



Adobe Illustrator introduction

What is Illustrator good for? Adobe Illustrator is a vector drawing tool, which means it is ideal for designing with shapes and type. It is often used for logos, infographics, maps, packaging and large format graphics.

Basics

- ☐ Interface (tools and palettes)
- ☐ New document (size, bleed)
- ☐ View modes
- ☐ Guides and rulers
- ☐ Contextual menus
- ☐ Layers

Tools & Manipulation

- ☐ Selection tools
- ☐ Pen tool
- ☐ Brushes
- ☐ Palettes
- ☐ Shapes
- ☐ Rotation and reflect
- ☐ Scale
- ☐ Align

Colours

- ☐ Colour modes
- ☐ Strokes and fills
- ☐ Swatches
- ☐ Gradients
- ☐ Eyedropper tool

Type

- ☐ Fonts
- ☐ Character palette
- ☐ Paragraph palette
- ☐ Creating outlines

Useful tricks

- ☐ Combining shapes (Shape builder, Pathfinder)
- ☐ Preview (Cmd-Y) Screen mode (F)
- ☐ Clipping masks
- ☐ Transparency
- ☐ Tracing images
- ☐ Cutter guides

Saving files

- ☐ File formats
- ☐ Printing

Smoothie label

- ☐ Practical example

Tutorials and resources:

Getting started: <https://tinyurl.com/illustrator-started>
List of 60 tutorials: <https://tinyurl.com/illustrator-60>

Icons:

<https://thenounproject.com>

Help and forums:

Official: <https://www.facebook.com/AdobeIllustrator/>
<https://forums.adobe.com/community/illustrator>
Beginners group: <https://tinyurl.com/fb-illustrator>
Google or email dave@bananadesign.co.uk