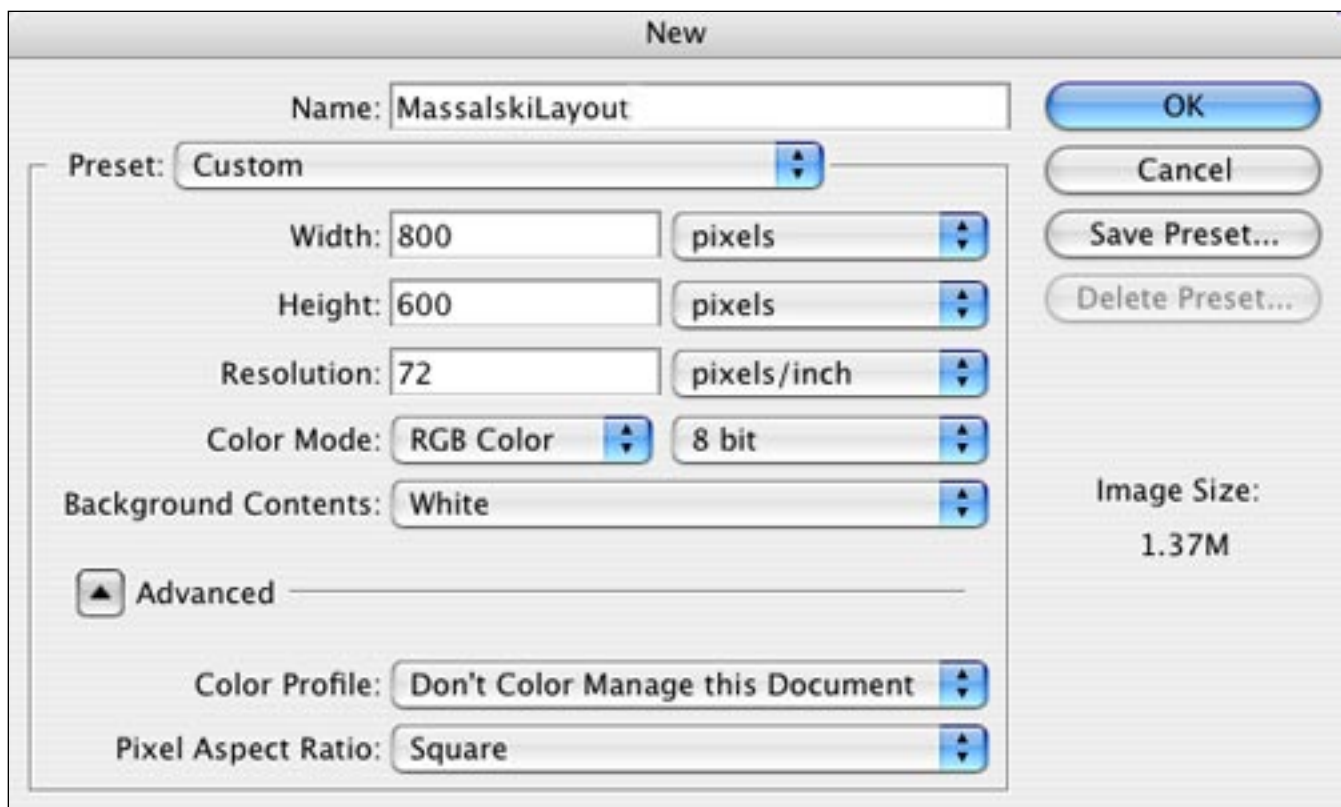


This lab will cover Recreating a Layout in Photoshop, included in this will be the use of guides and grids, layers, working with text, making selections and shapes. By recreating the layout you will learn how to organize your graphics in Photoshop to be used on the web. Since Photoshop and ImageReady are very similar you will be able to apply these techniques to ImageReady later in the course. For those of you that know Photoshop already this should be fairly intuitive. If you are new to Photoshop you will want to do the exercises from the HOT book before proceeding.

