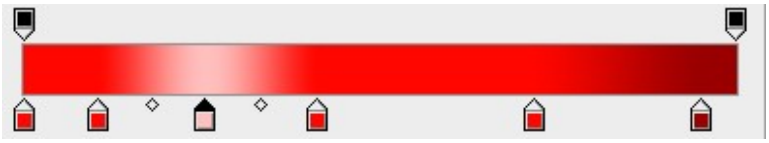
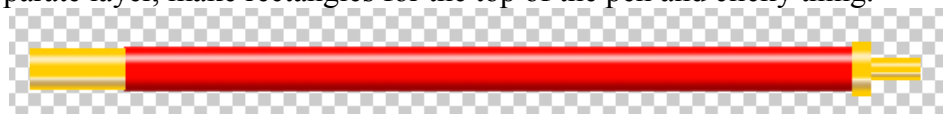
STEPS FOR MAKING THE PEN IN PHOTOSHOP

REMINDER: On some PhotoShop versions, the paint bucket and gradient are on the same button
PEN

1. Open a new canvas, about 800 x 800 pixels, with transparent background
2. Select rectangle tool and create rectangle for barrel of pen
3. Select gradient tool, then double click on gradient to customize
   A great formula is:
   Base, base, highlight color, base, base, dark... such as follows



4. Once the gradient is made, go to the layer with the rectangle. Holding shift, drag a vertical line from top to bottom. Your rectangle should now host your gradient.
5. On a separate layer, create a rectangle for the nib of the pen (the point). Use the same gradient, but change the colors to metallic (either gold or silver). Again apply a gradient top to bottom.
6. On a separate layer, make rectangles for the top of the pen and clicky thing.



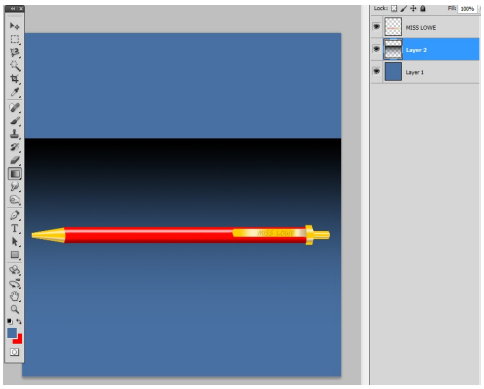
7. Create a pocket clip for the pen with a rectangle. Apply the gradient from left to right

8. Find the layer with the nib (point) on it. Press Ctrl-t. Then, while holding down the keys CTRL, ALT and SHIFT, grab the bottom-left point of the rectangle and drag it up to the middle. Your nib should look more like a real pen now. Click the "+" thingie on the toolbar to apply.

9. If desired, add your name to the pocket clip. If gold, add it in brown, and draw opacity back until it looks good.
10. Select "Layer" "Merge Visible". Your pen should now be on one single layer.
11. Click "Filter" and then "Liquify"
12. Make sure the top icon on the left is selected. Change your brush size to just smaller than the height of your pen.
13. GENTLY drag the spot where the pen and nib meet a few pixels right until it looks curved.
14. Do the same at the other end, dragging the same direction until it looks slightly curved.
15. Shrink the brush to a smaller size (around 8 pixels) and drag the center of the pocket clip until also slightly rounded. At this point, you should have this:

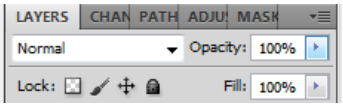
BACKGROUND

16. Your pen is done! Create a new layer. This will be your background color. I recommend a drab color that is different from your pen color. Use the paint bucket to full this layer. Drag that layer under the pen layer.
17. On a new layer, select a rectangle, about two-thirds of the page. This is your "table." On this layer, select a gradient. It should be ONLY black to transparent. Select the color-to-transparent button, and change the color to black.
18. Apply this gradient to the rectangle. Move the gradient layer under the pen. It now should look like the picture. >



SHADOW

19. Create a new blank layer.
20. Hold the control button and click on the LAYER with the pen (not on the pen, but layer) It should have a dotted line around the pen.
21. Click on the blank layer.
22. Use the paint bucket and pour black into the shape.
23. Move the black layer under the pen layer. Then de-select the layer.
24. Click the crosshairs "+" and onto the shadow layer. Use the arrow keys to move the shadow down and to the side a little. It should look like a shadow, but dark.
25. Drop the opacity of the shadow until it looks natural.

