

# Easy Star Light in Photoshop

*November 23, 2009*

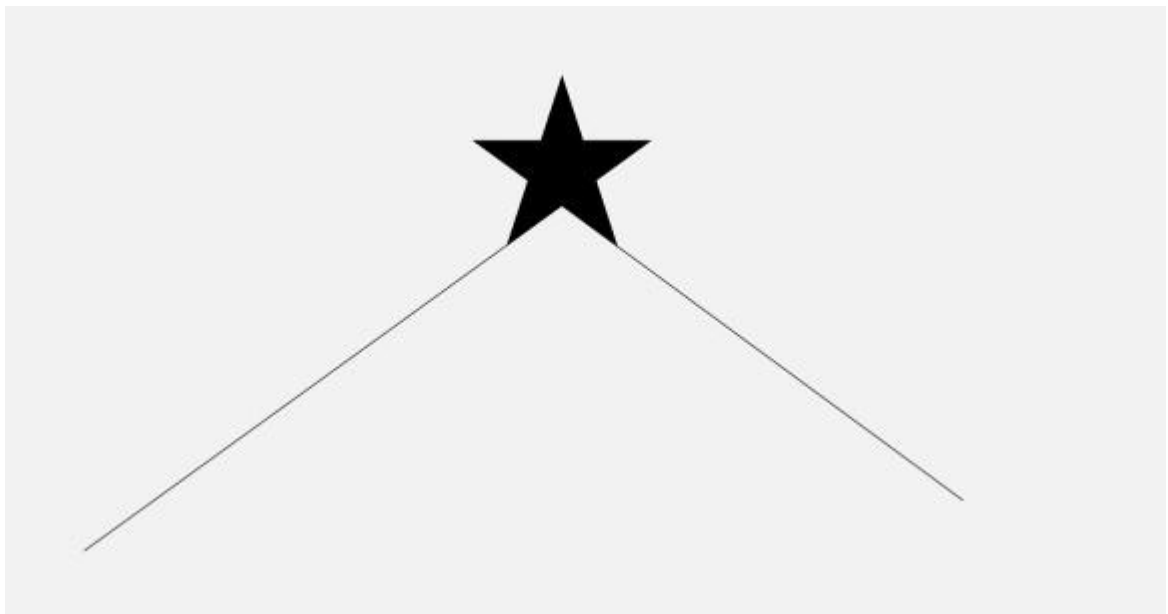
- [abduzeedo's blog](#)

So in this tutorial we will create a composition from scratch first in Illustrator where we will play with shapes and the Blend Tool. After that in Photoshop we will add the light effects and the pattern overlay.

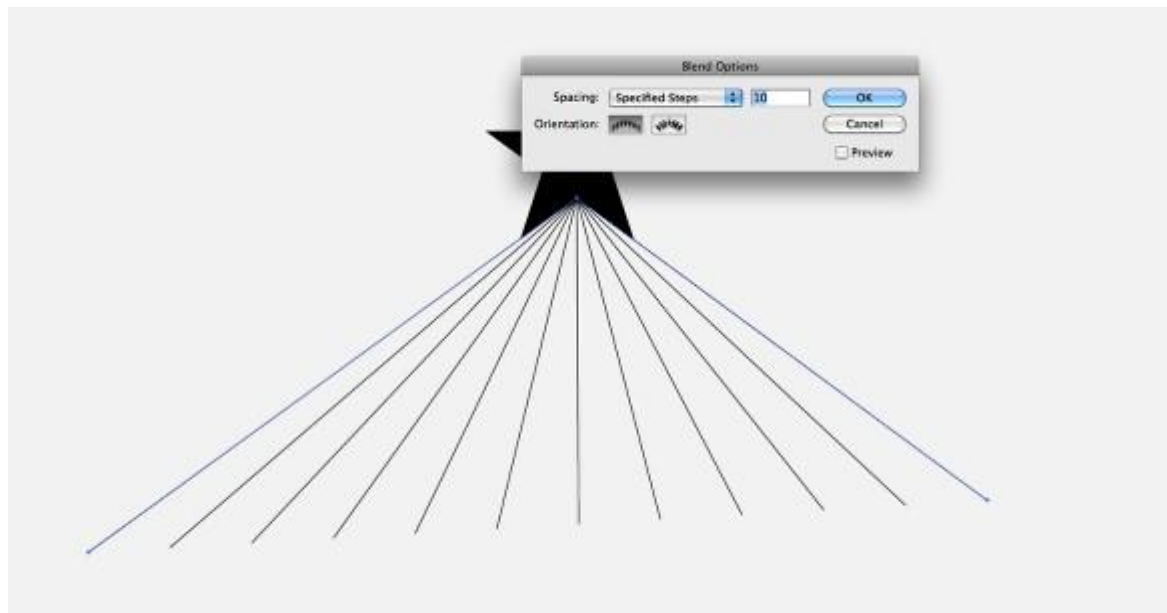
We will start our image in [this tutorial](#) We could have done it entirely in Photoshop but I like to use the right tool for the right type of work, if there's vector I will always use Illustrator, it's easier and faster. In Illustrator select the [Star Tool](#) and create a star.



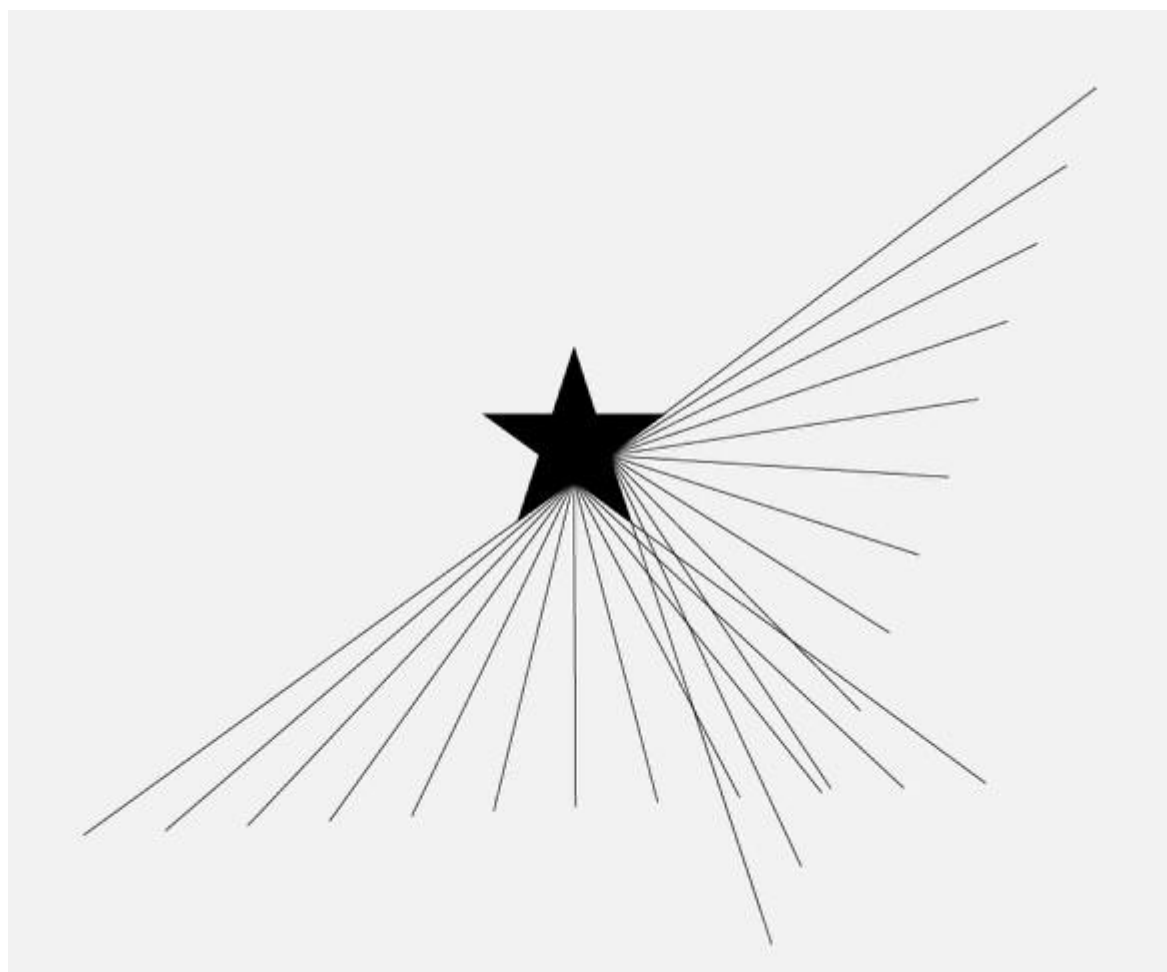
With the  create 2 lines following the base shape of the star. Use the image below for reference.



