

**Guided Computer Tutorials**

**Learning  
Adobe  
Illustrator 2024**

**Module 2**

**By Greg Bowden**

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# Learning Adobe Illustrator 2024

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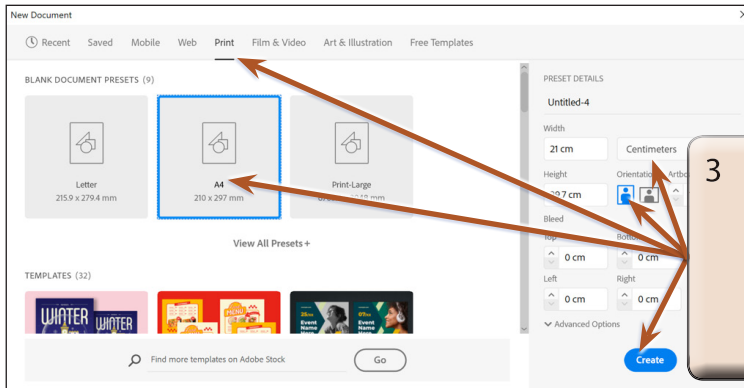


# Perspective Drawing

The PERSPECTIVE GRID TOOL allows you to place a grid on the Artboard to help create drawings with depth. In this chapter the different components of the grid will be explained then a drawing created using the perspective grid.

## Starting a New Document

- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## The Perspective Grid

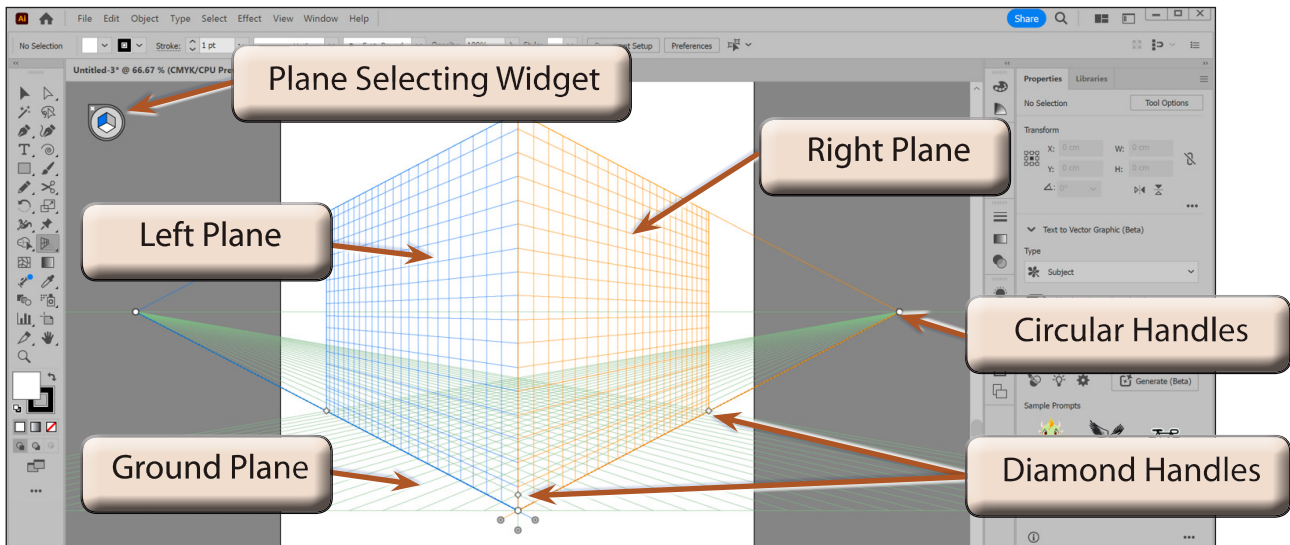
Before starting to draw using the PERSPECTIVE GRID you need to have a basic understanding of its sections.

### A Displaying the Grid



- 1 Click and hold on the PERSPECTIVE GRID TOOL in the TOOLBAR and the PERSPECTIVE tools are displayed. Select the PERSPECTIVE GRID TOOL to add the grid to the Artboard.

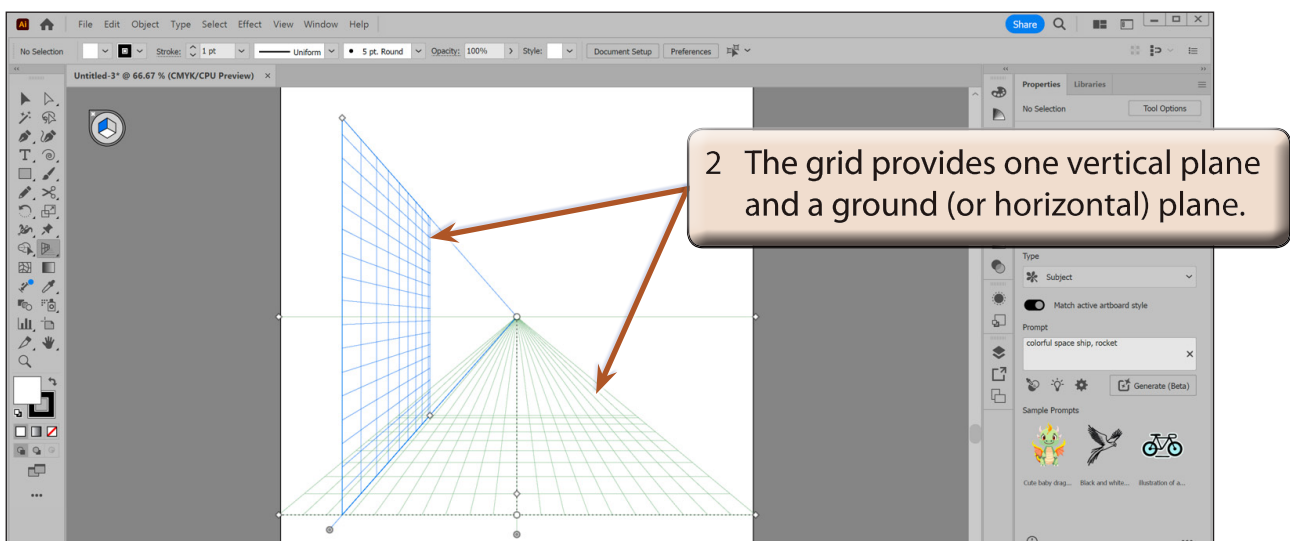
- 2 Press the **CTRL-** or **COMMAND-** to adjust the zoom so that you can see all the sections of the grid. Some of the sections of the **PERSPECTIVE GRID** are labelled in the following diagram.



