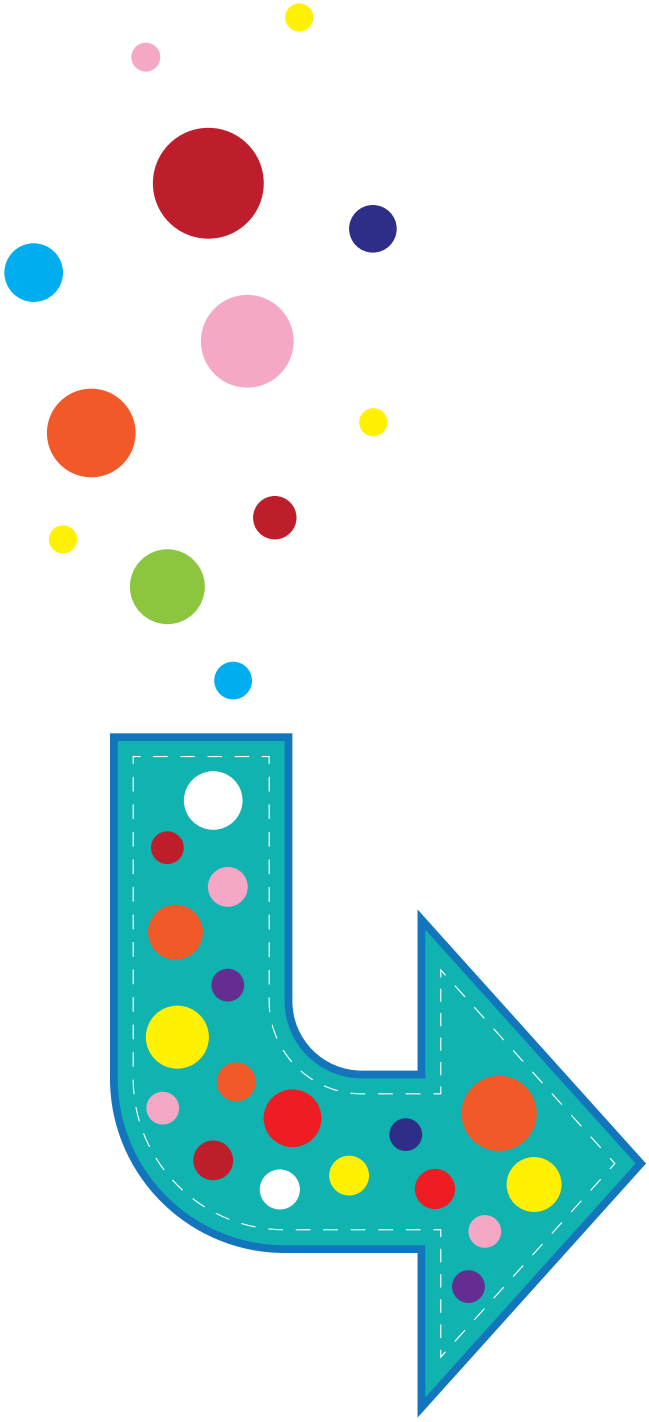
# Make an animated download arrow with Illustrator & Photoshop



Greenbee.blog

# In Illustrator

## 1

Create a rectangle.

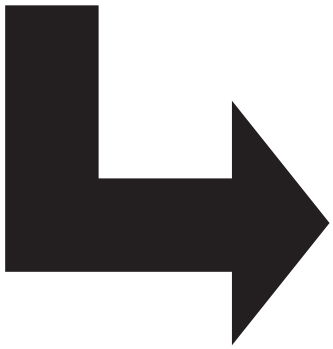
Select the rectangle and rotate it:

Object>Rotate>90°> Copy.

Select the Polygon Tool; double-click on the artboard to bring up its options.

Select 3-sided then draw out a triangle. You may need to rotate it - simply Object>Rotate as above.

## 2



Arrange the shapes to form an arrow.

Select the three objects ; while selected, use the Shapebuilder Tool ('draw' through the three objects) or go to Pathfinder and select 'Unite' to combine the shapes into a single object.

