How to Create a Realistic Neon Light Text Effect in Adobe Photoshop

Here are steps -

- How to Create the Background
- How to Create the Neon Text
- How to Start the Neon Effect in Photoshop
- How to Style the First Copy Horizontal Layer
- How to Style the Second Copy Horizontal Layer
- How to Style the Original Vertical Layer
- How to Style the First Copy Vertical Layer

- How to Style the Second Copy Vertical Layer

- How to Add More Glow and Create the Cable

- How to Style the Cable

- How to Create the Clips

- How to Style the Clips

- How to Add One More Coloring Layer

- Congratulations! You Know How to Make Neon Text in Photoshop!

- Ready-to-Use Neon Text Effects and Stylized Neon Fonts

- Explore More Awesome Tutorials and Resources

Tutorial Assets

The following assets were used during the production of this neon font Photoshop tutorial:

- [Meragen Font](#)

- [Grunge Grey Brick Wall Texture Background](#)
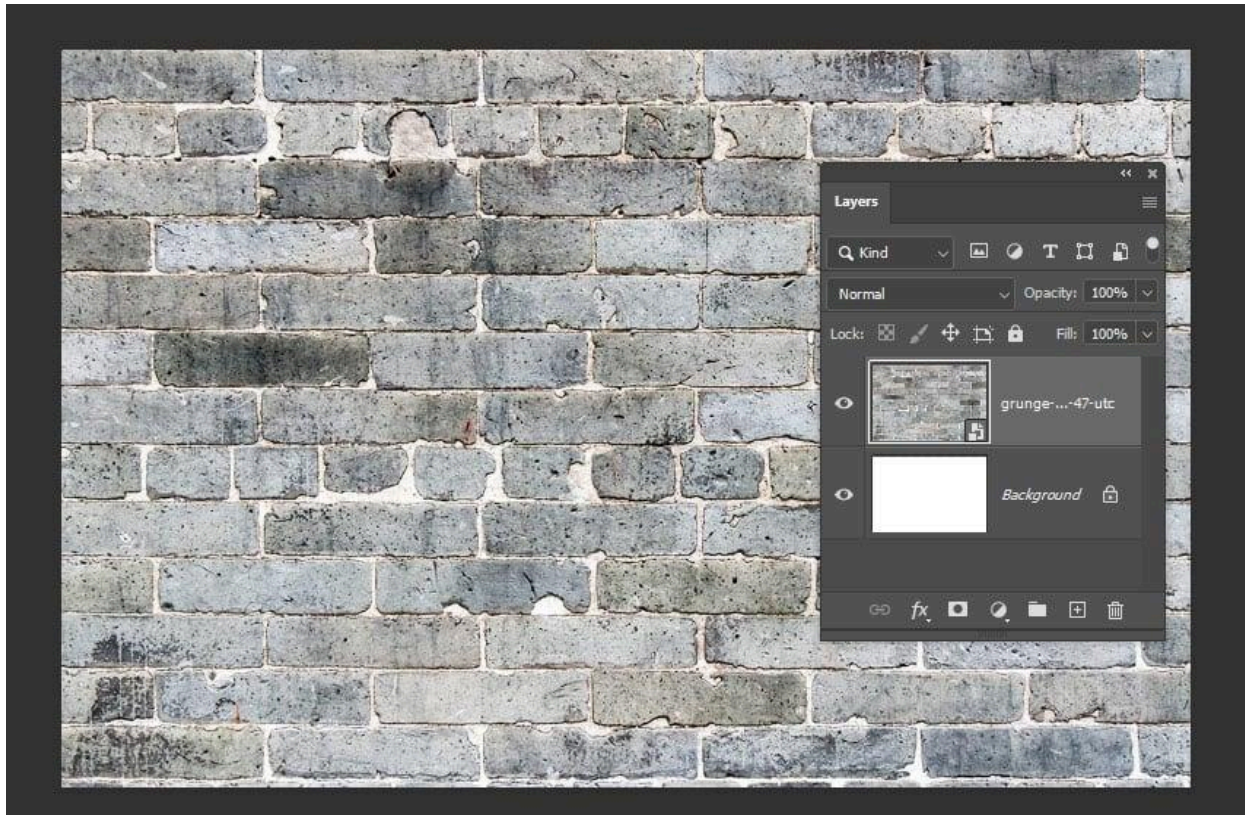
- [Grunge Backgrounds Pattern Pack](#)

Open *Texture_02* in Photoshop and go to **Edit > Define Pattern**. Name it *Grunge_Pattern*.

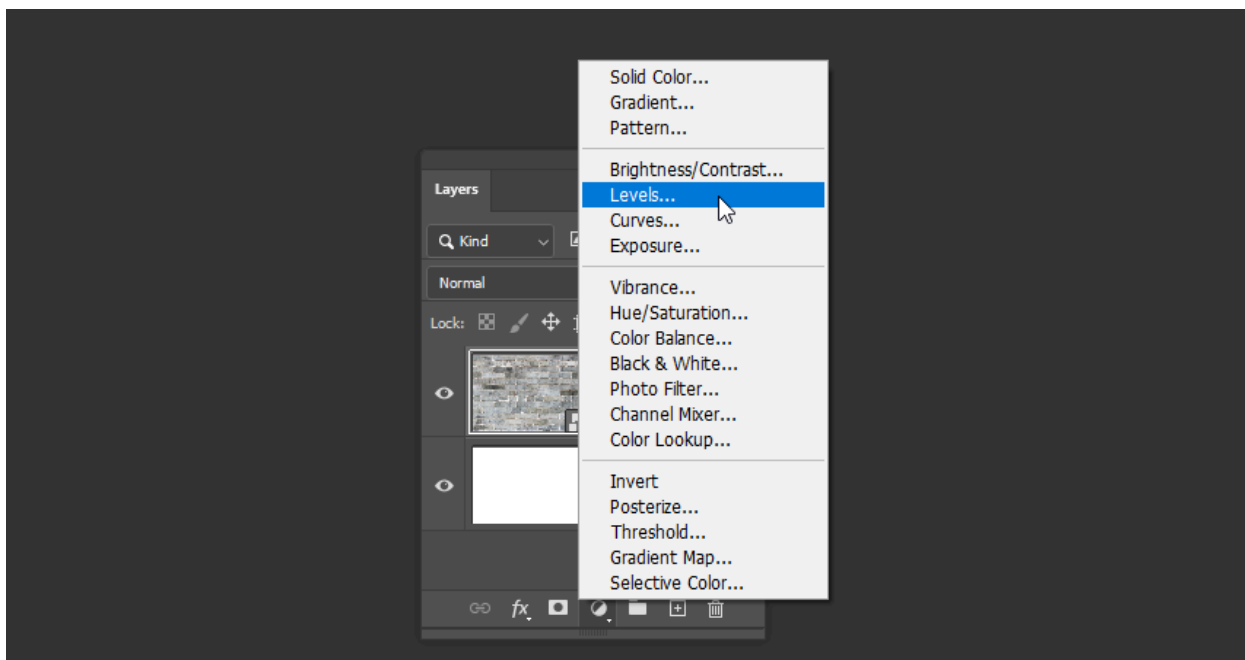# 1. How to Create the Background

Step 1

The first step in learning how to make neon text in Photoshop is the background. Create a new **1160 x 750 px** document, and set the **Resolution** to **300**.

Go to **File > Place Embedded**, and open the *Grunge grey brick wall texture background* image. Resize it as you like, and then hit the **Return** key to accept the changes.
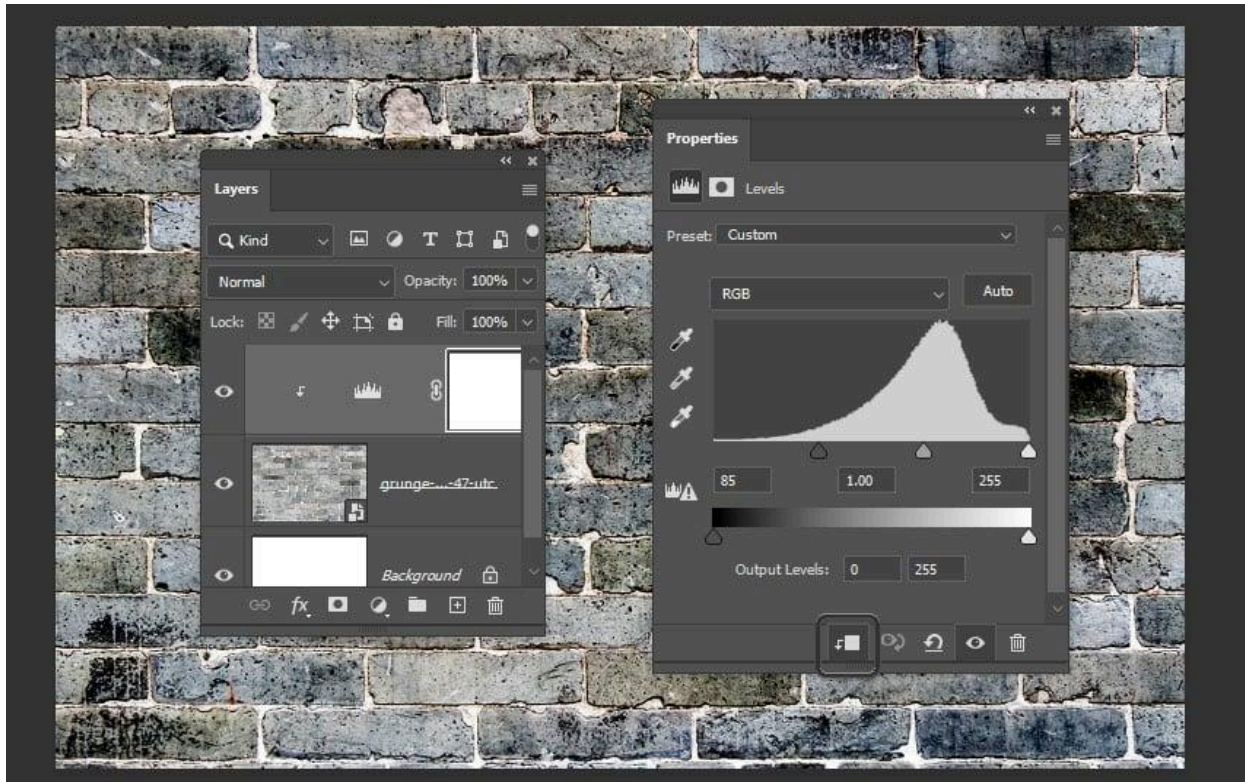
Step 2

Click the **Create new fill or adjustment layer** icon at the bottom of the **Layers** panel and choose **Levels**.
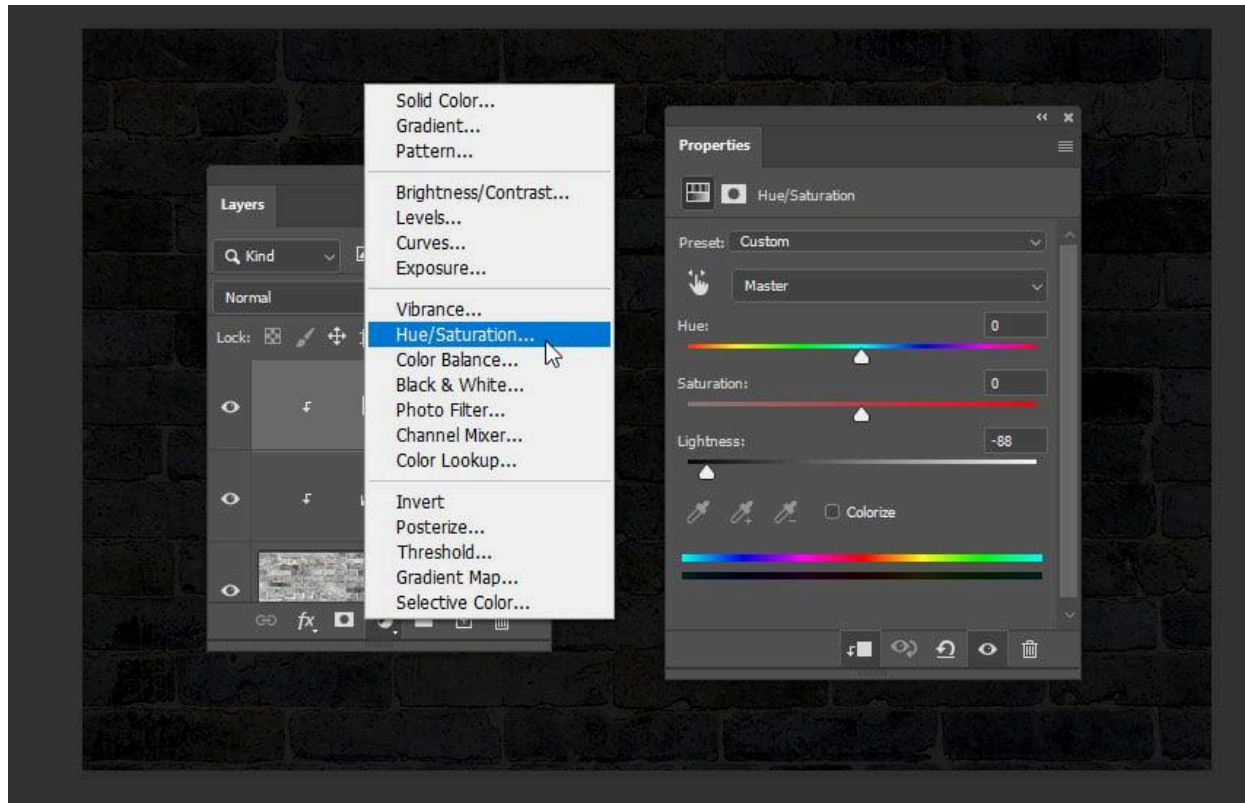
Step 3

Click the **Clip adjustment to layer** icon at the bottom of the **Properties** panel, and then change the **Shadows** value to **85**.
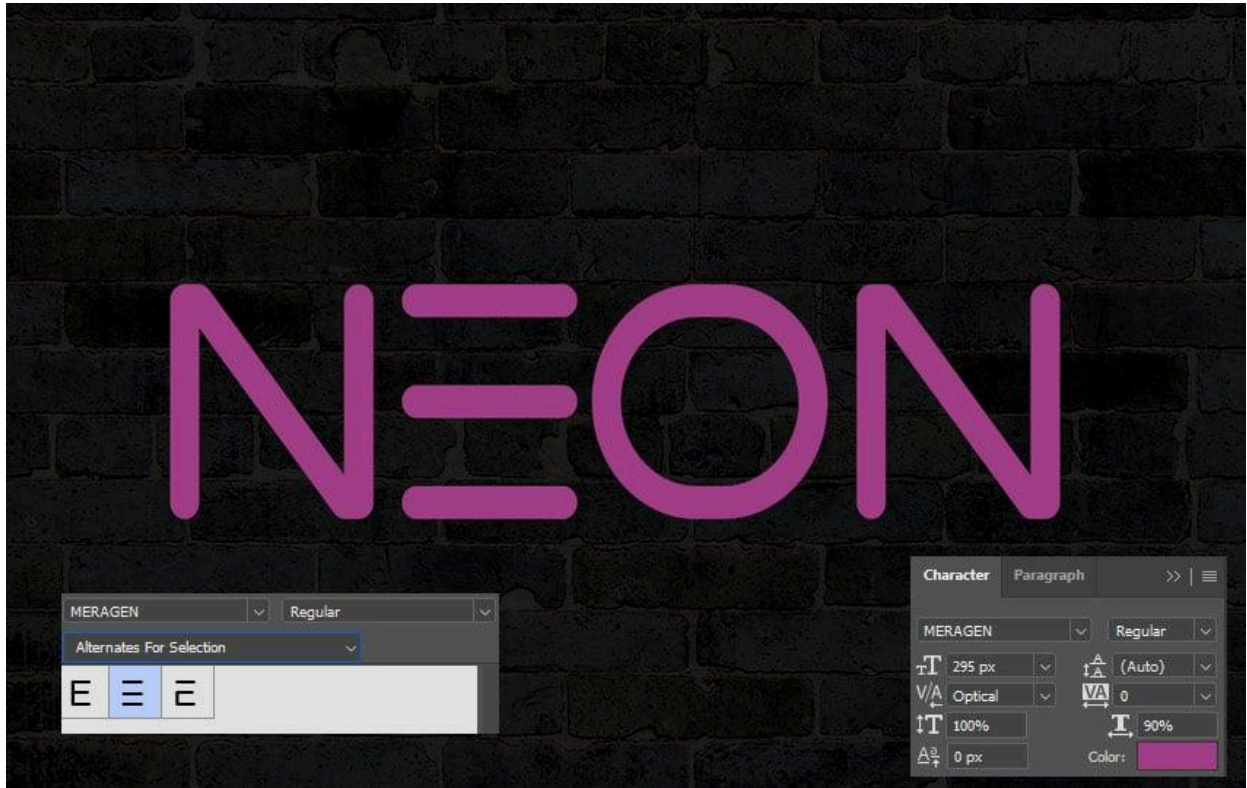

Step 4

Click the **Create new fill or adjustment layer** icon again and choose **Hue/Saturation**. Click the **Clip adjustment to layer** icon at the bottom of the **Properties** panel, and then change the **Lightness** to **-88**.

2. How to Create the Neon Text

Step 1

Now we'll make neon letters in Photoshop! Create the text in **All Caps** using the font **Meragen**. The color is #a33e88 and the **Size** is **295 pt**. Go to **Window > Glyphs** to select an alternate "E".

This looks like a neon font already, but some Photoshop magic will make the effect shine.

Step 2

Duplicate the text layer and make it invisible by clicking the eye icon next to it. Then **right-click** the copy and choose **Rasterize Type**.