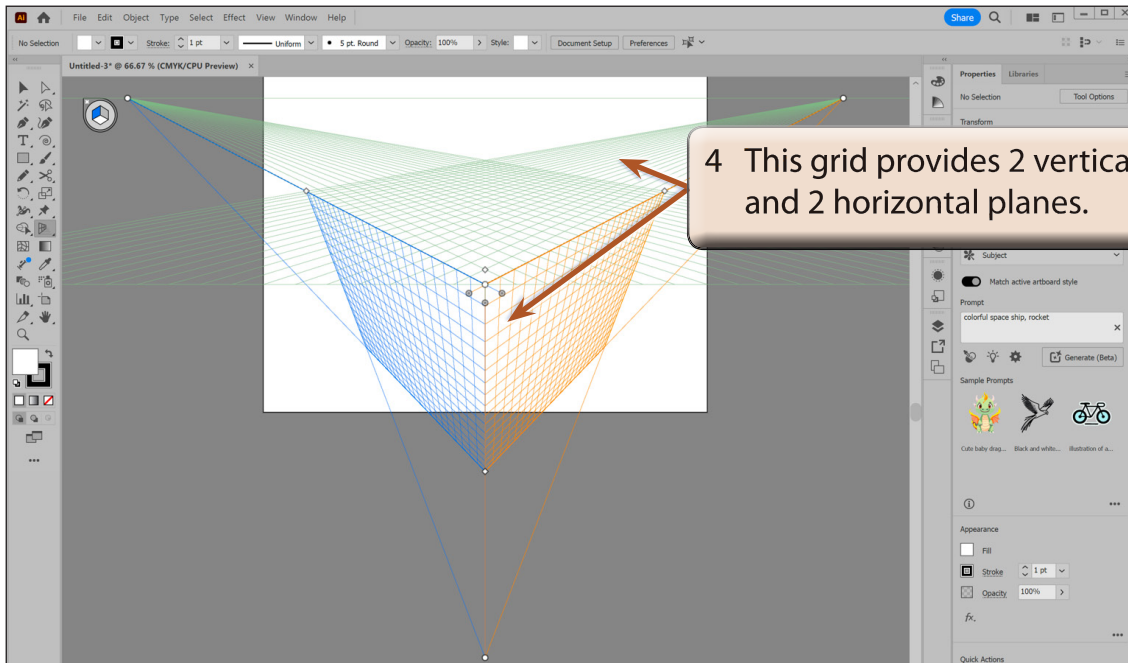
## B The Different Perspective Grids

There are three different types of perspective grids that can be applied to the Artboard, a 1-point grid, a 2-point grid and a 3-point grid.

- 1 Display the **VIEW** menu, highlight **PERSPECTIVE GRID** followed by **ONE POINT PERSPECTIVE** and select [1P-NORMAL VIEW].



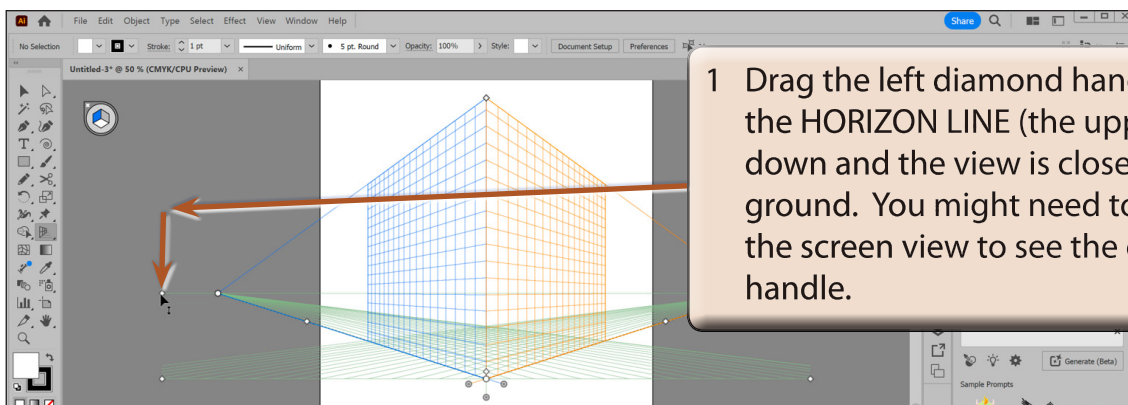
- 3 Display the VIEW menu, highlight PERSPECTIVE GRID followed by THREE POINT PERSPECTIVE and select [3P-NORMAL VIEW].

