

# Illustrator - Basic

GoSkills online course syllabus

Thursday, May 1, 2025

**Skill level**

Beginner

**Lessons**

41

**Accredited by**

CPD

**Pre-requisites**

None

**Versions supported**

CC 2017

**Video duration**

3h 28m

**Estimated study time**

20h 30m for all materials

**Instructor**

Eric Vasquez

## Starting Adobe Illustrator

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1

### Preparing for Launch

Launching the program from the beginning and looking at the different types of documents that can be created in Adobe Illustrator.

2

### CMYK vs RGB

Covering the differences between CMYK and RGB.

3

### Art Boards

How and why to use art boards when working in Adobe Illustrator.

4

### Creating Your First Document

Creating and saving your first document.

## Exploring the Interface / Navigation

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5

### Overview of the Tools

Once setting up a document we will take a look at the basic tools that you will want to know about and how to navigate the toolbar interface.

6

### Overview of the Panels

Taking a look at the panels that you will want to know about and how to use them.

7

### Overview of the Menus

Browsing the different menus that you will want to know about and briefly covering the different things that can be found in each menu.

## Rulers, Grids, and Guides

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# 8

## Oh Snap

Learn how to use Rulers, grids, Smart Guides and guides that snap into place.

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# Working with Layers

# 9

## Layers on Layers on Layers

Learn about working with layers - how to create them, stack and reorder them, hide them, and delete them.

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# Selection Tools

# 10

## Different Tools to Get the Job Done

We will take a look at the different tools and methods available for making selections (Selection Tool, Direct Selection Tool, Magic Wand, and Lasso Tool).

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# Shape Tools

# 11

## All Shapes and Sizes

Covering the different types of basic shapes that can be made and how to scale them, rotate or flip them, and manipulate them.

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# Adding Color

# 12

## Fill vs Stroke

How to toggle between fill and stroke and how to change the settings for each.

# 13

## Swatches

Using and saving colors to the Swatches Panel.

# 14

## Gradients

How to apply linear and radial gradients.

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# Using the Pen Tool

# 15

## Getting Familiar with the Pen Tool

An introduction to the Pen Tool and how to use it. Will discuss Anchor Points / Handles and how to add or remove points from shapes.

## 16 The Curvature Tool

A brief look at the Curvature Tool and how it can be used with the Pen Tool.

## Using Brushes and Custom Brushes

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### 17 Preset Brushes

A basic demonstration of how to use the default / preset brushes in Illustrator.

### 18 Custom Brushes

How to create, save, and load your own Illustrator brushes.

## Using the Pencil Tool

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### 19 Drawing with the Pencil Tool

How to draw with the Pencil Tool and use the Smooth Tool to smooth out jagged lines.

## Using the Shaper Tool

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### 20 Shaper Tool Basics

How to use the Shaper Tool to quickly scribble and manipulate shapes.

## Creating Paths

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### 21 Following the Path

How to use the Pen Tool to create basic paths or trace an image.

### 22 Adjusting Strokes

Show how to change the weight of a stroke or make the caps rounded or flush.

### 23 Broken Lines and Dashes

Show how to create dotted lines or dashes from a stroked path.

## Using the Line Tools

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**24** Arc and Spiral  
Showing how you can use the Line Tool along with the Arc and Spiral Tools.

**25** Different Strokes  
How to change the width or thickness of a line.

## Using the Eraser Tools

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**26** Easy Erasing  
Showing how you can erase shapes or parts of shapes.

**27** Cut it Out  
Using the Scissor Tool and Knife Tool.

## Type Tool Basics

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**28** Adjusting Size, Style, and Spacing  
Covering the basics of how to add text and adjust the size, style, kerning, and linespacing.

**29** Justified  
How to format and justify copy.

**30** Type on a Path  
How to add type to a path.

## Distortion Tools

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**31** Distorting Type  
Show examples of how to distort type using the Envelope Warp feature.

**32** Distorting Shapes  
Show examples of how to distort shapes using the Bloat and Pinch Tools.

## Using the Free Transform Tool

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**33** Transformers  
How to distort shapes and type.

**34** Putting Things in Perspective  
How to add perspective to your shapes and text.

## Object Based Tools

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**35** Scaling Objects  
How to quickly and easily scale any object using percentages using the Scale Tool.

**36** Rotating Objects  
Rotate objects or shapes or create a series of shapes on a circular path.

## Using the Blend Tool

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**37** The Art of The Blend Tool  
How to blend lines or shapes either gradually or with a specified number of steps.

## Merging Shapes Together

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**38** Shape Builder Tools  
How to use the Shape Builder Tool.

**39** The Pathfinder  
How to use the Pathfinder Tool to manipulate shapes.

## How to Use Masks

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**40** Masking Basics  
Masking shapes or text using shapes.

**41** Opacity Masks  
Using opacity masks to mask gradients or highlights inside of shapes and text.

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