

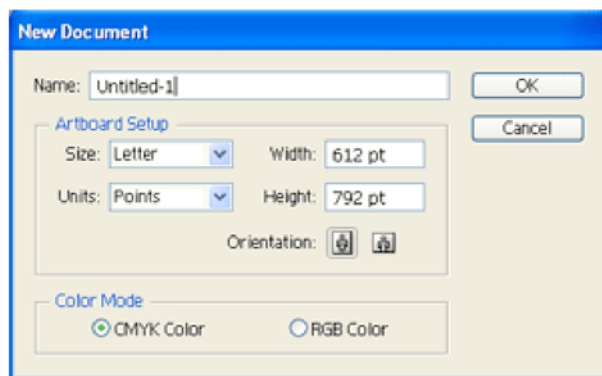
Adobe Illustrator CS2 Workshop

Photoshop makes images out of dots (pixels). The program recognizes individual dots each with a color value and a location in space (this is called **raster graphics**). In Photoshop, if you wish to work with something that you recognize as an object in an image, such as box sitting on a table, you have to select the box (show Photoshop the dots you want to manipulate).

In contrast, Adobe Illustrator is a charting program. It deals with objects such as squares, circles and irregular shapes. It stores these shapes in files as geometric equations with an associated size, location and color value. These objects can be resized, re-colored and moved in relationship to each other (this is called **scalable vector graphics**). When you make a selection in Illustrator, you are selecting an object and you can move that object in front or behind other objects in the image or change the size of the object relative to the other objects in the image. Illustrator is an ideal program to use for drawing illustrations and charts or creating posters with drawings and a lot of different size lettering.

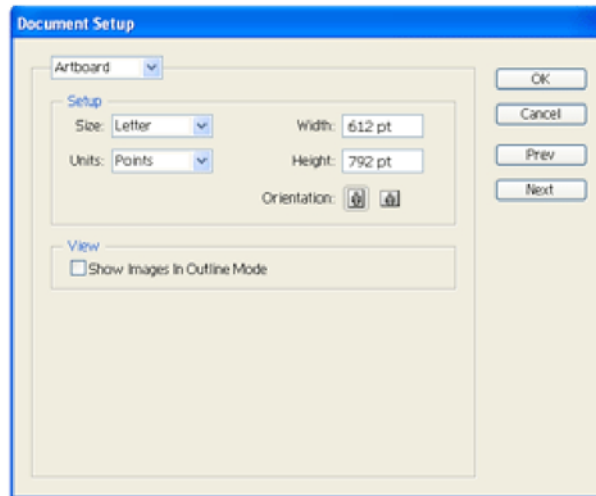
Basic Illustrator Functions

To begin a new Illustrator document, go to the **File Menu** and select **New...**



Illustrator will bring up a window asking you to choose the size of your image and the color system. You will need RGB colors for an illustration that will be used on the web and CMYK for an image that will be printed.

Under the **File** Menu, select **Document Setup...**

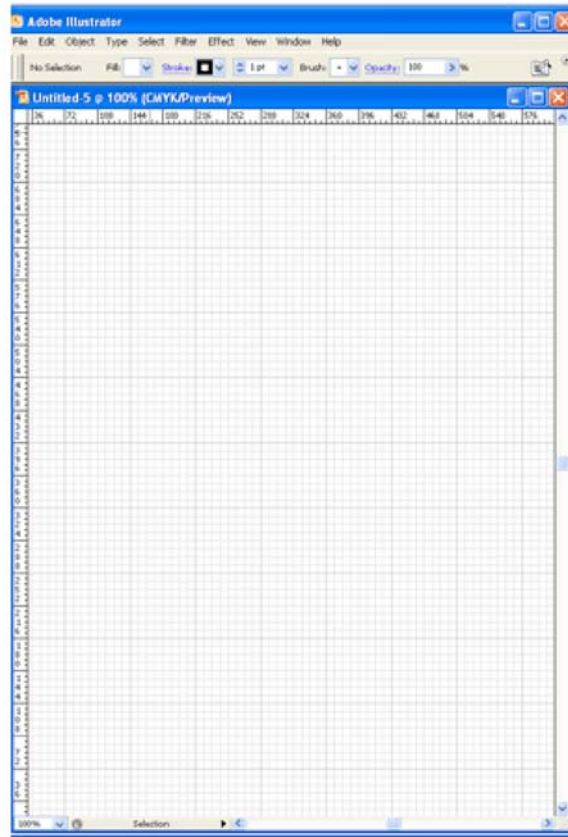


You can use the **File > Document Setup** window to change the measurements (pixels, mm, inches) used for the print area (called the **Artboard** in Illustrator), the size of the image, and printing orientation and other settings.

