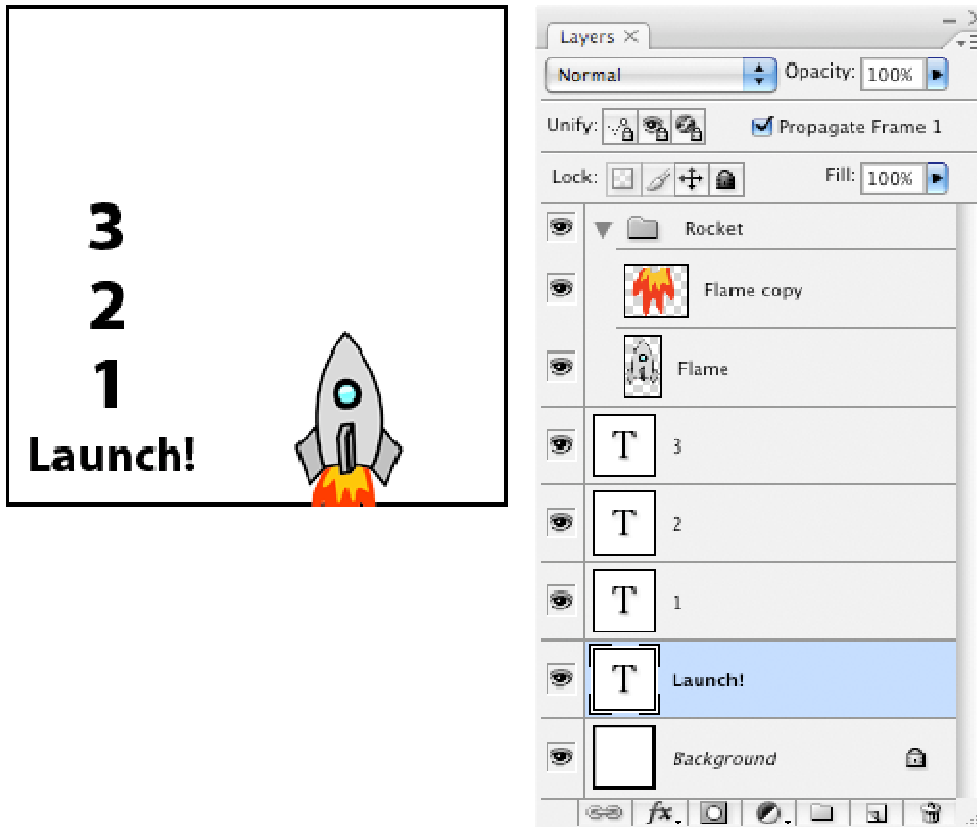


## A Simple Example

For a quick hands-on tutorial on creating animated GIFs in Adobe Photoshop, we'll walk you through creating the following animation:

This simple animation combines the two most common animation techniques in Photoshop: Turning layers off and on, and using the Tween command to animate the movement of an object on a layer.