## 3

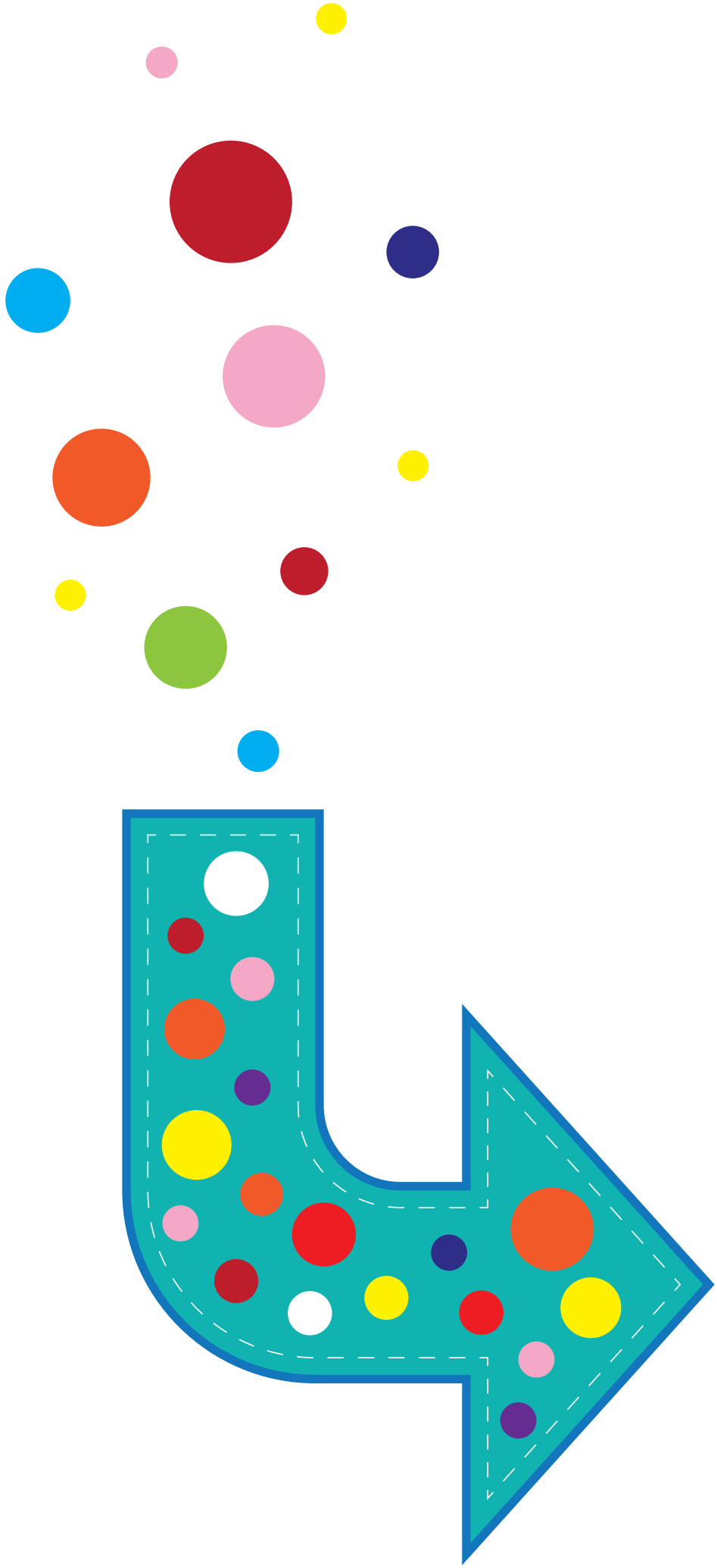
Select any corner joins you want to round off using the Direct Selection Tool (A).

