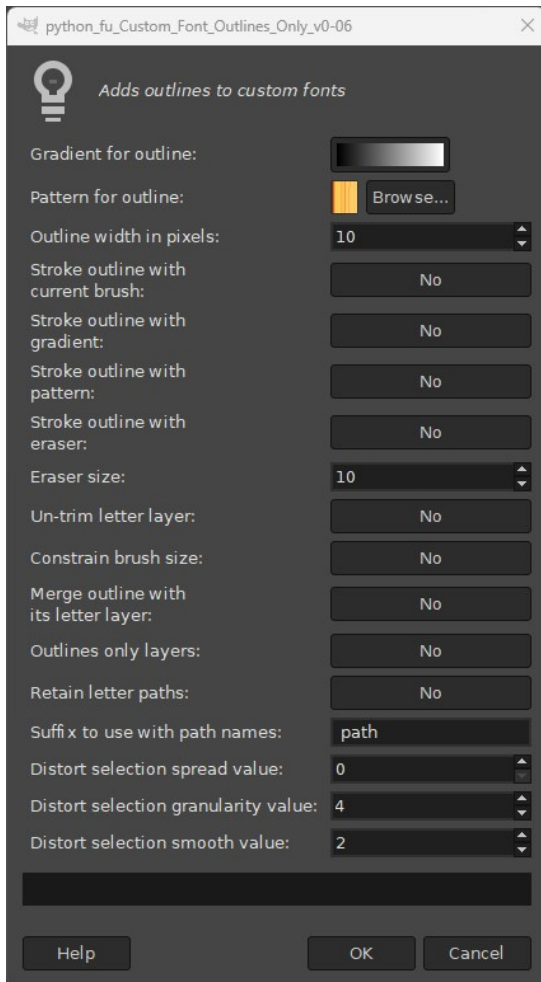
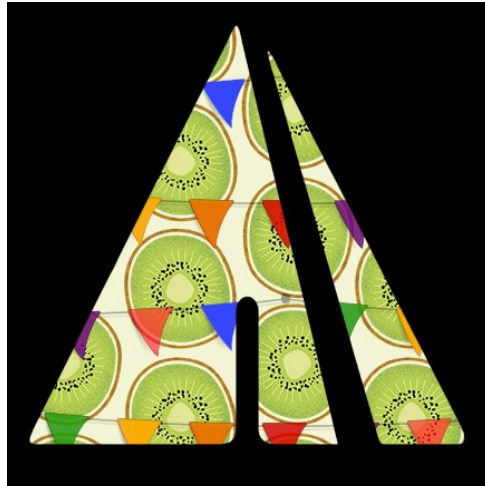


Custom Font Outlines Only v0.06...

You can use it the filter add outlines to an existing custom font file.



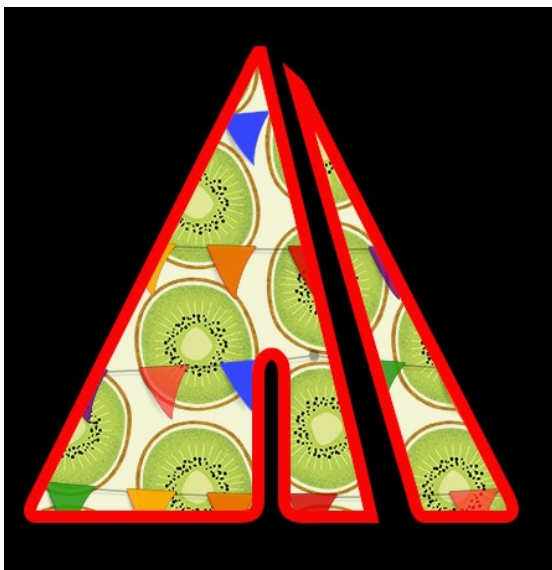
The outlines can be kept as a separate layer above the existing one, merged with the existing layer or used to replace the original layer.



My example character before outlining.

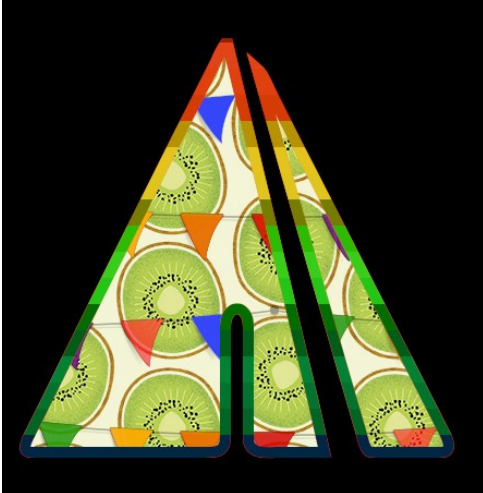
The filter can produce four main different types of outlines :-

1) Simple outline:



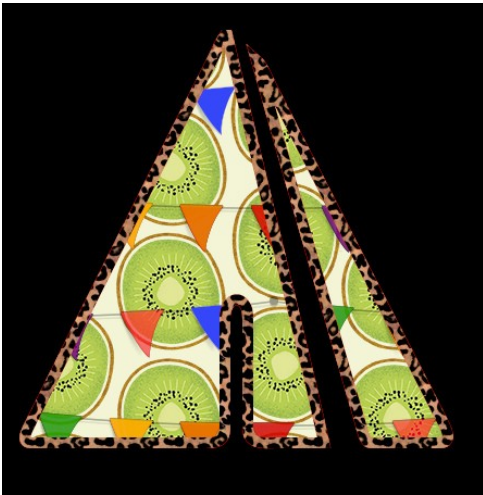
With all the stroke options set to 'No' the filter will use the currently selected foreground colour to create an outline with the specified width.