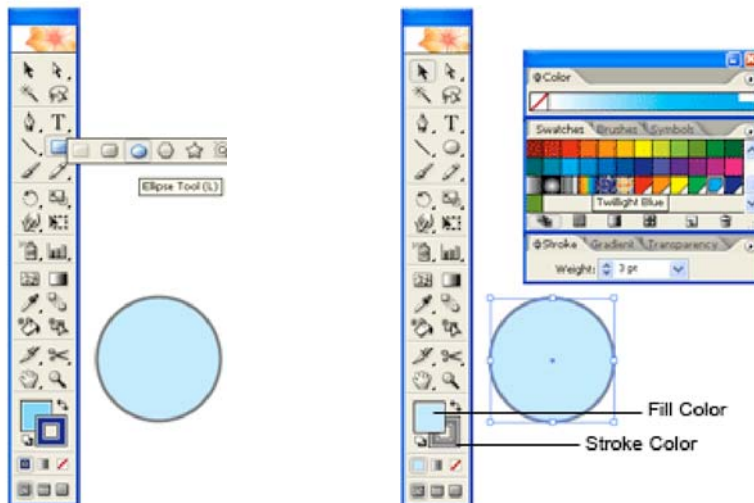
The Toolbar in Illustrator is very similar to the one in Photoshop with many of the same tools. An overview of the more common tools and their functions is in the **help** menu. (Press **F1** for more)



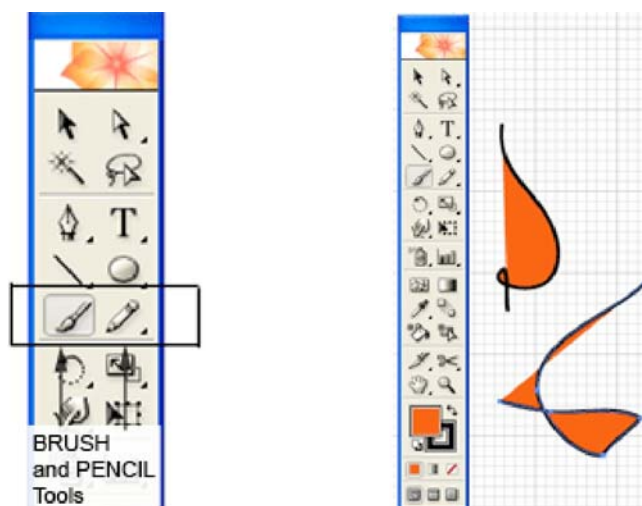
It is often helpful to turn on the rulers and grids as you are creating your drawing. On the **View** Menu, click on **Show Rulers** and **Show Grids**. This will give you measuring tools for your drawing.



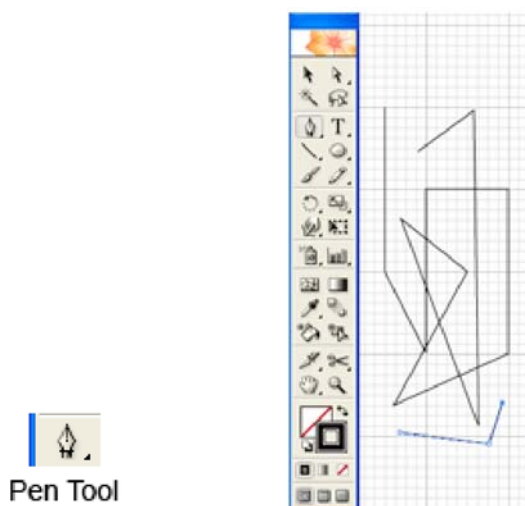
You can add an object to an Illustrator drawing by choosing the shape from the toolbar, holding down the mouse button and dragging the mouse until you have an appropriate size object on the Artboard. This object can easily be resized and re-colored using the tools near the bottom of the toolbar. In Illustrator, the 2 color tools are the **stroke** (the “picture frame” or the darker color here) that determines the color that will be used for the outline of the object and the **fill**, the color that will fill the interior of the object.



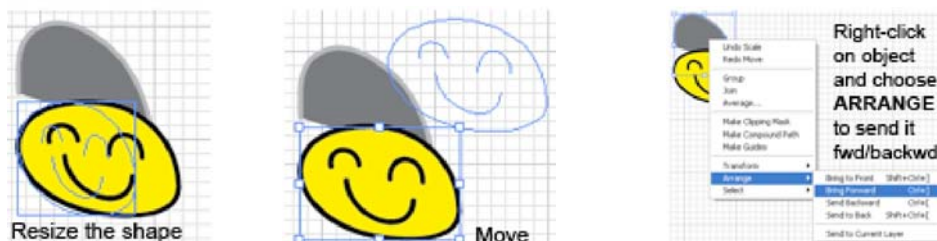
The **pencil** and the **brush** tools allow you to draw freehand objects, those that don’t follow a defined geometric shape or an easily defined path. In the following example, the **brush** is used for freehand objects.