What we'll be doing next is separating the vertical and diagonal parts of the neon text letters from the horizontal ones. This is so we can apply the effects using different Angle values.
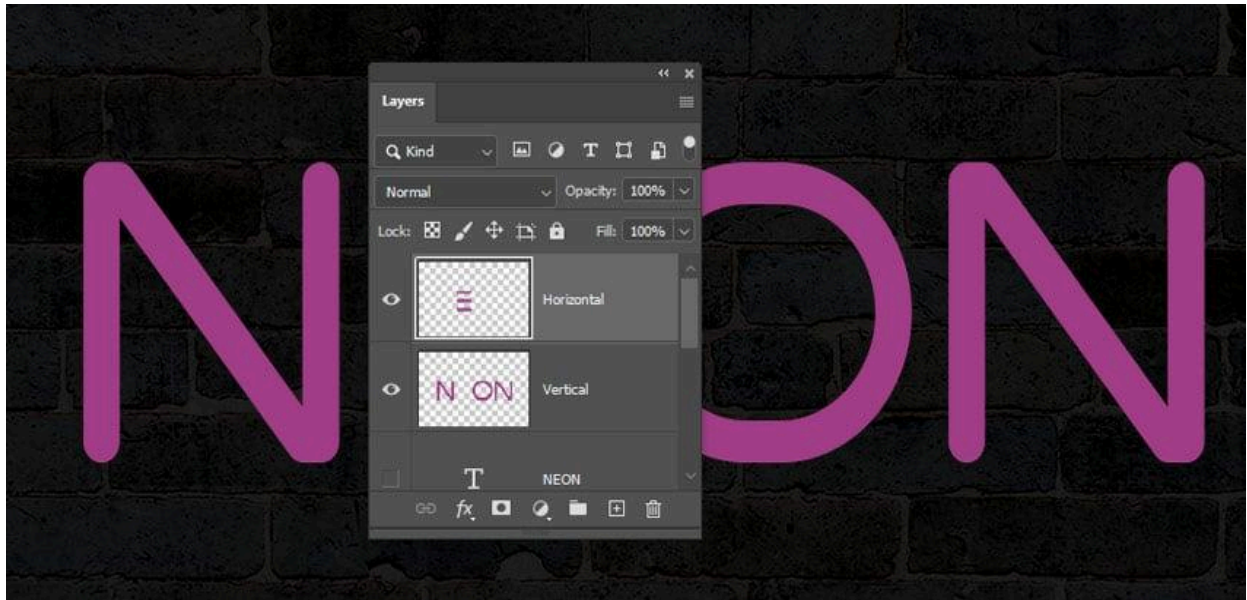
Step 3

Pick the **Rectangular Marquee Tool** (or any selection tool you like), click the **Add to selection** icon in the **Options** bar, and select all the horizontal parts of the Photoshop neon text effect letters you have.
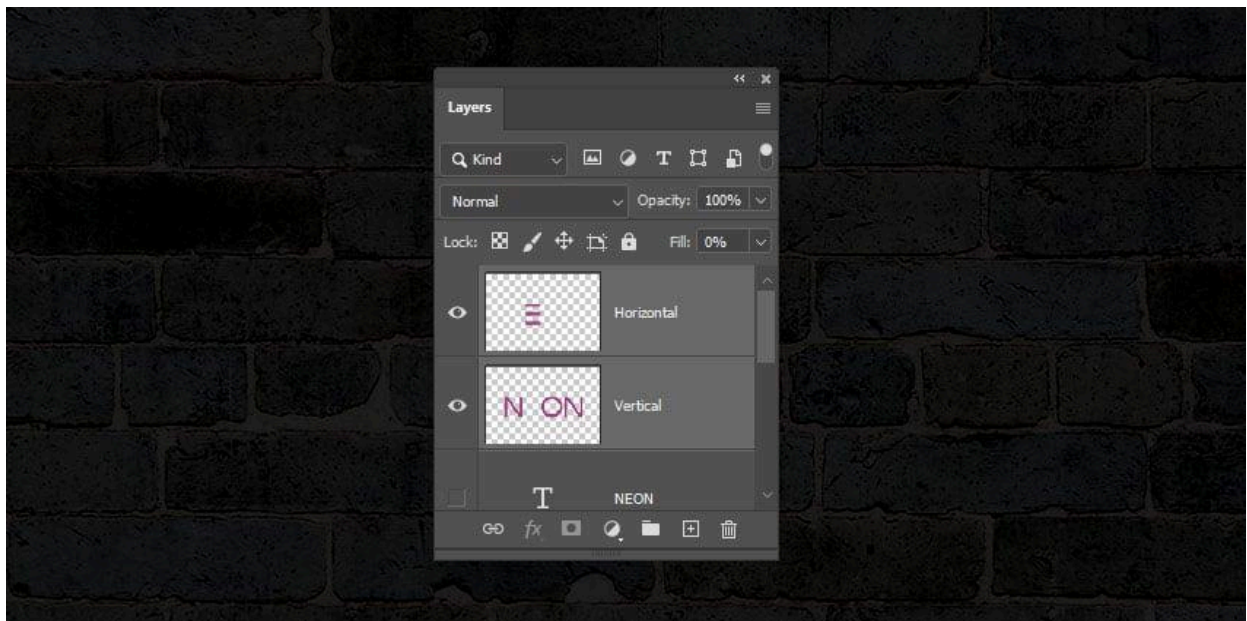

Step 4

Go to **Edit > Cut**, and then **Edit > Paste Special > Paste in Place**. This will place the selected parts in a separate layer. Rename the layers to **Vertical** and **Horizontal**.
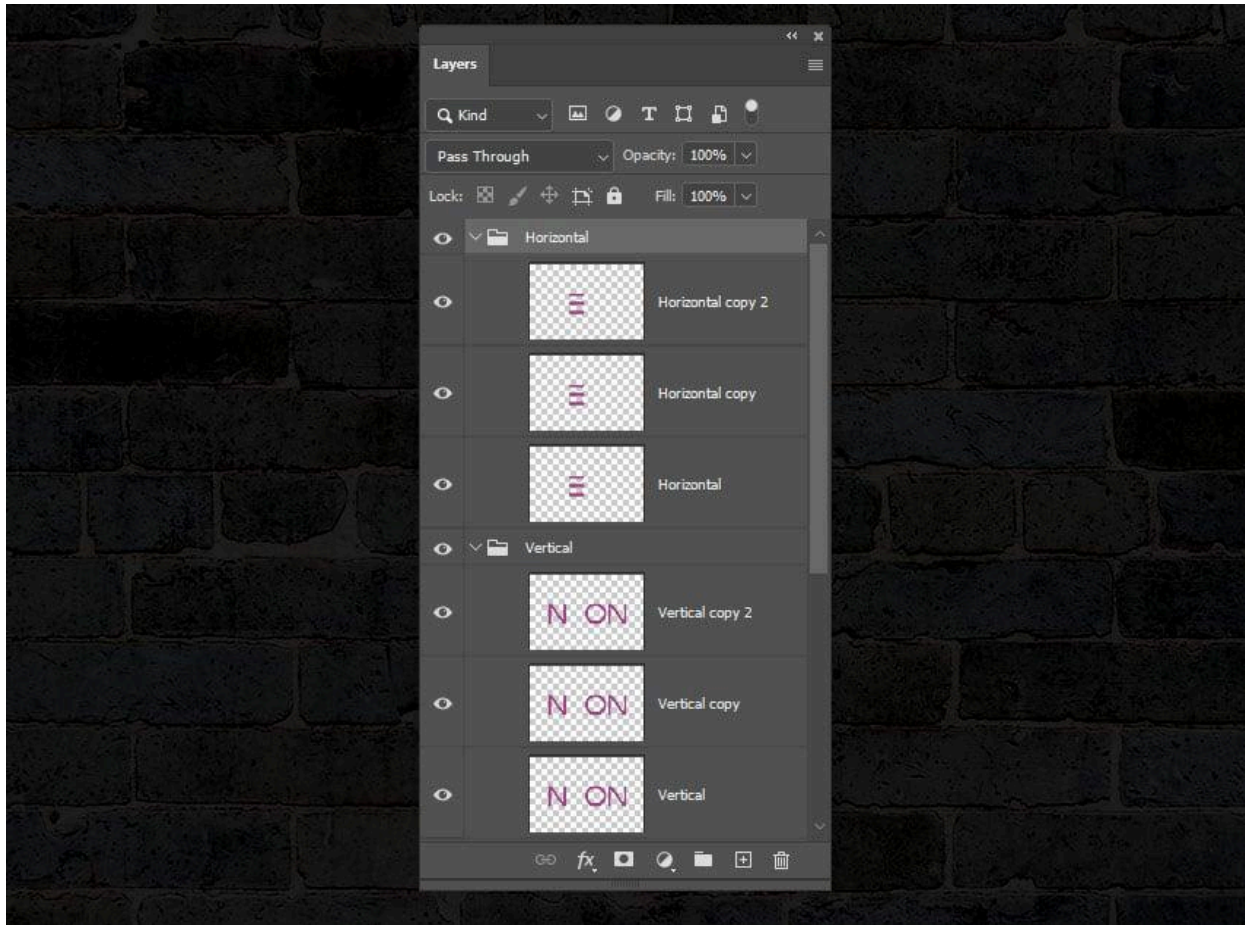

Step 5

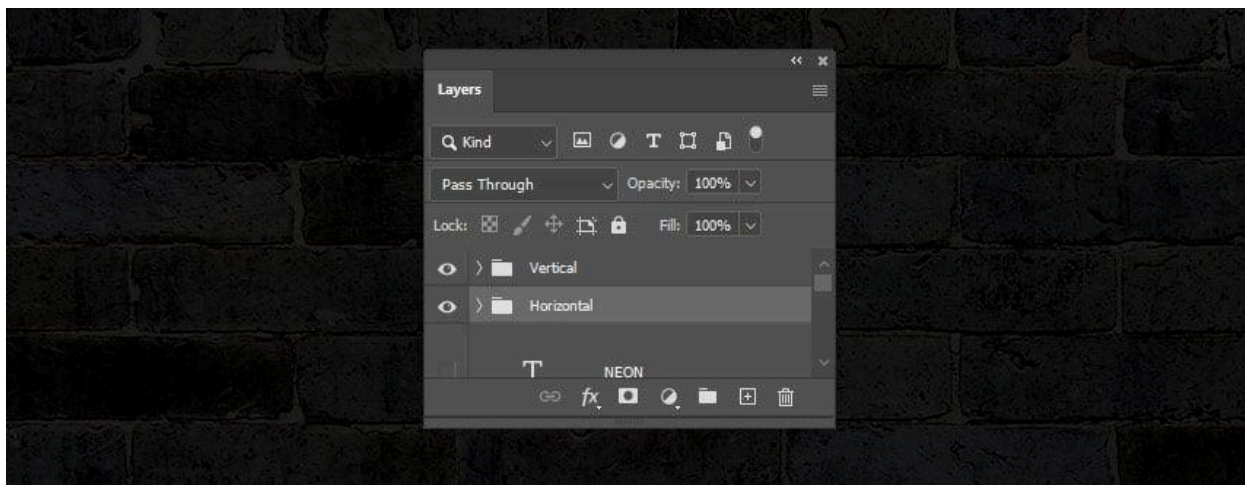Change both the **Vertical** and **Horizontal** layers' **Fill** values to **0**.

Step 6

Duplicate each of the **Vertical** and **Horizontal** layers twice, and then place each set of layers in a group that has its name (Vertical/Horizontal).

Step 7

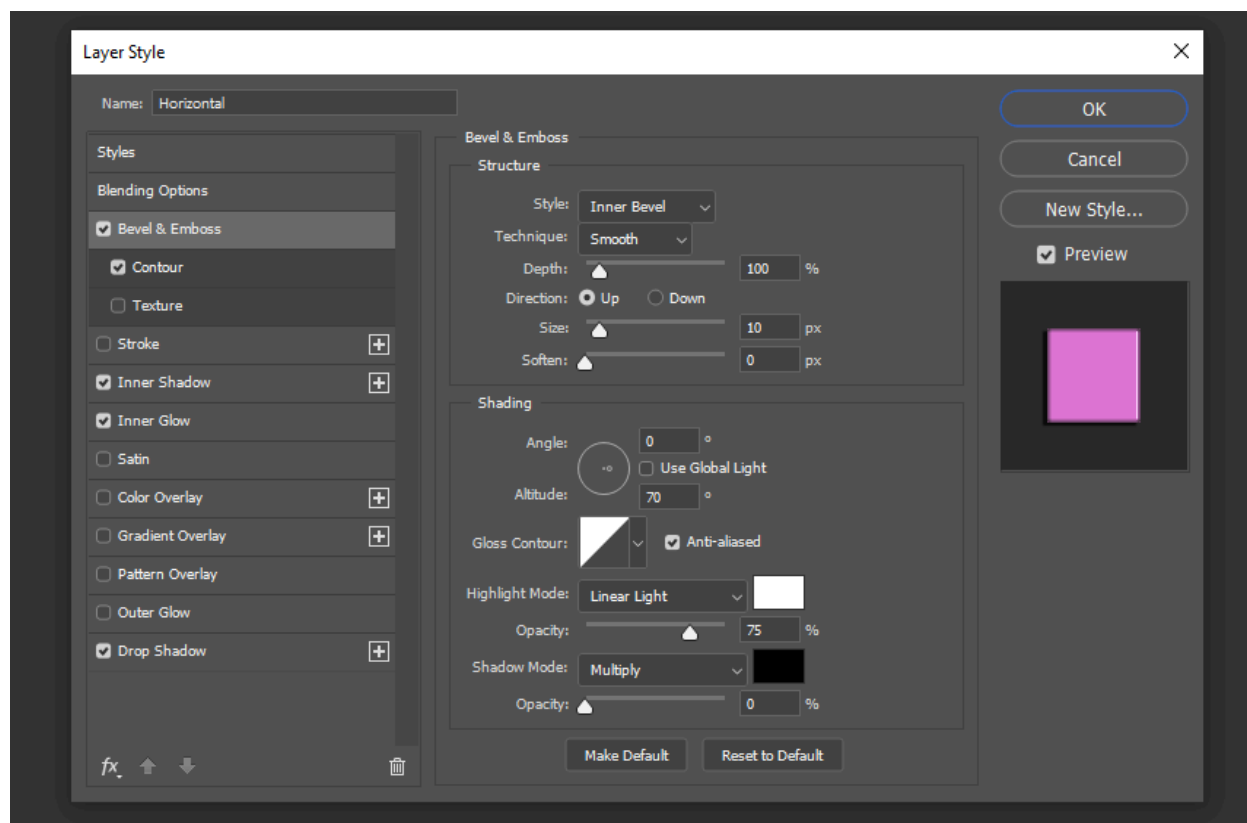Place the **Horizontal** group below the **Vertical** one.

3. How to Start the Neon Effect in Photoshop

We've got the text ready, so now we should add some neon light in Photoshop. Double-click the **original Horizontal** layer to apply the following layer style:

Step 1
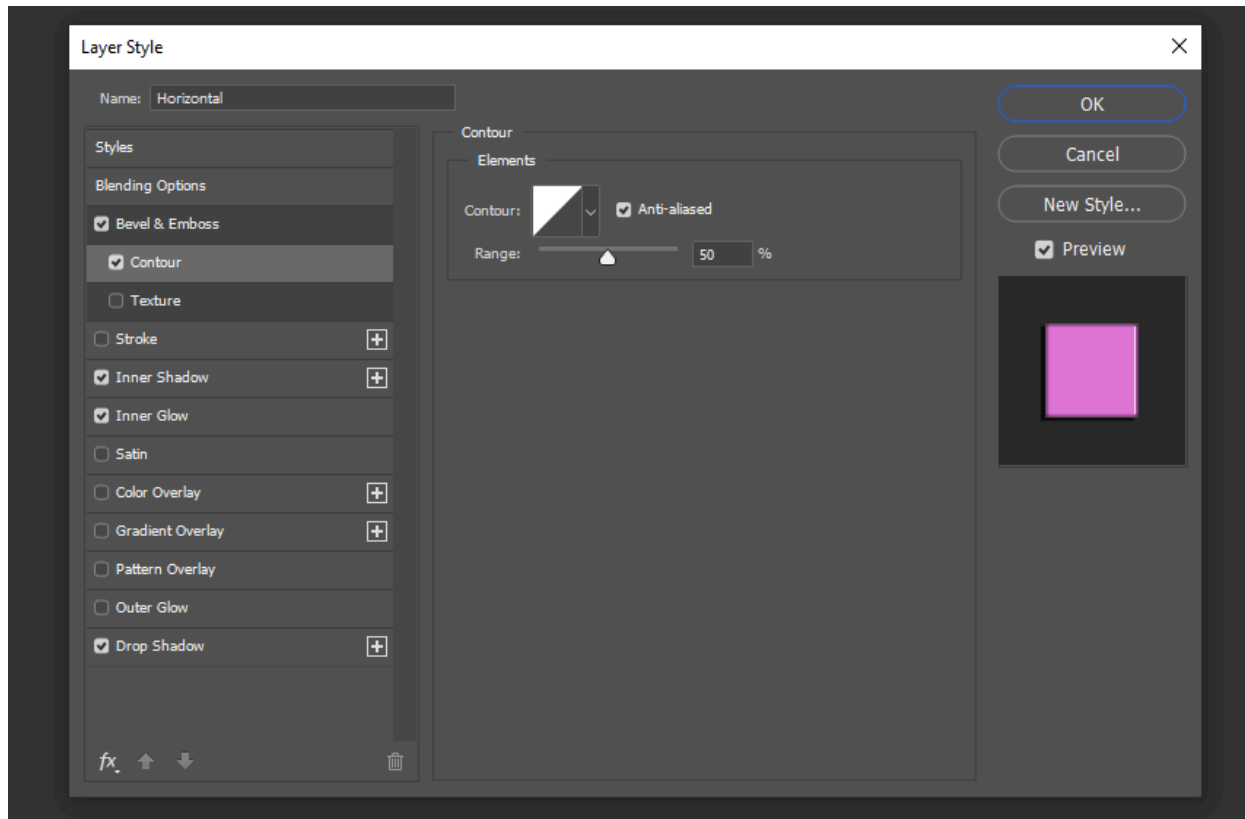
Add a **Bevel and Emboss** with these settings:

- **Size:** 10

- Uncheck the **Use Global Light** box

- **Angle:** 0

- **Altitude:** 70

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box

- **Highlight Mode:** Linear Light

- **Shadow Mode - Opacity:** 0%

Step 2

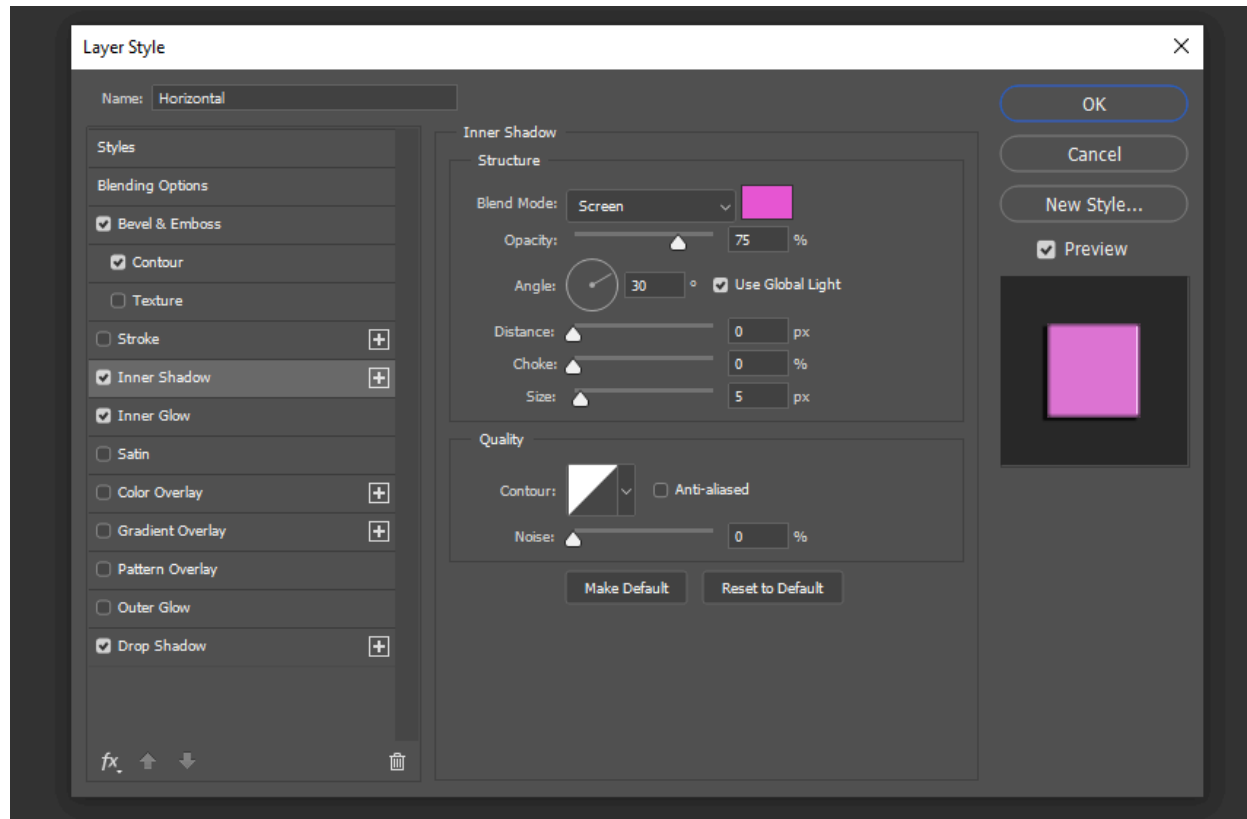Add a **Contour** with these settings:

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box.

Step 3

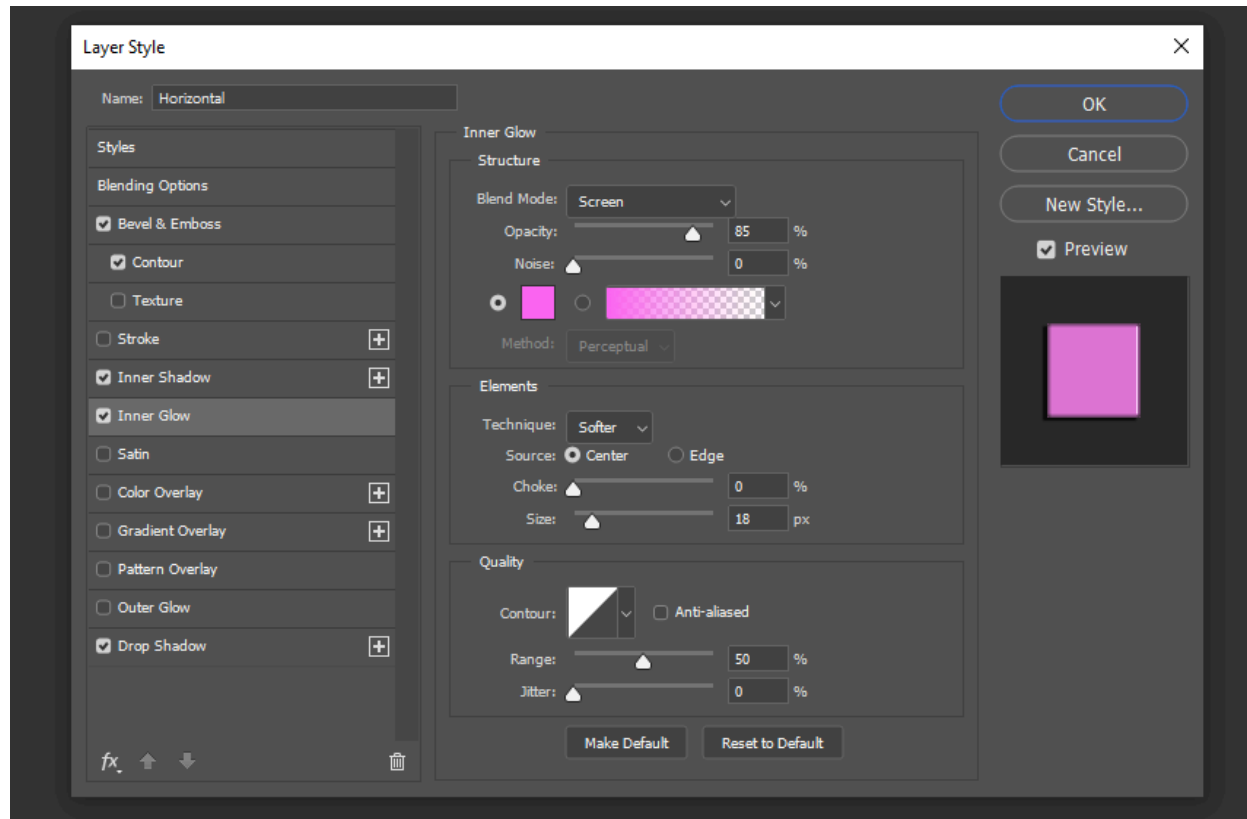Add an **Inner Shadow** to the neon light text with these settings:

- **Blend Mode:** Screen

- **Color:** #e658d4

- **Angle:** 30

- **Distance:** 0

Step 4

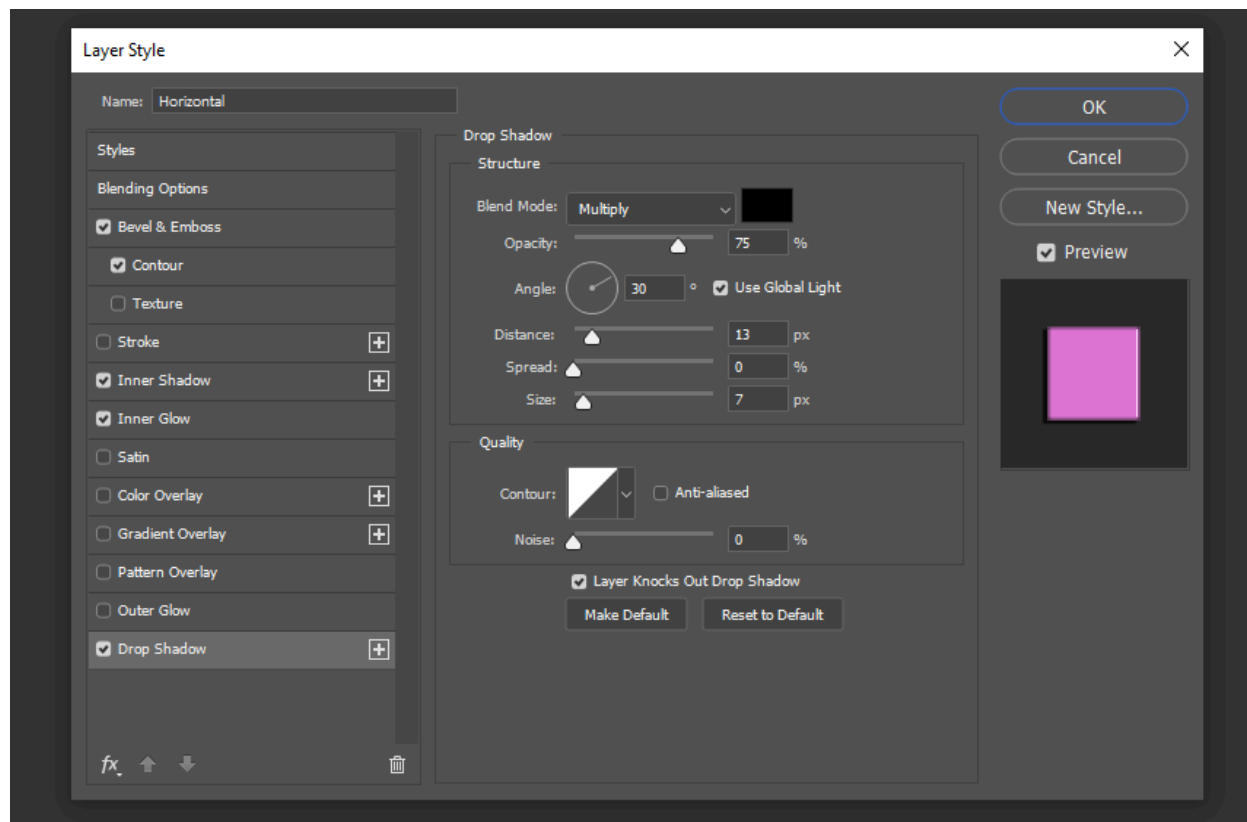Here we'll add an **Inner Glow** to the neon text in Photoshop. Use these settings:

- **Opacity:** 85%
- **Color:** #fe66f1
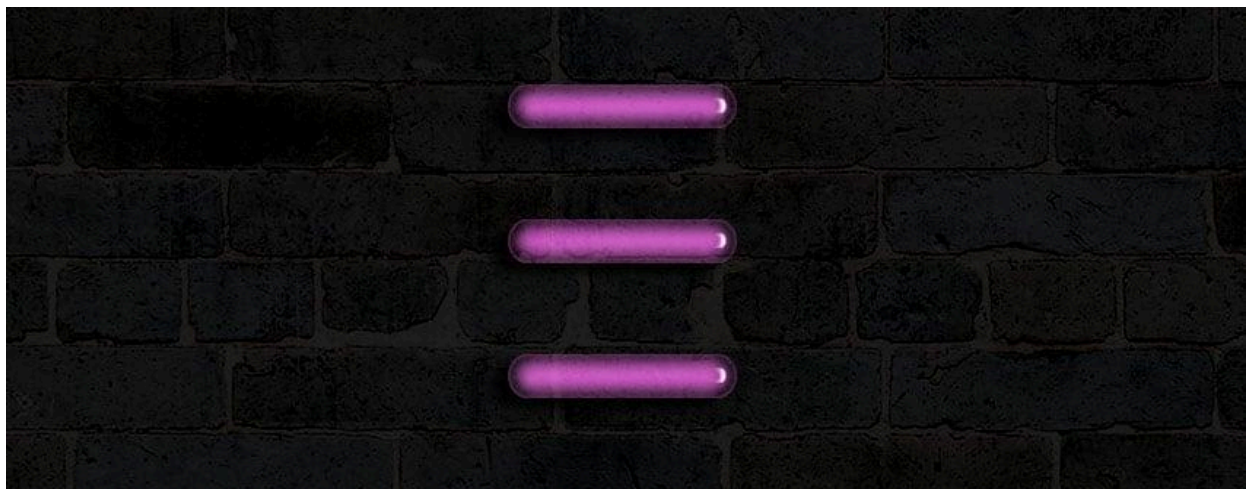- **Source:** Center
- **Size:** 18

Step 5

Add a **Drop Shadow** with these settings:

- **Distance:** 13

- **Size:** 7

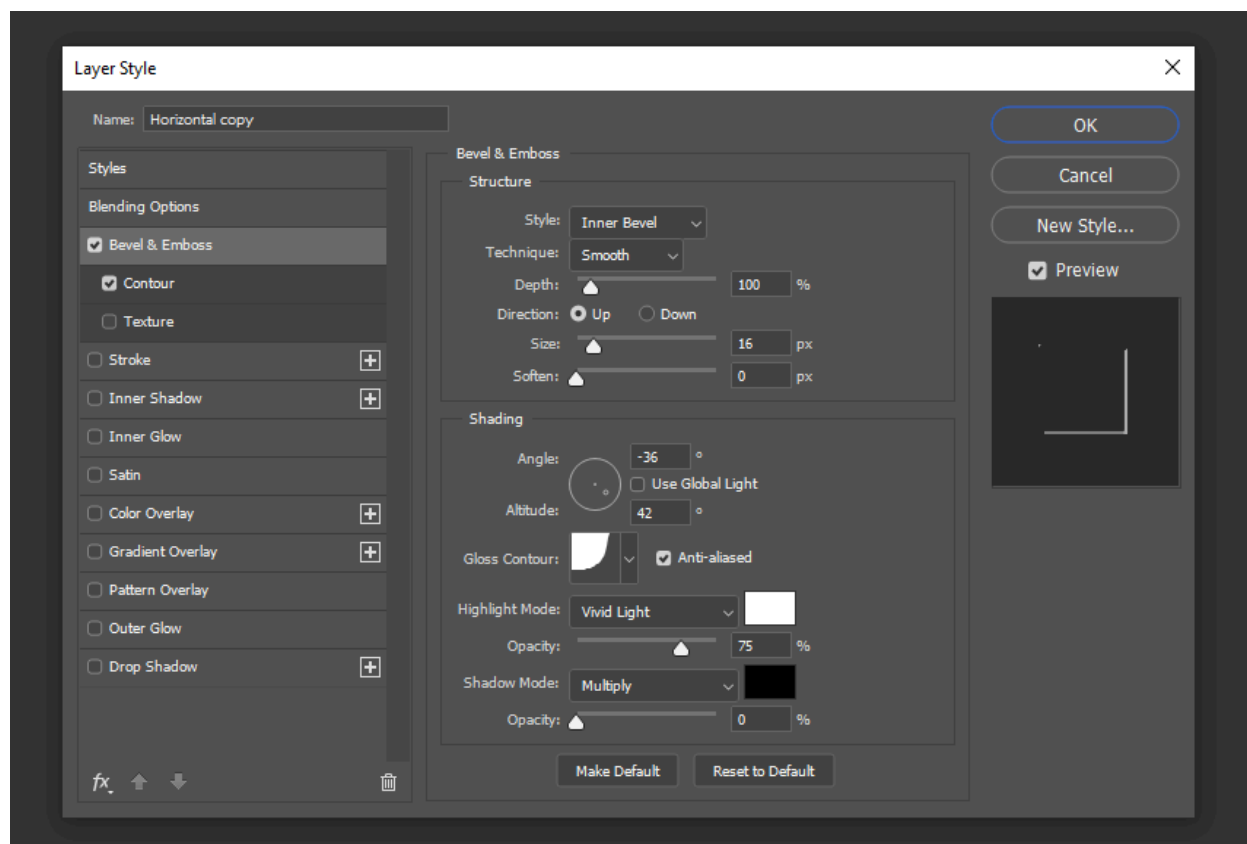This will style the first layer of the horizontal part.

4. How to Style the First Copy Horizontal Layer

Learning how to make a neon sign in Photoshop is a matter of working on all the layers. Double-click the **first copy Horizontal** layer to apply the following layer style:

Step 1
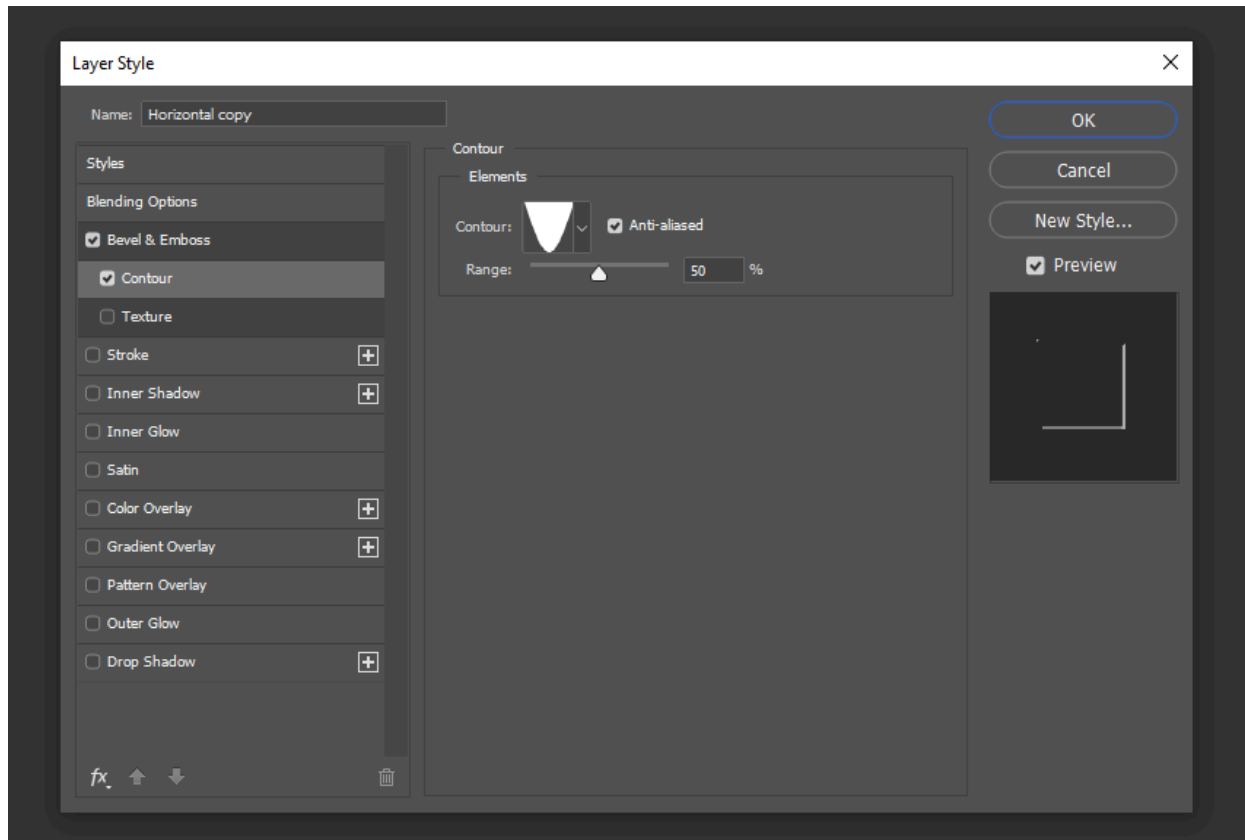
Add a **Bevel and Emboss** with these settings:

- **Size:** 16

- Uncheck the **Use Global Light** box

- **Angle:** -36

- **Altitude:** 42

- **Contour:** Cove - Deep

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box

- **Highlight Mode:** Vivid Light
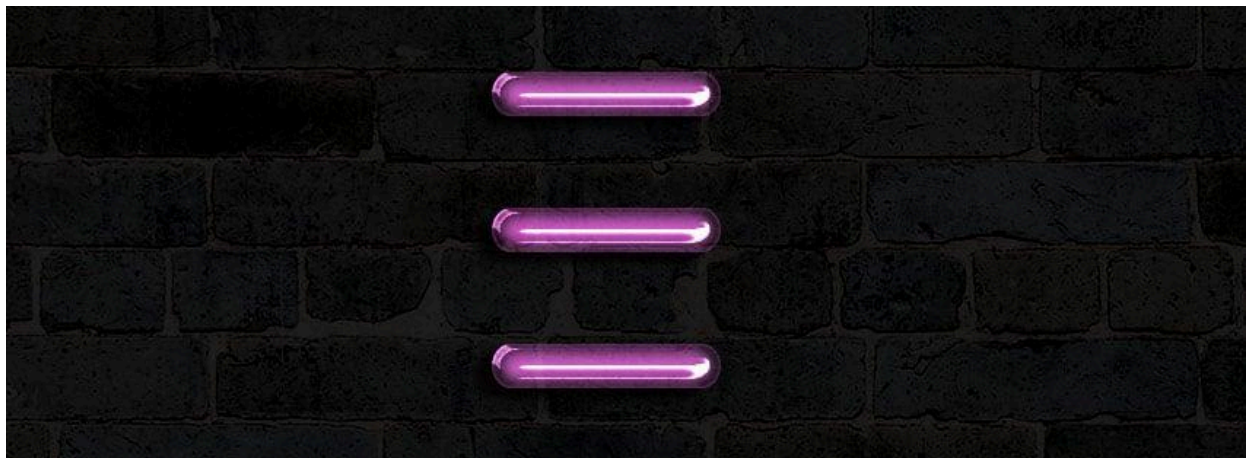
- **Shadow Mode - Opacity:** 0%

Step 2

Add a **Contour** with these settings:

- **Contour:** Cone - Inverted

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box

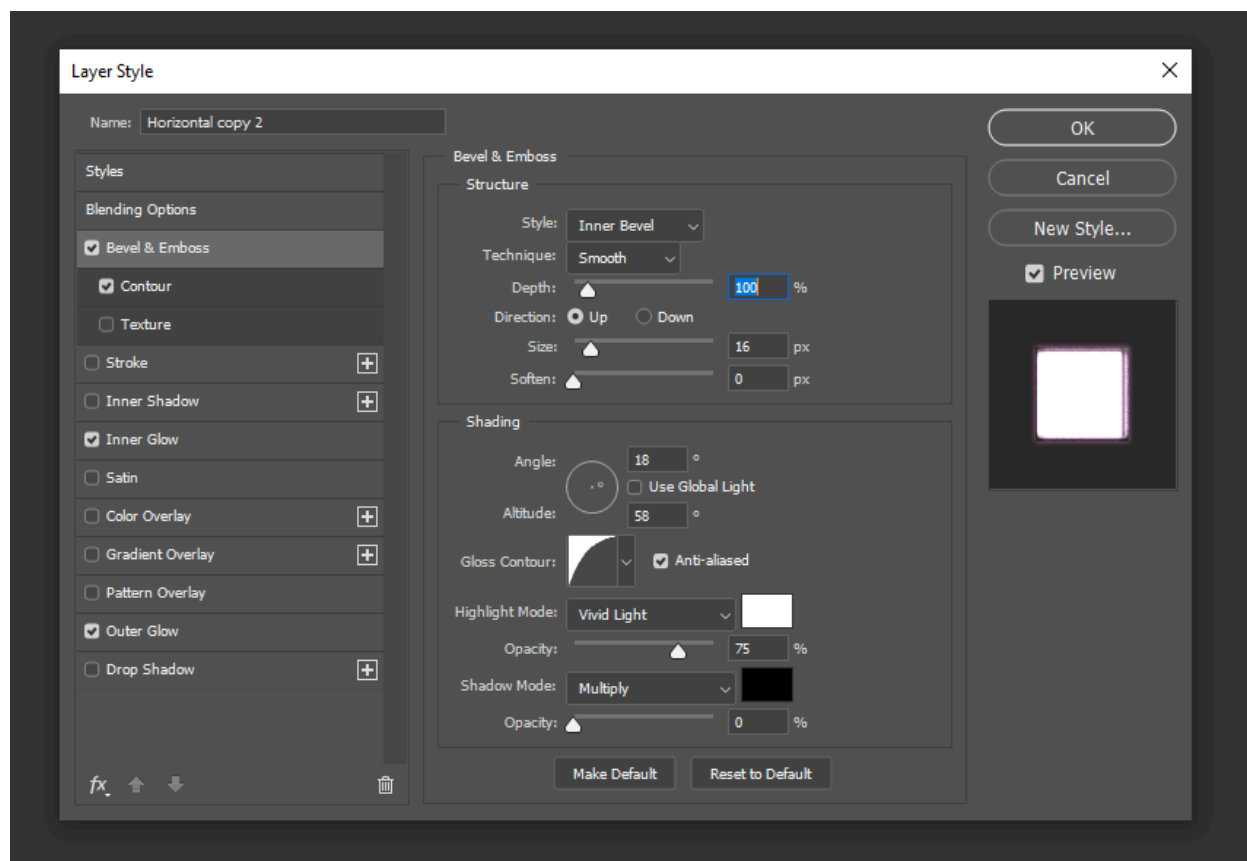This will add more gloss to the neon light text.

5. How to Style the Second Copy Horizontal Layer

The neon letters in Photoshop are coming together. Now double-click the **second copy Horizontal** layer to apply the following layer style:

Step 1

Add a **Bevel and Emboss** to the neon text effect in Photoshop with these settings:
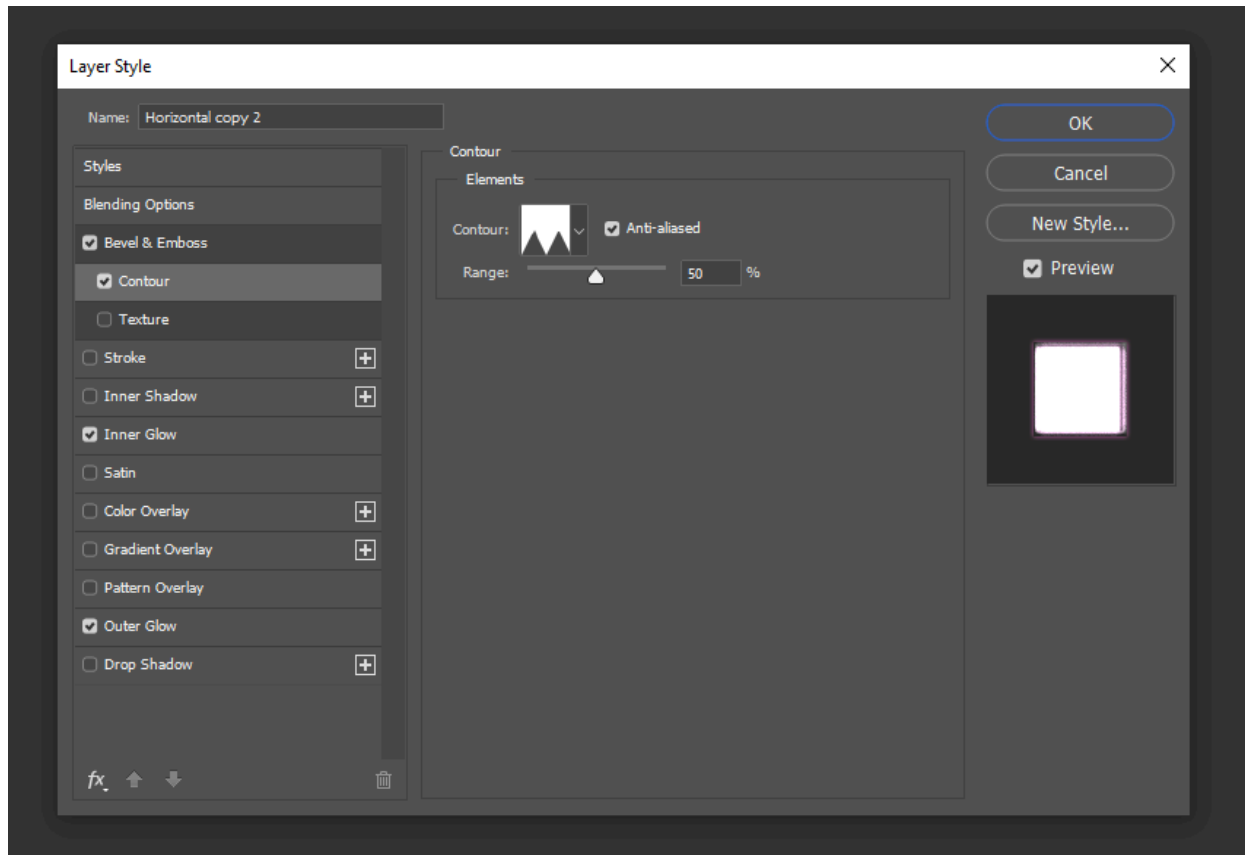
- **Size:** 16

- Uncheck the **Use Global Light** box

- **Angle:** 18

- **Altitude:** 58

- **Contour:** Half Round

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box

- **Highlight Mode:** Vivid Light

- **Shadow Mode - Opacity:** 0%

Step 2

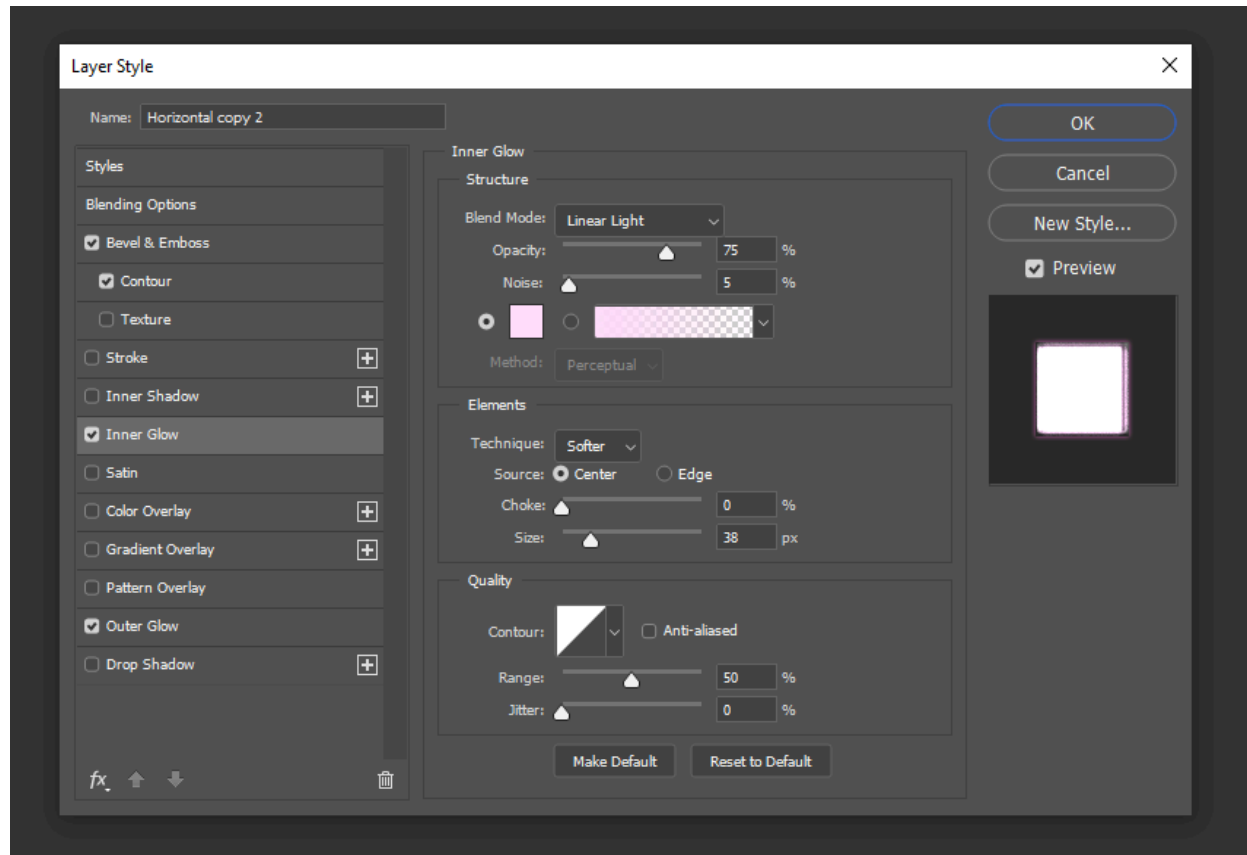Add a **Contour** with these settings:

- **Contour:** Sawtooth 2

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box
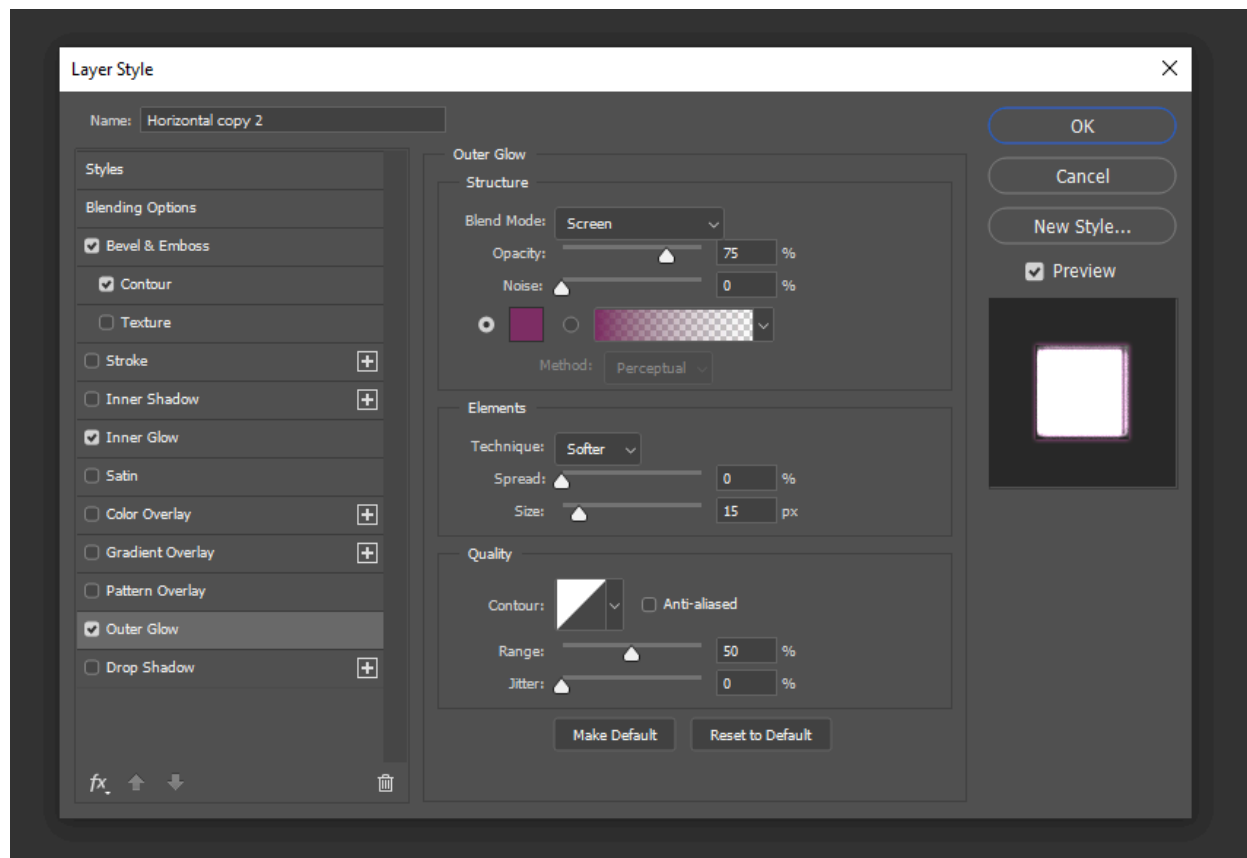
Step 3

Add an **Inner Glow** with these settings:

- **Blend Mode:** Linear Light

- **Noise:** 5%

- **Color:** `#ffdcfa`
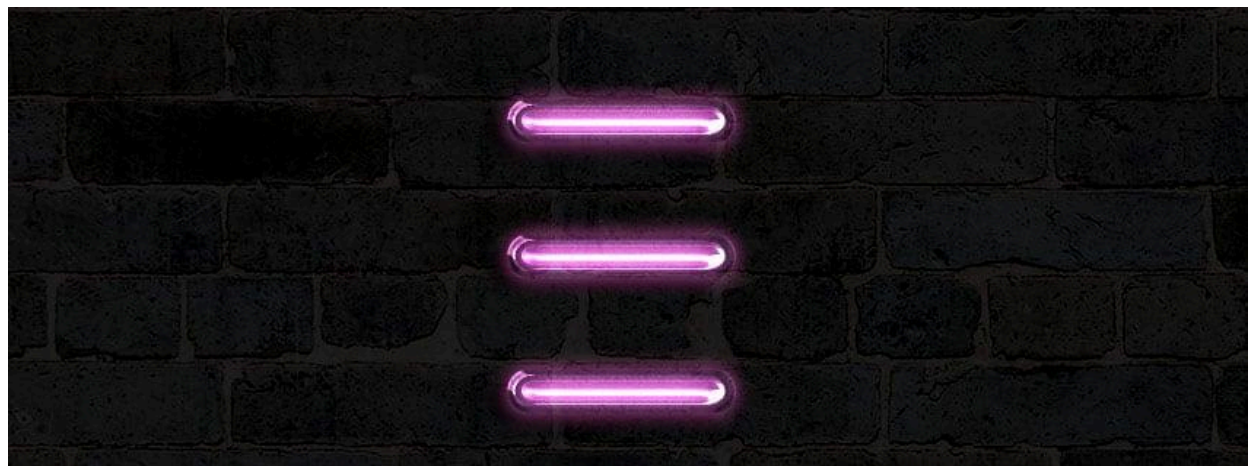
- **Source:** Center

