

# Fireworks: Line Tool

**Making fancy lines in Fireworks is very easy. Using the vector line tool and the Property Inspector you can vary all aspects of the line including size, font, spacing, stroke, fill, and live effects. Images can be attached to add an additional effect.**

## Step 1: Setup

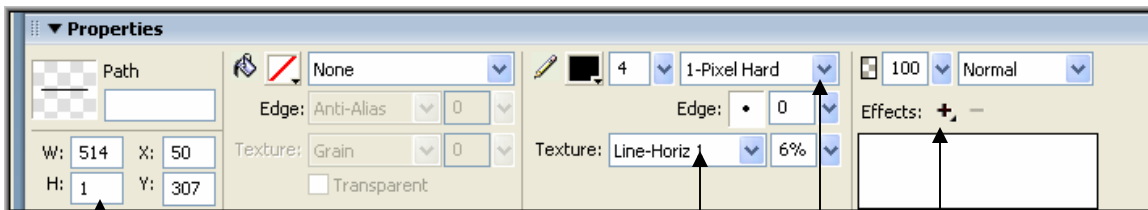
1. Open Macromedia>Fireworks.
2. Select Create New > Fireworks File.
3. Select a 600 x 600 pixel canvas, resolution 72 and select the transparent radio button.
4. Set up toolbars. Select Window on the main toolbar and select Toolbars. Be sure the Main and Modify toolbars are selected.
5. Set up your panels. Select Window on the main Toolbar and make sure Tools, Properties, Layers, Optimize and Styles are all selected. These panels will remain on the left side of your screen with the exception that the Properties toolbox always resides at the bottom of the window.

## Step 2: Draw a Simple Line

1. Select the line on the main toolbar and click inside the canvas.
2. Draw a straight line across the canvas by holding shift and dragging the line across the canvas.
3. Grab the pointer tool and move the text box around on the canvas by dragging.
4. Use the Property Inspector to select font style, color, size, spacing and other text attributes.



Stroke Options



Size

Texture

Stroke Options

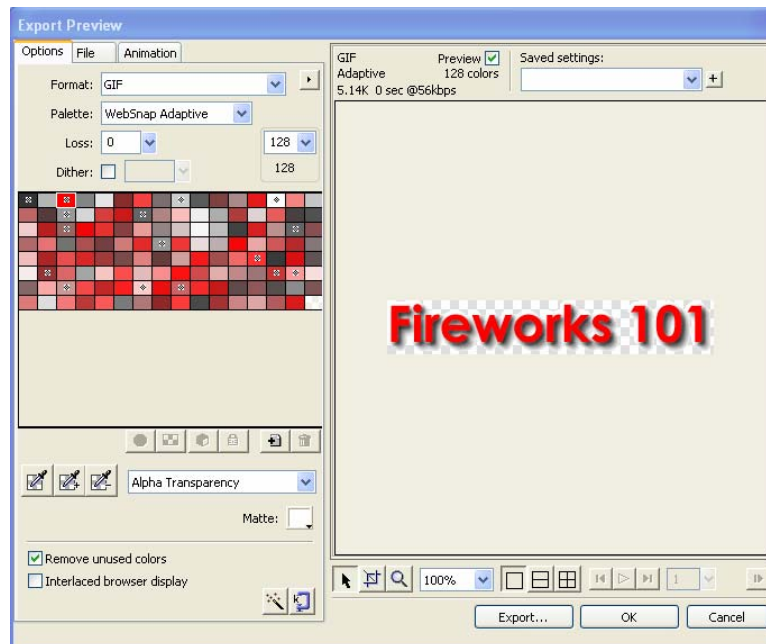
Effects

5. Change the width of the line and experiment with the stroke options.
6. Experiment with the texture option along with the percentage.
7. Add special effects, such as drop shadow using effects.
8. You can manipulate the size as well and pixel it to be a wider width.
9. Save as a .png file in order to edit later. (.png – Portable Network Graphics – 1995) File > Save As > Save to appropriate folder

**All graphics created for the web must be in GIF or JPG format. All graphics created with Fireworks are in PNG format, therefore each finished file must be exported in GIF or JPG format for use on the web. Graphics are commonly exported as .gifs, photos are exported as .jpg.**

## **Step 2: Saving and Exporting for the Web**

1. Once a graphic is trimmed (ctrl + alt + t), and saved as a .png it must be exported for the web.
2. Select File> Export Wizard



3. In the Export Preview window, select the GIF format since the text is a graphic. (.gif - Graphics Interchange Format – Late 1980's patent)
4. In the Palette option, select WebSnap Adaptive.
5. Select Alpha Transparency and at the Matte option select the shade of the background color of the web page where this graphic will reside.
6. Select Export and export it to the appropriate folder.

**If you are using a set style throughout a document it is handy to save the style by selecting Effects in Property Inspector and Select Options>Save as Style.**