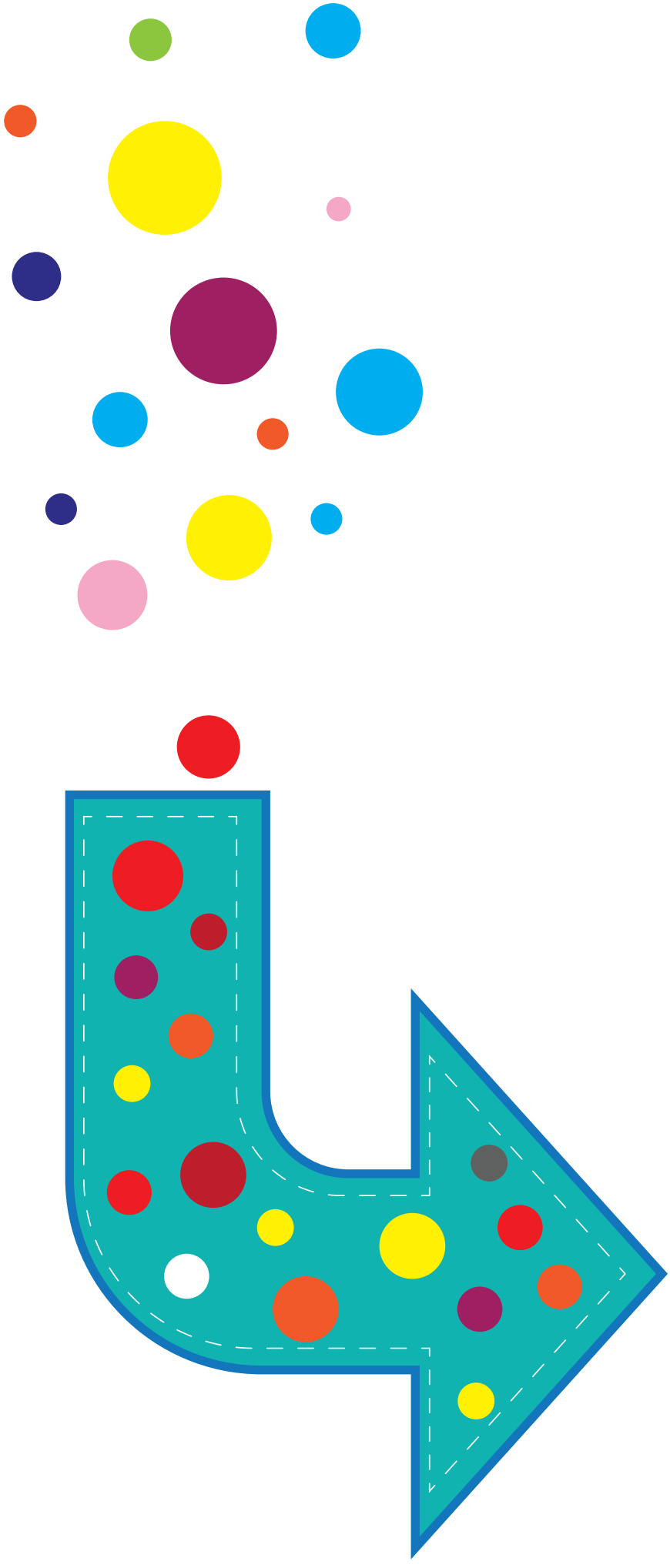
Drag the corner widgets to smooth the angles to a curved join.

