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How to curve text around a circle in inkscape

Post questions about how to use or achieve an effect on Inkscape. Ghscnclass Messages: 6 Joined: Wed Nov 28, 2018 7:04 am Postby Ghscnclass » Wed Nov 28, 2018 7:31 am Quick Question - What is the easiest way to get the text to wrap around the circle similar to the example sign I have attached? I can put it on a path, but I can't get the words centered. I also get in trouble when I try to wrap the second word around the oval. Example attachments.jpg (20.02 KiB) Viewed 1439 times Inkscapefoto.png (196.84 KiB) Viewed 1439 times brynn Posts: 10309 United: Sat seven 26, 2007 4:34 pm Location: western USA Contact: Postby brynn » Wednesday November 28, 2018 2:24 pm Hey, who was some game last weekend, right? Haha! There are some tricks you can use to get the text in the right place. In the case of an oval, probably the use of space in certain places is the best way. (With a circle, you can rotate the circle to help.) Exactly what problems do you have with the second part? Is the text upside down, backward, both, inside or out, when you want it the other way around? Ghscnclass Posts: 6 Joined: Wednesday November 28, 2018 7:04 AM Postby Ghscnclass » Fri November 30, 2018 6:48 am This is the problem I have when I put the text on track. I want the letters of the Broncos spell to wrap around the bottom of the oval similar to the attached example sign. Bronco Trial Forum Attachments.svg (12.25 KiB) Downloaded 172 times Back to Help with the use of Inkscape Jump users browsing this forum: Google [Bot] and 8 guests Want to take their design skills up a notch - either to design logos or just create flashy pieces of text? In this tutorial, I will help you do this by showing you how to put your text around a circle in Inkscape. The technique is quite easy, requiring only a few simple steps, but the end result can drastically improve your graphic design capabilities when working with text. This tutorial is easy enough for beginner Inkscape users to follow, and will follow a step-by-step process to help you thoroughly understand the concepts discussed. Without further goodbye, let's dive in! I have my Inkscape canvas set to look like the Adobe Illustrator artboard, which you can learn to do in this tutorial. Step 1: Add the text I will start this process by taking my text tool from the Toolbox (red arrow in the image above) to the left side of the Inkscape user interface (you can also hit F8 on the keyboard to access this tool). Then I will click anywhere on my inkscape canvas to start a line of text (red arrow in the photo above). Next, I will write my first line text (we will have two lines of total text – one line that goes around the top of the circle and the other line that goes around the bottom of the circle). For my first line of text, I just went with Easily wrapping text. Then I will click elsewhere on my canvas with the text tool still activated to start another line of text, and will write my second line of text. For this example, I went with Around a Circle as my second line. Step 2: Define the Font Now that we have both lines of text created, I will select the font I want to use. To do this, I will start by clicking on the selection tool from the Toolbox (which you can also activate using the shortcut key F1 – denoted by the red arrow in the photo above) and click and drag the mouse over the two lines of text. This will select both lines of text. I will then access the Text and Font dialog via the command bar icon (red arrow in the image above) on the right side of the Inkscape user interface. Clicking on this icon opens the Text and Fonts dialog (green arrow). Once opened, this dialog allows me to edit multiple lines of text simultaneously. So, I will scroll through the fonts (drawn in green in the image above) until I find one I like (you can click on a font to generate a preview of what your text looks like in that source). In this case, I went with a font called Wicked Grit that I downloaded and installed as a third-party source (in other words, this font doesn't come with Inkscape by default). You can learn how to install fonts in Inkscape with my help article on the subject. Once I have the font I want, I can click the Apply button (red arrow) to apply the new font to my lines of text (blue arrow). Now that I have my new source, I have decided that I also want the text to be a little bigger. To change my font size, I can simply click on the Drop-down Font Size (red arrow in the photo above) and choose a new size. In this case, I went with 48 for my new font size (blue arrow). Then I can click the Apply button again to apply this new font size to my lines of text. Step 3: Draw a circle with my text ready to go, now I will have to draw a circle shape that I can wrap the text around. To do so, I will click on the Ellipse tool in my Toolbox (you can also use the shortcut key F5 – red arrow in the photo above). Then I will click and drag the mouse onto the canvas and hold the ctrl key as you drag to draw a perfect circle. When the circle is the size I want, I can release my mouse to apply the circle drawing to my canvas. If you want the circle to be a specific size, you can always manually type the Rx and Ry values (drawn in green in the photo above) based on the values you want to use (by default the units will be in pixels), then I will click the Align and