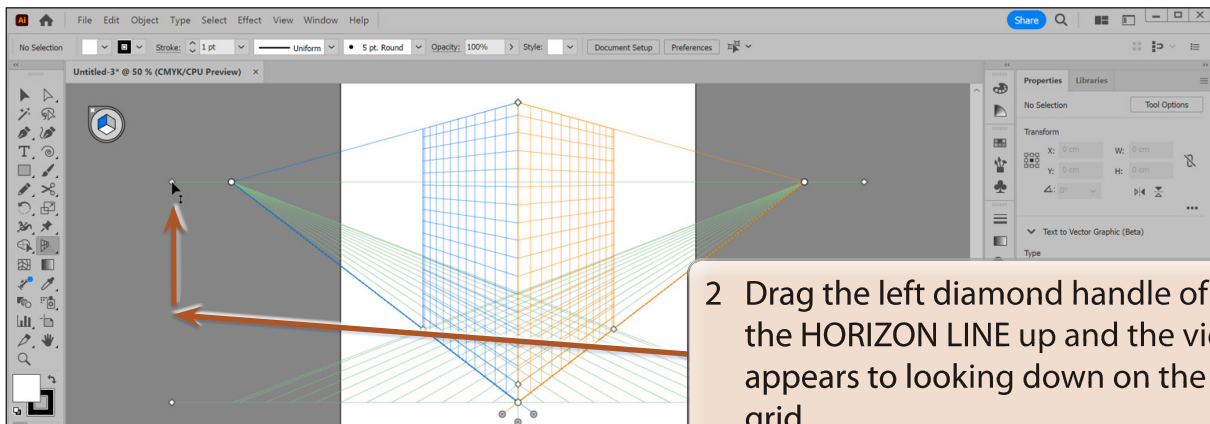


- 5 Display the VIEW menu, highlight PERSPECTIVE GRID followed by TWO POINT PERSPECTIVE and select [2P-NORMAL VIEW]. This is the default PERSPECTIVE GRID and it provides 2 vertical planes and 1 horizontal plane.

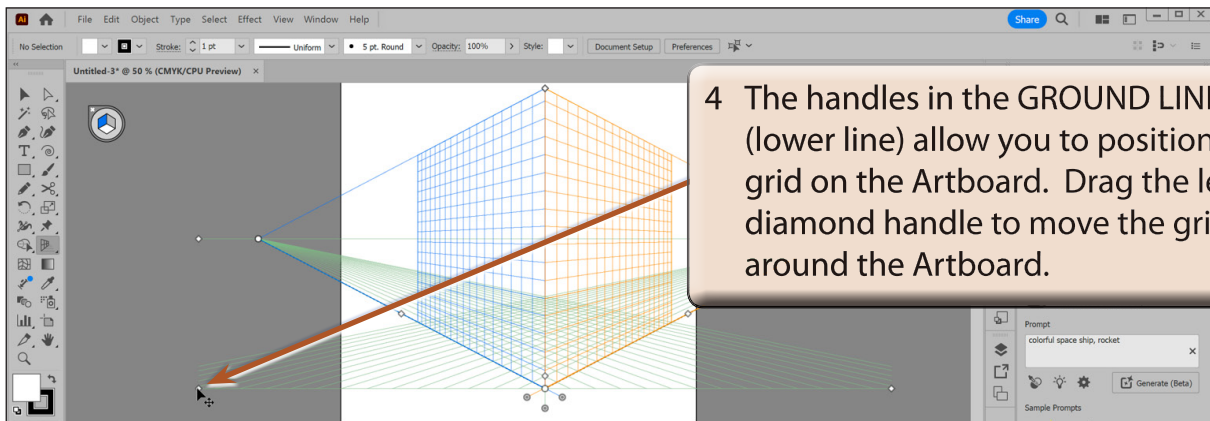
## C The View Lines

There are 2 view lines on the 2-point perspective grid which run horizontally across the grid - the GROUND VIEW line (lower line) and the HORIZON (or EYE-VIEW) line.





- 3 Press **CTRL+Z** or **COMMAND+Z** until the grid is returned to its original setting.



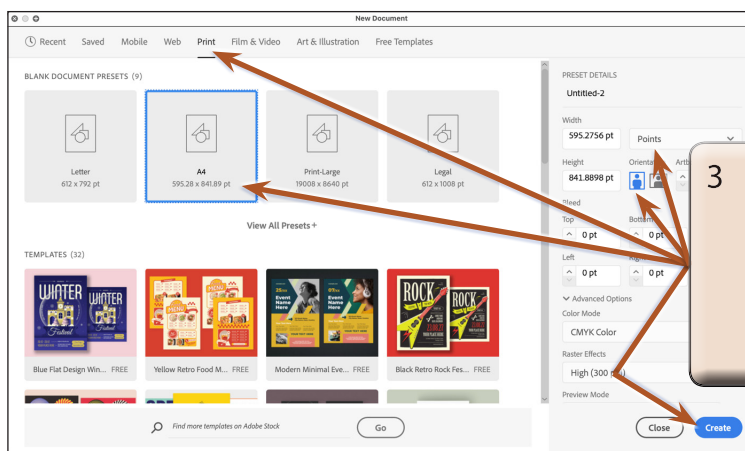
- 5 Press **CTRL+Z** or **COMMAND+Z** until the grid is returned to its original position.

# Creating 3D Objects

Adobe Illustrator provides detailed tools to create realistic 3D objects. The 3D AND MATERIALS panel is used to create these objects.