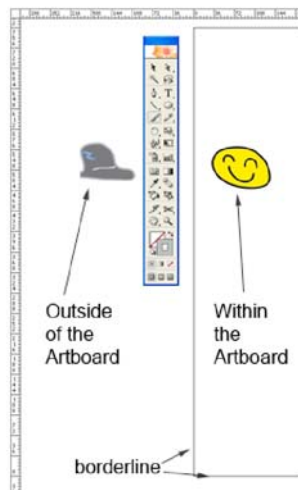
The **pen tool** allows you to draw objects with straight sides but irregular shapes. Move the mouse to a new place on the Artboard and click once to add a line segment to the object. To close the figure, double-click the mouse button and a line segment will be drawn back to the first point.



When you have several objects in your drawing, you can resize them independently, move them relative to each other and even place one object in front or in back of another object on the Artboard. To rearrange, choose **Objects > Arrange Menu**.



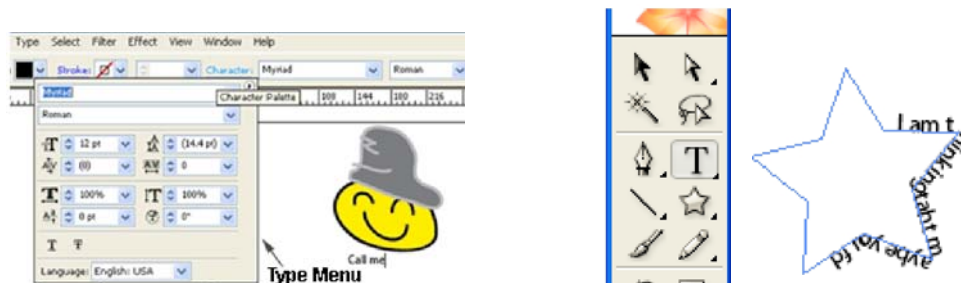
You can also temporarily drag an object from the Artboard to the surrounding workspace until you are ready to move it to its position in your drawing.



You can line objects up relative to each other by selecting the objects and using the **Align** tool pallet found in **Window** menu. Once you have objects in the position you want relative to each other you can select them and link their positions by using the **Objects > Group** menu.



The **text** tool gives you control over the way your text is inserted and displayed. You can control the fonts, sizes, colors and placement of the text. The **Type** menu has many tools to help you control the appearance of your text. You can control the distance between individual letters in a word and check spelling. In Illustrator you can even draw an irregular path with the pen tool and write text on that irregular path as shown above. It's very useful for creating posters, logos, labeling, etc.



Saving Your Illustrations

On the **File > Save** menu Illustrator will directly save files in three formats. The **ai** format is Illustrator's format understood by Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop. This is a good format for intermediate saves of your document. The **EPS** format is encapsulated Postscript, appropriate for sending files to a Postscript printer. Illustrator will also save files directly into **PDF** format for printing and the web.

Illustrator has a **Save for the web** option on the **File** menu that works exactly the same as this option in Photoshop.

You can also use the **File > Export** menu to select one of a number of output file formats including TIFF, jpeg, gif, Photoshop PSD, and many more specialized formats including AutoCAD.

More information about Illustrator

Help Menu

The first step for getting self-help on Adobe Illustrator is to consult the help menu of the program. Simply press the "**F1**" key or go to the "**Help**" tab on the menu bar to access the Help Center for Illustrator. All information from the printed manual of the program can be searched in the Help Center. It is very comprehensive and easy to understand.

Web tutorials

Collection of specific topic Illustrator tutorials:
<http://www.designertoday.com/Tutorials.aspx>

Some info on 3D objects in Illustrator:
<http://www.techtutorials.net/Applications/Drawing and Graphics/Adobe/Illustrator/>

And, as always, one of the best resources would be the Online Resource Center at Adobe:
<http://studio.adobe.com/search/main.jsp>

This feature NO LONGER requires any registration with Adobe. They have help topics covering all adobe programs for all levels of expertise, and the language is easy to understand. Some help topics even have demonstration videos that show the features step-by-step.

You can also try to find additional help in Google Groups, internet forums like [Cnet](http://reviews.cnet.com/4520-7600_7-5565323-1.html?tag=dir) (http://reviews.cnet.com/4520-7600_7-5565323-1.html?tag=dir), or simply doing a web engine search on specific features.



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