Distribute dialog icon from the command bar (red arrow). This dialog allows me to align my circle on my canvas. I want to align the circle in the center of my canvas, so under the Relative to drop-down: I'll select Page (green arrow in the photo above). Next, I will click the Center on the vertical axis vertically (red arrow in the previous photo), followed by the Center horizontal axis (green arrow) option. This will focus my circle on the canvas (blue arrow). Step 4: Add the top line of text to your circle now I have all my items on the canvas to start the process of wrapping my text around the circle. I'll start by adding the top line of text at the top of the circle. To do this, I will hit the F1 key on my keyboard or click on the selection tool in my toolbox (red arrow in the image above). Then I will click on the first line of text we created (green arrow), which will be the top line of text in the circle. Then I will hold down the Shift key and click the circle. This allows you to simultaneously select both the top line of text and the circle (red arrows in the photo above). Now I'll go into Text>Put on Path. This will place my text in the circle. To rotate my text to the right position, I will first have to click anywhere on my canvas to deselect the circle and text I had selected. Then, I can simply click on my circle twice to bring up the rotation transformation handles. Next, I will click on one of the rotation transformation handles (red arrow in the photo above) and drag until my text is in the position I want. Step 5: Add a lower line of text to your circle, I will duplicate my circle from the previous step while it is still selected by pressing the ctrl+d key. Then I will click on the circle (which will select the top circle - or the duplicate circle we just created), and I will drag the scale transformation ID into any of the corners of the box around the circle (red arrow in the photo above) to scale the circle up. I'll keep the shift+ctrl keys while I click and drag to secure the circle scales from the middle and also maintains its 1:1 aspect ratio (or in other words it's still a perfect circle while you drag). I will release my mouse once the circle is large enough to cover the top line of text we have created. Now I will click on the second line of text, which will be the bottom of the text, and it will change + click on the larger circle so that we now have the two objects selected (denoted by the red arrows in the photo above). I'll go back to Text>Put on Path. This will place the second line of text around the outside of the circle. The point is that we need the text to be at the bottom of the circle, but we don't want it to be the other way around (which would occur if we simply used the rotation method made for the top line of text in the previous step). Therefore, what I will do to remedy this is Click the Reverse selected objects vertically in the controls bar (red arrow in the image above). This will place the text at the bottom of the circle and rotate it so that it is not the other way around (green arrow). However, you won't be able to see it at first if you have a fill added to your circle (i.e. the is colored). In my case, I have a light blue filler that is covering the text. To remove the color fill from the circle, click a random area of the canvas to deselect your objects, and then click the circle to select only the circle, and then click the box with a red X in the color palette (red arrow in the photo above). This will remove the color fill from the circle. I also recommend that you change + click on the black color (or any color - green arrow in the photo above) so that your circle has a stroke and therefore is easy to locate for the final steps. Now that we can see our text and the circle that is within, I will perform some last steps to get our text in the right position. First, while my circle is still selected, I will use the arrow keys on my keyboard to lower the circle until the bottom line of text aligns with the smaller circle (red arrow in the above photo). Then I will want to grab my text tool, select all my text in the background line, and increase the spacing between the letters so that they match (or are more similar to) the spacing in the top line of text (I set my spacing to 5 - denoted by the red arrow in the image above). Then I will click on the larger circle again until the rotation transformation handles appear. I will click and drag these handles (red arrow in the photo above) until my background line of text is placed where I want. Step 6: Remove the circles from your composition Now that our text is wrapped around the circles we have created, we will want to remove the circles from the composition as we no longer need them. To do this, I will first need to essentially release the lines of text from circles. I will click on my first line of text using the Selection tool (F1) and then on Path>Goal on the path. I will repeat this action for the bottom line of the text. Each line of text has been separated from the circles. So, I can simply click on each circle with the Selection tool and hit the Backspace key on my keyboard to delete the circles. What we have left is two lines of text wrapped around a circle shape! That's it for this tutorial. If you like it, you can check out my other Inkscape help articles on my site. I also have tons of GIMP help articles and GIMP video tutorials. Tutorials.