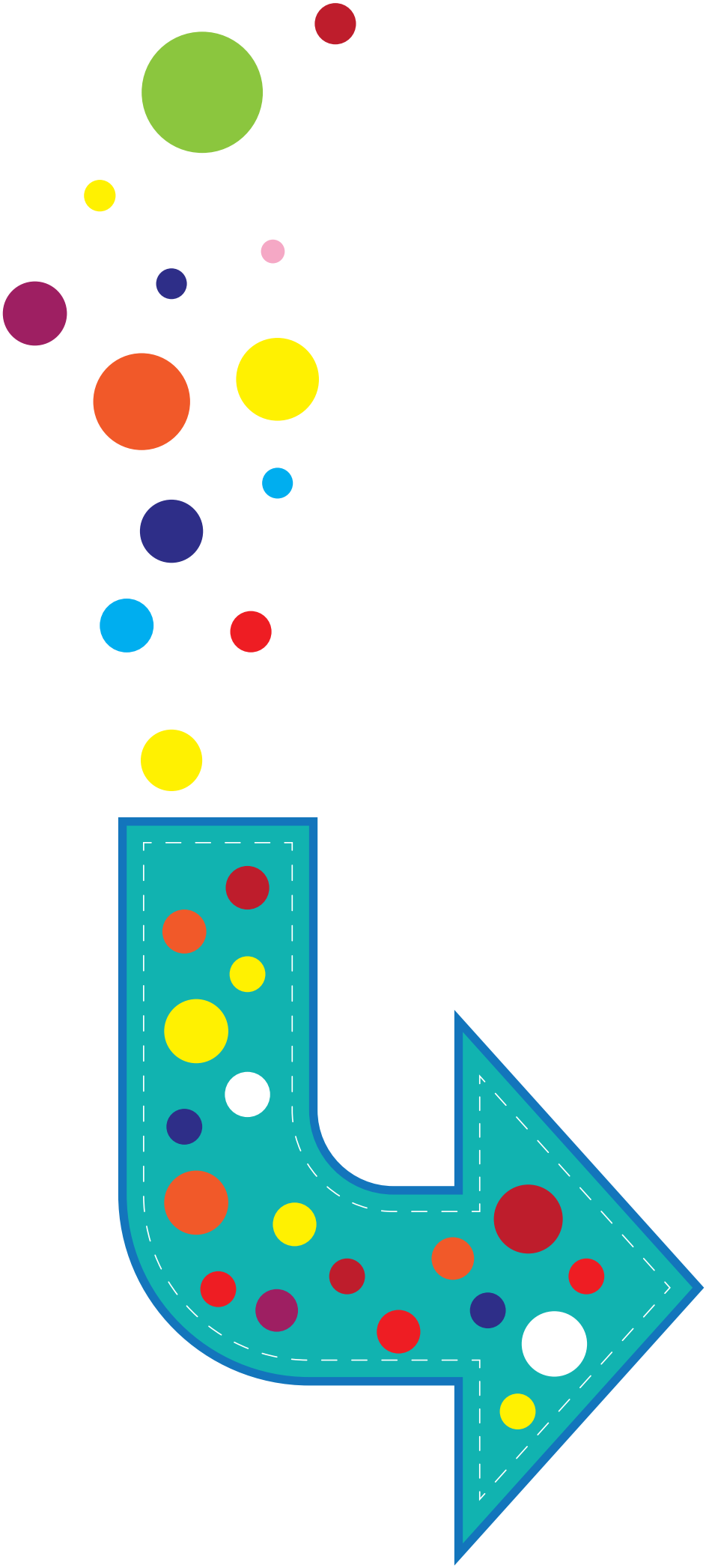
## 4

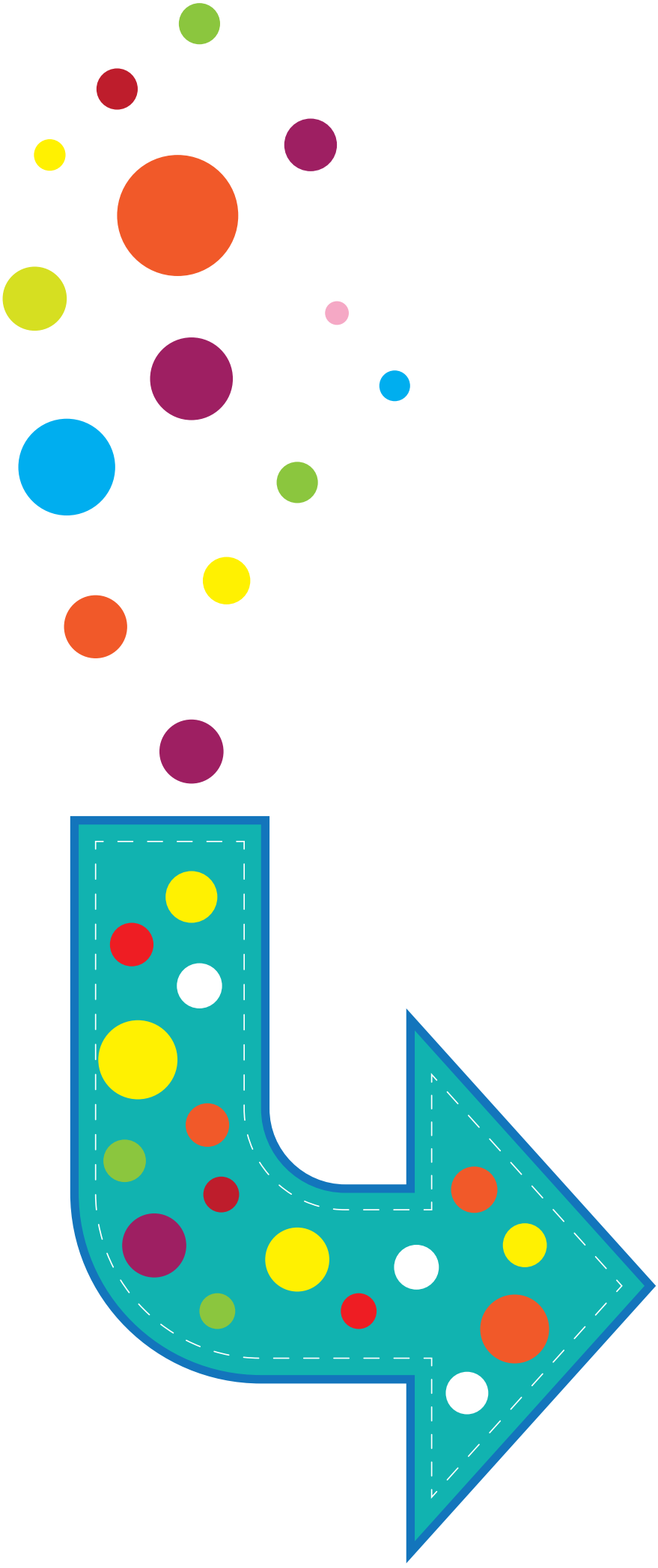
Colour the arrow and make at least two duplicates.

