

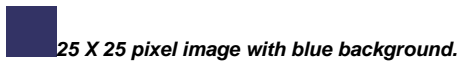
Creating Rounded Table Corners

A common question among new web designers is "How do I create rounded table corners?" The answer is easy: insert rounded edge graphics into your table corners.

Creating the Corners

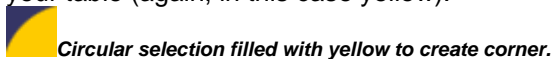
I used Photoshop for this exercise - but the theory should be the same for most graphics programs as it is merely an exercise in shapes...circles and squares to be exact.

1. Create a new image in your graphics program. For the sake of this tutorial we will use an image 25 x 25 pixels in size. You generally want to make the background of your image the same as the background colour where it will be placed on the page. For this page I would obviously use white - but for demonstration purposes I will be using blue.



2. Use a circular selection or drawing tool and draw a circle in the bottom right corner of the image. It's a good idea to use a separate layer if your software has this ability, to avoid starting over if you make a mistake.

If using a circular drawing tool - select the colour used in your table - in this case yellow. If you are using a selection tool - fill the selection with the colour used in your table (again, in this case yellow).



3. Export to your images folder as topcorner.gif.
4. Rotate the image 90 degrees clockwise to create and export again - this time naming the image toprightcorner.gif.



5. Repeat step five two more times naming the gif files bottomrightcorner.gif and bottomleftcorner.gif.

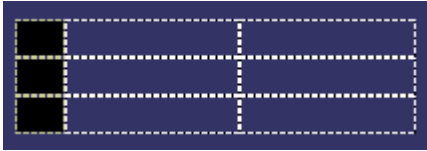


Inserting Your Graphics into the Table

1. For this exercise, create a table with three rows and three columns and 200 pixels wide. Set the table borders, cell padding and cell spacing to zero. It should look something like this:



2. Select the far **left column** of the table and set the cell properties to 25 pixels wide.



3. Do the same for the far **right column** by selecting it and setting it to 25 pixels wide. Select the middle column and set it to 150 pixels wide.

4. Now, select the **top row** and set the vertical alignment to "top."



5. Select the **bottom row** and set the vertical alignment to "bottom."

6. Select the entire table - and set the background color. In this case to yellow.



7. Insert the image topleftcorner.gif into the top left corner cell.

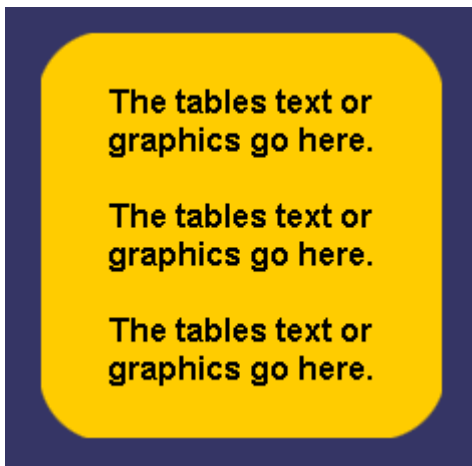


8. Repeat the process three more times, placing the toprightcorner.gif into the top right corner cell etc.

Your final table should look similar to this:



9. Place the text or graphics you want displayed within the table in the very middle cell and you have it!



This is a very simplistic example of rounded table corners - but it will help you to get started creating your own. As you experiment - you will find many uses for rounded corner graphics in conjunction with table cells.