# Using Rulers and Grids

Photoshop provides Rulers and Grids to allow for accurate objects to be created. Let's say that you have been contracted by the software producer, ArtSoft, to produce an image of the box for their recently released graphics program, Splosh Strokes, so that it can be placed on their web site. The following image will be produced:
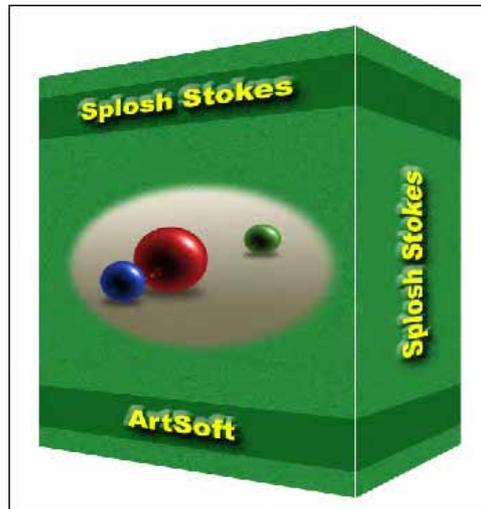
Starting a New Document

1   Load Photoshop Elements in EDIT MODE or close the current files.

2   Display the FILE menu, highlight NEW and select BLANK FILE.
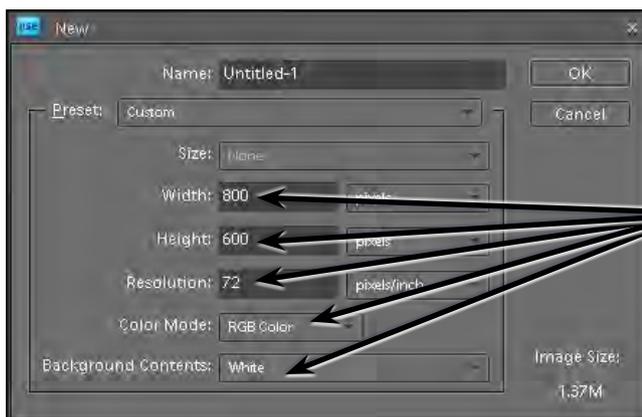
3 Set the WIDTH to 800 pixels, the HEIGHT to 600 pixels, the RESOLUTION to 72 pixels/inch, the COLOUR MODE to RGB COLOUR and the BACKGROUND COLOUR to WHITE.

4   Select OK to start the document.

Setting the Ruler and Grid Units

You will be using RULERS and a GRID to accurately create the box, so the settings need to be checked.

1 Display the EDIT or PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS menu, highlight PREFERENCES and select UNITS & RULERS.
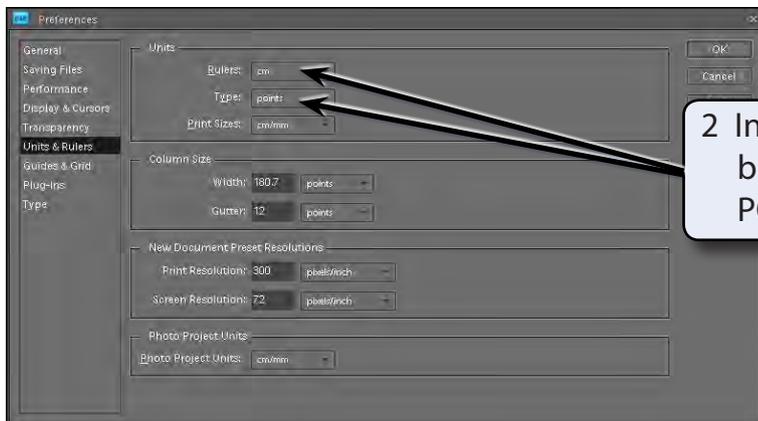
2 In the UNITS frame set the RULERS box to CM and the TYPE box to POINTS.
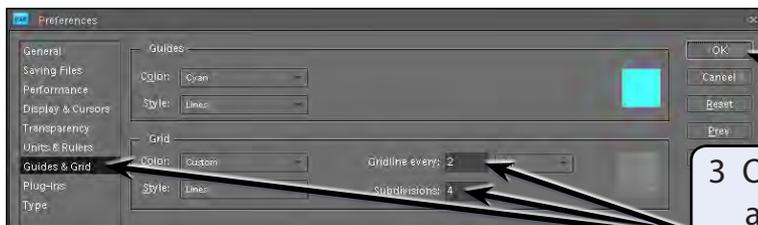
3 Open the GUIDES & GRID category and, in the GIRD frame, set the GRIDLINE EVERY box to 2 cm, the SUBDIVISIONS to 4 and select OK.

