How to create a new document

When you create a new document in Adobe Photoshop, you set options such as resolution, color type, and size. Your choices depend on the type of image you're creating. Although you can change these options later, setting them right at the beginning is best. Sometimes changing the options later can affect the appearance of your image.

To create a new document:

1. Start Photoshop.

2. Choose File > New.

    The New dialog box appears (**Figure 1**).

3. First, assign the document a name, such as "Logo."

4. Set a width and height in inches for the images.

    To set inches as the measurement unit, click the menus to the right of the Width and Height text boxes, and select inches.

    Note: You can select from a number of default document sizes by using the Preset pop-up menu. Observe that the names of open documents also appear in the Preset menu. When you choose one of these, Photoshop fills in the settings for the document. This lets you quickly create a number of images with the same settings.

5. Enter a resolution for the image.

    If you plan to generate images for print, 300 pixels/inch is a good standard. (It's best to set the resolution at the highest you need. If you're planning to create a logo for use in print and the web, use 300 ppi, which is what print requires.)

6. Set Color Mode to RGB Color.

    You can also work in Grayscale or CMYK.

    You should generally select CMYK Color only if you know you are using an offset print vendor. Even if you choose RGB at this stage, you can convert the image to CMYK later before sending the image to the print vendor.

Figure 1 New dialog box

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This document requires Adobe Photoshop CS6. Technical instructions may differ depending on your version.
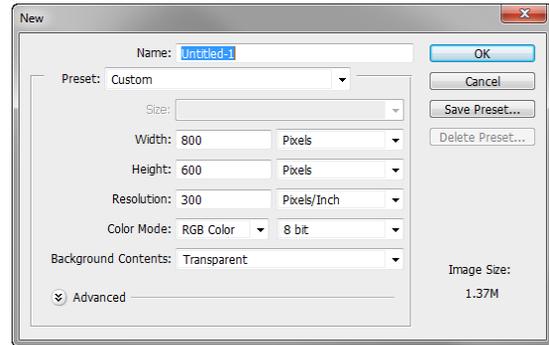
7. Set a background color in the Background Contents menu (you can change this setting later):

   • *White* fills the background with white, the default background color.

   • *Background Color* fills the background with the current background color.

   • *Transparent* makes the background transparent (it appears as a gray checkerboard). This option is useful when you want to create an image for transfer into another background. For example, you might want to create a circular logo with a transparent background so you could later place the logo on a colored background

8. Click OK to create the new document (**Figure 2**).
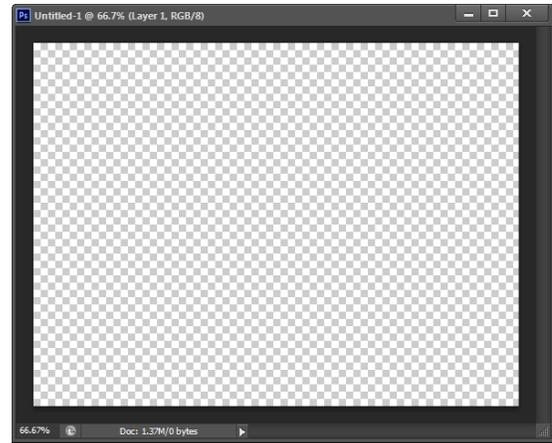
Figure 2 Newly created document with transparent background

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