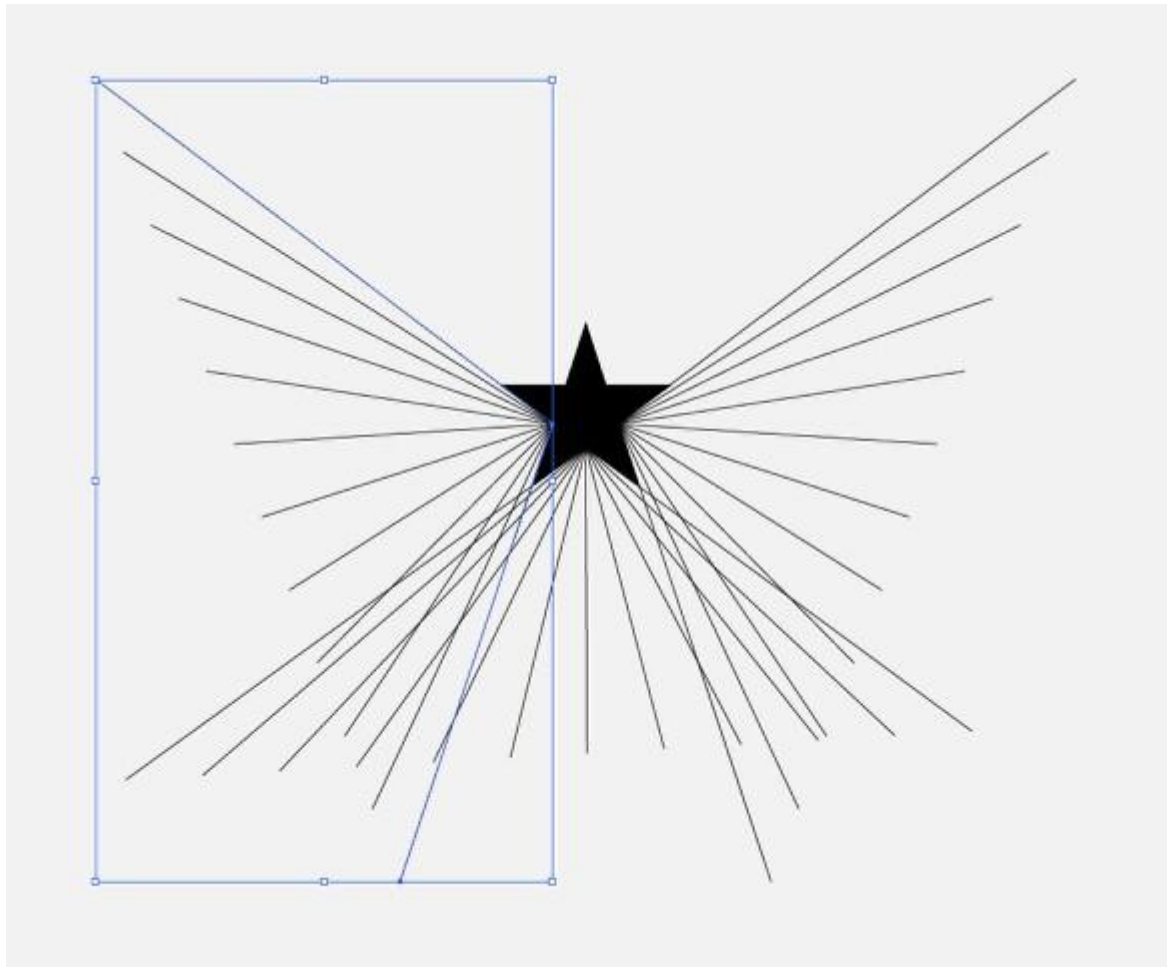
With the , click on one line then click on the other one. You will apply the blend effect to the lines. Now double click on the  icon to open the . Change the .



