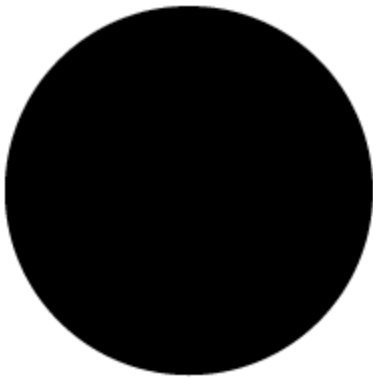


Adobe® InDesign® CS5

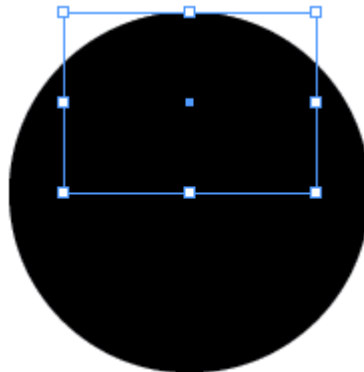
How-to guide


Shine on!

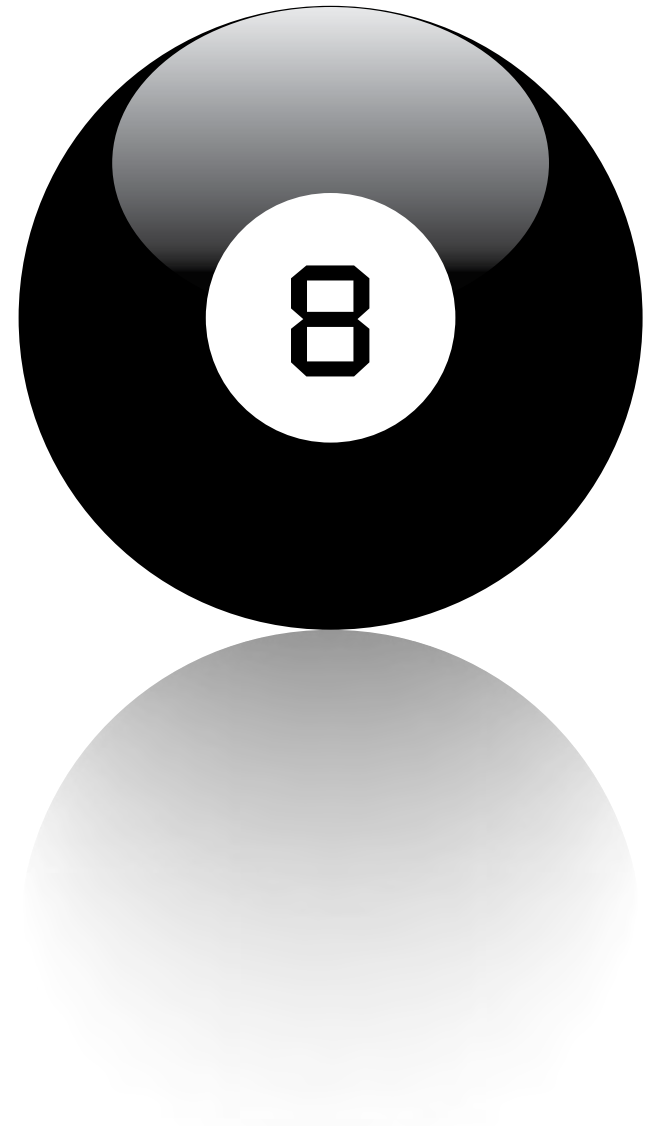
Nowadays everywhere you look on the web, you see shiny graphics. It's like one day, someone just decided to polish up the Internet. The shiny look has found its way into lots of print and TV graphics as well. Shiny is the new drop shadow! Has it already become a design cliché? To find out, we could consult the modern oracle, the 8-Ball.

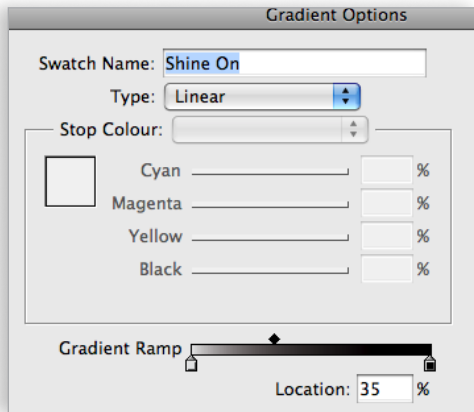


Step 1: The 8-Ball is fun and easy to make in any version of Adobe InDesign software, and, most important, it's shiny. Start with a black circle.

