



Corporate Flow



Illustration



Image Editing



Automation



Web



Text Effects

# Canvas Tips and Techniques



**Deneba  
Creative Department**

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## Neon Glow Text Effects



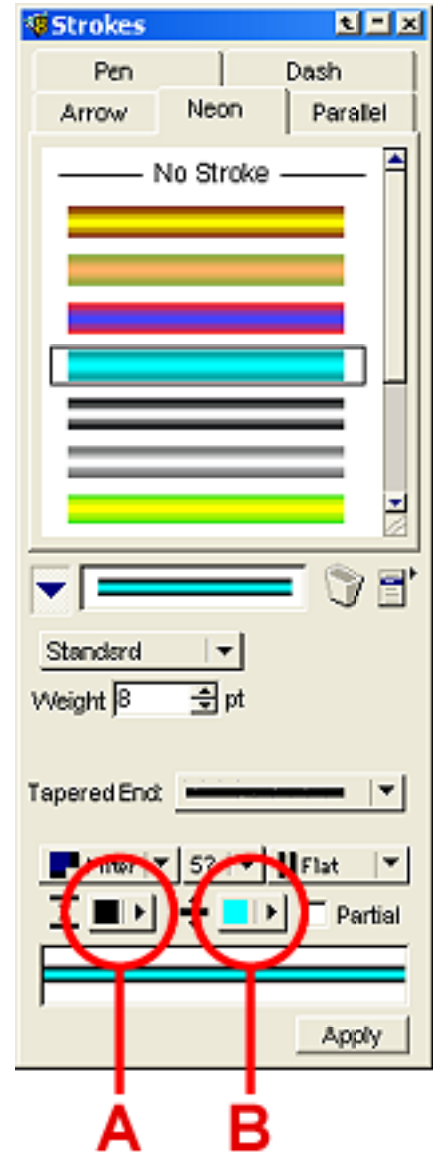
Canvas' Neon pen has many uses, and here's a tutorial on how to create the obvious. With SpriteEffects and a custom Neon pen from the Strokes palette, adding a realistic neon tube glow to text and artwork is a no brainer.

### Step 1

#### Neon Text:

Start by creating a custom Neon pen from the Strokes palette. For this example, I created a two tone blue for this example. Use the Neon Tab manager from the Strokes Palette to create the new Neon pen.

After playing around with the settings, I found that keeping the outside color (A) darker than the inside color (B) of the pen provided the best results. Be sure to save your new neon pen by dragging it from the preview window to the top of the palette.



### Step 2

Prepare your text (or artwork) and space out the letters a bit to make room for the glow effects. Next apply the Neon pen for your base color from the Inks Palette. Duplicate the text object and set it aside.

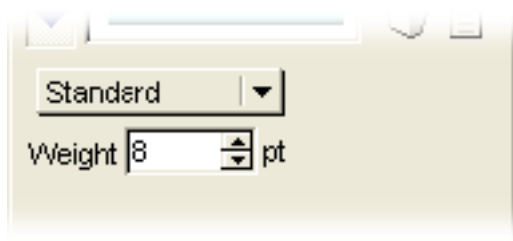


Apply the custom Neon pen to your text or artwork.

## Neon Text Effects

### Step 3

Duplicate the text and apply a color for the glow. You'll need to remove the Neon pen first in order to apply the new stroke color. I chose a purple for the emanating light with a Standard pen, and a weight of 8 point. Now apply a Gaussian Blur SpriteEffect to complete the glow. Use a heavy radius. For this examples I used a 3.9 at 72 resolution.



Select a heavy weight for the stroke.



Apply a color for the background glow in the and apply a Gaussian Blur SpriteEffect.

### Step 4

Now just put the two text objects together, the purple blurred text in the back. Depending on the weight of the Neon pen used, a slight Gaussian Blur applied as a SpriteEffect will soften the appearance of the base text. Make sure the Anti-Aliased box is checked.

There! Instant Neon.

Next, with by using duplicate blurred objects instead of a Neon pen, create an LED display glow.



Align the two text objects for the finished look. Apply a slight Gaussian Blur SpriteEffect to the top object with Anti-Aliased selected to smooth the finished neon text.

## LED Glow - Text Effects

### Step 5

#### LED Glow:

Start with a digital font that looks like an LED display or other neon-looking fonts. I used Quartz from Canvas' URW font collection, for this example.

Select three colors for the text in addition to the white basic text (See right). Most LED displays range in the greens and red tones so I chose a set of colors to produce a lime green display. Duplicate the text object 3 times and apply one of the colors to each.



Start with white text. Then select three colors for the three copies of the basic text.

### Step 6

The effect is created by applying a different amount of Gaussian Blur to each copy as a SpriteEffect. Then, the copies are placed in order starting with the main color (in this case the lime green) at the bottom. Next place the white text. On top of that goes a lighter version of the main color and finally a brighter tone on top.

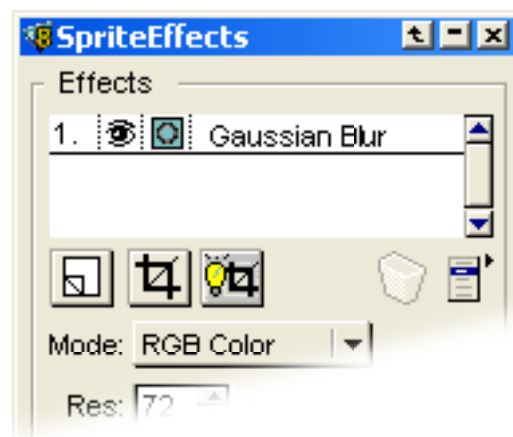


After applying the SpriteEffects to each text object, place them in this order and align them to complete.

## LED Glow - Text Effects

### The details for this example:

- (1) SpriteEffect Gaussian Blur, radius of 6.8
- (2) SpriteEffect Gaussian Blur, radius of 1.6 with the Mask icon selected (see right) to contain the blur.
- (3) SpriteEffect Gaussian Blur, radius of 5.5
- (4) SpriteEffect Gaussian Blur, radius of 11 with the Mask icon selected.



Select the Mask icon to the right of the eye in the SpriteEffects Palette to contain the blur within the text.

The finished text with LED glow.