## Starting a New Document

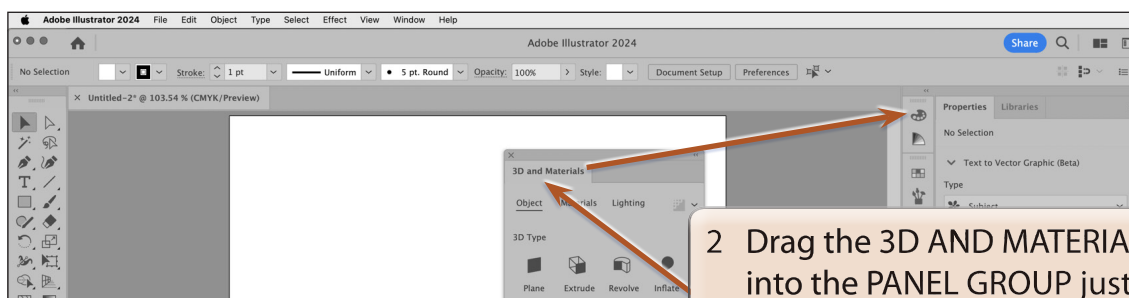
- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), leave the UNITS set to POINTS, the ORIENTATION set to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

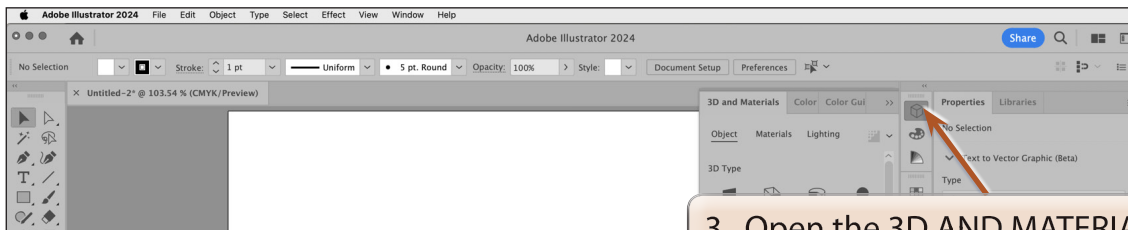
## Opening the 3D and Materials Panel

- 1 Display the WINDOW menu and select 3D AND MATERIALS to open the 3D AND MATERIALS panel.



- 2 Drag the 3D AND MATERIALS panel into the PANEL GROUP just above the COLOUR panel icon.





3 Open the 3D AND MATERIALS panel from the PANEL GROUP by clicking on its icon.

**NOTE:** It can be advantageous to collapse the 3D AND MATERIALS panel when not using it, so having it in the PANEL GROUP allows to be quickly collapsed or expanded.

## Looking at the 3D and Materials Panel

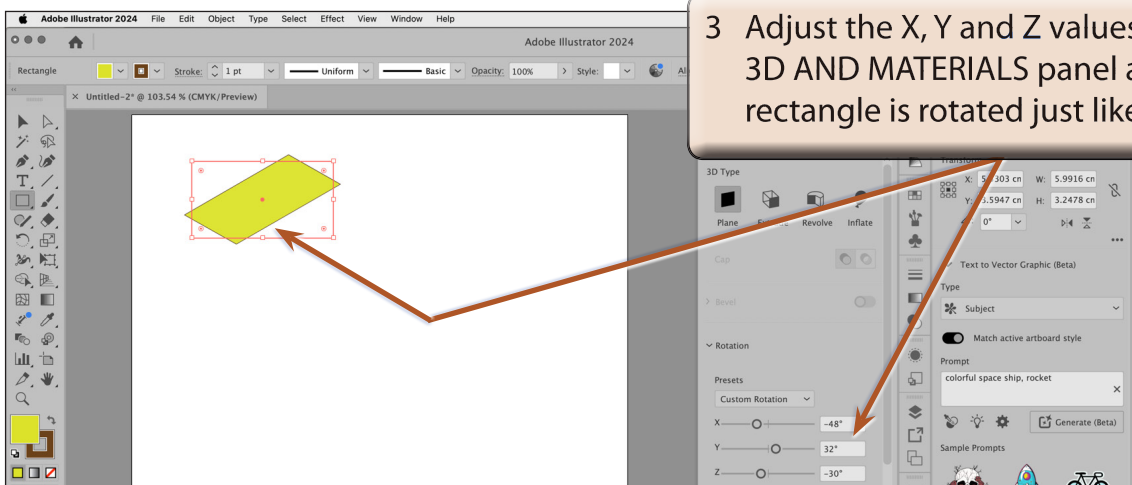
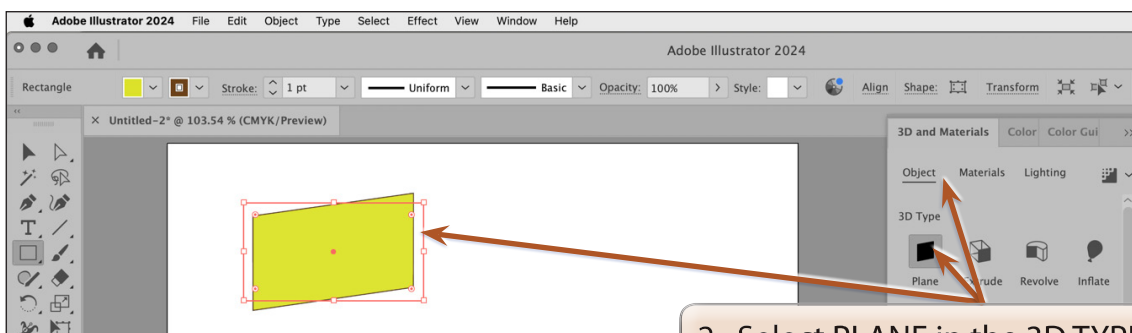
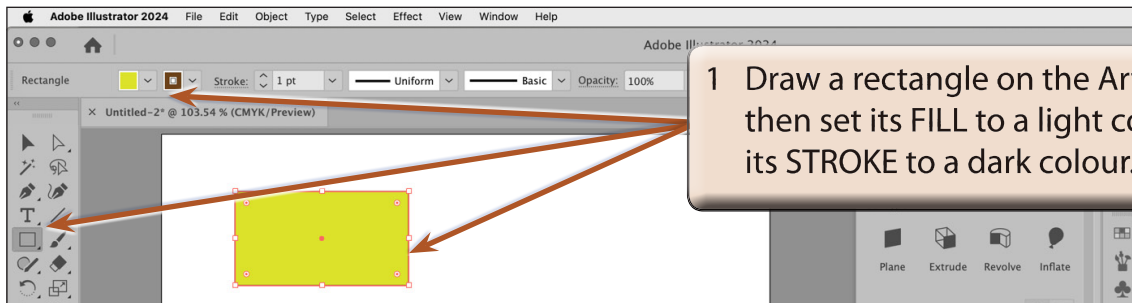
The 3D AND MATERIALS panel has 3 sections across the top of the panel and they are summarised in the following table:

OBJECT	MATERIAL	LIGHTING
Allows you to apply: Plane (flat) rotations Extrude objects Revolve objects Inflate objects	Allows you to add: Preset materials to objects Custom or downloaded materials to objects Text and images to objects	Allows you to apply: Light sources and light intensity to objects Shadows to objects which are linked to the light sources

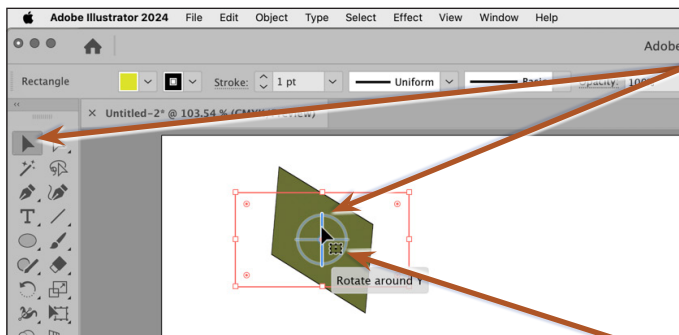


## Flat 3D Objects

The PLANE 3D option allows you to rotate a flat 2D shape so that it moves into or out of the Artboard. It is not used as much as the other 3D object options so we will just look at it very briefly.

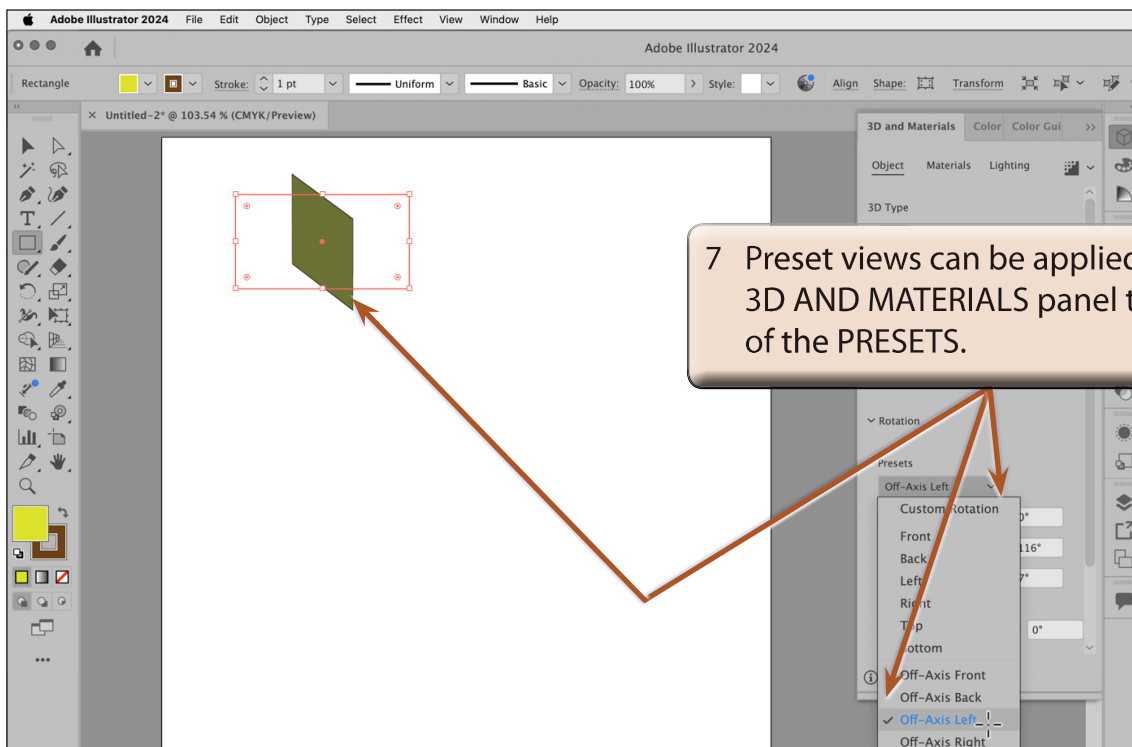


## 4 The object can be adjusted manually.



5 Select the SELECTION TOOL and rotation symbols are added to the object.

6 Drag the X (or horizontal line) to rotate along the horizontal axis, the Y (or VERTICAL line) to rotate along the vertical axis and the Z (or BORDER) to rotate clockwise or counter clockwise.