### Step 1: Set up your layers.

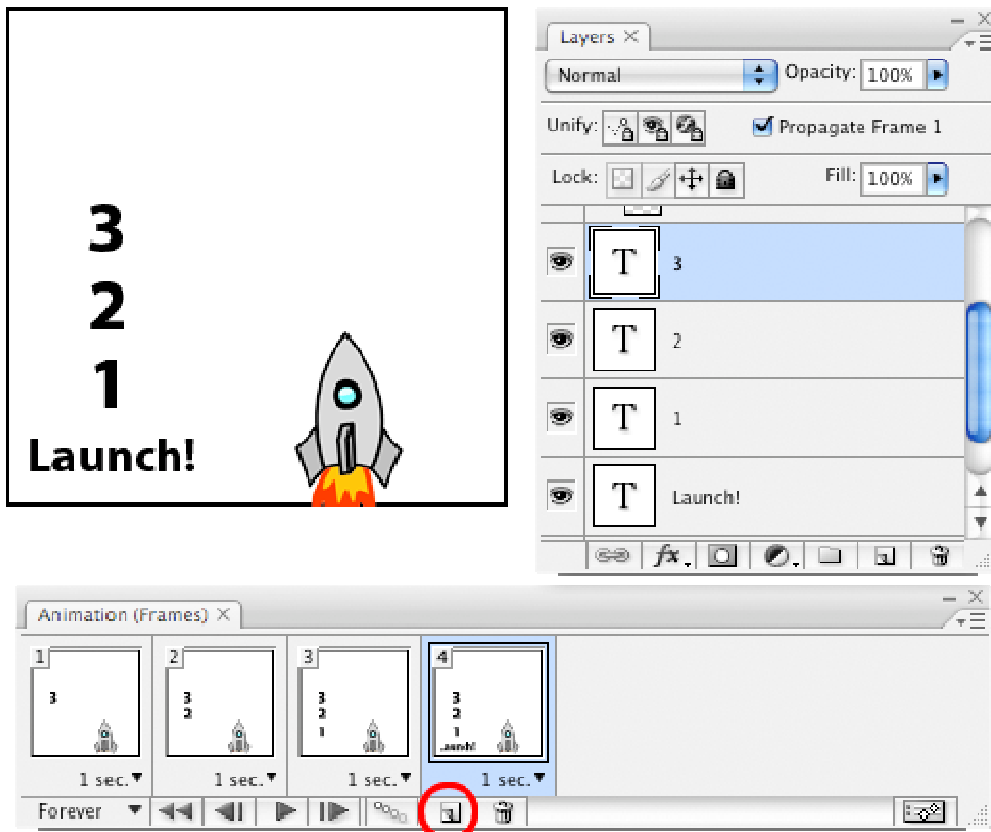


The first step in creating any animation in Photoshop is to build a layered Photoshop file with all the elements you plan to animate. Our example document has 7 layers containing the text for our countdown, and layers for the rocket and flame.

You can download our example Photoshop file here:

[ExampleAnimation.psd](#)

## Step 2: Create Animation Frames with Layer Visibility.



**Add new Frame.**

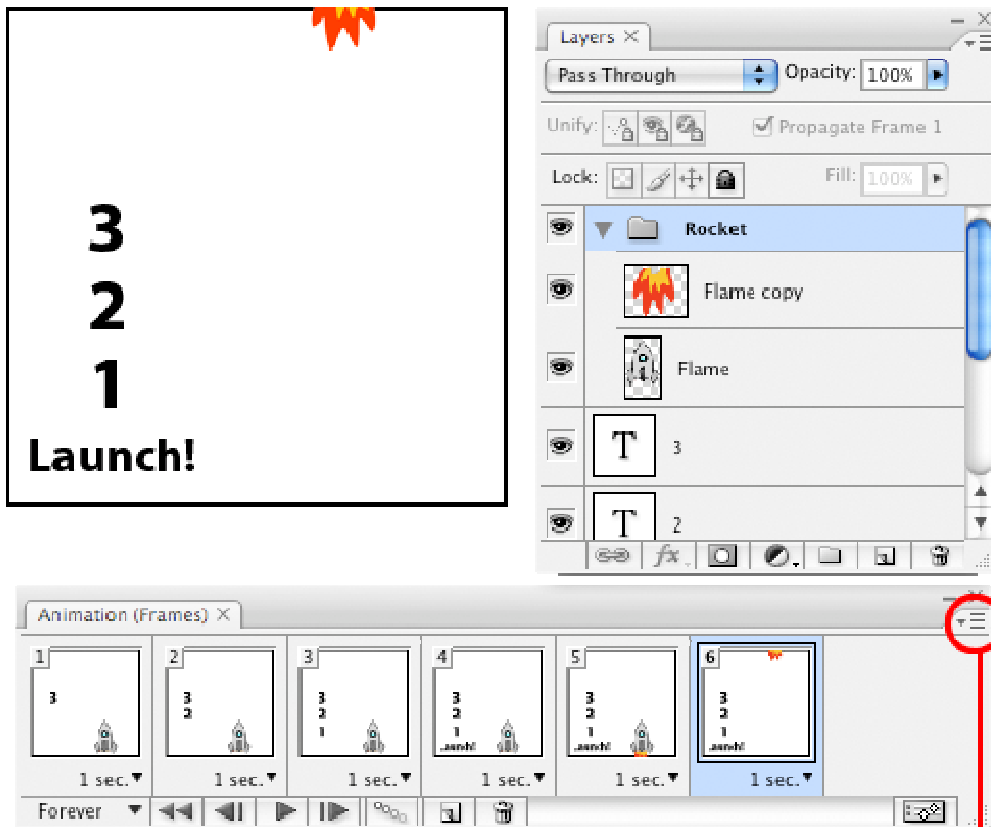
Chose **Windows > Animation** to show Photoshop's animation palette.

On the first frame, turn off visibility for all layers you do not want visible at the start of your animation. Then add one frame at a time, and turn on the layers you want visible for each step in the animation.

Changing layer visibility one frame at a time is a classic Photoshop animation technique that covers a wide variety of needs.

In our example, continue this pattern to reveal the countdown and the flame at the bottom of our rocket.

