

Adobe After Effects 6.0

# Converting Photoshop text to After Effects text

When you import text from Adobe® Photoshop® into Adobe After Effects® 6.0, the text imports as a rasterized, non-editable image. However, if you want to edit or animate the text, you can quickly convert it to text layers in After Effects by using the Convert to Editable Text command. Once converted, you can use the sophisticated text animation features of After Effects to achieve the look you desire.

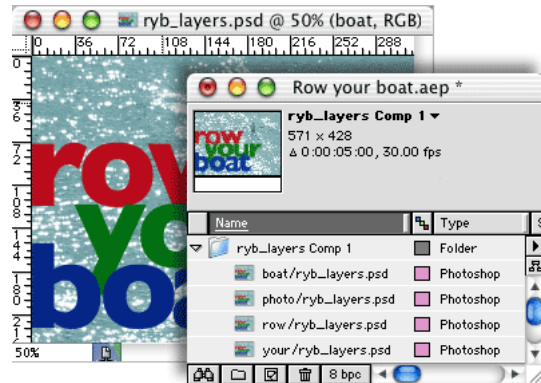


## 1. Create a Photoshop file and an After Effects project.

Create and save a Photoshop file containing one or more text layers. Create an After Effects project to import the Photoshop file into.

## 2. Import the Photoshop file into After Effects.

In After Effects, choose File > Import > File, select the Photoshop file, and then choose Composition - Cropped Layers from the Import As menu. After Effects imports the file as a composition, placing the new composition, along with a folder containing the separate layers, in the Project window. Double-click the newly imported composition to open it.



## 3. Scale a layer and view the quality.

At this time, the newly imported layers are rasterized layers—they do not contain editable text. (Raster layers are denoted in the Timeline window by a thumbnail of the image instead of the uppercase T that denotes text layers.) Scale a layer by roughly 200%, and then view the layer in the Composition window. You'll notice that the quality of the raster image is pixelated. (Make sure the Quality switch in the layer's Switches/Modes column is set to Best.)



#### 4. Convert the layers to text layers.

When you convert a rasterized layer to a text layer, After Effects uses fonts instead of the raster image, producing a smoother image. You can use the Convert to Editable Text command whenever you need to edit or animate the text. Select the layer you scaled, and then choose Layer > Convert to Editable Text. You'll now notice the converted layer displays the T in the Timeline window, and the text in the Composition window appears without the pixelization. Convert the remaining text layers to editable text. (If your Photoshop file contained drop shadows, they'll import as a separate layer—you can either convert the shadow layer or delete it and add the drop shadow in After Effects.)

Once the layers are converted to editable text, you can animate and edit the text as you would a text layer created in After Effects. You can also use the Create Outlines command (Layer > Create Outlines) to convert the text to outlines for use with path-based effects and as masks.