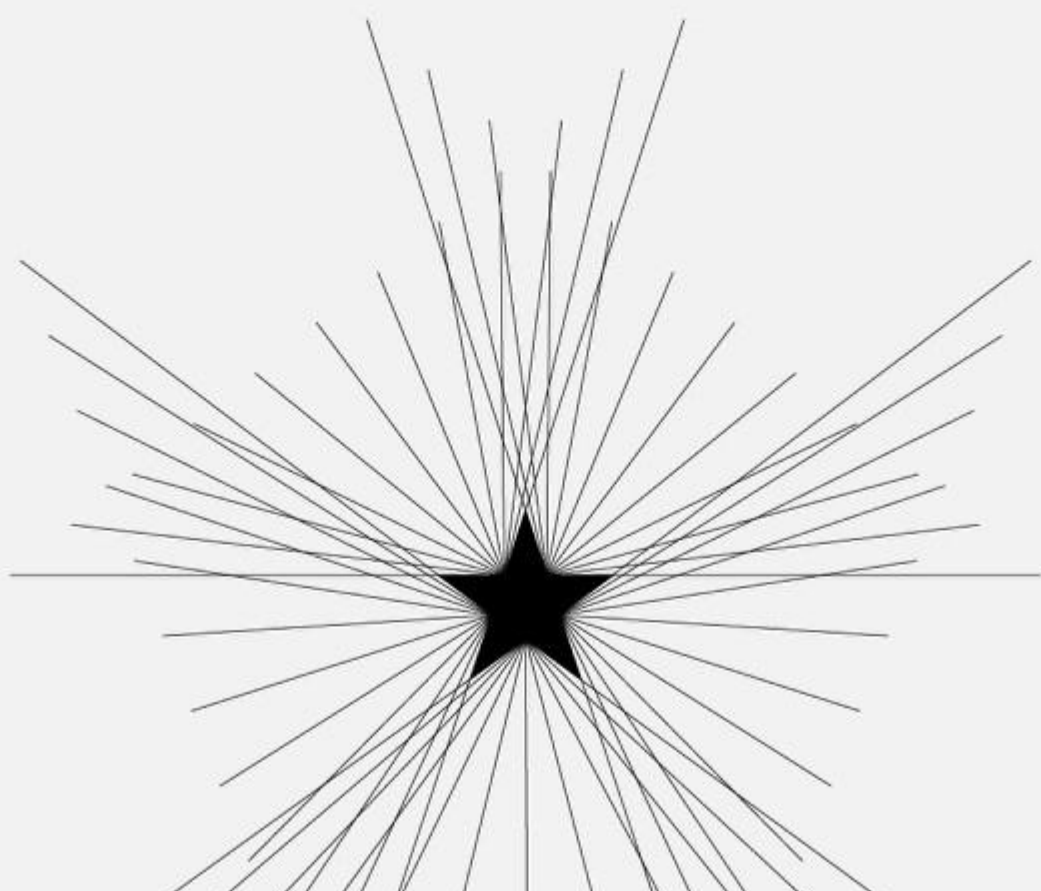
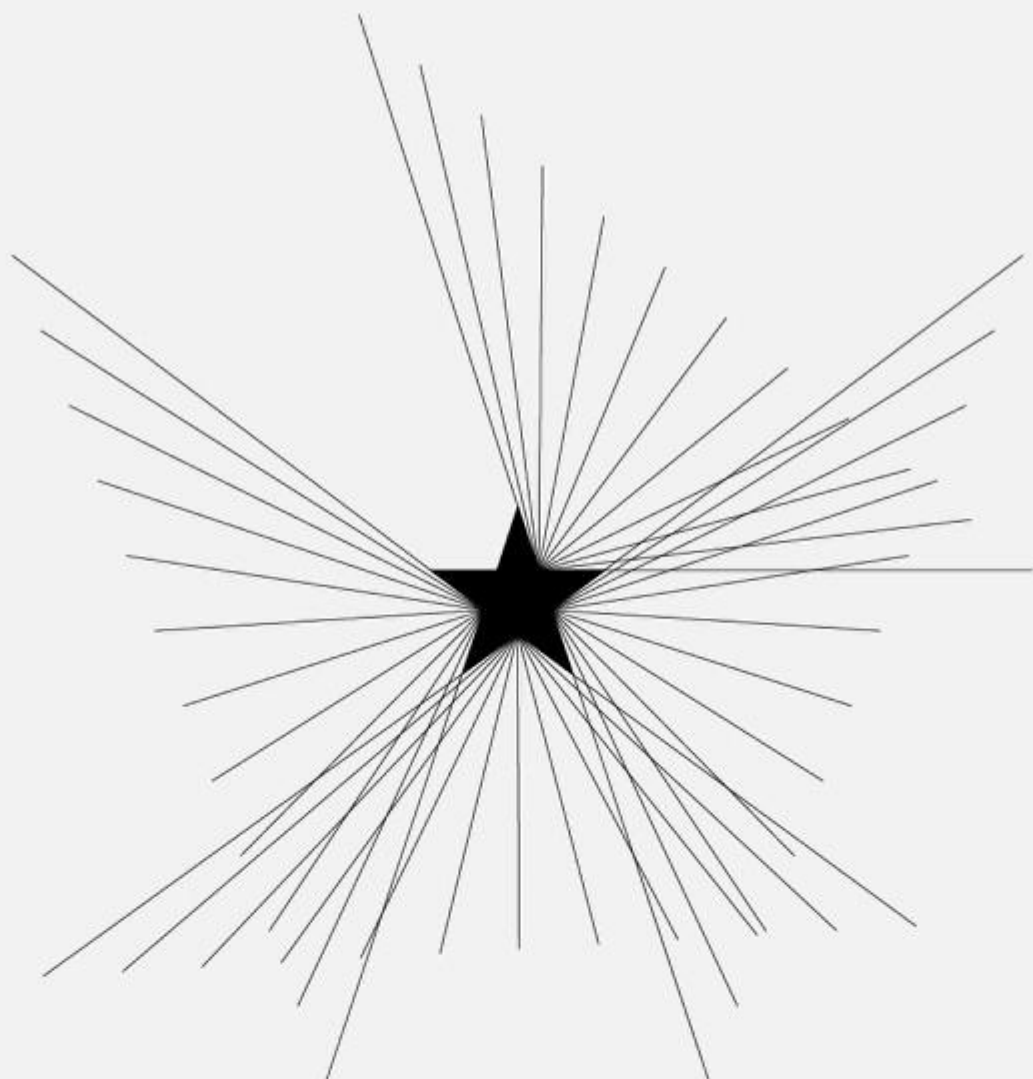
Duplicate the whole blend object and move it to the other side of the star.



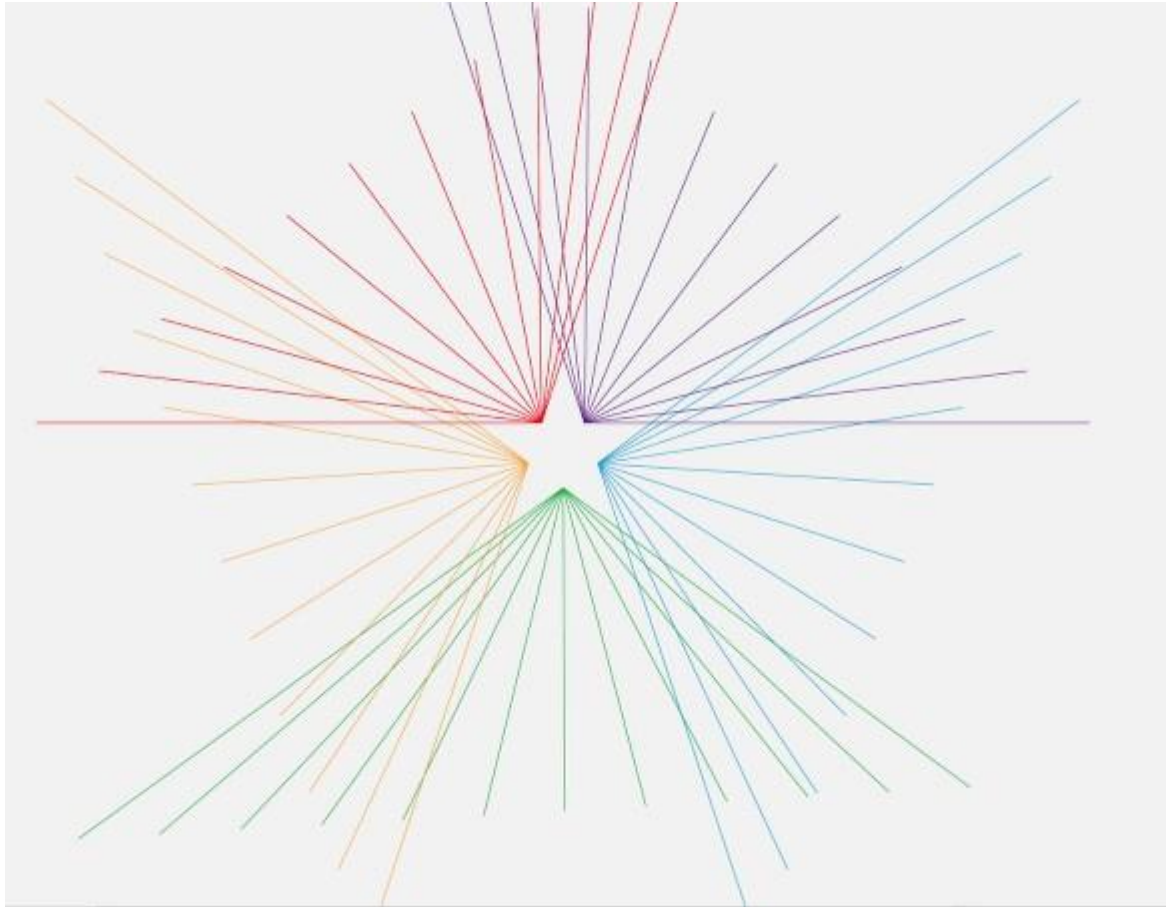
Just flip horizontally the on side to get the other one.



Keep duplicating until you get all the sides covered.



Now lets add some color to the lines. I used red, yellow, green, cyan and purple for the colors.