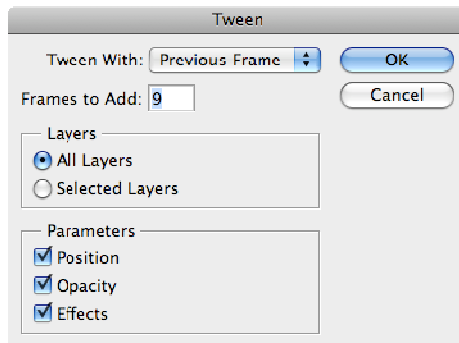
### Step 3: Create Animation Frames using Tween.



Choose "Tween" from the pop-out menu.

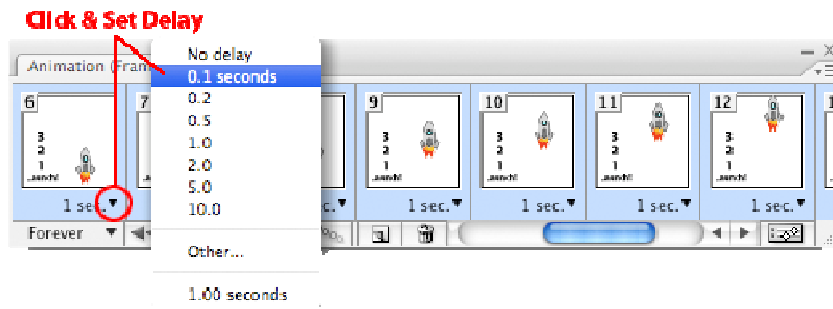
Now that the countdown is complete, we need to create the illusion that our rocket ship is taking off. Add one more frame, and this time select the group called "Rocket" in layers and move your rocket off the top of your image window.

Then choose "Tween..." from the Animation palette's pop-out menu.



Set how many frames to add, and Photoshop spreads the movement of your layer across those extra frames.

## Step 4: Adjust your Timing.



Finally, go back through and adjust the delay for each frame of your animation. That time is shown in seconds below each frame.

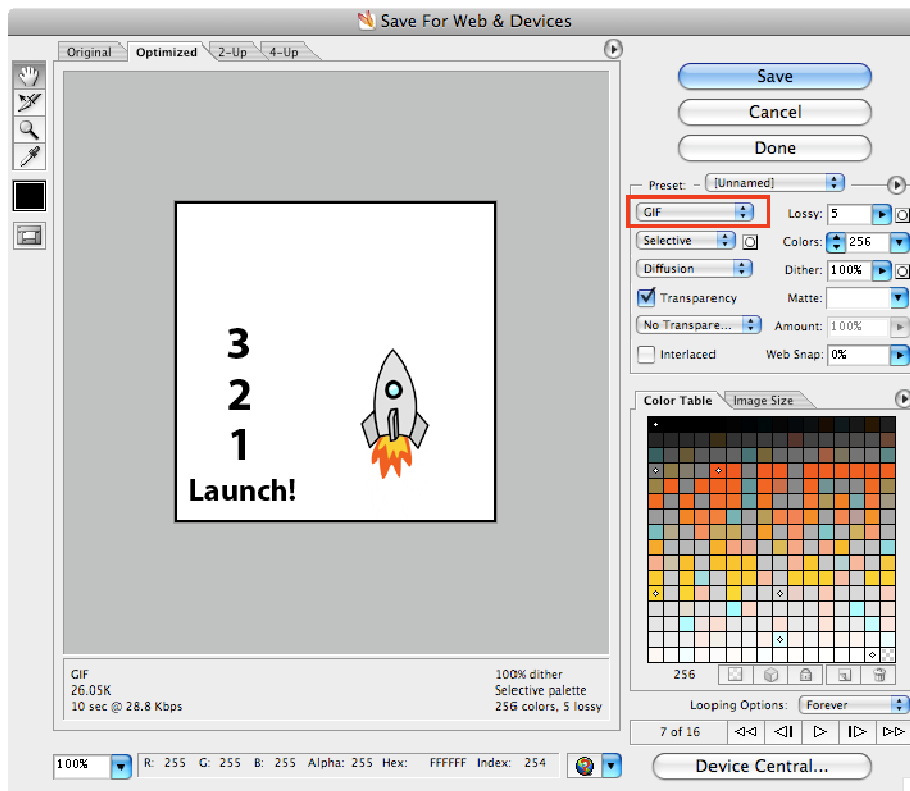
Tip: You can hold down the Shift-key to select a range of frames (such as the 9 frames we added for the rocket's takeoff) and change them together.

## Step 5: Export the Animated GIF.

Finally, to export your animated GIF choose:

**In Photoshop CS3: File > Save For Web & Devices...**

**In Earlier Photoshop: File > Save For Web...**



Make sure the image type is set to GIF, feel free to experiment with some of the other options, and save your file.

To test your resulting animated GIF, drag the file onto you web browser.