CREATING A NEW DOCUMENT

In this lab you will recreate the file LayoutFinal.psd. We will start by creating a new document but before you do this make sure your Proof Setup is set to Monitor in Photoshop and NOT working CMYK and Proof Colors is checked. Then go to the menu File > New > Preset Sizes: scroll down to 800x600 (Photoshop CS2 has 3 preset sizes for the web, 640x480, 800x600, 1024x768), Name it “your last name”Layout, for example MassalskiLayout, choose Mode of RGB and Background Contents of White. I like to set the Advanced setting to Don’t Color Manage this Document. If you use a custom document size often, you may want to save it. Click Save Preset and it will be added to the Preset Sizes in the File menu. This new document will be used to reconstruct the LayoutFinal.psd. Open LayoutFinal.psd to see what it looks like. Keep it open while you work on the new document.



LayoutFinal.psd



BACKGROUND COLOR

Let's make the light green color background first. With the Eyedropper Tool sample the green color by clicking on it in LayoutFinal.psd. You will need to go back and forth between your new document and the LayoutFinal.psd so leave them both open. In your new document go to the menu Edit > Fill using Foreground color (the green color you just sampled). Your background color should now be light green.

LAYERS

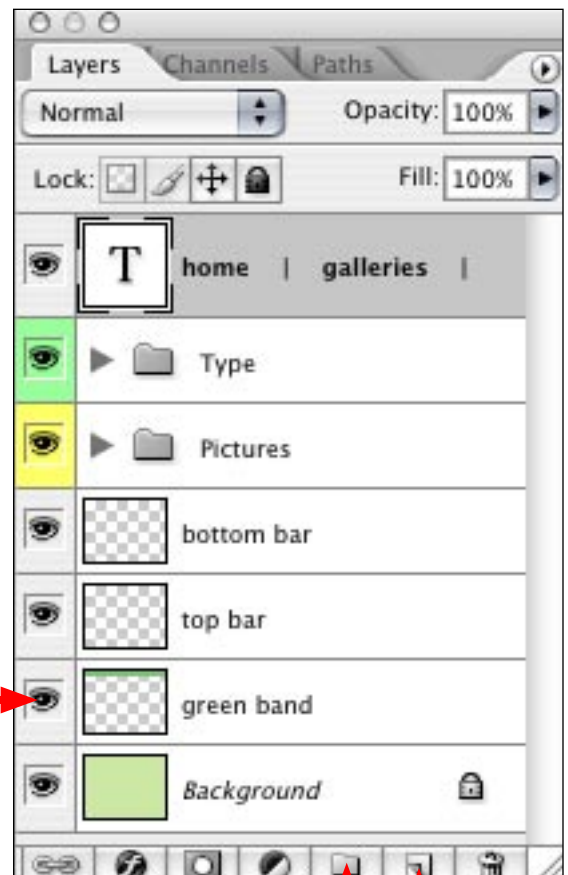
Layers are used to store graphical elements and for coding and organizing information. Organization is the keyword here. If you name your layers and keep them in groups you will be able to work much more efficiently. This will be important when we start slicing.

Your Layers Palette will look like this when you are finished.

The green and yellow eyes indicate Groups. A Group is a folder that contains multiple layers. Click on the arrow next to the folder to see the layers inside. I gave these groups color when I made them. You can create your Groups before or after you create your graphic elements. I prefer to do it after. I have also named all the Layers and Groups.

NOTE: Previous versions of Photoshop call these folders Sets.