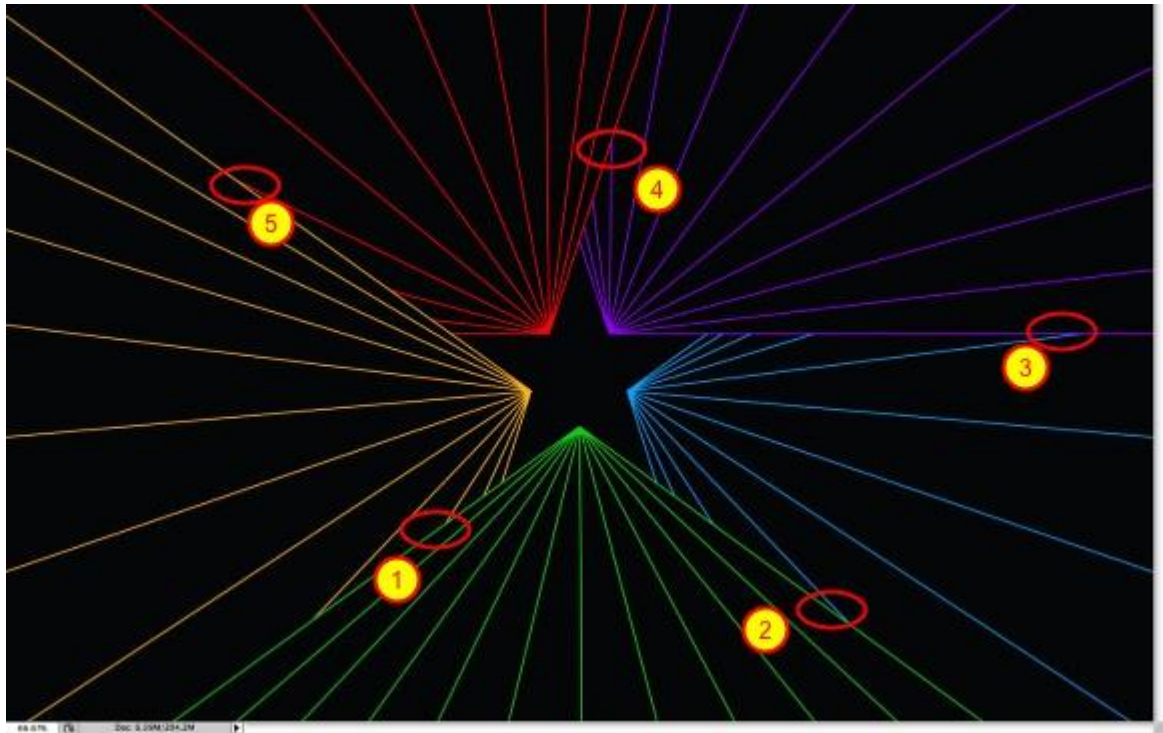
Open Photoshop and create a new document. I used  
background layer with a very dark grey.

. Then fill the

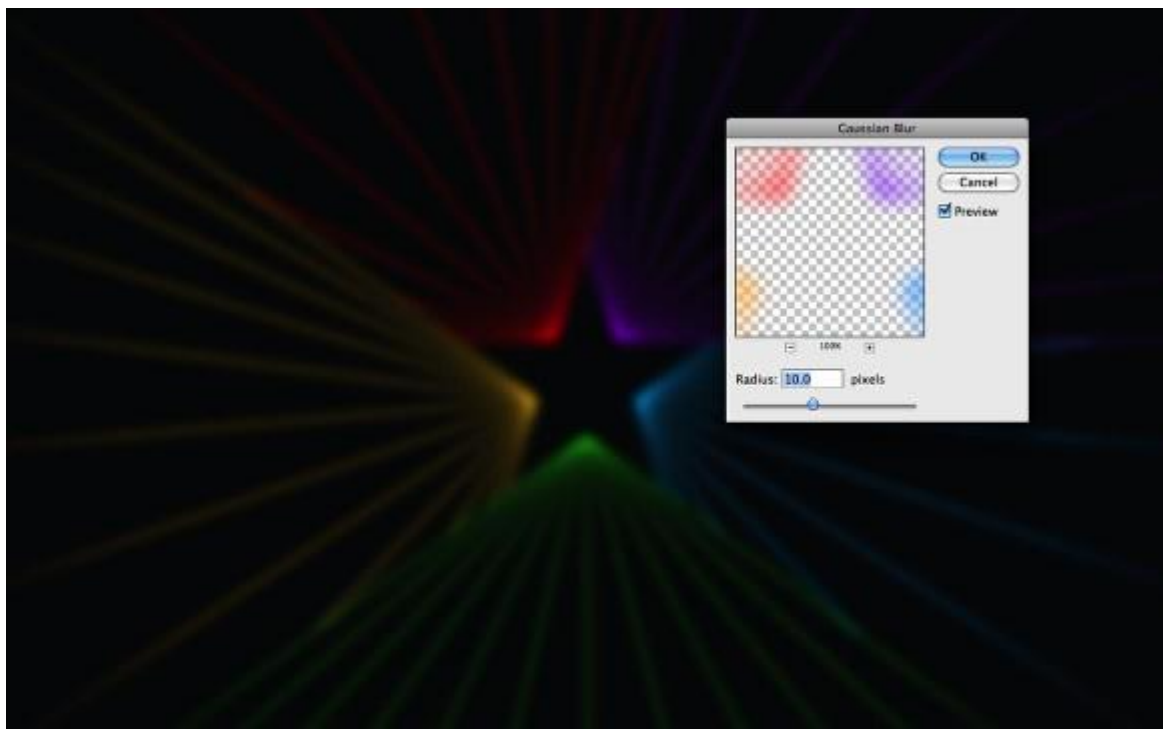


Copy each blend object from Illustrator and paste them in Photoshop separately, you will have 5 layers. Now it's really important to organize them.

Using the [Pen tool](#) and mask ( [Layer > Mask > Layer Mask](#) ) hide parts of the lines so they do not cross one another. That way the green lines will be on top of the blue and yellows. Use the image below for reference.



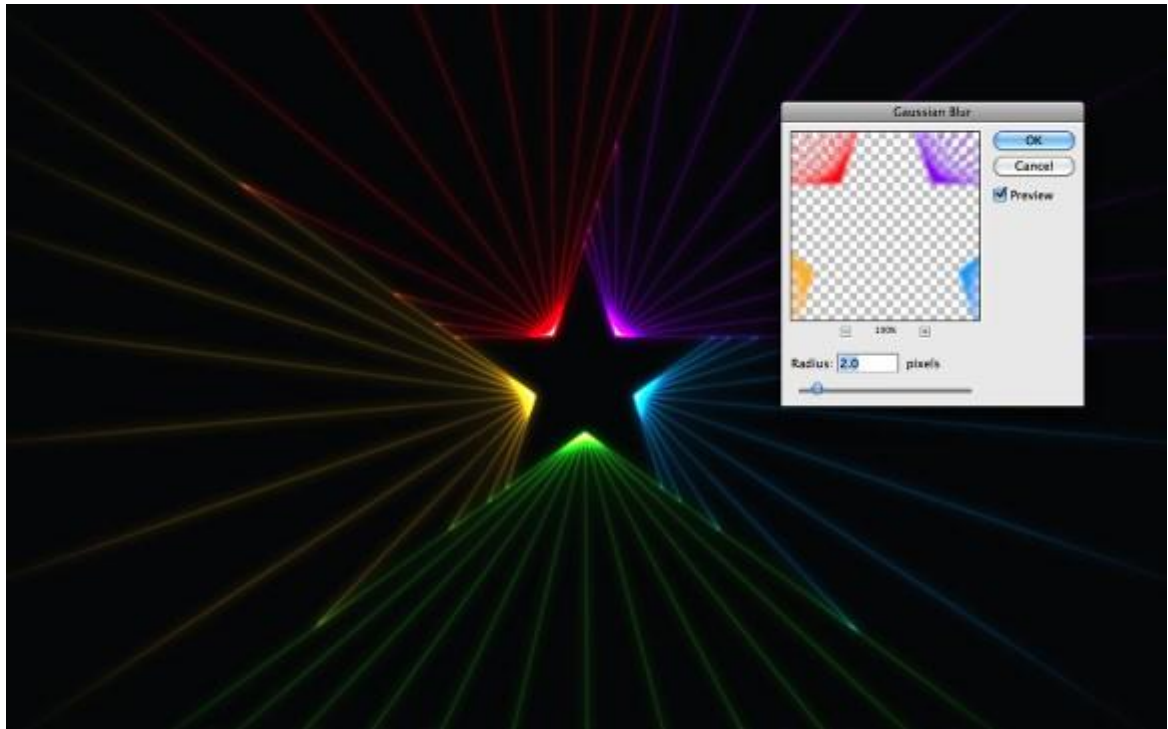
Select all line layers and go to [Layer > Duplicate Layer](#). Duplicate the layer. After go to [Layer > Layer Style > Layer Knocks Out Layer Below](#). Use [Layer > Layer Style > Layer Knocks Out Layer Below](#).