Add lots of coloured balls or stars or hearts.... make sure their colour and size and orientation differ enough so the changes are noticeable when we animate them.









# In Photoshop

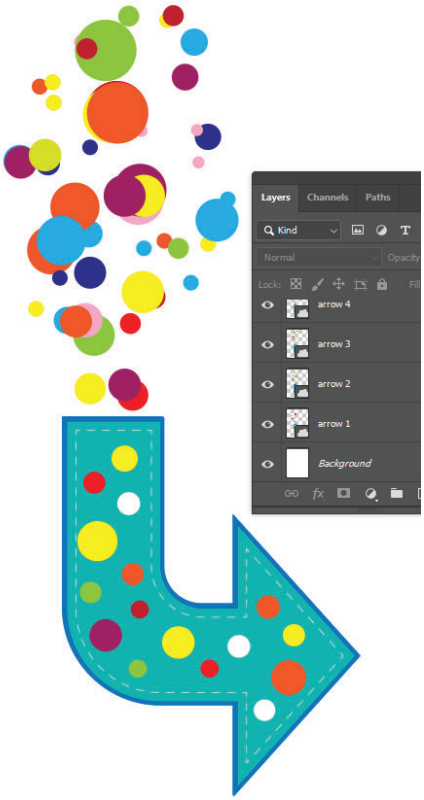
## 5

**Create a new document; A4 will do.**

**Paste each arrow into Photoshop (Smart Object or Pixels).**

**Photoshop will create a new layer for each arrow.**

**Double-click the layer name a rename each one to something meaningful, like 'arrow 1', 'arrow 2' etc.**



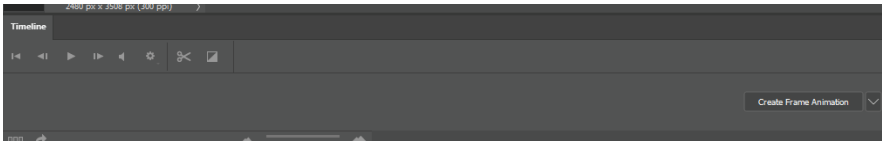

## 6

**Align the arrows so that it looks as though there's only one.**

7

**Select Window>Timeline**

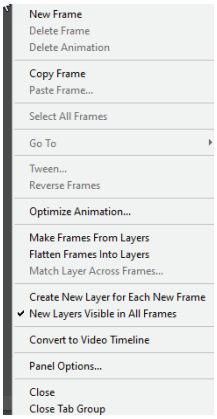
**Select Create Frame Animation.**




8

**Select Window>Timeline**

**Select Create Frame Animation. PSD automatically creates the first frame showing you arrow 1 on the background layer.**




9

**Select the hamburger icon and select Create New Frame from the drop-down list.**

**Show arrow 2 (Turn off arrows 1, 3 and 4).**

**Repeat:**

**Create a new frame**

**Show arrow 3 (Turn off arrows 1, 2 & 4).**

**Create a new frame**

**Show arrow 4 (Turn off arrows 1, 2 & 3).**

# 10

**Select the hamburger icon and select Create New Frame from the drop-down list.**

**Show arrow 2 (Turn off arrows 1, 3 and 4).**

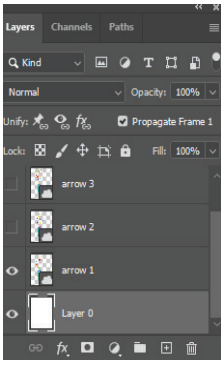
**Repeat:**

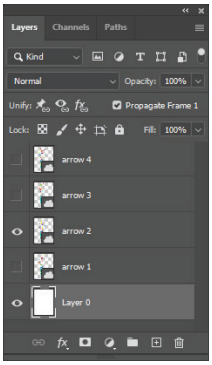
**Create a new frame**

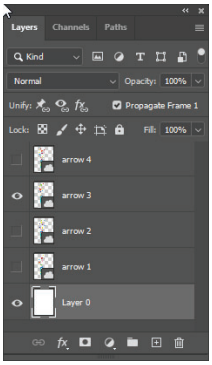
**Show arrow 3 (Turn off arrows 1, 2 & 4).**