> **NOTE:** You can also use the GRID section to set the colour and style of the grid lines.

4 Set the VIEW to FIT ON SCREEN.

Turning on the Rulers and Grid

1   Display the VIEW menu and select RULERS.

2 Rulers are added to the top and left
   sides of the canvas.
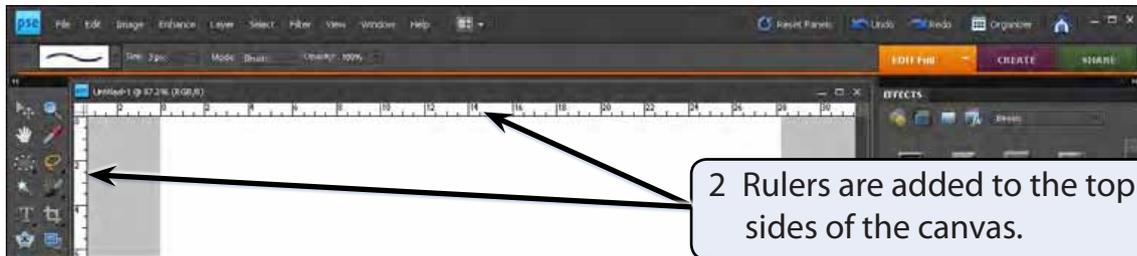
3   Display the VIEW menu again and select GRID.

4 A grid is added to the canvas to
   match the units of the RULERS.
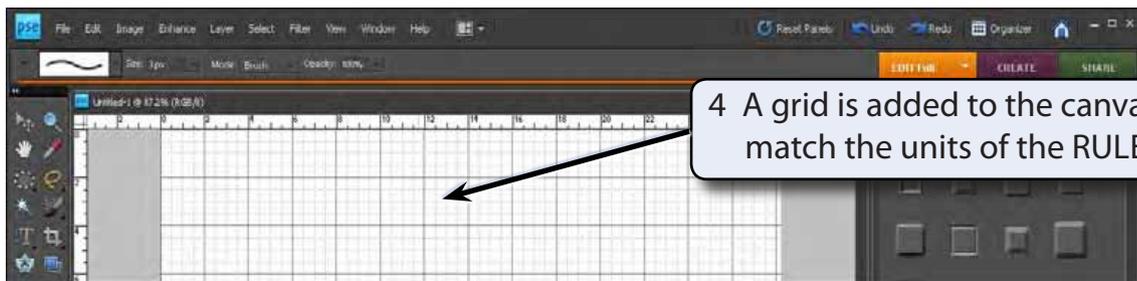
> **NOTE:**   **You can RIGHT+CLICK on the RULERS to quickly change their units.**

Creating the Front of the Box

A   Setting a Green Rectangle

A rectangular selection frame will added to the canvas and filled with green to create the front of the box. By doing this the rectangle will have no border.