With the duplicate layer go again to

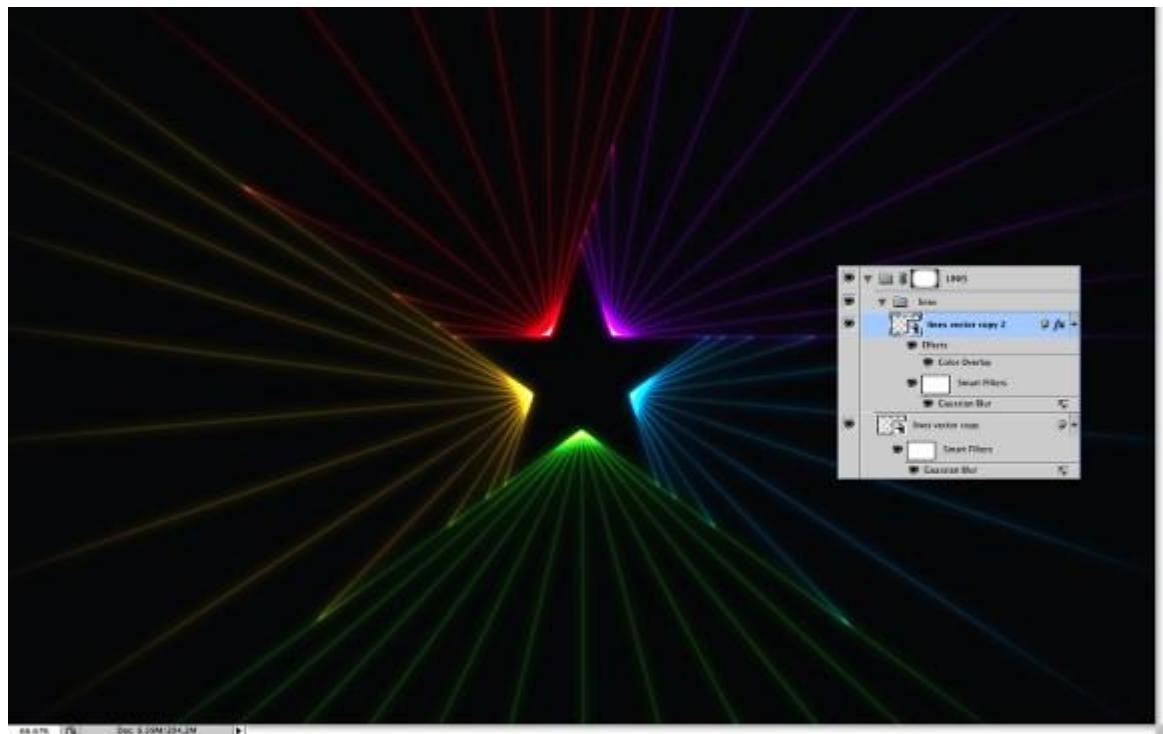
. Use



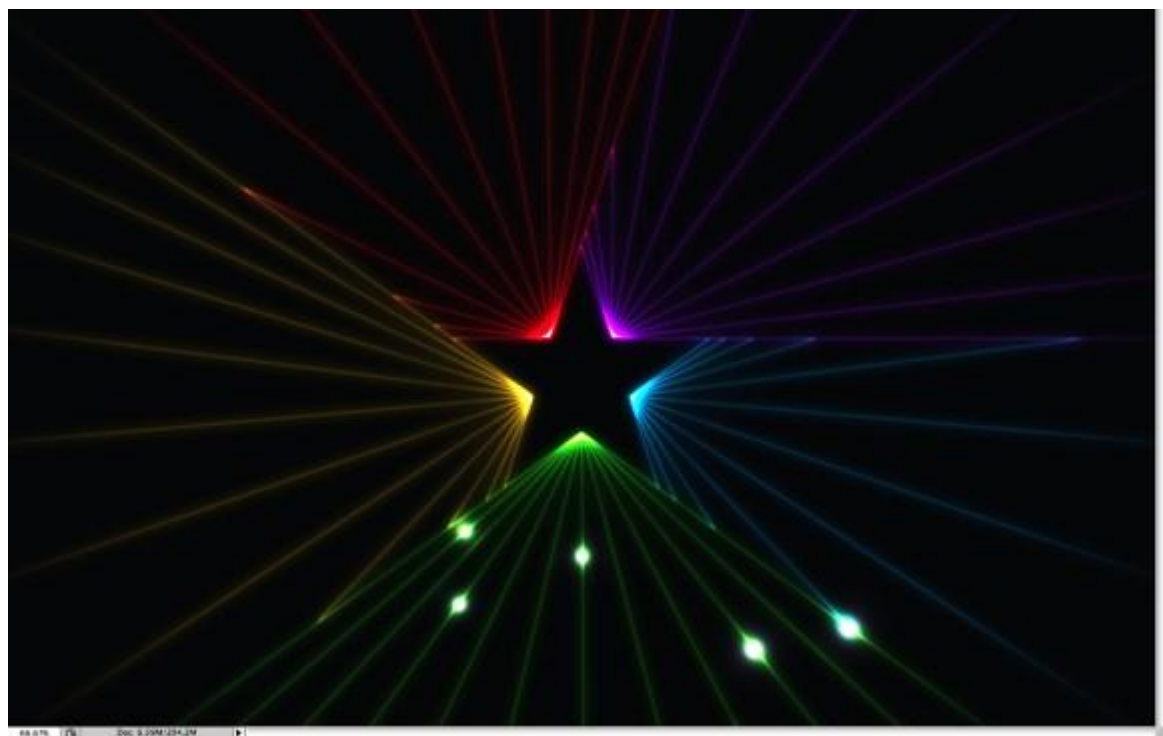
Go to . For the color use white. After that group the layer  
and then change to



This is the effect you will have after these steps. Take a look at the order of the layers, it's really important for the lines effect.