2) Gradient outline:



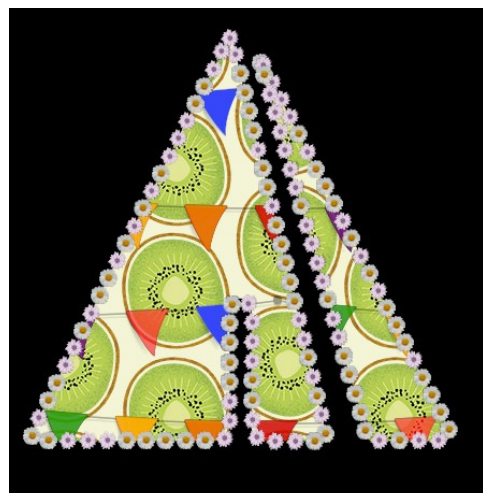
The filter will use the currently selected gradient and its related options to colour the outline.

3. Pattern outline:

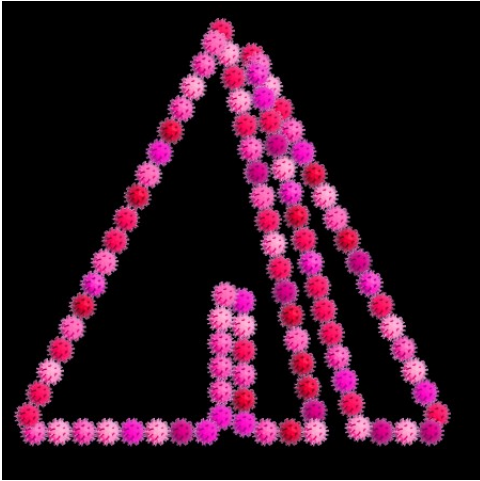


The filter will use the currently selected gradient and its related options to colour the outline.

4. Brushed outline:

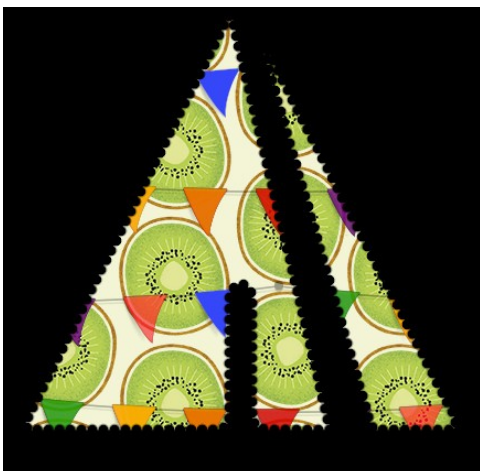


The filter will use the currently selected brush and its related options to colour the outline. (A good range of effects can be created by experimenting with the dynamics options – especially the random brush size, opacity, colour and spacing dynamics settings.)



An outline only character stroked with an animated brush.

5. Eraser Outline:



Although not strictly an outline layer you can also use the eraser option to take 'bites' out of the character shape to change the appearance of its outer edges.

Distort Options:



The three distort settings provide values to use with the plug-in like those that can be accessed with 'Distort' option from the Select menu. When the spread value is set to a number greater than zero the outline will be given a random path to follow. It is probably better to use lower values or the outline will stray beyond the boundaries of the original letter layer and leave gaps. Higher values can, however, produce some interesting outline only letter designs.

Tips for using the filter:

Try out different effects on a small test file that contains only one or two letter layers.

The 'Undo' key combination is definitely your friend - especially when using the distort options of this filter.

If the original letters disappear, leaving an empty layer, check the layer visibility in the layers dialog. If the layer has no content then try setting the 'Un-trim letter layer' option.

When using the brush to stroke the outlines option keep one eye on the default size of brushes - especially when you change brushes. If the brush is much larger than the outline width it can overwhelm the letter shape. If the brushed looks much fuzzier than you were expecting, try increasing the hardness of the brush.

If the outline layer shows a clipped effect it may be that the original letter layer does not have enough space at its left and right margins. Either use a smaller brush size or increase the size of layer to resolve the clipped effect. There is an option to restrict the size of the brush to the outline width, but this may produce too small a stroke for your needs.

There is an option in Custom Font Layer Utilities that will increase the (padding) space around the custom font layers if you need more room.