Two-Step Glow
FOR ADOBE PHOTOSHOP OR PAINTER 3.0
Requires Alien Skin's Black Box   Drop Shadow Demo

lick me

This tip is an easier, faster, and more flexible way to achieve an effect very similar to the "Instant Neon" tip for Photoshop (or any program that supports Photoshop plug-ins, like Painter 3.0) described in issue #1.   That tip describes ways to modify the effect that I will not describe here, so I suggest you read issue #1 if you like this tip.

. Make some big type, black on black, and defloat it so it is just a selection.   Do NOT deselect the selection yet.

. Change your foreground color to something bright, like neon green, and apply the drop shadow filter with the following settings:
- X Offset: 0 pixels
- Y Offset: 0 pixels
- Blur: 9 pixels
- Opacity: 100%
- Color: Foreground

Wow!   See how quick it was?   See, it was staring you in the face the whole time, and you didn't realize that a glow was just an object the same color as the background with a colored drop shadow.   Well, now you know.   I use this all the time, and I hope you will too.