1   Display the VIEW menu, highlight SNAP TO and check that GRID is selected so that the cursor will snap to points on the grid.
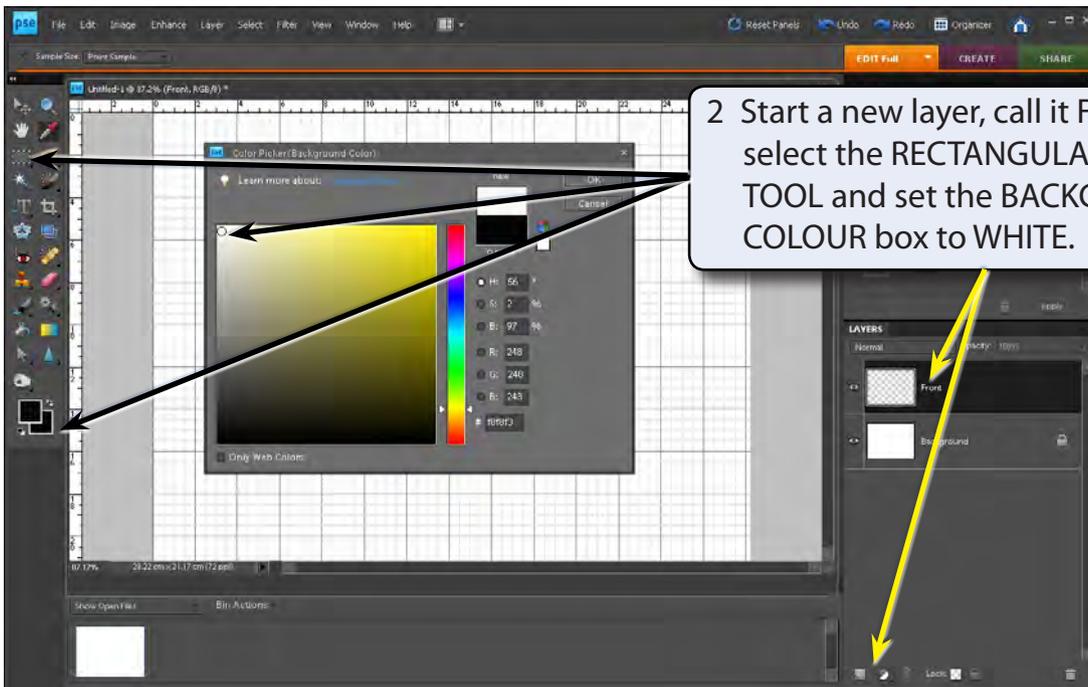
2 Start a new layer, call it FRONT then select the RECTANGULAR MARQUEE TOOL and set the BACKGROUND COLOUR box to WHITE.
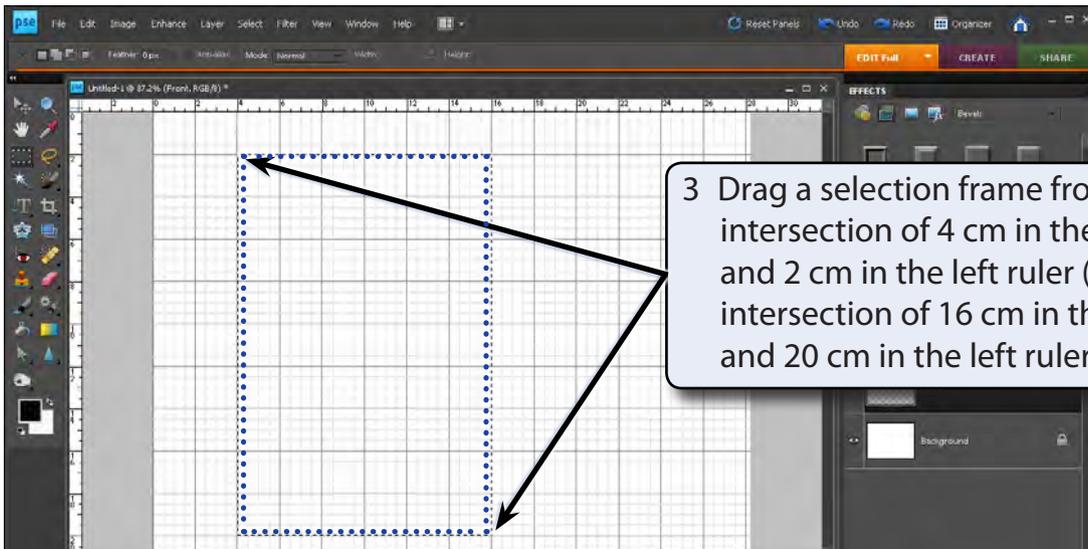
3 Drag a selection frame from intersection of 4 cm in the top ruler and 2 cm in the left ruler (4,2) to the intersection of 16 cm in the top ruler and 20 cm in the left ruler (16,20).

4 Display the EDIT menu and select FILL SELECTION.