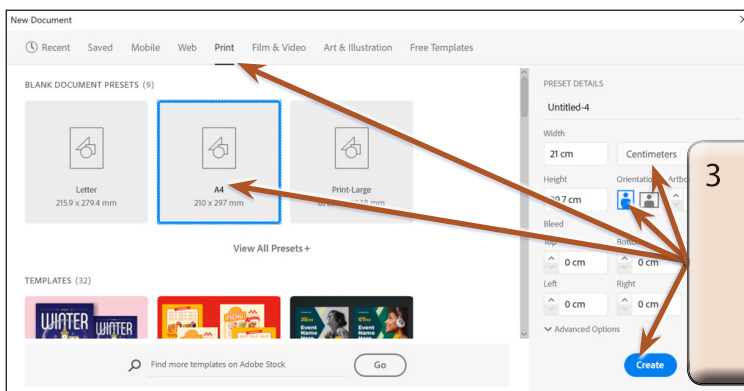
7 Preset views can be applied. In the 3D AND MATERIALS panel try some of the PRESETS.

# Text to Vector Graphic Generator

The TEXT TO VECTOR GRAPHIC GENERATOR within Adobe Illustrator provides you with suggested vector images based on text that you enter. Illustrator searches its library for images that match your entry. The feature is new and extra images are constantly being developed.

## Starting a New Document

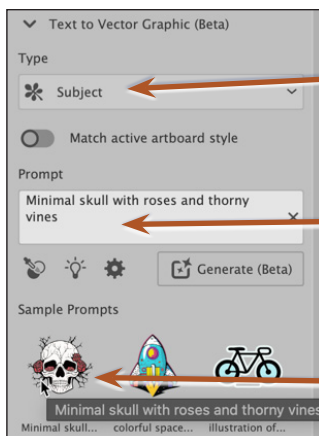
- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## Looking at the Properties Panel

The TEXT TO VECTOR GRAPHIC tools are in the PROPERTIES panel. There are 3 main areas.



The **TYPE** box where you can select from **Subject**, **Scene**, **Icon** or **Pattern**.

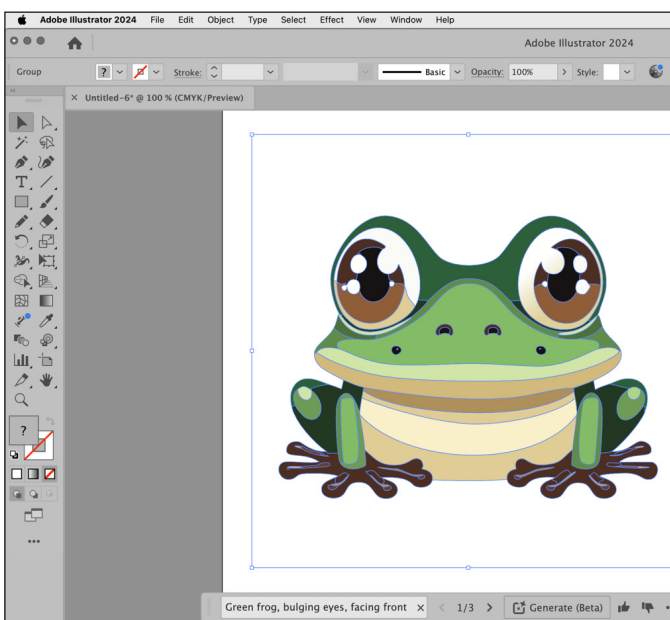
The **PROMPT** box where you enter the search text.

The **SAMPLE PROMPTS** where sample search text is provided.

## Inserting Subject Images

Subject images are specific images such as animals, people, cars, trees, etc. The more specific you can be with the prompt text, the closer the image will be to what you require.

### A Entering a Prompt



The screenshot shows the Adobe Illustrator 2024 interface. In the center, a green frog with large, bulging eyes is displayed within a blue selection box. To the right, the 'Text to Vector Graphic (Beta)' panel is open. It shows the 'Type' dropdown set to 'Subject', a 'Prompt' box containing the text 'Green frog, bulging eyes, facing front', and a 'Generate (Beta)' button. Below the prompt, three small thumbnail images of the generated frog variations are shown. Two callout boxes provide instructions: Box 1 points to the 'Type' dropdown, and Box 2 points to the 'Prompt' box and 'Generate (Beta)' button.

1 In the TEXT TO VECTOR GRAPHIC section of the PROPERTIES panel, the TYPE box should be set to SUBJECT.

2 Click in the PROMPT box and enter:  
Green frog, bulging eyes, facing front  
Click on GENERATE (BETA) and 3 sample frogs should be provided.

**NOTE:** It can take a bit of time for the search to process the required vector images. It depends on the speed of your internet connection and the power of your computer system.

- 3 Click on each of the provided 3 frog variations and select the one you like the best.
- 4 The GENERATE CONTEXTUAL TASK BAR is added below the frog image. It has similar tools to those in the PROPERTIES panel and you can scroll through the variations using its FORWARD and BACK arrows.