click any eye
to turn layer
off & on

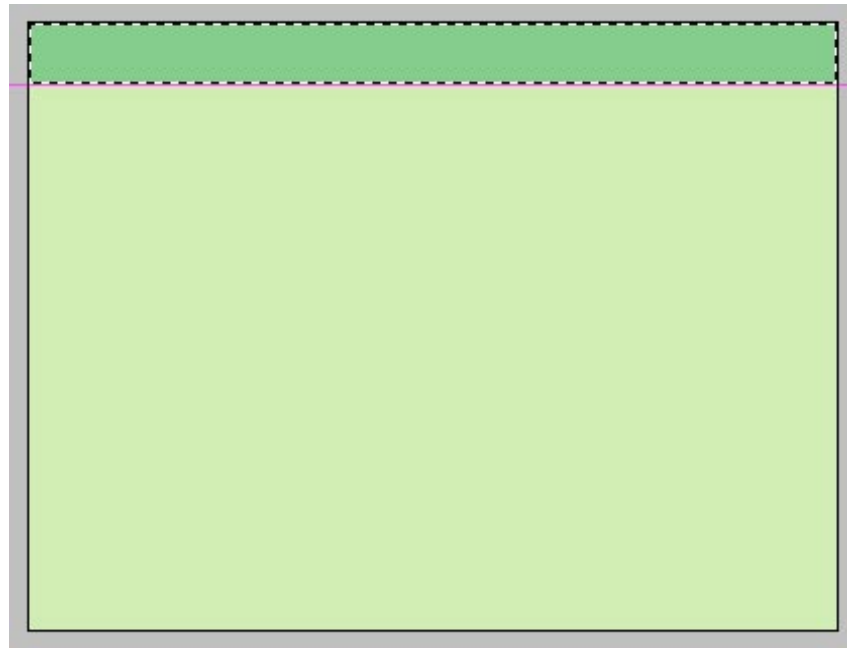


click here to create a group

click here to create a new layer

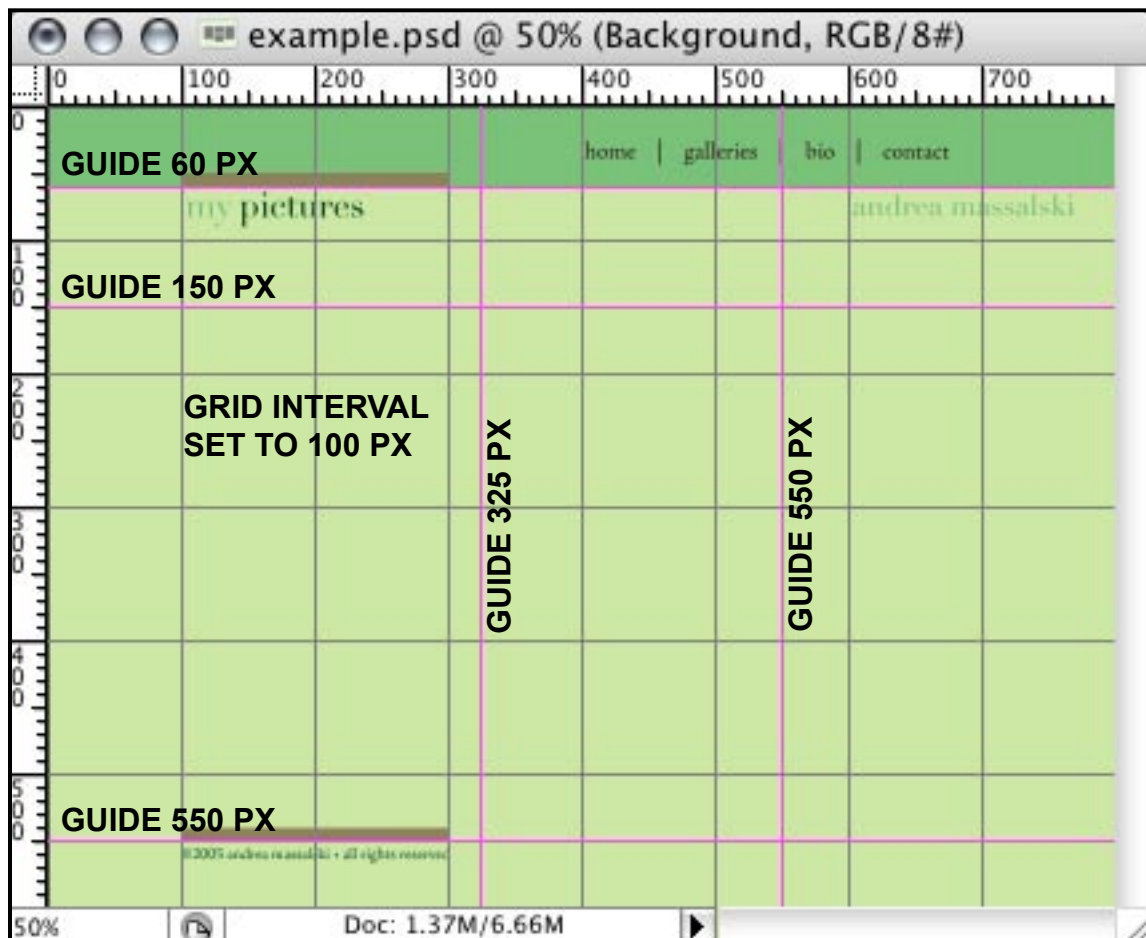
Create a new layer for the green band at the top of the page. Sample the darker green color with the Eyedropper Tool from the LayoutFinal.psd. The green band is 60 pixels in height and 800 wide. You can create this easily by clicking on the Rectangular Marquee Tool and changing the Style in the Options bar from Normal to Fixed Size. You can then enter the exact dimensions you want your selection and then click on the new document window. You will need to view your rulers so you know where to place it. I pulled down a guide to align the band at the 60 pixel mark of the vertical ruler. You can zoom into the ruler if you have trouble seeing the 60 pixels.

