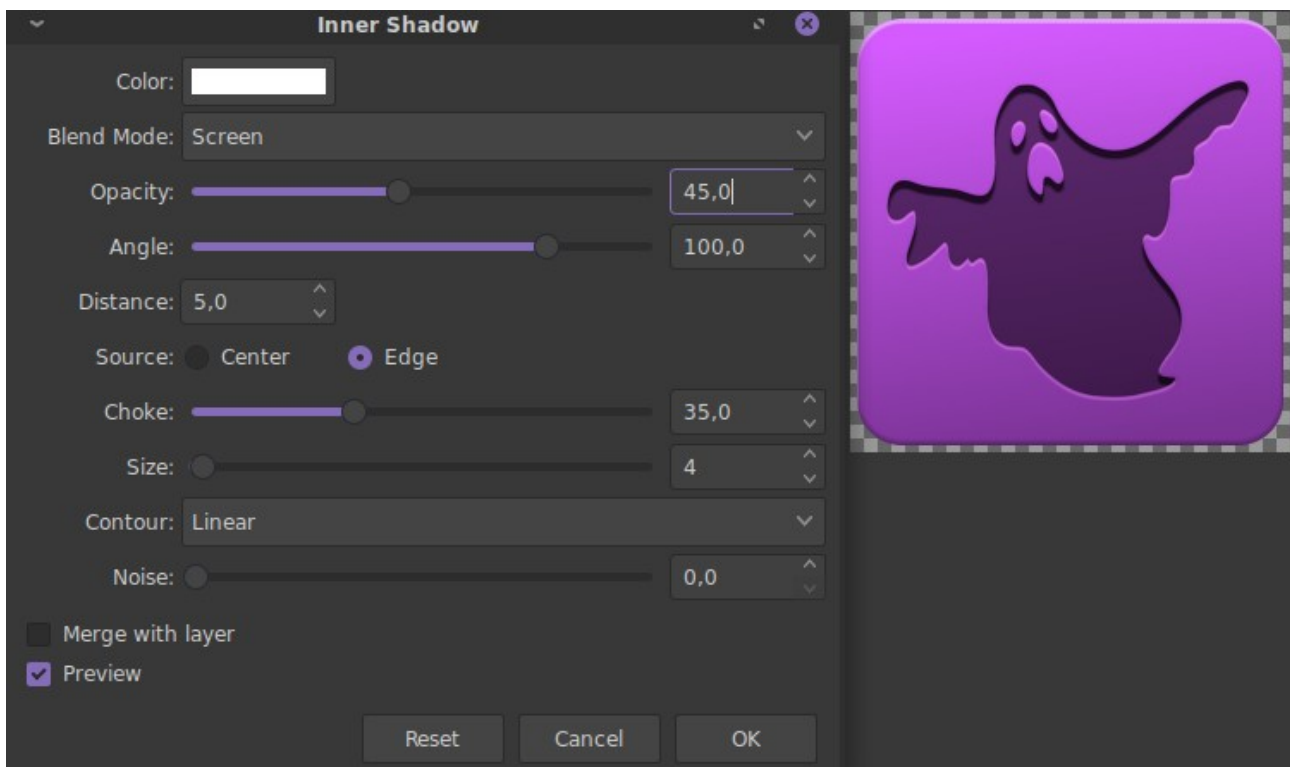
Activate the button layer on the layers toolbox.

Again, we'll be using Layerfx and inner shadow. Looking for a very subtle facet effect.



Step 8.

Button top.



Step 9.

We'll do the drop shadow good old way.

Duplicate the button layer. Menu: Colors/Levels. Drag the output level white triangle all the way to the left. Or alternately the input black triangle all the way to the right.

Filters/Blur: Gaussian Blur. 8px radius gives a good result on Gimp 2.8.

If you are using the newer 2.10 version of Gimp, experiment. I think it would be 1.5-2.

Place the drop shadow layer below the button layer, reduce opacity to around 75%.

Hit 6 times down arrow and right arrow 2 or 3 times to position the drop shadow.



*) You want to change the silhouette layer opacity depending on the color/gradient of the rectangle. 55-60% works for purple, but if you have yellow button for instance, 25-35% opacity would look better. Or you could use other blending mode to get better look.