- **Size:** 38

Step 4

Add an **Outer Glow** with these settings:

- **Color:** `#7f2d65`

- **Size:** 15

This will style the final horizontal layer, adding even more gloss and glow.
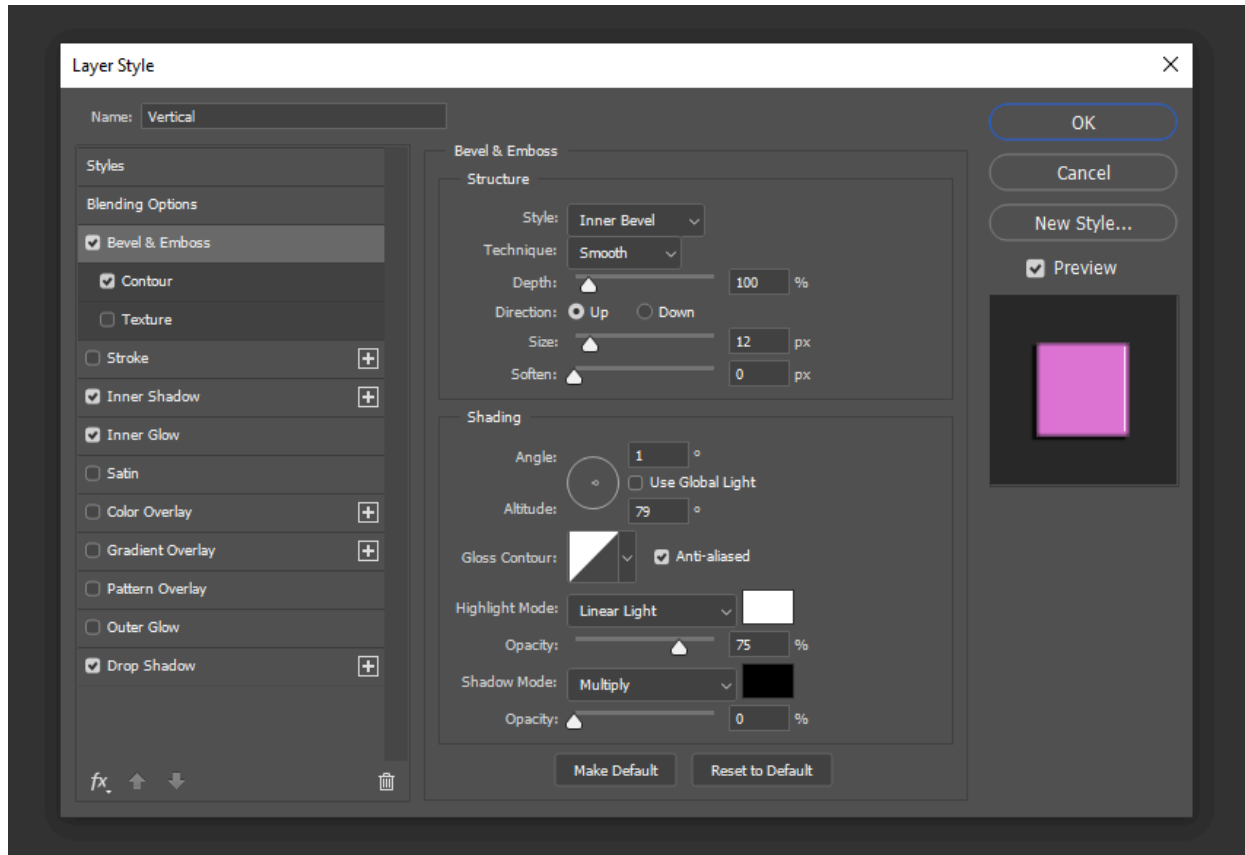

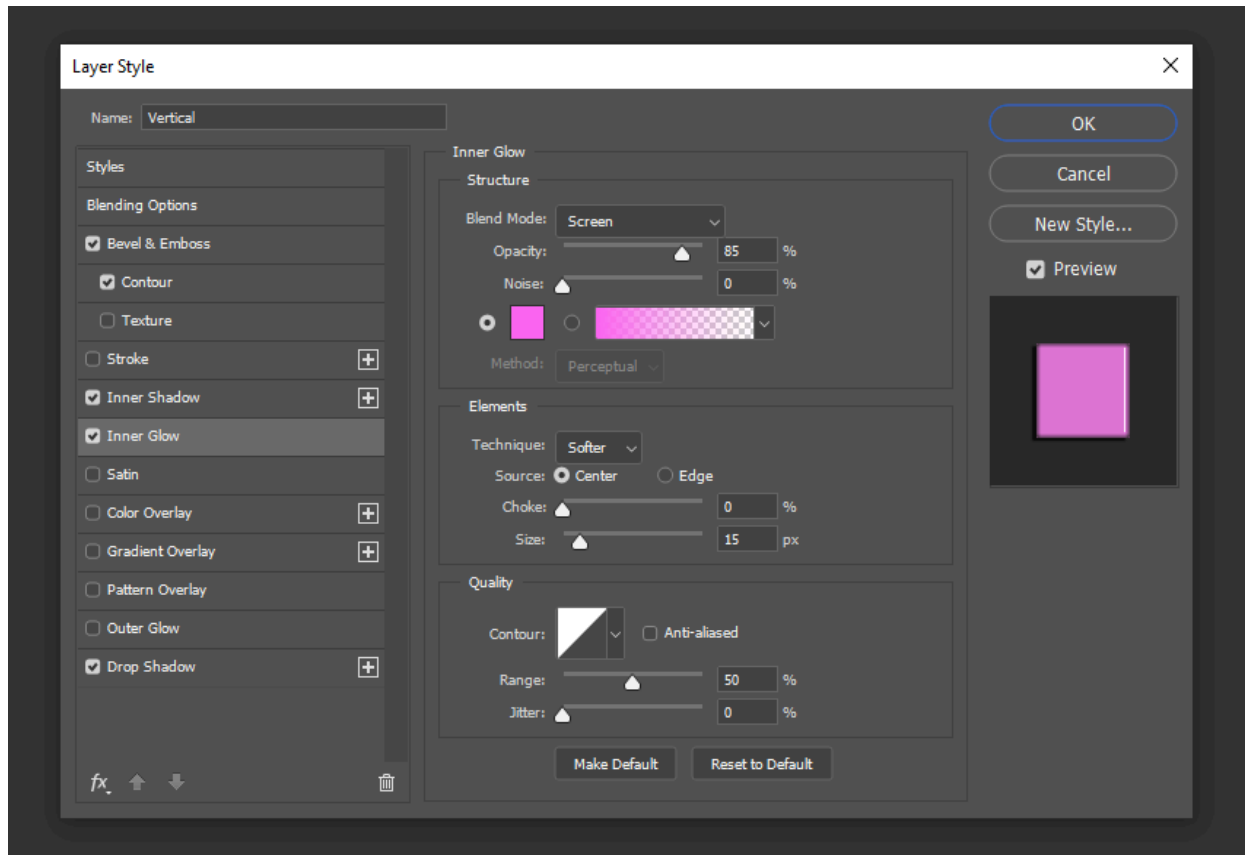## 6. How to Style the Original Vertical Layer

Step 1

Let's work on the next layer of our neon sign Photoshop design. **Right-click** the original **Horizontal** layer, choose **Copy Layer Style**, and then right-click the original **Vertical** layer, and choose **Paste Layer Style**.

Double-click the original **Vertical** layer to adjust the **Bevel and Emboss**'s **Angle** and **Altitude** values, by changing them to **1** and **97**. Change **Size** to **12**.

Step 2

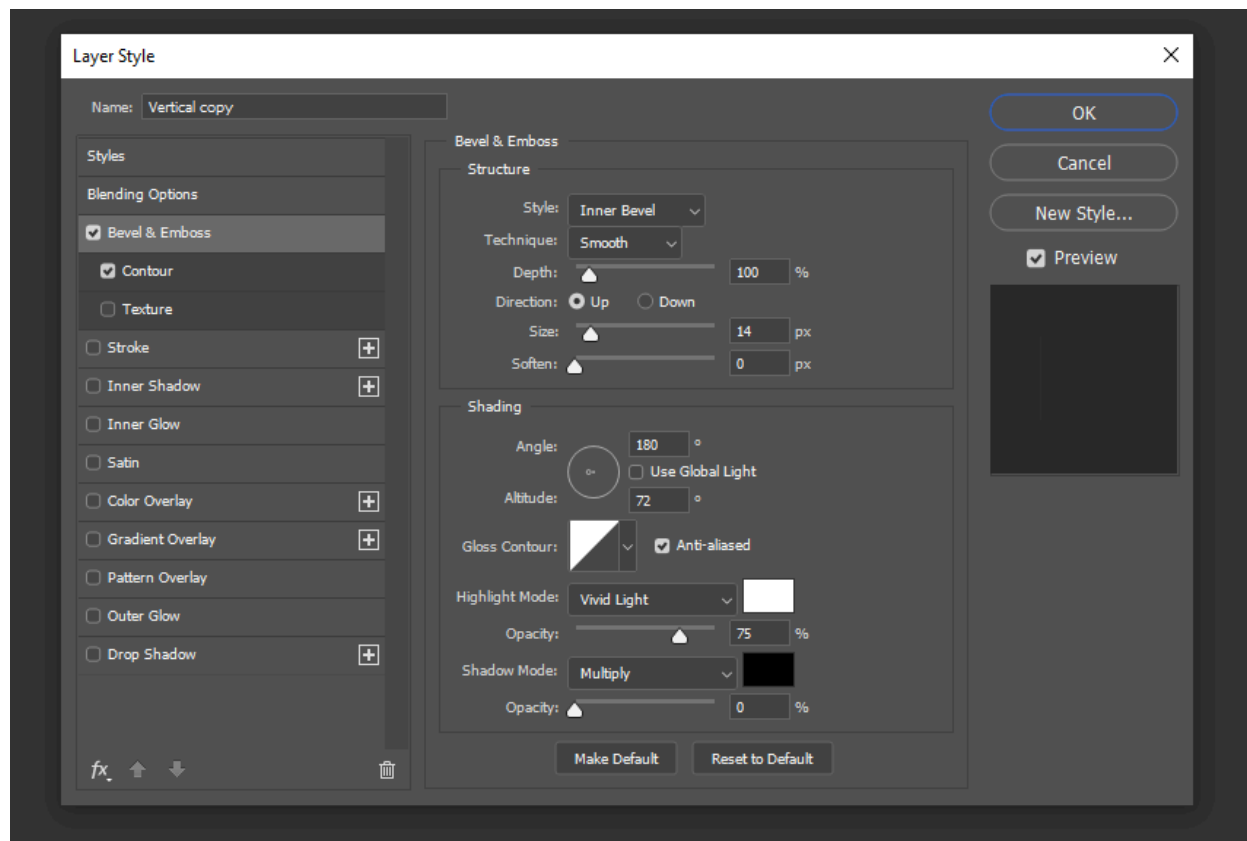For the **Inner Glow**, just change the **Size** to **15**.

This will adjust the effect to suit the vertical and diagonal parts. See how the neon lettering is coming together!

7. How to Style the First Copy Vertical Layer

Now we'll move to the next layer of our neon sign Photoshop design. Copy and paste the **first copy Horizontal** layer's layer style to the **first copy Vertical** layer, and then double-click the **Vertical copy** layer to change the **Bevel and Emboss** effect's **Angle** to **180** and its **Altitude** to **72**. Change **Size** to **14**.

That's it for the first copy layer.

8. How to Style the Second Copy Vertical Layer

Step 1

Hang in there—the neon font Photoshop design is coming along nicely! Copy and paste the **second copy Horizontal** layer's layer style to the **second copy Vertical** layer, and then double-click the **Vertical copy 2** layer to change the **Bevel and Emboss** effect's **Angle** to **139** and its **Altitude** to **12**. Change **Size** to **6**.
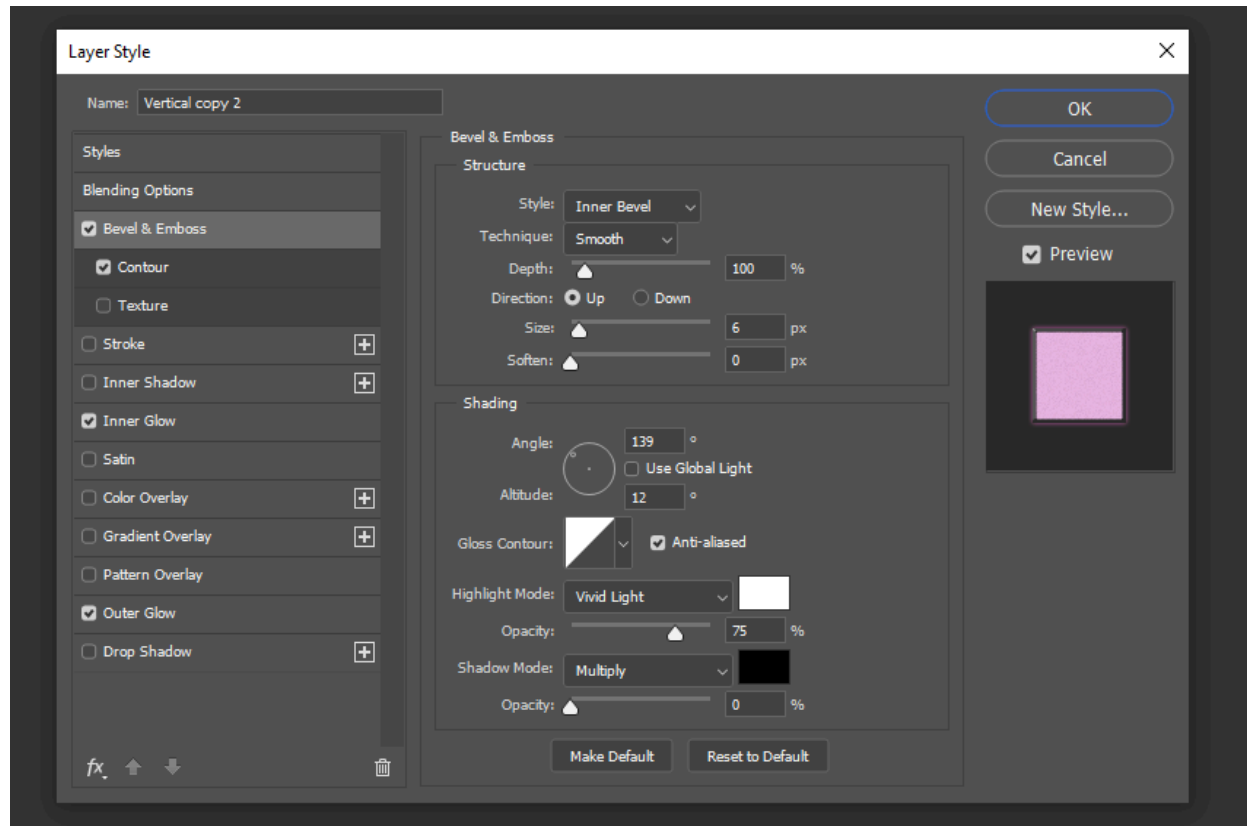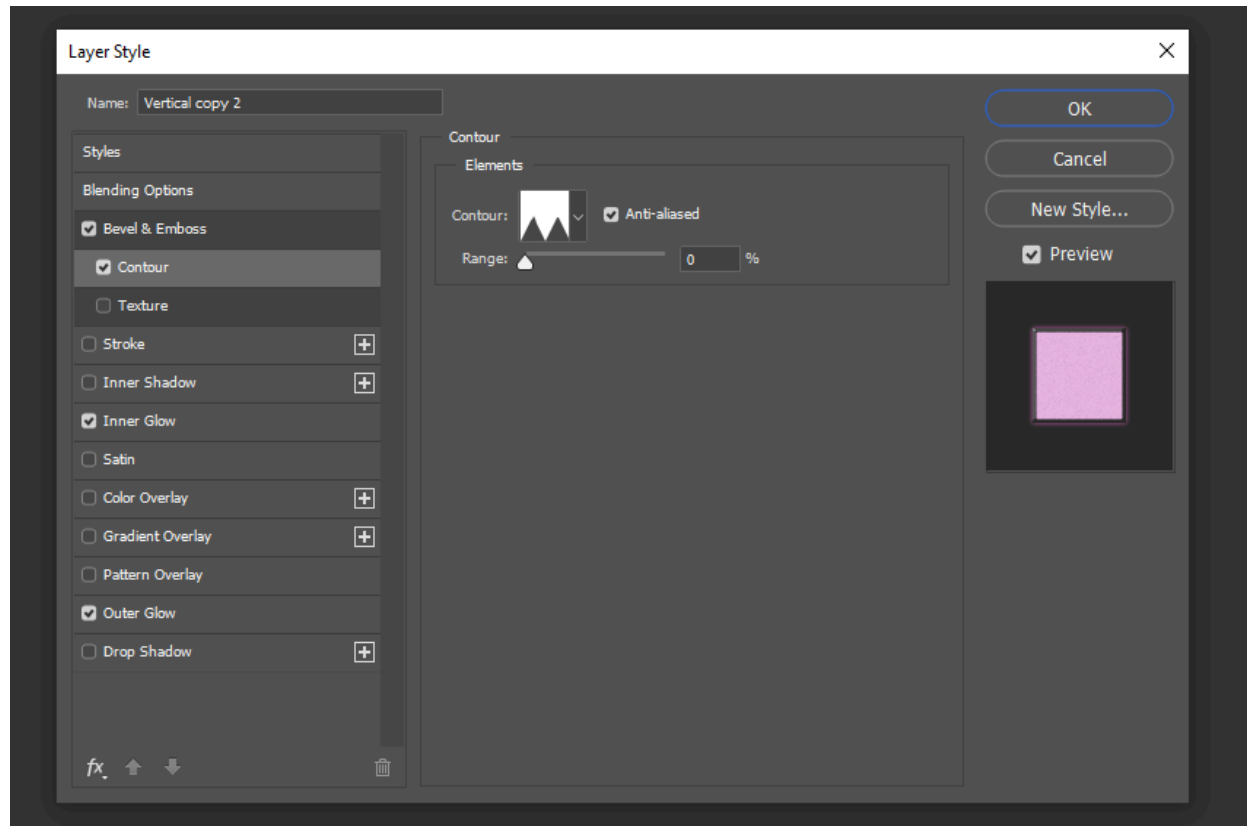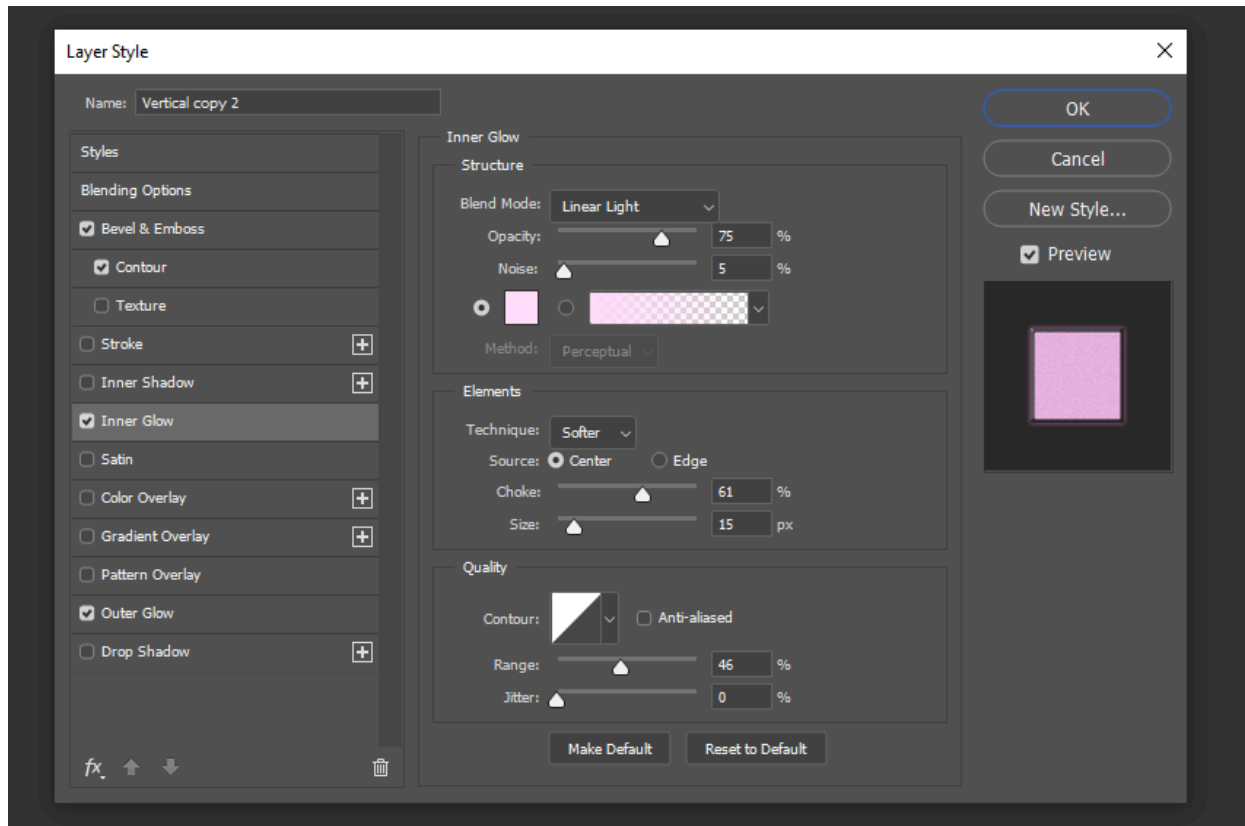
Step 2