NOTE: If your colors do not look correct, make sure you uncheck Web Colors Only in the Color Picker and that under the View menu Proof Colors is checked.



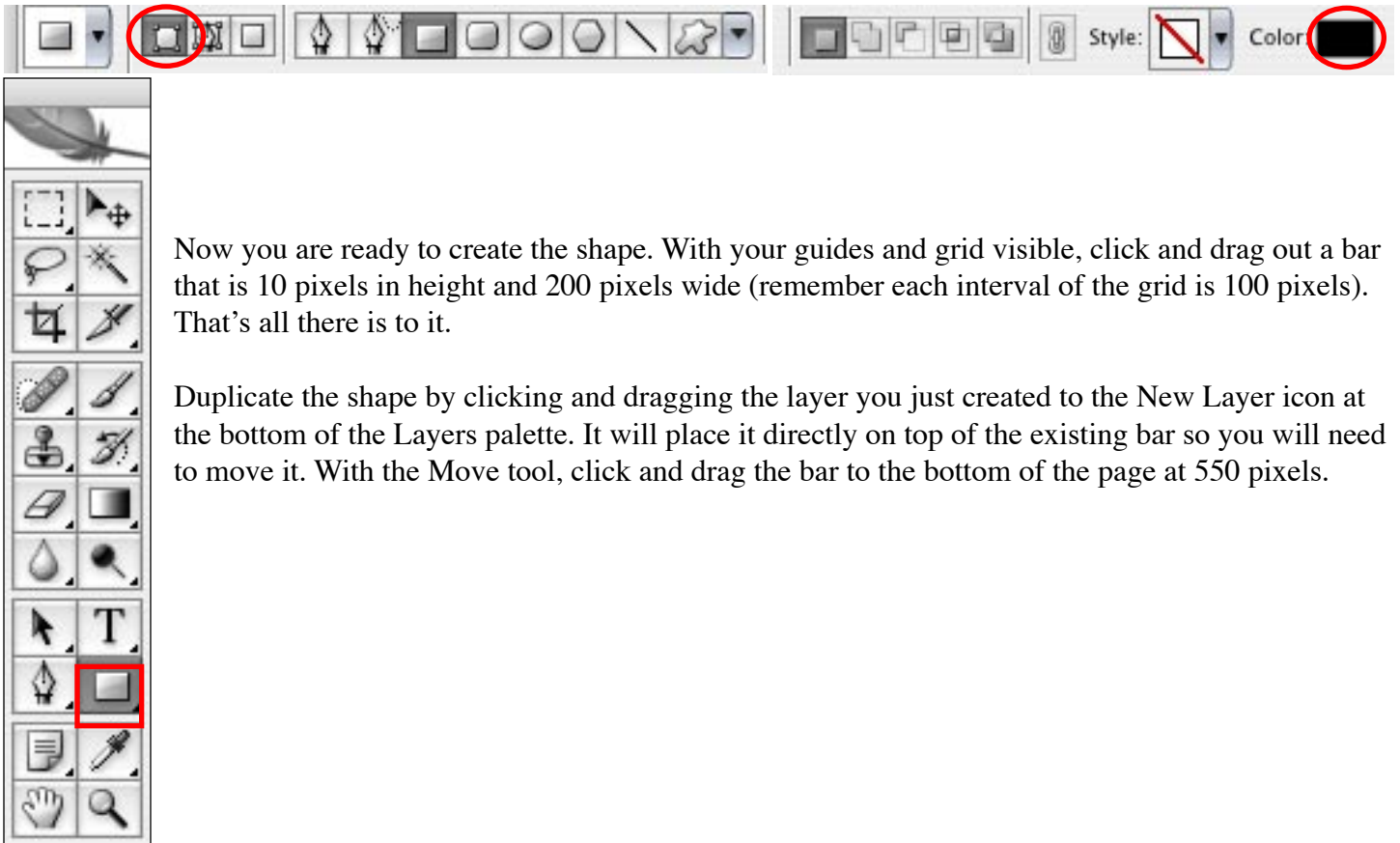
GUIDES AND GRIDS

Here is the setup I used for the guides and grids. Duplicate this for your layout.



SHAPE LAYERS

Next we will create the brown bars at the top and bottom. Select the Rectangle Tool (not the Rectangular Marquee). Make sure it is set to Shape Layers in the Options bar. Still in the Options bar click on Color and sample the brown color from LayoutFinal.psd to choose this color, it should be #9C9570. Type this in the Color Picker.



Now you are ready to create the shape. With your guides and grid visible, click and drag out a bar that is 10 pixels in height and 200 pixels wide (remember each interval of the grid is 100 pixels). That's all there is to it.

Duplicate the shape by clicking and dragging the layer you just created to the New Layer icon at the bottom of the Layers palette. It will place it directly on top of the existing bar so you will need to move it. With the Move tool, click and drag the bar to the bottom of the page at 550 pixels.

TYPE

Create the type. There are four type layers. One for the navigation text in the darker green area, the title of the page (my pictures), the name (andrea massalski), and the copyright below the bottom brown shape.

TITLE AND NAME: The title is my pictures. The name is andrea massalski. Create a horizontal guide at 80 pixels for the name and title page name. Type these out. They should be two different layers. Use the same color as the top green band for the words “my” and “andrea massalski”. For the word “pictures”, use #005728, a dark green. To get the color to apply just to just the word “pictures”, highlight the word first. I used Didot for the font at 26pt for these. Use whatever type font you like. Notice how each text element aligns to the grid.

NAVIGATION TEXT: home | galleries | bio | contact

The navigation text is using a small line symbol which can be found on the keyboard with the backward slash. There are four spaces before and after this symbol. This text is color #3A2F1D, a dark brown. I used Adobe Jenson Pro for the font type at 18pt. Use whatever type font you like.

COPYRIGHT: ©2005 Andrea Massalski all rights reserved

The copyright text is the same color as the word “pictures”. I used Adobe Jenson Pro for the font type at 12pt. To get the copyright and bullet symbols here are the keyboard shortcuts for each platform:

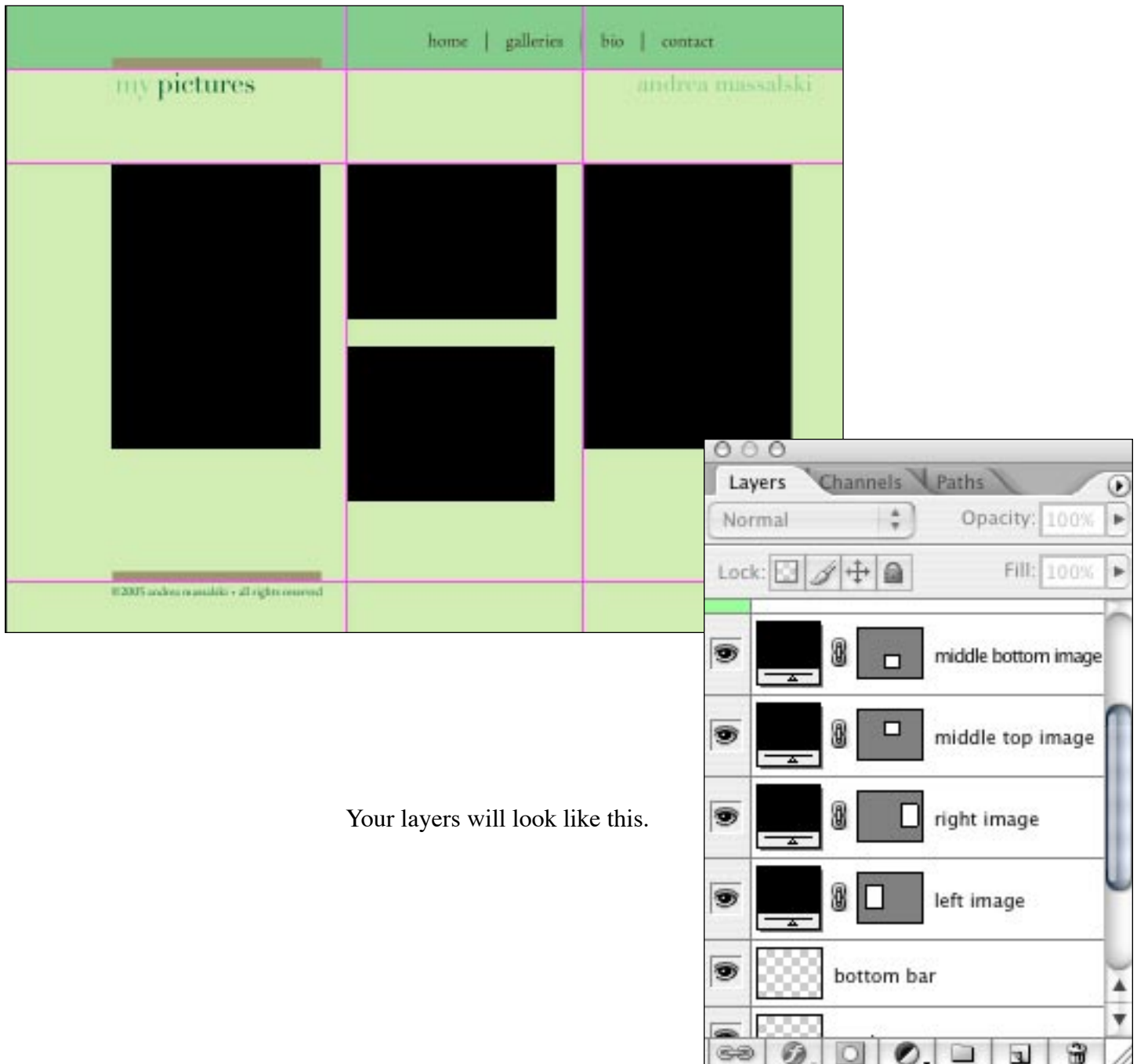
MAC copyright - type Option G bullet - type Option 8

PC copyright - Num lock on, type Alt+ 0169 (The symbol codes vary from font to font on the PC. This is for Times New Roman. For SYMBOL font it is ALT+0227) bullet - type ALT+0188

After you have created all the text layers, put them into a layer group (folder). Name it Type.

MORE SHAPE LAYERS

The final step before adding the photos is to create a general layout of where they will reside on the page. All the photos will be 200 pixels wide. Create boxes for the placement of the photos with the Rectangle tool, some are vertical and some horizontal. These are just estimations. Open the Info palette to see the width as you create the shape. If it is not set for pixels, change this from the pop-out menu under Palette Options.



Your layers will look like this.

SUBMIT

Send me your finished document WITH layers through Etudes under Assignments > LAB02 . Zip or Stuffit the document before you send it to me.

We will put the photographs into the layout next week.