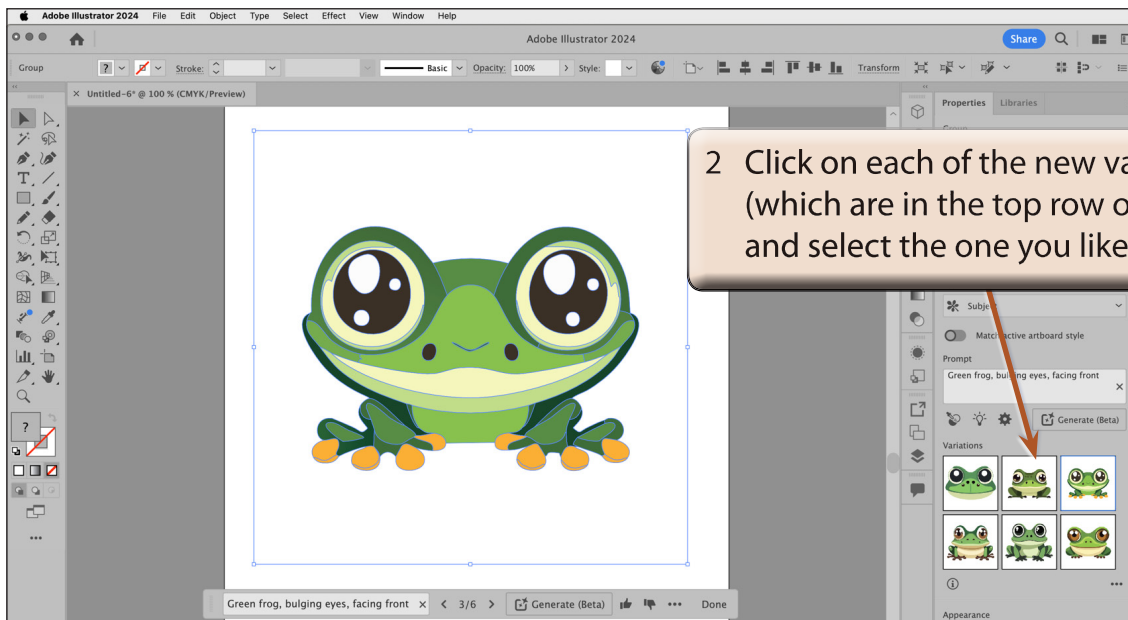
## B Generating Extra Variations

The first 3 provided variations of an image may not be the most suitable. You can continue to generate images until you obtain the one that suits your needs.



- 1 In the GENERATE CONTEXTUAL TASK BAR click on the GENERATE (BETA) button to generate 3 more frog images.

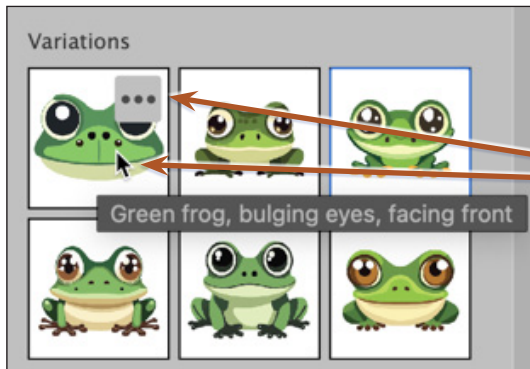
**NOTE:** It is personal preference whether you use the **GENERATE CONTEXTUAL TASK BAR** or the **PROPERTIES** panel when creating text to vector graphic images.



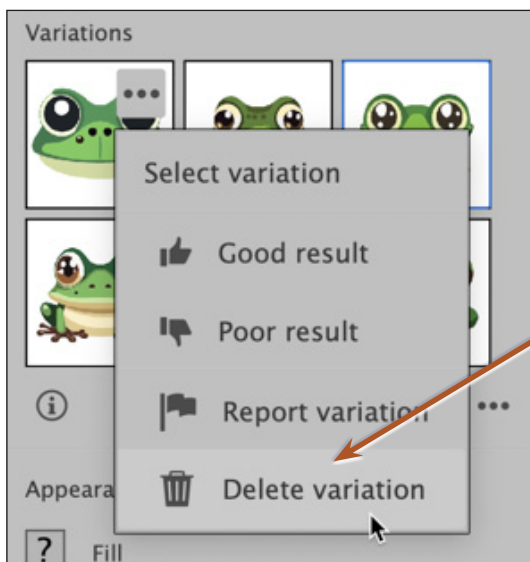
- 2 Click on each of the new variations (which are in the top row of images) and select the one you like.

## C Deleting Unwanted Images

Once you have selected the image you want to use, the unwanted ones can be deleted so that your PROPERTIES panel is not filled with variations of the same image.



1 In the PROPERTIES panel hover over an unwanted variation and click on its MORE icon (...).



2 In the drop down menu select DELETE VARIATION to remove the image.

3 Delete any other unwanted variations of the frog.

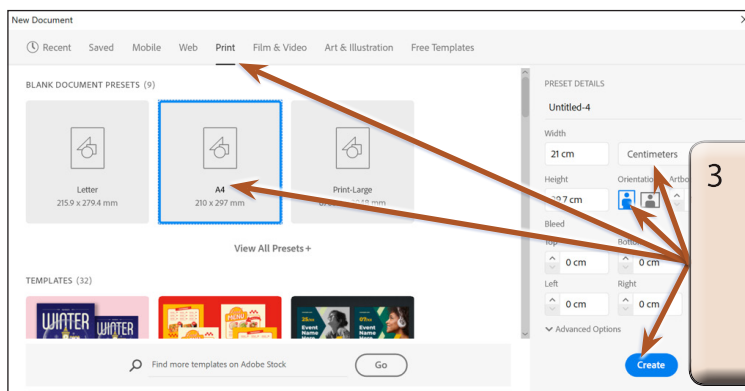
**NOTE:** You can also use the MORE icon (...) to label a variation as a good result or a bad result.

