



### Andy's Photoshop Tip #39 - Rounded Pill-Shaped Button

Everyone asks me how I make a rounded pill-shaped button so here's the tip you have been waiting for. :-)



**1** Create a circular selection.



**2** Click on the "Quick Mask" Icon at the bottom of the tool bar. Your image should look like this.



**3** Draw a box around your circle and hit ALT+CTRL+SHIFT keys while clicking and dragging the circle. This will create a duplicate of the circle. Move it to the other side of the image.



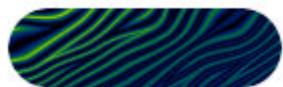
**4** Now make a rectangular selection from the tops of the circles.



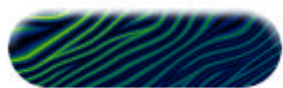
**5** Hit the delete key. If it fills with red instead of white, then hit the "X" key and then hit delete again. This is what it should look like.



**6** Click off the Quick Mask icon to go back to normal painting mode. Save your selection.



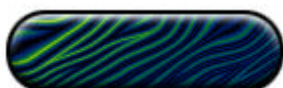
**7** Fill the selection with your favorite color or texture.



**8** Now go to SELECT...MODIFY...CONTRACT...4 pixels. Now feather it by two (SELECT...FEATHER...2 PIXELS). Hit CTRL+SHIFT+I to invert your selection and on a new layer fill it with a white gradient from the top of the button to the middle with the "Foreground to Transparency" selected.



**9** Now fill your layer with a black gradient from the bottom of the button to the middle of it. Load your original selection (CTRL+ALT+4) and invert it (CTRL+SHIFT+I) and hit the delete key. This should get rid of your excess black on the bottom.



**10** Now invert your selection again (CTRL+SHIFT+I) and hit EDIT...STROKE...2 from the Center...OK. This will create a black outline around your button to give it a bit more definition. Now take a look at your cool button.