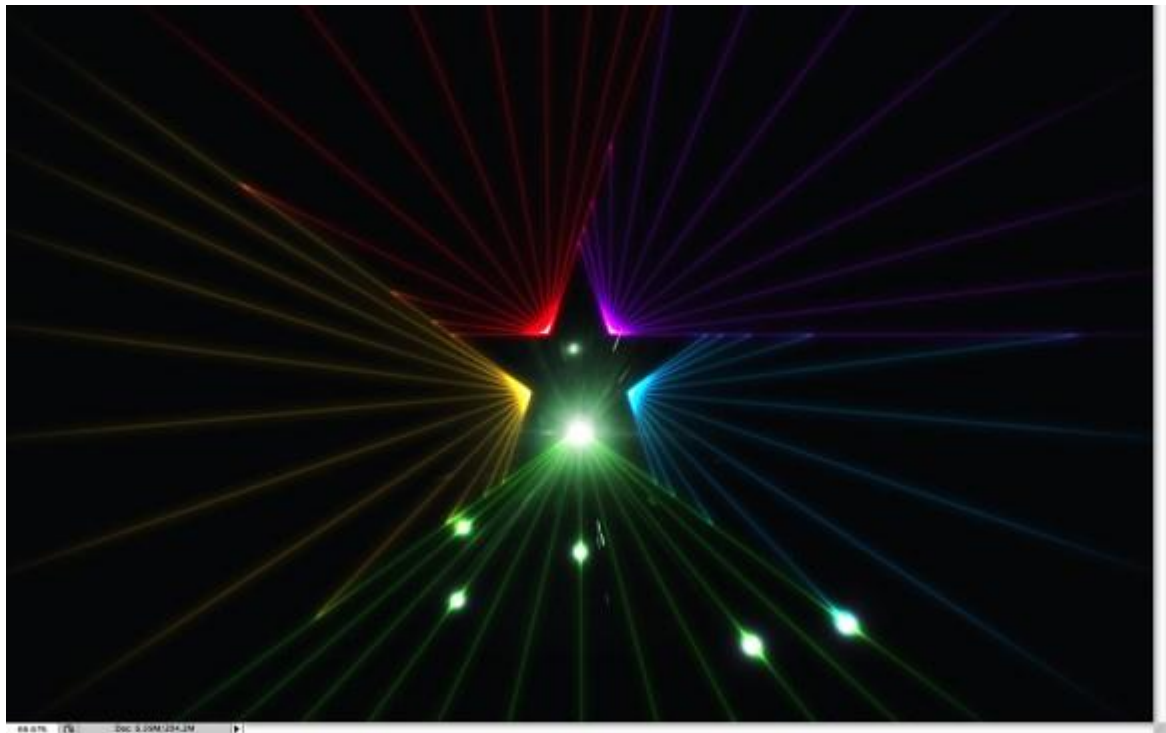


Add a group folder in the layer palettes and change the Layer 1 of the group to Layer 1 copy 2. After that inside this group add another layer. With the Layer 1 copy 2, select white for the color and get a very soft brush to start paint some light spots over the green lines.

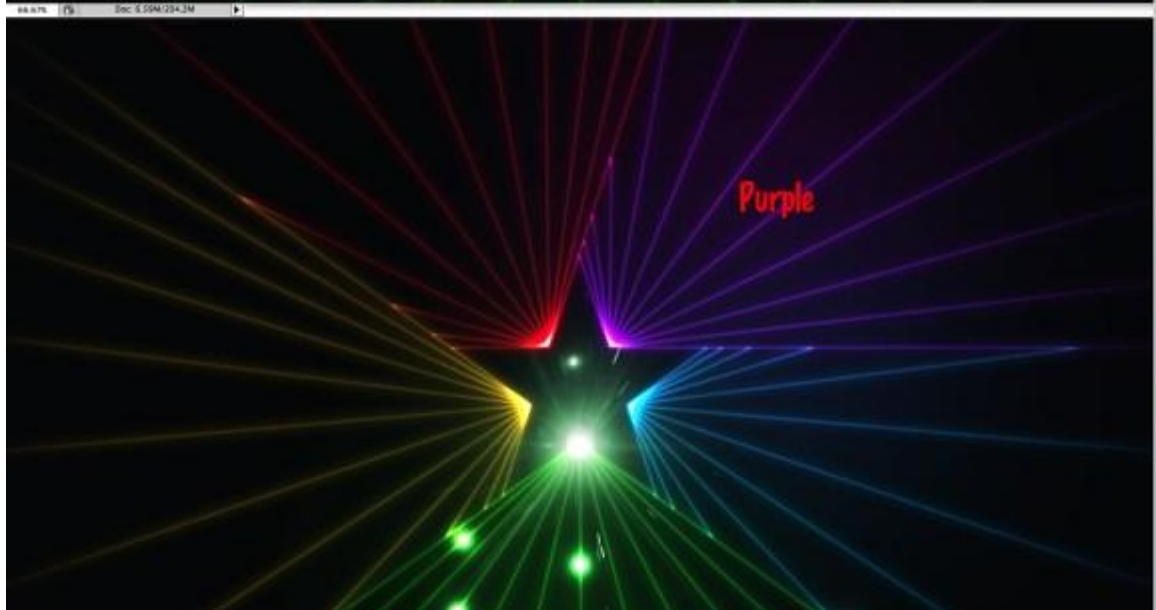
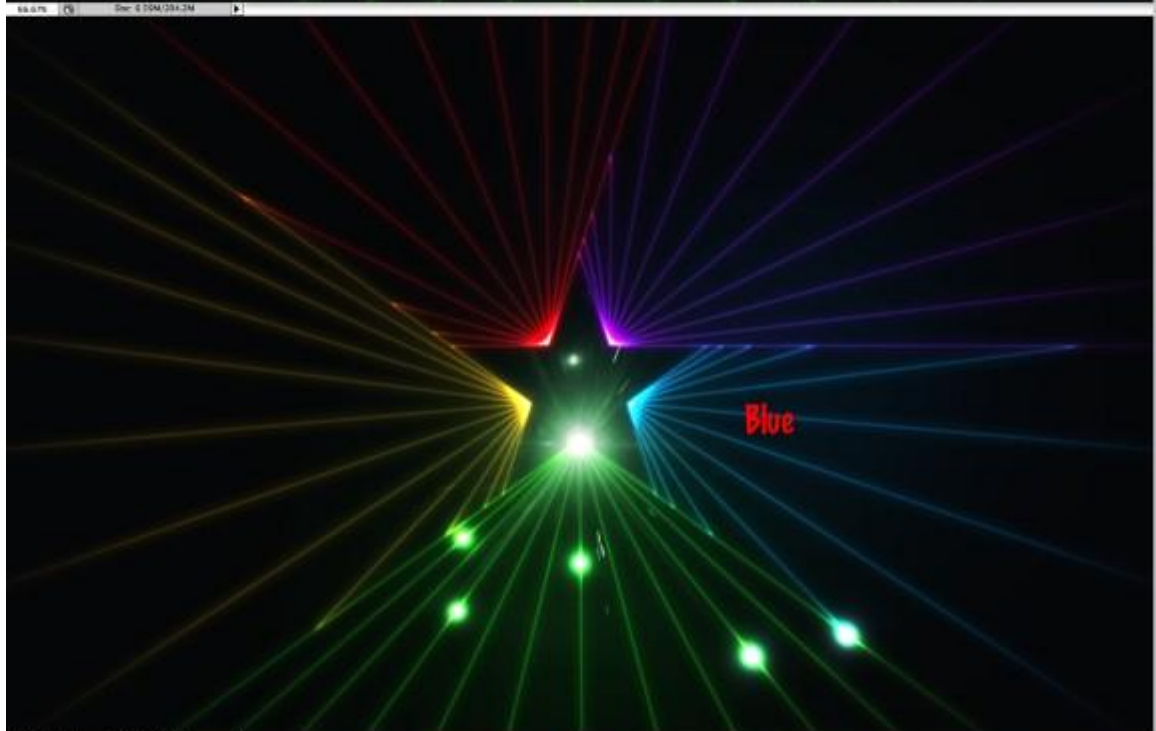
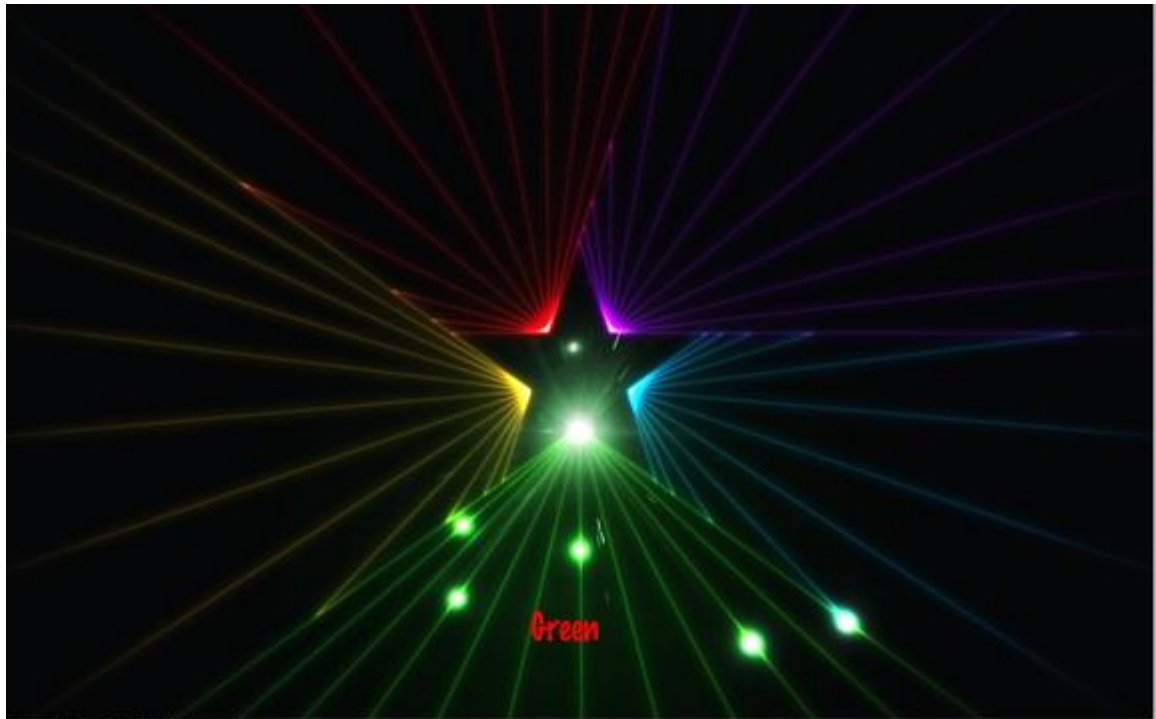