In **Contour**, change **Range** to **0**.

Step 3

In **Inner Glow**, change **Choke** to **61** and **Size** to **15**. Set **Range** to **46**.

That concludes the styling of both parts of the Photoshop neon effect.

9. How to Add More Glow and Create the Cable

Step 1

Now we'll add the finishing touches to the neon sign Photoshop design. Create a new layer below the original invisible text layer, call it **Background Light**, and change its **Blend Mode** to **Linear Light**.

To finish the neon lettering, set the **Foreground** color to `#98338b`, pick the **Brush Tool**, and choose a very big, soft, round tip. Then click once to add spots of color behind the text (don't click and drag—just dot the color).
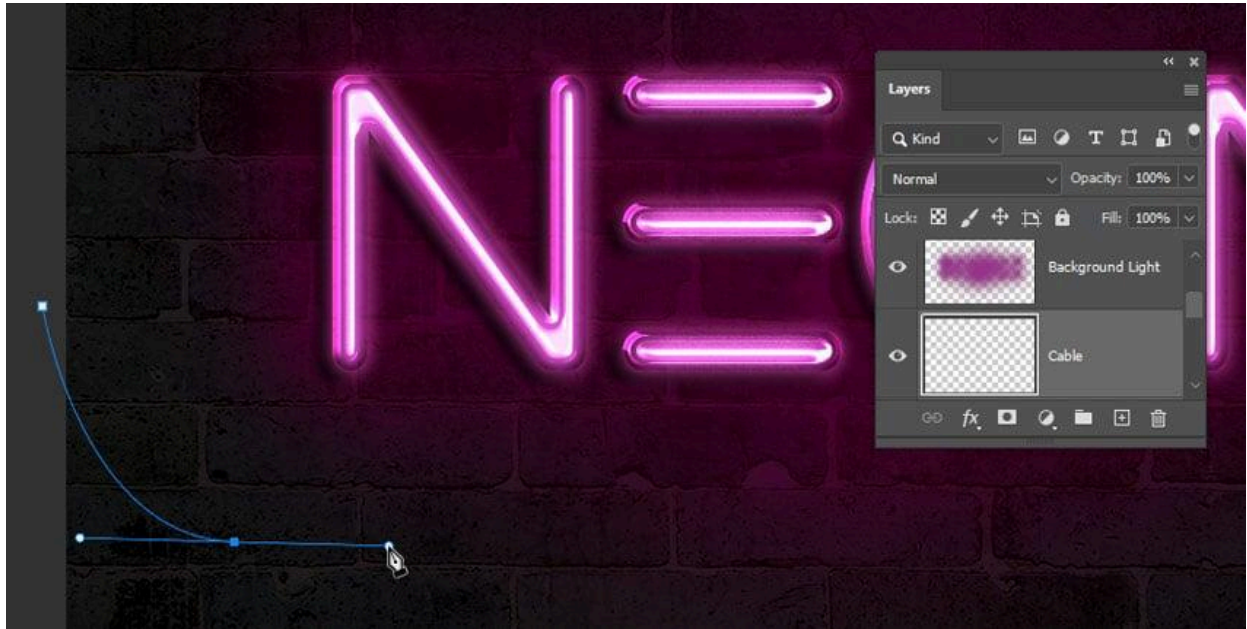
So far our creation looks like a neon light font against a textured background. In the next step we'll take the effect to the next level by adding the cable.

Step 2

Create another new layer below the **Background Light** layer and call it **Cable**. Pick the **Pen Tool** and choose the **Path** option in the **Options** bar.

What you'll need to do next is create the paths where you want to add the cable. You can click to add corner anchor points, and click and drag to create curves. Keep in mind that the path created doesn't have to be perfect, as you can pick the **Direct Selection Tool** at any time later to adjust the anchor points or the direction handles.
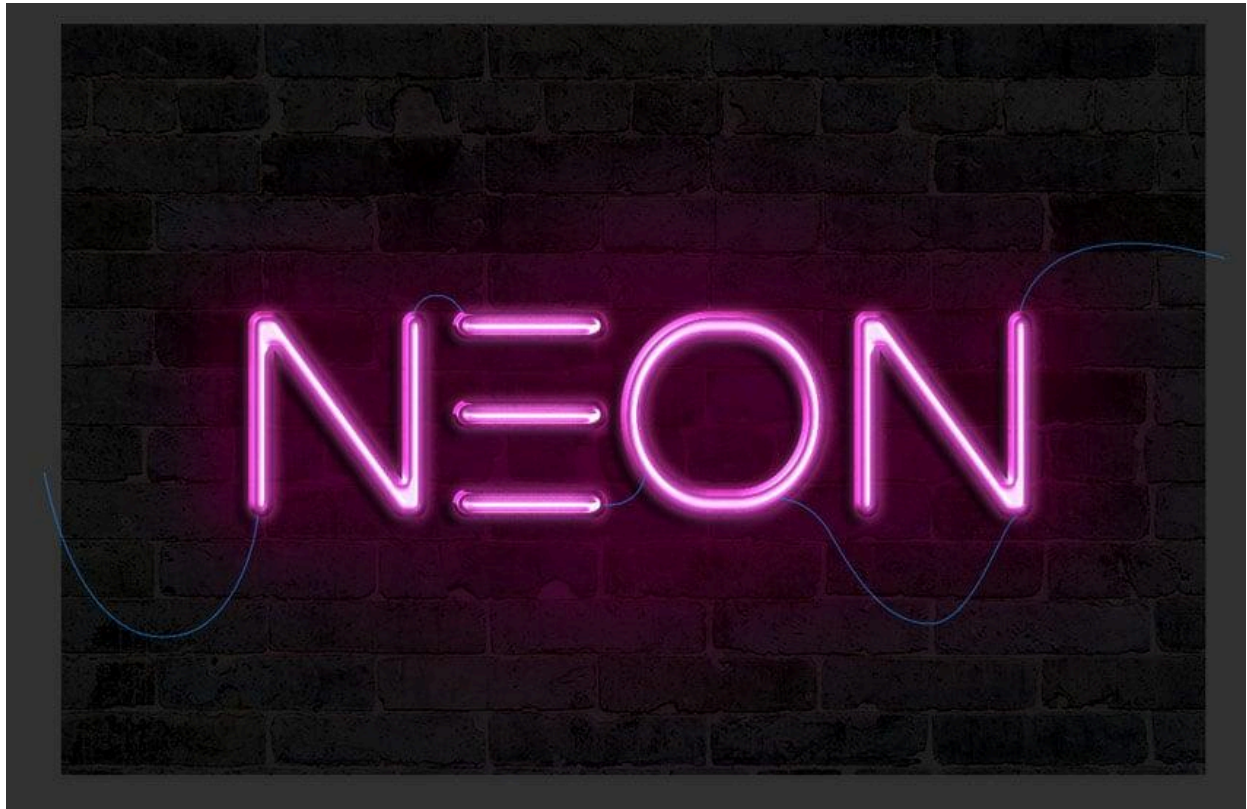
Step 3

To separate the paths, press and hold the **Command** key, and click outside the path you've finished creating so that it won't be connected to the path you create after it.
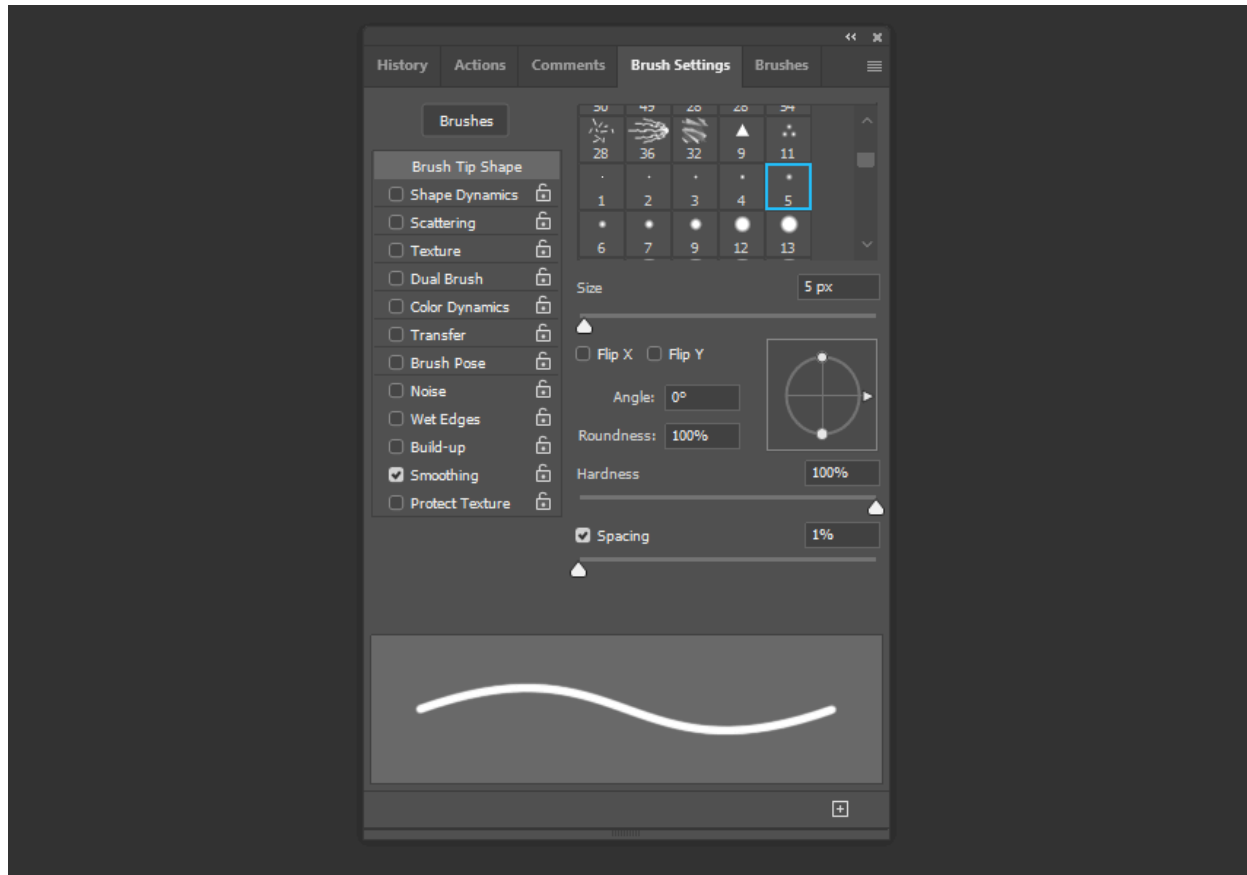

Step 4

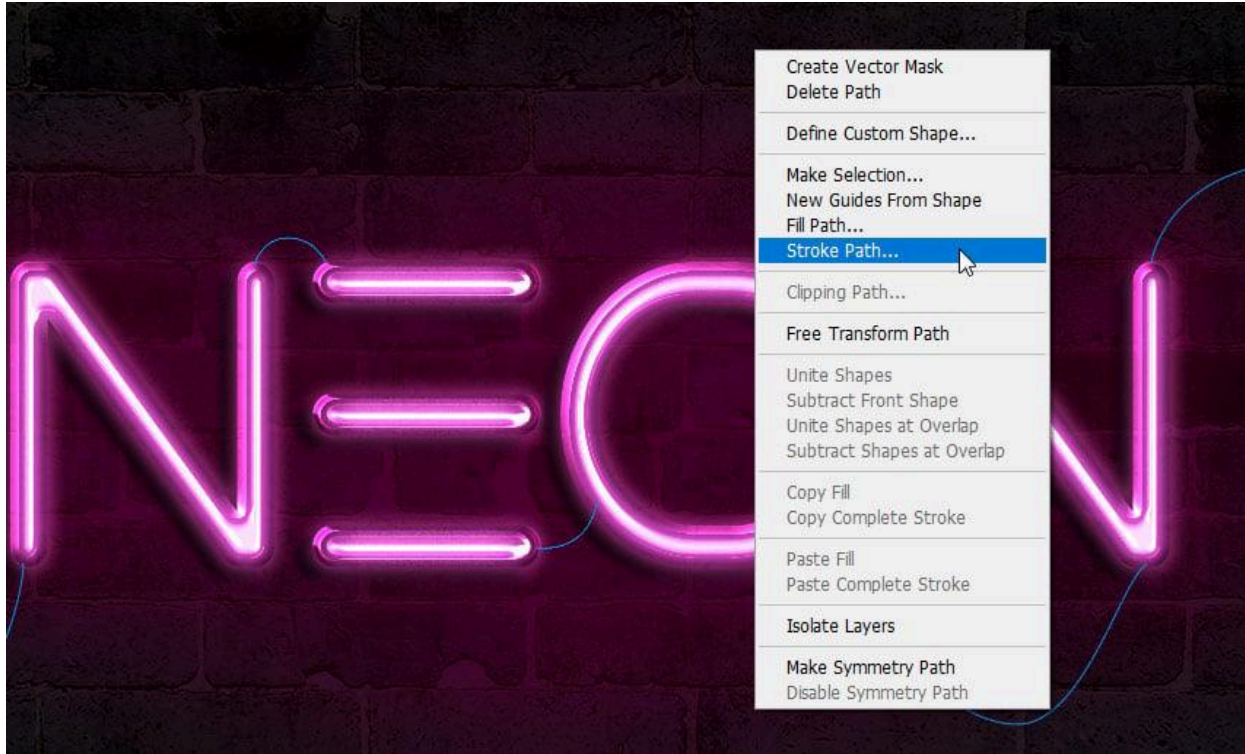Take your time with this step to get a neat outcome.

Step 5

Pick the **Brush Tool**, and then open the **Brush** panel (**Window > Brush**), and choose a hard round **5 px** tip with **Spacing** set to **1**.
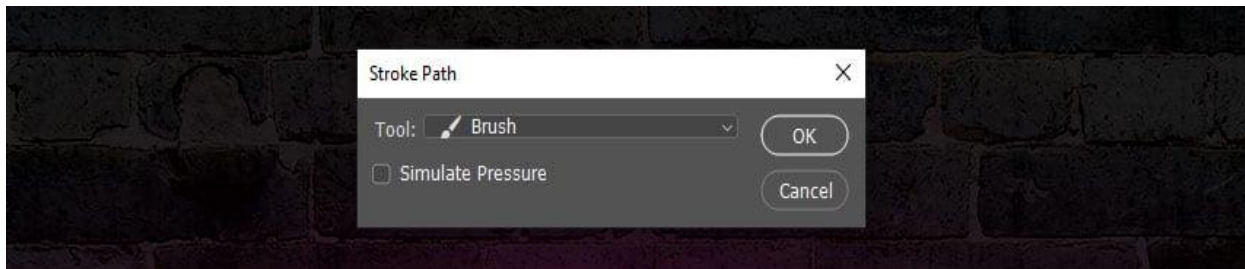
Step 6

Set the **Foreground** color to `#252525`, pick the **Direct Selection Tool**, right-click the path, and choose **Stroke Path**.

