

Creating a Torn Paper Effect Using the Combine Shapes Tool

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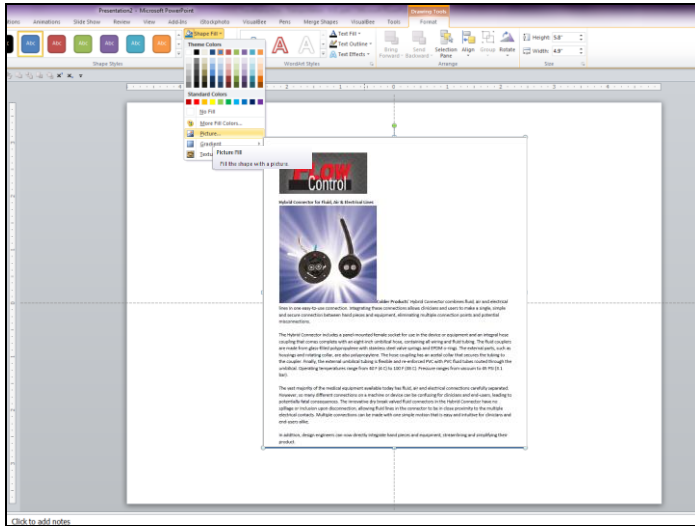
In my earlier tutorial I demonstrated how to create a torn paper effect in a Picture using the Freeform Drawing Tool and the Set Transparent Color. This tutorial will demonstrate how to use PowerPoint 2010's Combine Shapes feature to create the same effect – perhaps with higher-quality results.

Let's say we want to show this press release using a Torn Paper Effect.

Step1

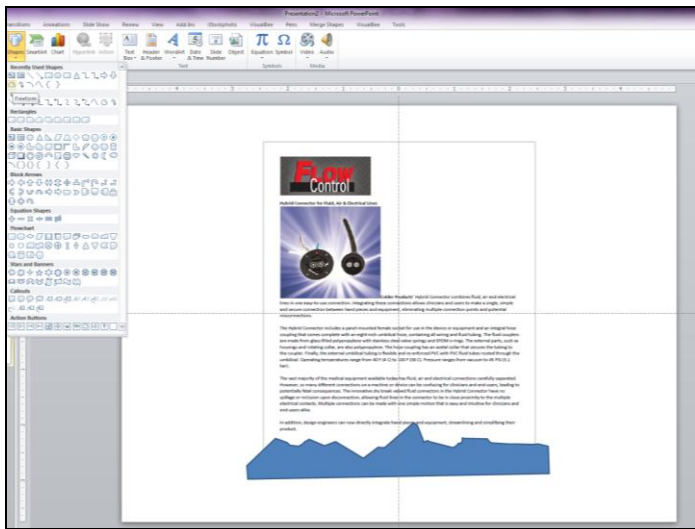
Draw a Rectangle to the approximate dimensions of the press release.



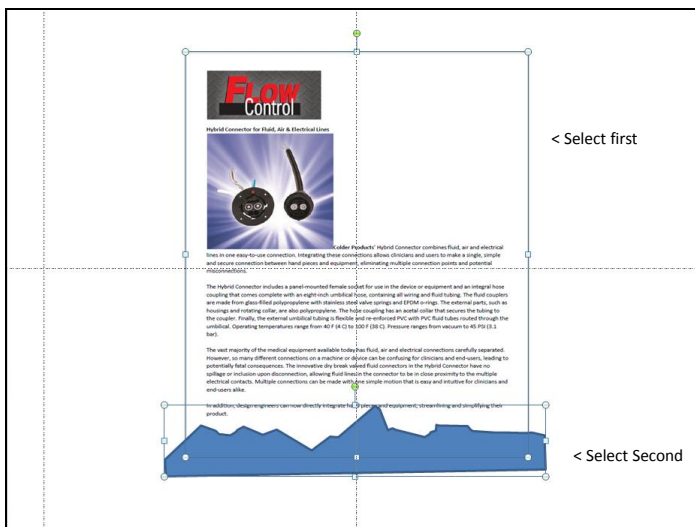


Step 2: Fill the Rectangle with a Picture

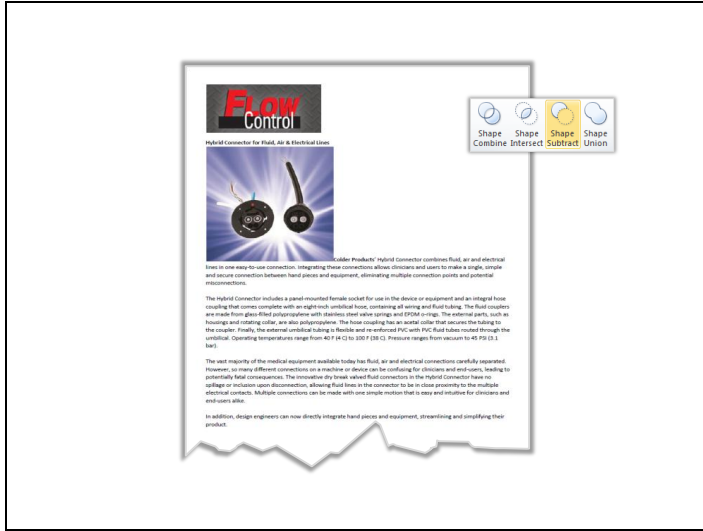
- With the Rectangle selected, click on the Drawing Tools Tab, then Format | Shape Fill
- Browse to the press release picture, Select the picture then Click on the Insert Button at the bottom right of the Insert Picture dialog box.



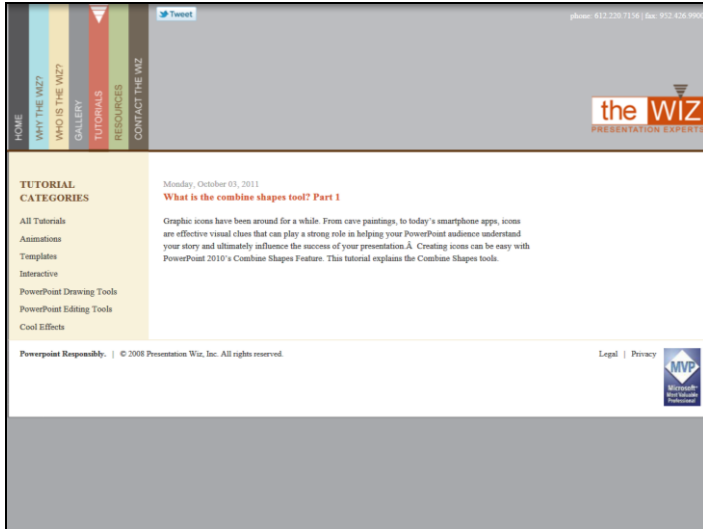
- ### Step 3: Draw a new Shape. Make sure it covers the entire area that you want "torn off" and that a ragged edge (resembling torn paper) appears toward the object to be torn.



- ### Step 4: Select the document to be torn and the newly drawn shape (in that order)



Step 5: Apply Shape Subtract. Add a Drop Shadow for dimension, if desired.



For details on how to Customize your Ribbon or Quick Access Toolbar so they include the Combine Shapes tool, see my "What is the combine shapes tool? Part 1"