Let's use an image to add another light effect. The one I used can be downloaded for free at [http://www.williams.edu/Astronomy/IAU\\_eclipses/eclipse\\_results.html](http://www.williams.edu/Astronomy/IAU_eclipses/eclipse_results.html). Place the image and change the its  to . After that with the  delete most of the image leaving only the light effect in the middle of the document.

After that, go to . Move the Hue until you get a greenish color.



With the  and a very soft brush, change the  and start with a green color. So paint over the green lines, add another layer and select cyan and paint over the cyan lines. Do the same for the other colors. The idea is to make the light effect a little bit stronger. This layers will be beneath the lines.



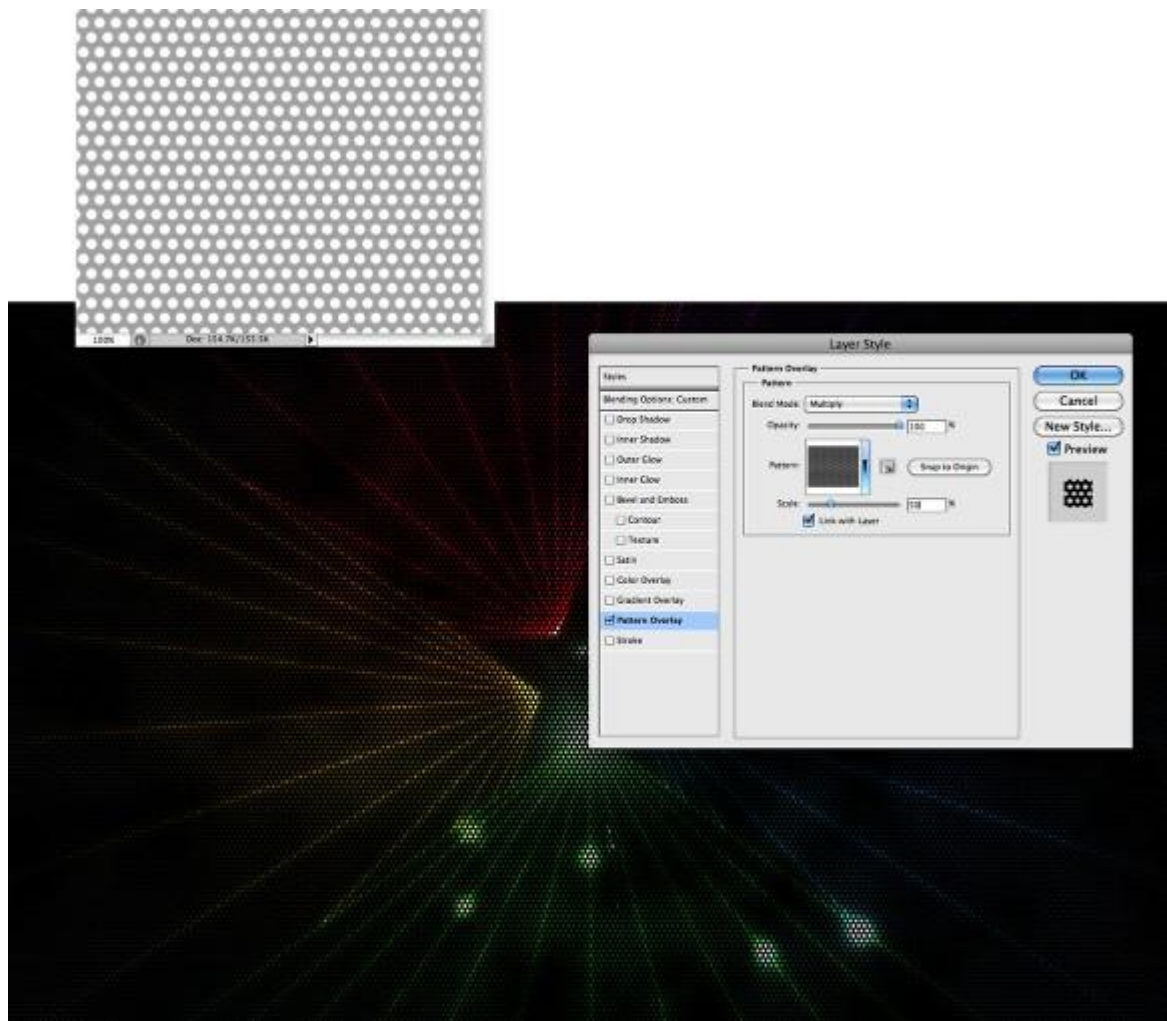


Add another layer, this time on top of the layers we painted in the previous step and beneath the lines. Go to [Layer > Layer Properties > Noise](#). Make sure you had black and white for the background and foreground colors. Change the [Amount](#) to 100% then with the [Eraser tool](#) delete some parts of the layer to make the clouds less uniform.



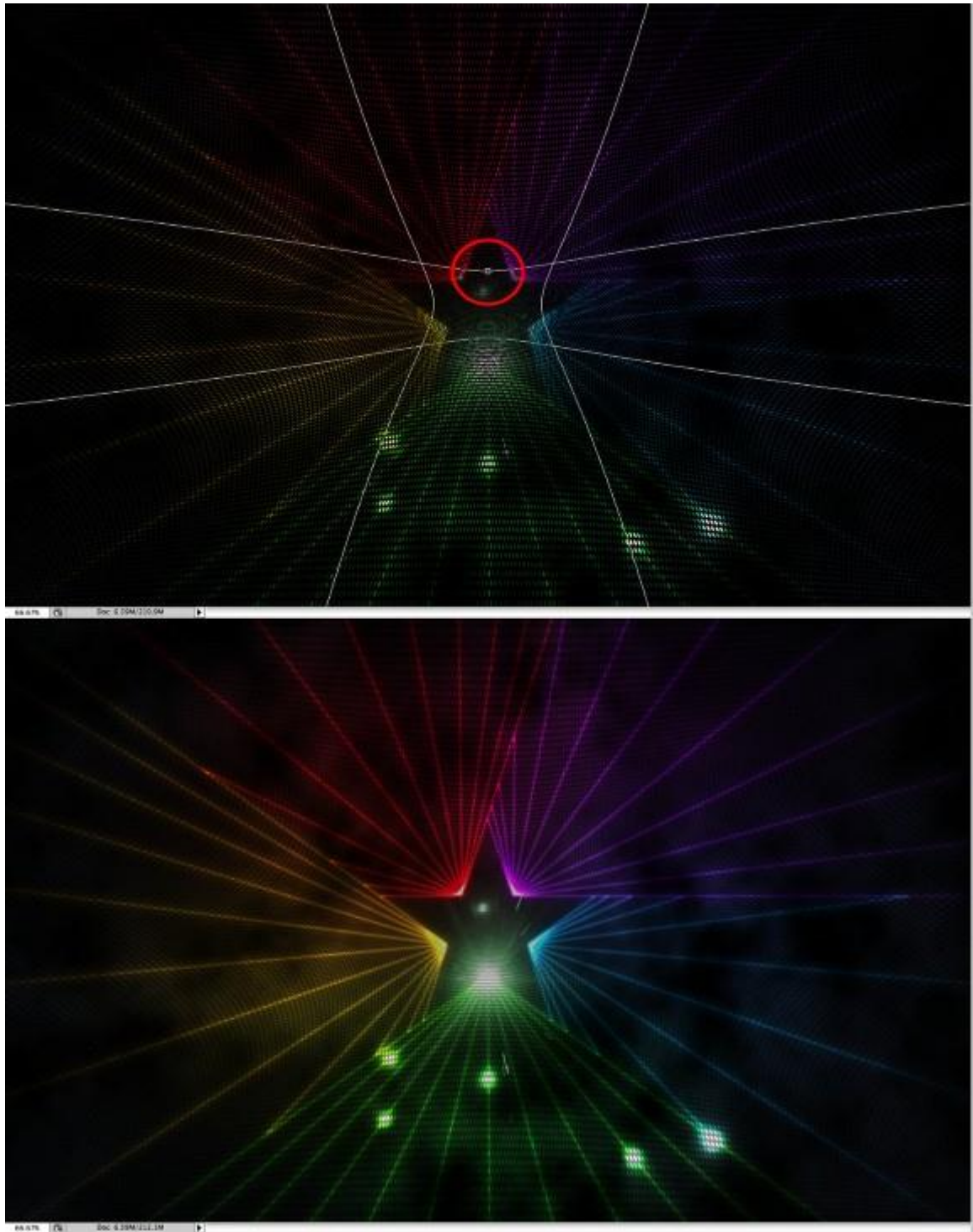
Now let's create a pattern, actually let's use an image and create a pattern from that. Download the Free Seamless Vector Perforated Metal Pattern (<http://www.bittbox.com/freebies/free-seamless-vector-perforated-metal-pa...>) and open it in Photoshop. Go to [Layer > Layer Properties > Pattern](#).

Back to our design, add another layer on top of the others and fill it with any color, then go to [Layer > Layer Properties > Pattern](#). First go to [Pattern](#) and change the [Pattern](#) to the one we just created. After that go to [Pattern Properties](#). Select the pattern we've just created for the Pattern and reduce the [Opacity](#) to 50%.



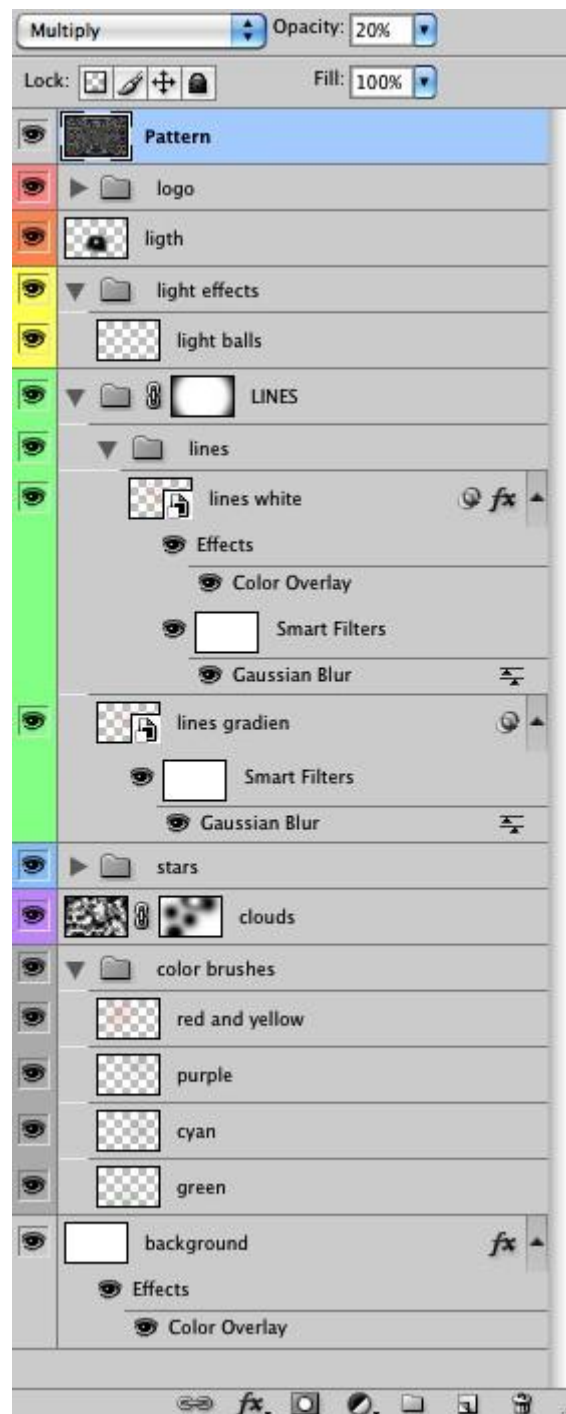
Go to [Layer > Layer Style > Pattern Overlay](#). You will break the layer style into layers, so you will have a layer with the pattern you applied. Delete the other layers and with the pattern layer, change the [Fill Color](#), then go to [Layer > Layer Style > Pattern Overlay](#). Use [Warp](#) for the [Warp](#) and then move the controller to reduce the size of the warp in the middle. Use the image below for reference.

After that, change the [Blend Mode](#).



This is the order of the layers I have so you can have an idea and use it for reference.





The light effect we created here is nothing new, I've shown you how to create this quite a few times. However this time we played with patterns and the warp transform to add a very nice effect to the image. Once again I was inspired by a skateboard deck design and wanted to reproduce that in Photoshop. The whole idea of this tutorials is that we can play with the tool and learn at least something new.



[Click on the image for full preview](#)