

# Adobe Illustrator CS



## Advanced Level

Illustrator might be a vector program but that doesn't restrict it to plain-looking artwork. With a little know-how you can easily put some extra life into flat graphics with creative gradients, masks, photographs, special effects, and even 3D rotations, with professional illustrative flair.

### Useful to you if:

you need to produce or amend any basic graphic items from the list above.

### Before the course, you should:

be able to produce accurate bezier shapes;  
have some basic prior experience of the Illustrator package;  
be familiar with the main Illustrator palettes.

### At the end of the day's course you will:

- have produced an iconic graph, a designed map, a stylised illustration from a photograph, and a 3D object;
- be armed with some tips on how to improve workflow;
- be comfortable with complex blends, gradient meshes, symbols and brushes.
- know some expert-user keyboard shortcuts.

### Course contents (may vary slightly):

#### Recap of principles

Preferences, displays and cursors  
Measurement units  
Tool palette overview with options  
Navigation

#### Paths

Maximising pathfinder  
Divide objects below  
Clean up  
Splitting  
Editing

#### Brushes

Painting, applying, new  
Libraries  
Options

#### Colour

Patterns and tiles  
Inverting and complementing colours  
Swatch libraries  
Gradients and meshes, warping meshes  
Transparent meshes  
Trapping options  
Advanced stroke options, effects

#### Smart Usage

Smart guides  
Turning shapes into guides  
Envelope distortion  
Actions: playing, editing and recording

#### Special Effects

3D extrude, 3D rotate  
Bevels, importing bevels  
Graphic styles and libraries

#### Images

Using a clipping path on an image  
Sampling from an image  
Colour adjustment

#### Graphs

Entering and controlling graph data  
Map conversion  
Importing Excel data  
Editing and applying 3D effects  
Applying pictographic effects

#### Transparency

Object transparency, blending modes, opacity masking  
Blend isolation  
Transparency flattener

#### Output

Legacy files  
With transparency  
Export options  
Exporting paths  
Best formats for InDesign import  
File formats (and transparency support)  
PDFs  
Printing: considerations  
Colour separations  
Page tiling  
Custom start-up file  
Templates  
Keyboard shortcuts

### Project achievements:

**Graph with icons**

**Map with graphics**

**Stylised illustration from a photograph**

**3D object**