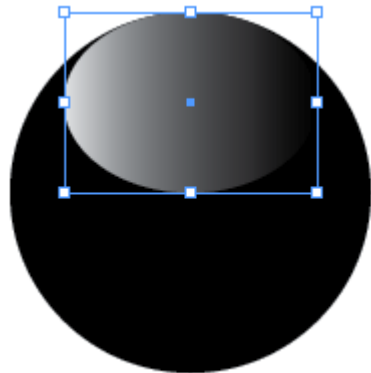
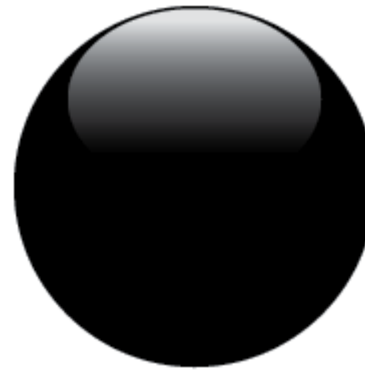
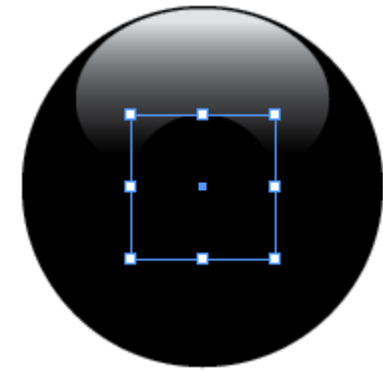
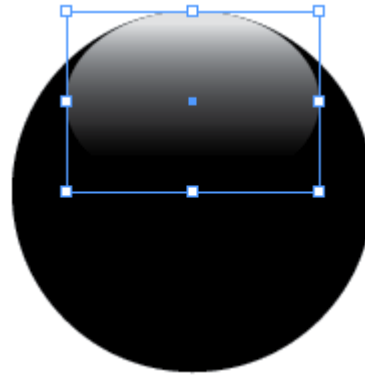


Step 2: Copy the circle, and choose Edit > Paste In Place. With the new circle still selected and the reference point at the top center , go to the Control panel, deselect the Constrain Proportions For Scaling option, and enter 70% for Scale X Percentage and 50% for Scale Y Percentage.






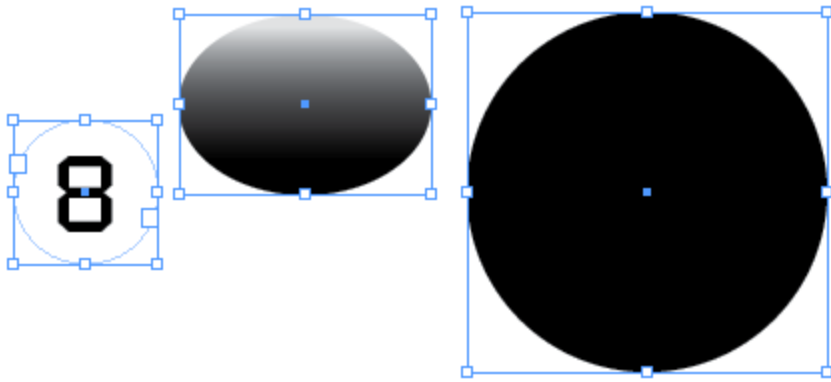
Step 3: Choose New Gradient Swatch from the Swatches panel menu and create a gradient swatch that spans from about 10% to 100% black, with the midpoint closer to the light end.



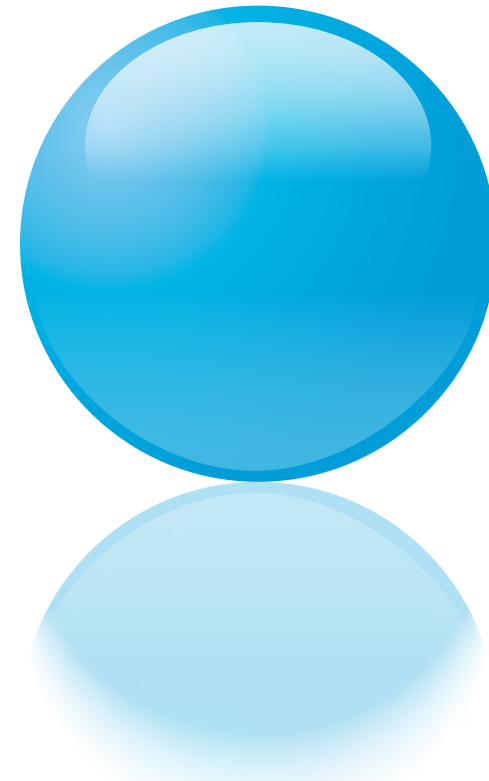
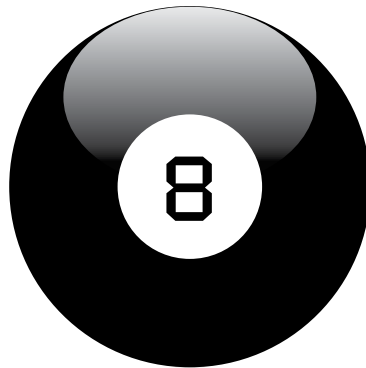
Step 4: Fill the oval with the gradient by choosing the gradient swatch from the Fill icon in the Control panel or the Swatches panel.

Step 5: Use the Gradient tool to adjust your highlight by dragging straight down (hold down Shift as you drag). Experiment until you find a look that pleases you.

Step 6: Now for the 8: select the original black circle, choose Edit > Copy and then Edit > Paste in Place. Move the reference point to the center , and then scale the new copy about 40% as wide and tall as the original. Fill it with [Paper]. Use the Type tool to add the number 8 in a font of your choice. Center the text horizontally in the Control panel, choose Object > Text Frame Options, and then choose Center from the Vertical Justification Align menu.



With just three pieces, your 8-Ball is complete, and looks real enough that you might be tempted to grab and shake it.



Now that you see how shiny icons are actually made of just a few simple pieces, try multiple light sources! This circle is filled with a subtle radial gradient. Then two gradient ovals are added for highlights: one at the top and a more subtle one at the bottom (to simulate a little light reflected off another shiny surface).

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