

# Create Your Own Molten Planet

**Step 1:** Create a new document: 600x600 pixels, white background. Then, create a new layer, name it “Planet”. Save the documents as a Photoshop .PSD file. Name it “planet.psd”.

**Step 2:** Choose your Ellipse Tool, default colors, set the option to Fill Pixels. While holding down shift, create a circle about 2/3 the size of your document. It should be filled with black.

**Step 3:** Then go to Filter > Render > Difference Clouds. Reapply the filter two or three more times.

**Step 4:** Go to Image > Adjustments > Levels and set the levels to approximately:

- Shadows: 0
- Midtones: 1.06
- Highlights: 190

**Step 5:** Then go to Filter > Sharpen > Unsharp Mask and give the settings of:

- Amount: 475%
- Radius: 3
- Threshold: 14

**Step 6:** Then apply the Spherize filter (Filter > Distort > Spherize) with an amount of 100% and then again with an amount of 50%.

**Step 7:** Open up your Color Balance Image > Adjustments > Color Balance. Give the following settings for each of the items:

- Shadows: [+100] [0] [-100]
- Midtones: [+100] [0] [-100]
- Highlights: [+70] [0] [-15]

**Step 8:** Use the Unsharp Mask Filter again only this time set the amount to about 300% and Threshold to 15. (Filter > Sharpen > Unsharp Mask)

**Step 9:** Expand the canvas to 800x800, keeping the planet in the center. Fill the background with Black. Unlock the background.

**Step 10:** (Background layer) Go to Filter > Noise > Add Noise. Give the following Settings:

- Amount: 4.9 (More amount means more stars)
- Distribution: Gaussian
- Monochromatic: Checked.

**Step 11:** Duplicate the Background Layer and set the Blending mode to Overlay.

**Step 12:** Select your Background Layer again and go to Image > Adjustments > Brightness/Contrast. Increase your contrast so that the stars are visible.

**Step 13:** Select the Planet Layer. Approximate the following Blending Options (Layer > Layer Style > Blending Options).

- Outer Glow: Size: 50, Spread: 10

**Step 14:** Save your PSD document.

**Step 15:** Choose File > Save for Web and Devices. Select the 2-up tab. Under file options choose GIF, 256 colors. Save the GIF as planet.gif.

Here is my Final:

