

Adobe Illustrator CS



Beginners Level

Illustrator is the industry standard graphic drawing program, used to produce and amend graphic icons, maps, symbols, diagrams, cartoons, illustrations, graphs, charts and logos. Even at beginners' level you can create polished and professional digital illustrations, easily and speedily.

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 navigate your desktop/system and be familiar with basic universal functions such as "Save", "Quit" etc.; need no prior experience of Illustrator.

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

- have produced a simple colour map, a graphic icon, and a posterised illustration;
- be comfortable with bezier curves;
- and know some basic keyboard shortcuts to improve workflow.

Course contents (may vary slightly):

Basics

Bitmap vs vector
Viewing/opening documents
Title bar info
New document specifications
RGB v CMYK
Browsing
Navigation
Preferences
Most commonly used palettes
Rulers
Guides and grids
Smart guides

Shape Tools

Tool bar
Drawing simple shapes
Basic bezier work
Path selection
Basic path amendments
Palette options
Editing tools
Selections

Type Tools

Selecting and creating type
Font usage, formatting
Type wrapping around objects
Converting to outlines

Transforming shapes

Amending shapes
Multiple transformations: groups

Object Relations

Basic fill
Basic strokes
Positioning
Alignment
Transparency
Object groups

Layers

Placing
Arranging
Moving objects between layers
Layer attributes

Saving and Exporting

Revert
Saving for various software imports
Exporting paths
Drag and dropping
Legacy
Bitmap vs vector export

Workflow

Saving the workspace
Hiding edges and guides
View as outline
Keyboard shortcuts

Project achievements:

Basic map
Graphic icon
Posterised illustration