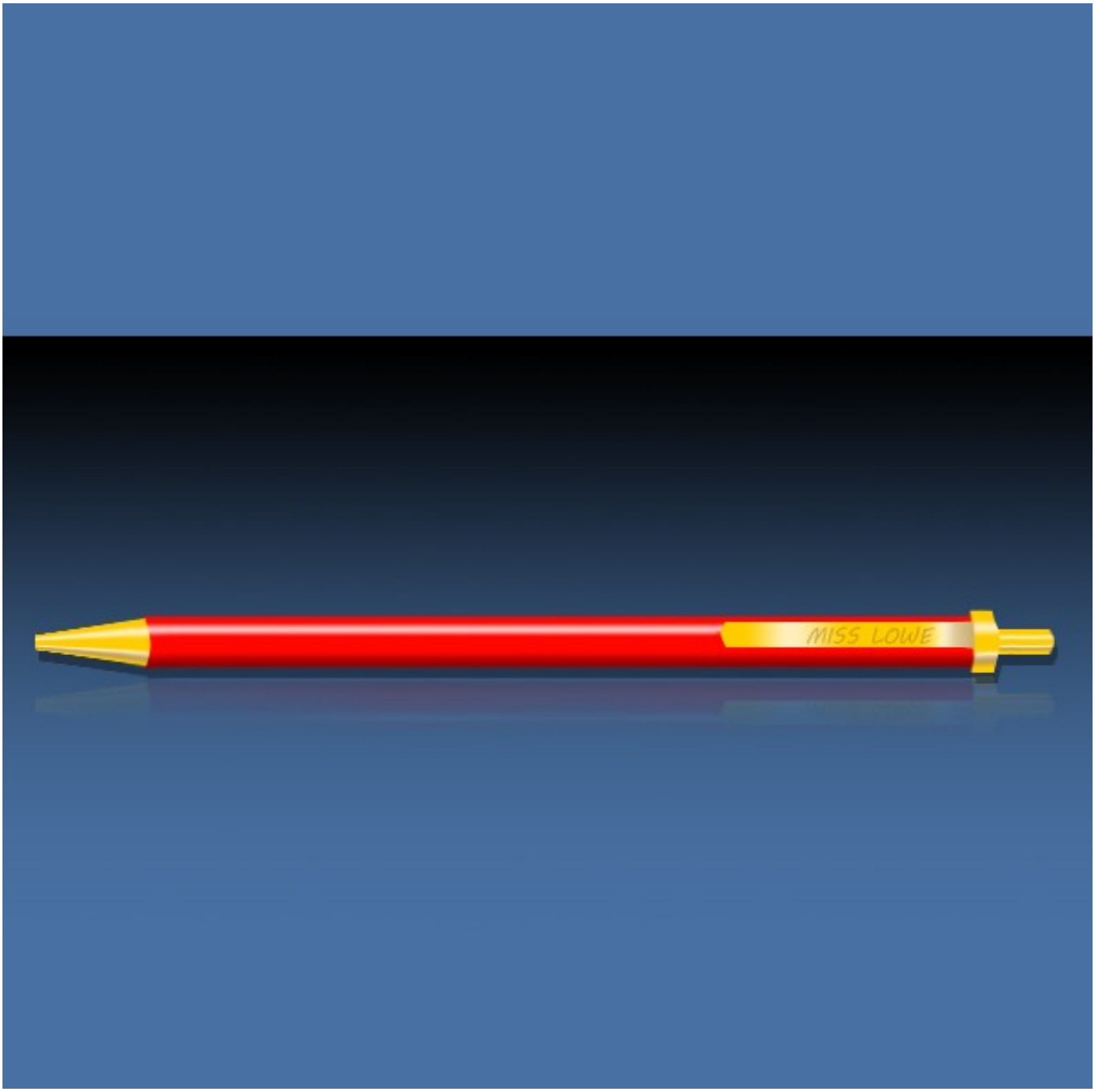


REFLECTION

26. Click on your pen layer. At the top of the page, click "Layer" and "Duplicate Layer." You should now have a copy of your pen.
27. Remove your duplicate layer under your shadow.
28. Press CTRL-T. Drag the top-center handle (little square) down until the mirrored pen looks to be the right size. Then click the crosshairs "+" and apply.

29. Reduce the opacity of the mirrored pen until it looks like a reflection.
30. Select a LARGE, SOFT eraser. About 150 pixels with 0% hardness is good.
31. Click along the bottom of the reflection to fade it. Don't click and drag, and be careful
32. When it looks the way you want it to look, save it and email it to Ms. Lowe

SEE SAMPLE PEN ON NEXT PAGE!!!!


MISS LOWE