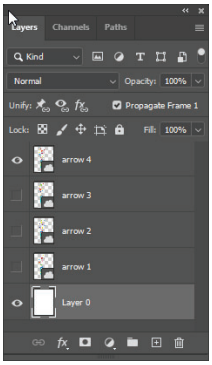
**Create a new frame**

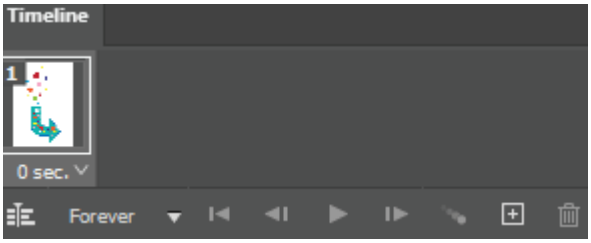
**Show arrow 4 (Turn off arrows 1, 2 & 3).**

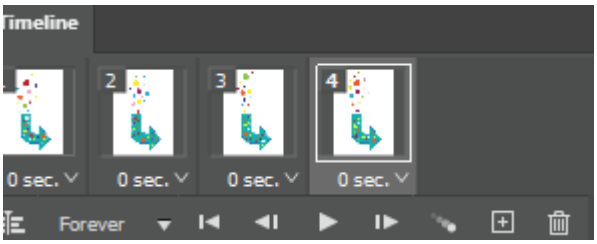


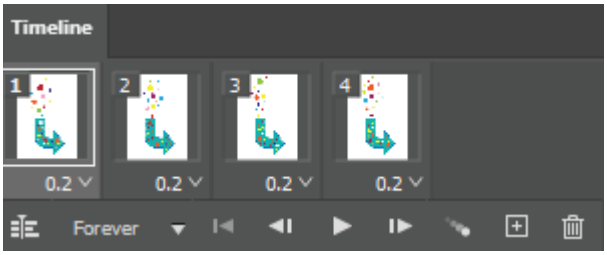



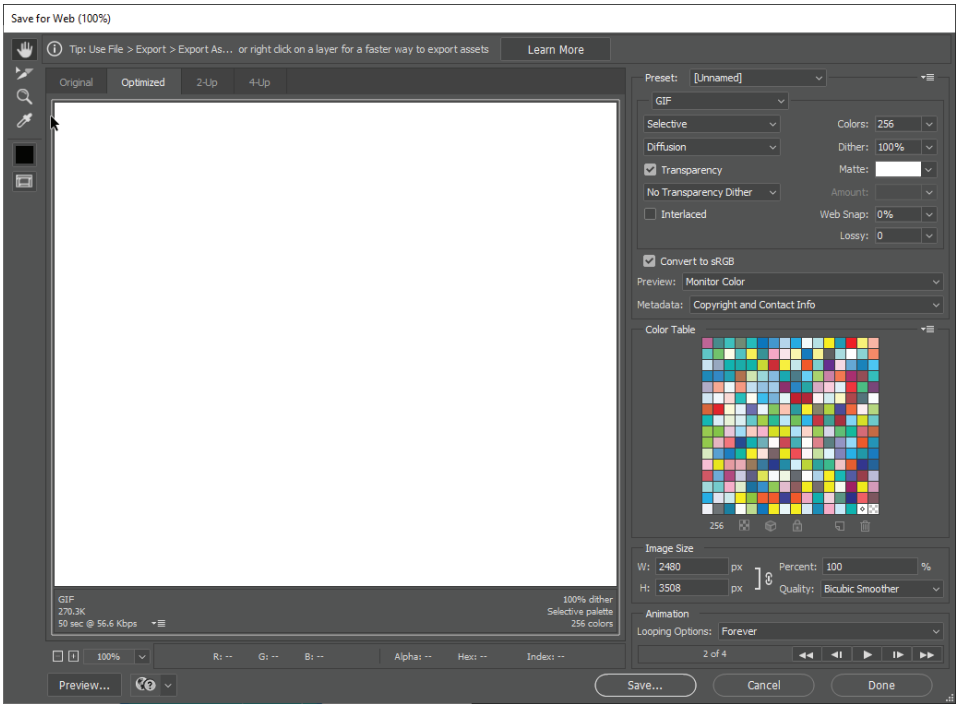



# 11

**Select the frames in the timeline and select the frame r ate you want to run the animation at. Use the Play key to run it and change the rate till you're happy with it.**




# 12

**Save the animation. Go to File>Export>Export AS> Legacy>- Gif then Save.**