Step 7

Choose **Brush** from the **Tool** dropdown menu and uncheck the **Simulate Pressure** box.

Step 8

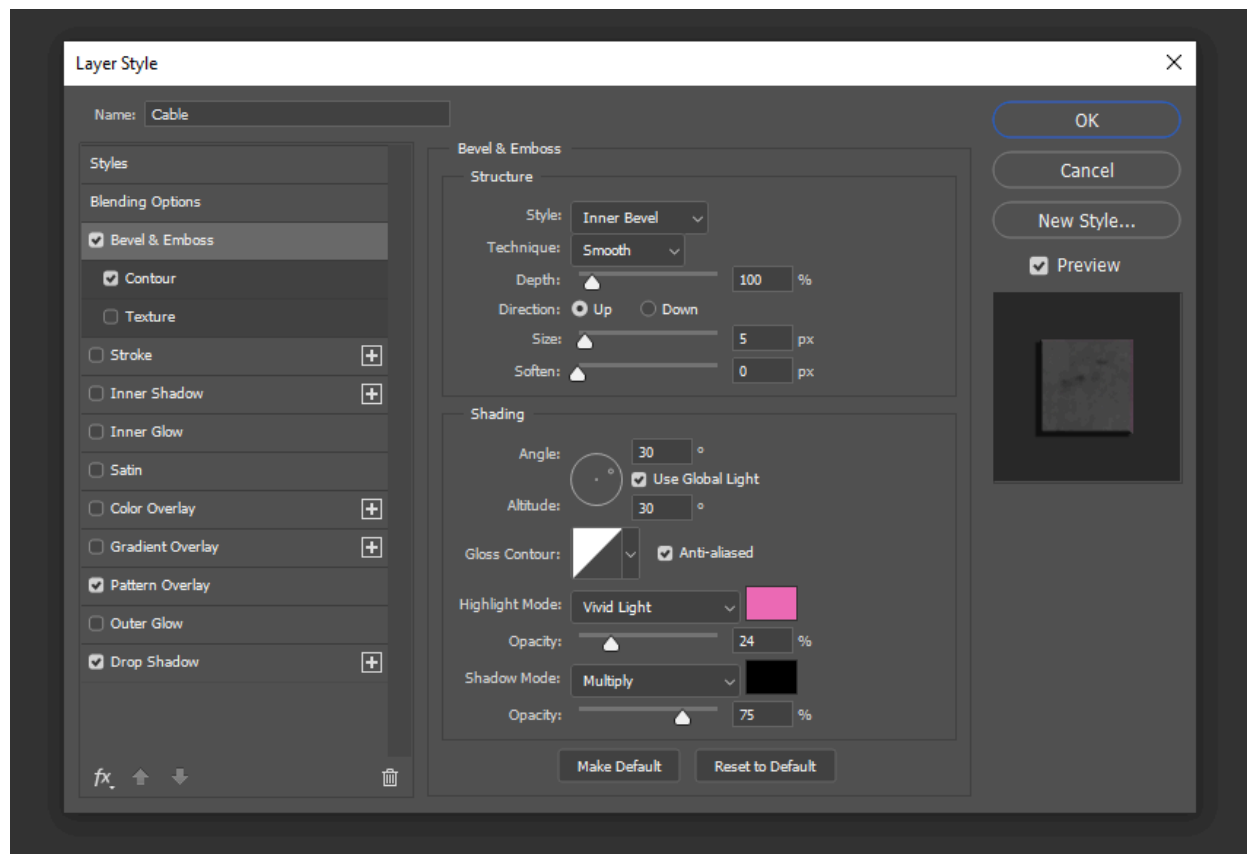This will stroke the path. Hit the **Return** key to get rid of the work path.

10. How to Style the Cable

Now that we've worked on the Photoshop neon effect text, let's focus on the next part. Double-click the **Cable** layer to apply the following layer style:

Step 1

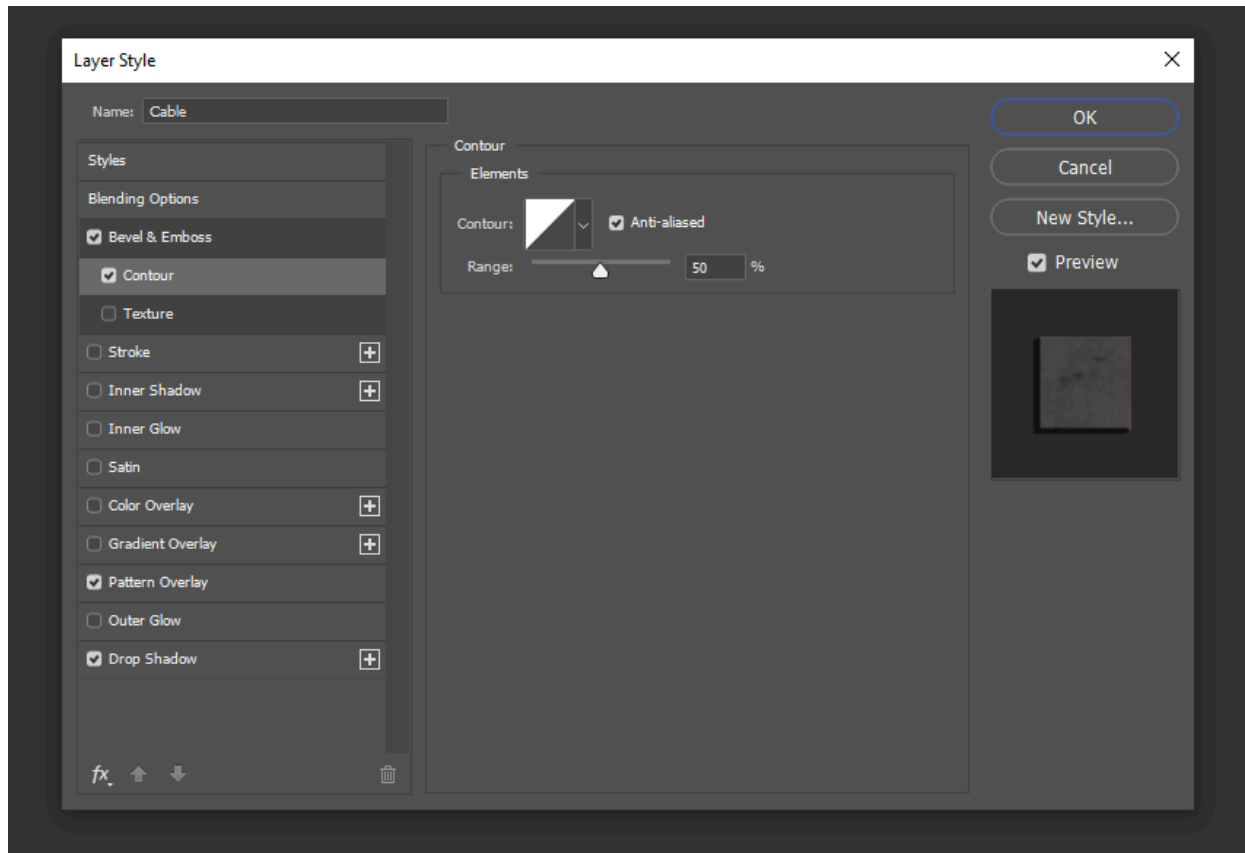Add a **Bevel and Emboss** with these settings:

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box

- **Highlight Mode:** Vivid Light

- **Color:** #ec6ab7

- **Opacity:** 24%
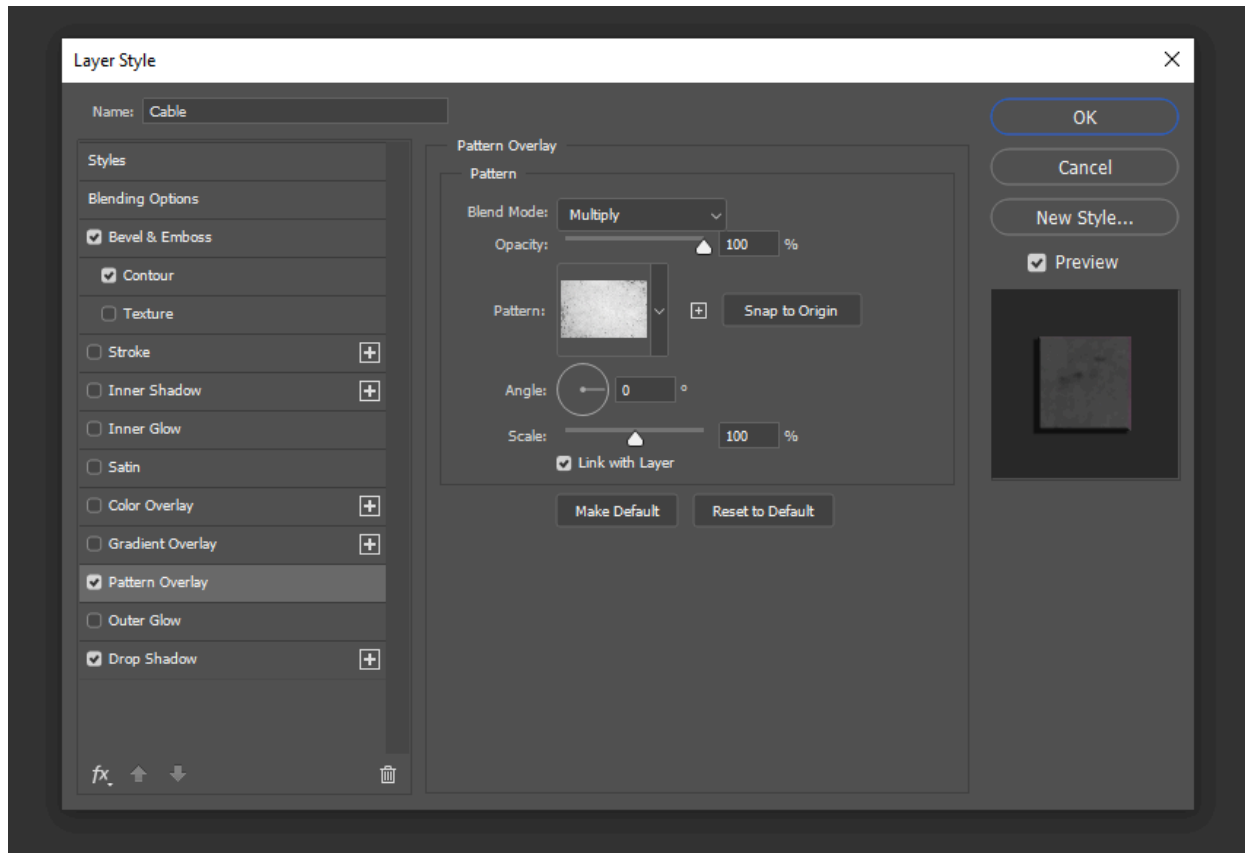
Step 2

Add a **Contour** with these settings:

- Check the **Anti-aliased** box.

Step 3

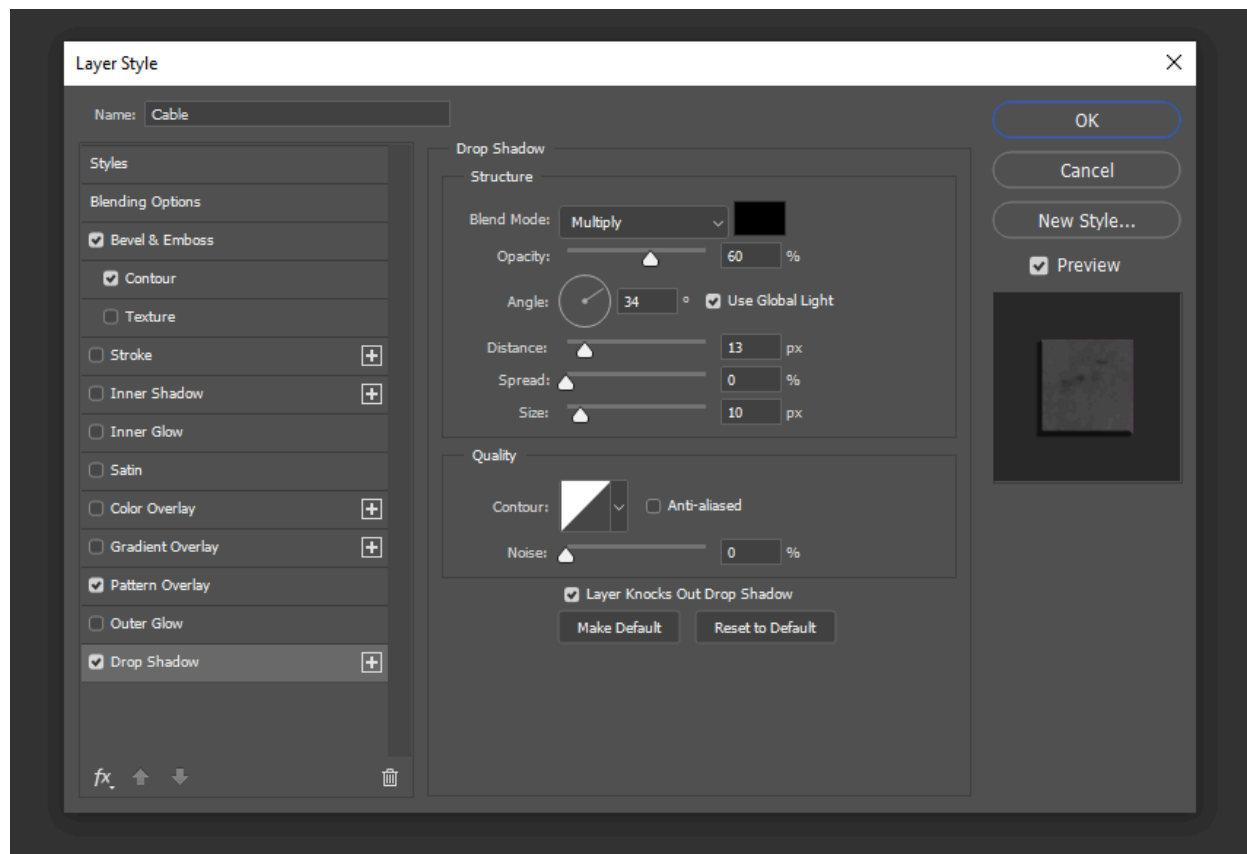Add a **Pattern Overlay** with these settings:

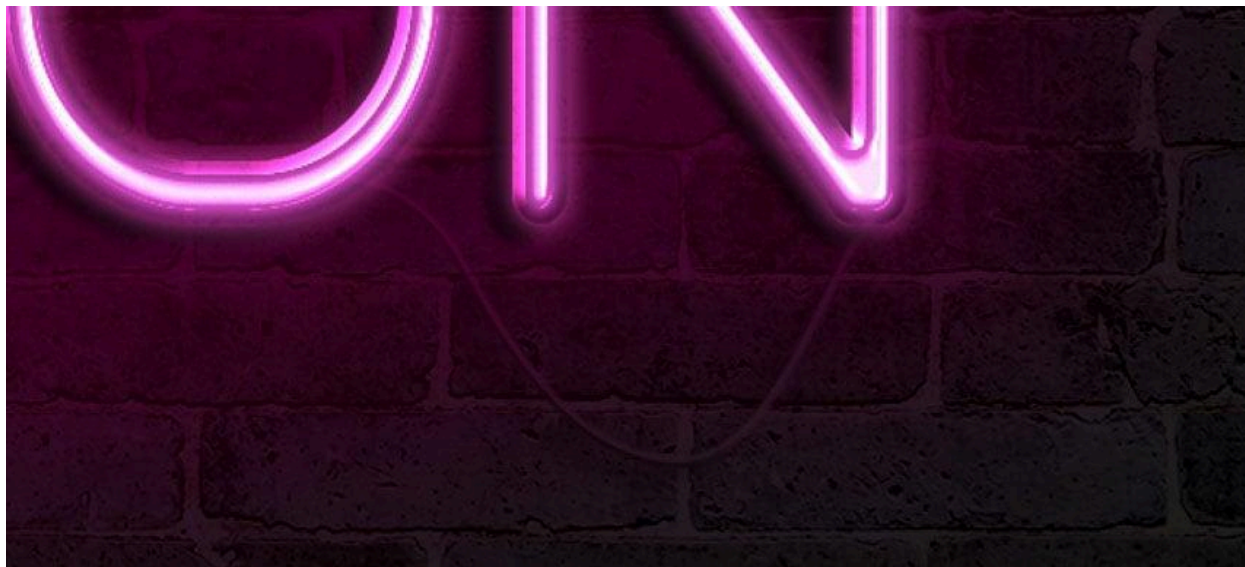- **Blend Mode:** Multiply

- **Pattern**: *Grunge_Pattern*

Step 4

Add a **Drop Shadow** with these settings:

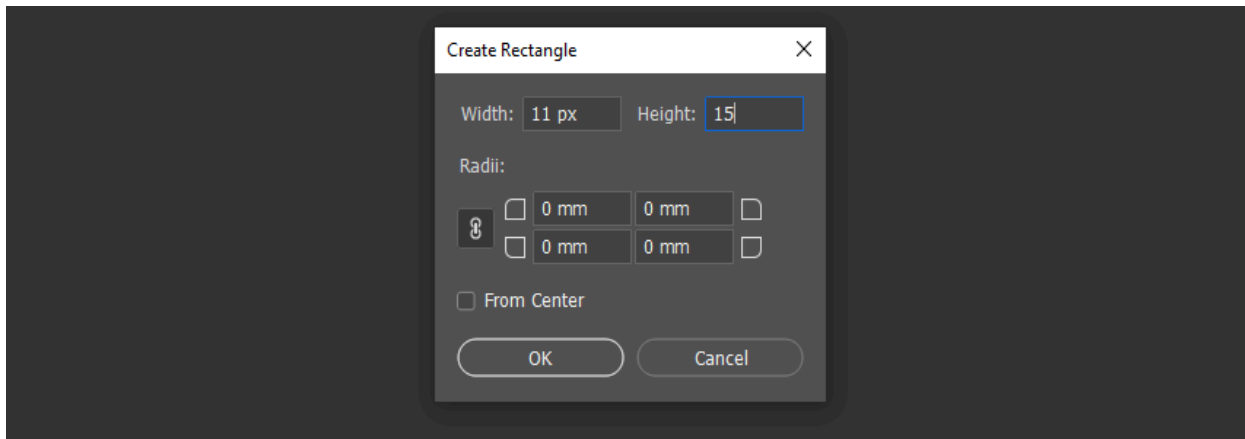- **Opacity:** 60%

- **Distance:** 13

- **Size:** 10

This will style the cable of the neon text in Photoshop.
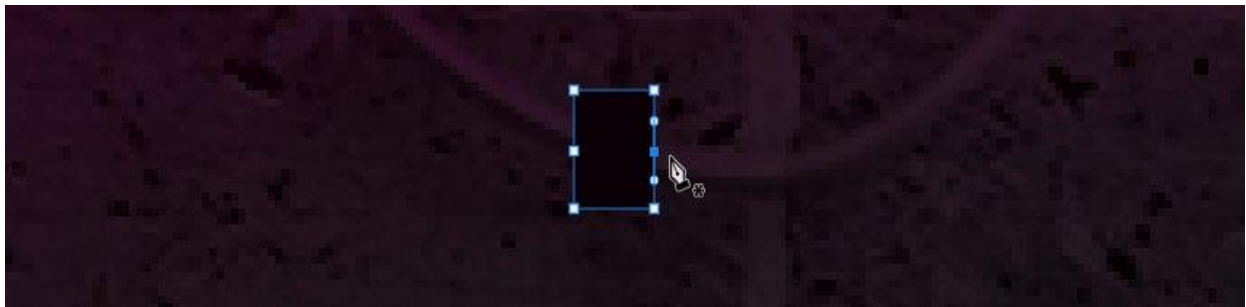

11. How to Create the Clips

Step 1

The neon effect Photoshop design is almost complete! Pick the **Rectangle Tool** and create an **11 x 15 px** rectangle.

Step 2

Pick the **Add Anchor Point Tool** and click to add two points in the center of both vertical sides of the rectangle.
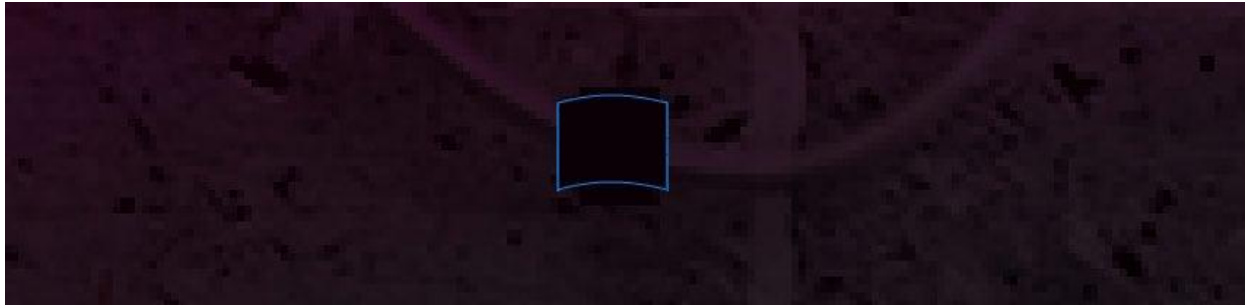

Step 3

Pick the **Direct Selection Tool**, click and drag to select the center points you added, and then press the **Left Arrow Key** once to move them **1 px** to the left.

Step 4

Duplicate the **Rectangle** layer and then go to **Edit > Transform > Rotate 90° Clockwise**. Rename the Rectangle layers to **H** (for horizontal) and **V** (for vertical).
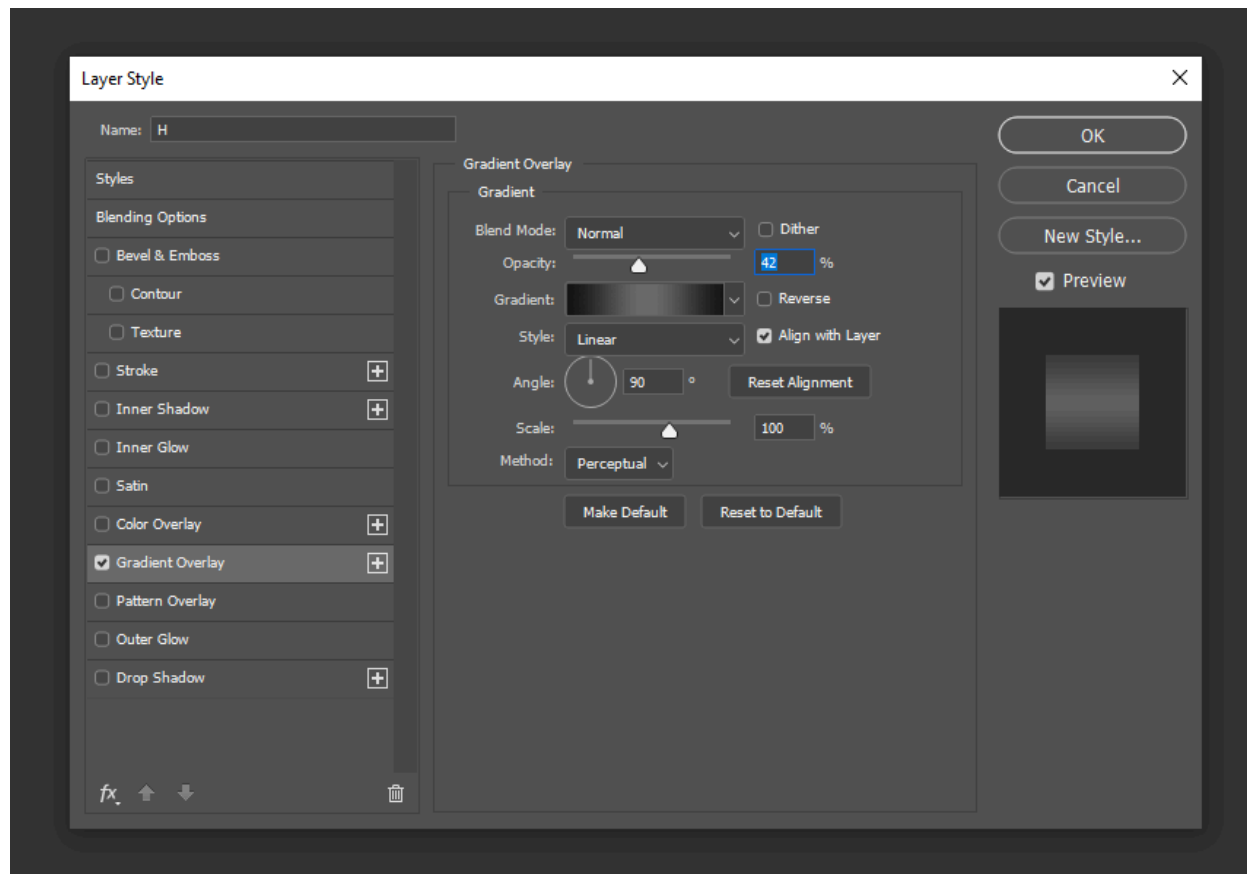

12. How to Style the Clips

Double-click the **H** layer to apply the following neon light text layer style:

Step 1

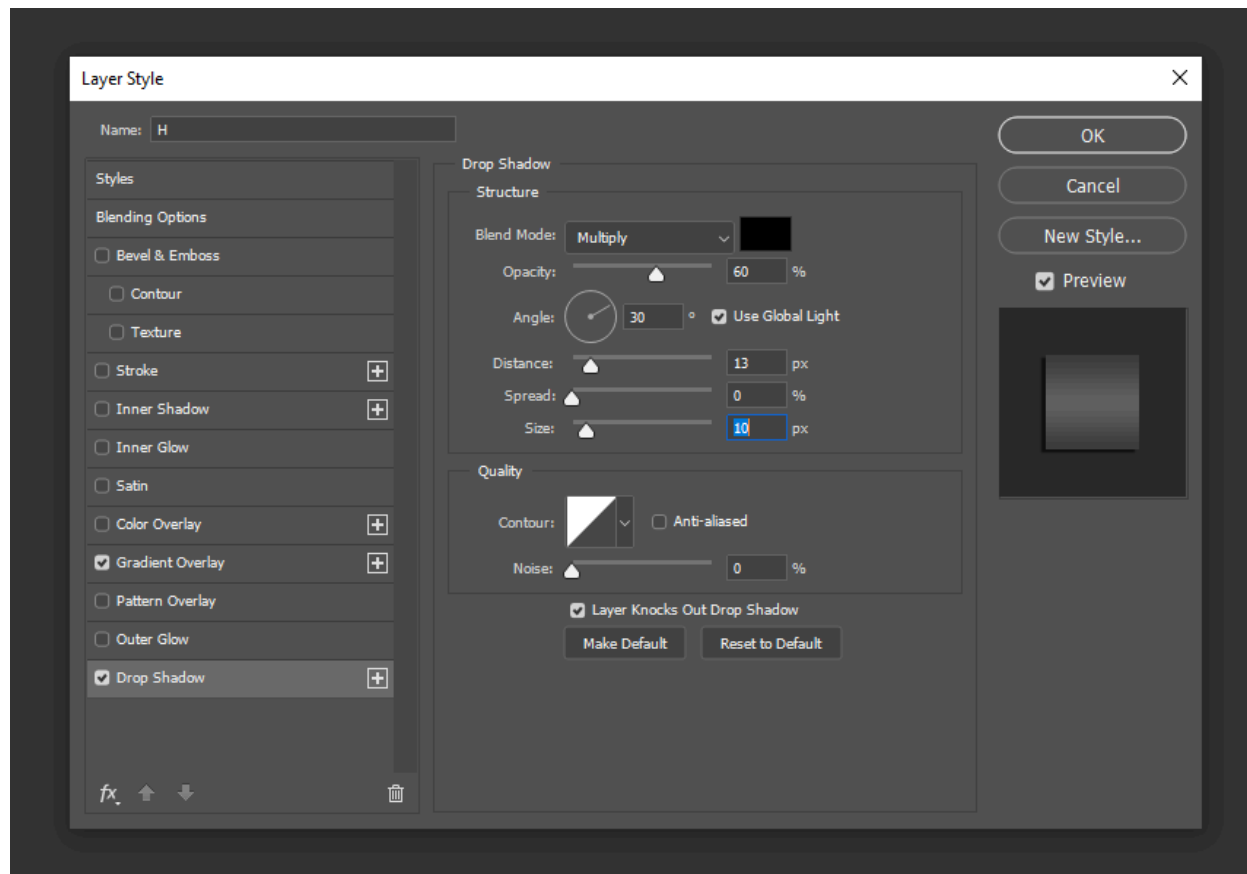Add a **Gradient Overlay** with these settings:

- **Opacity:** 42%

- Click the **Gradient** box to [create the gradient](#) using the colors #151515 to the left, #6d6d6d in the center, and #161616 to the right.

Step 2

Add a **Drop Shadow** with these settings:

- **Opacity:** 60%

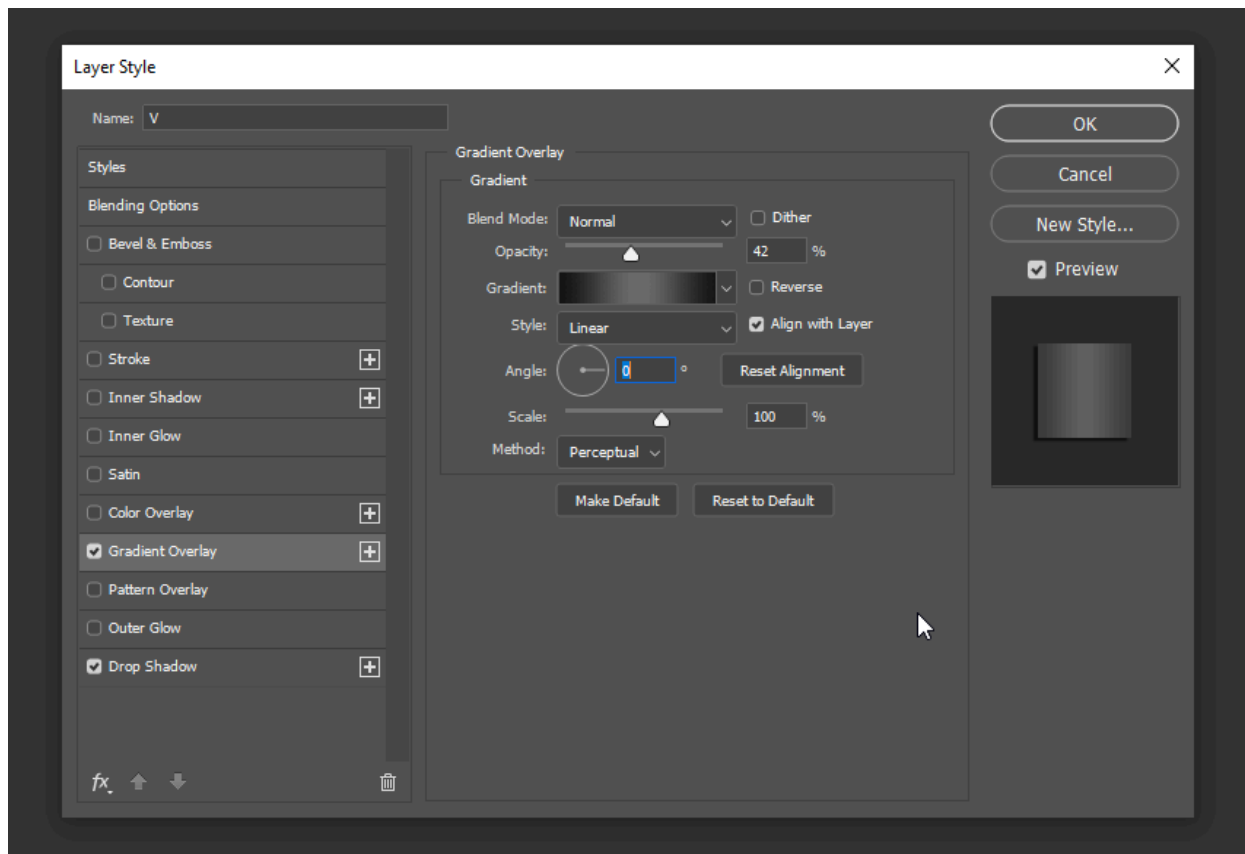- **Distance:** 13

- **Size:** 10

This will style the horizontal clip.

Step 3

Copy and paste the **H** layer's layer style to the **V** layer, and then double-click the **V** layer to change the **Gradient Overlay**'s **Angle** value to **0**.
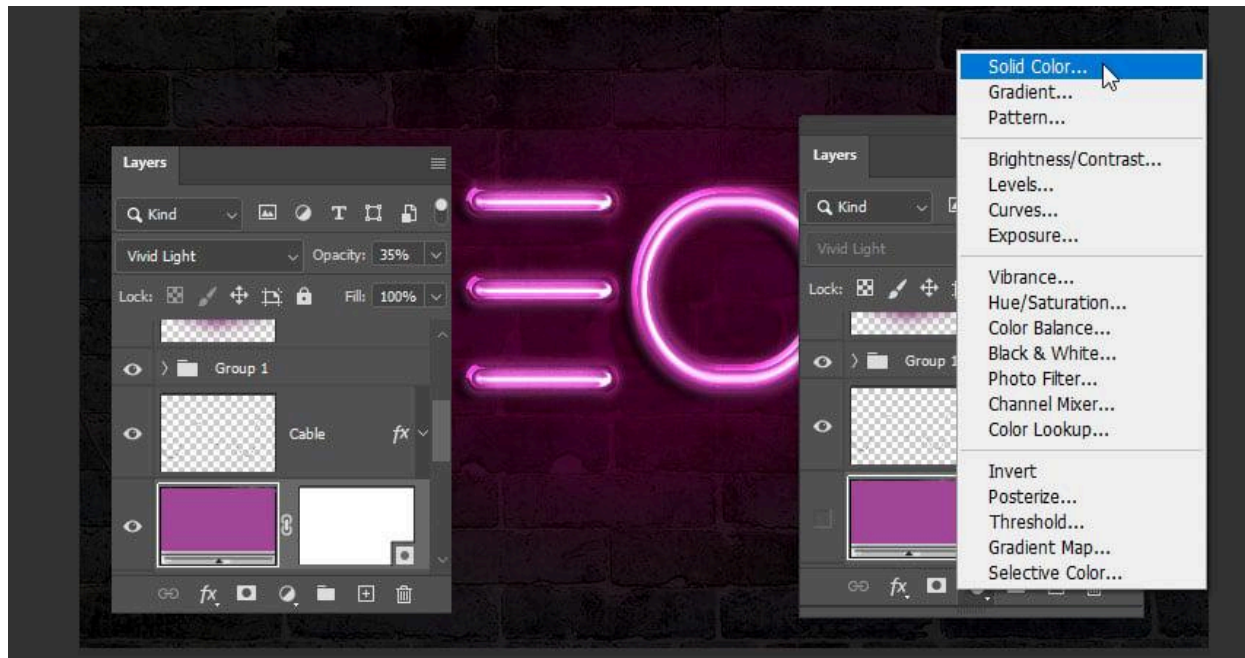
Step 4

Next, duplicate and place the clip layers wherever you want to add clips to the cable you created.

13. How to Add One More Coloring Layer

The neon Photoshop letters are pretty much complete. One final touch! Click the **Create new fill or adjustment layer** icon and choose **Solid Color**. Use the color #a34799, place the adjustment layer

below the **Cable** layer, and change its **Blend Mode** to **Vivid Light**. This will [apply the color](#) to the bricks behind the text, and enhance the glow and lighting of the final result.

Congratulations! You Know How to Make Neon Text in Photoshop!

Making a neon effect in Photoshop with this tutorial delivers some high-quality results.

In this neon effect Photoshop tutorial, we modified a brick texture background and darkened it a little bit. Then we created the text, rasterized its layer, and separated the horizontal parts from the vertical and diagonal ones.

SMART
PHOTOSHOP
EFFECT

Neon

Party

INTRODUCING

NEONCITY

Stylishtic