# Shadows and Reflections

Shadows and Reflections provide depth and realism to shapes. Sometimes it is more effective to manually create those shadows and reflections on objects.

## Starting a New Document

- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## Creating Shadows

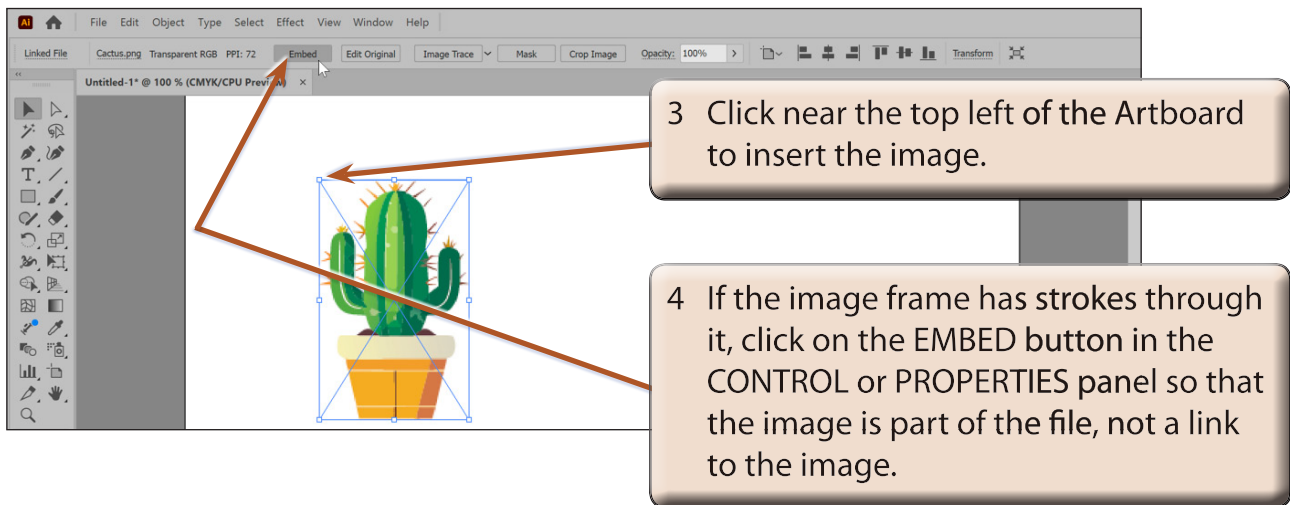
Shadows can be automatically applied to objects using lighting effects for 3D objects or using the DROP SHADOW option from the EFFECTS menu. However, often more effective shadows can be produced manually.

### A Inserting a Sample Image

An image of a cactus plant has been prepared for you and a drop shadow from the EFFECT menu and a manual shadow will be applied to it.

- 1 Display the FILE menu and select PLACE.
- 2 Access the CHAPTER 17 folder of the ILLUSTRATOR SUPPORT FILES and place the CACTUS.PNG image.

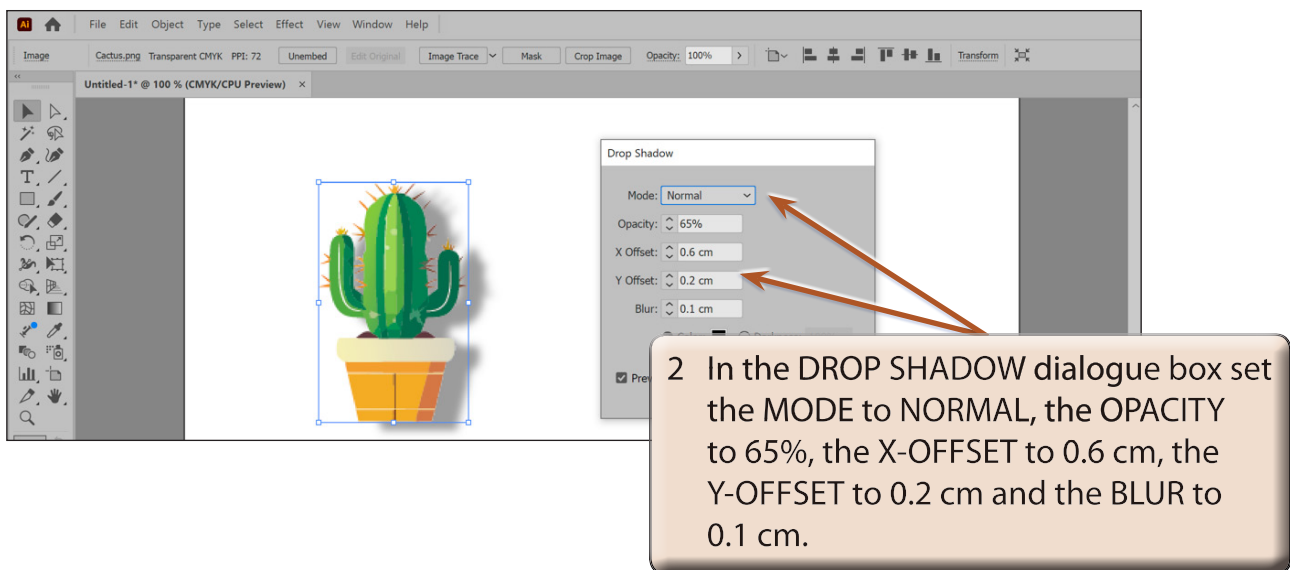




## B Applying a Simple Drop Shadow

If you just want to add a quick shadow to an object, the EFFECT menu can be used.

- 1 Display the EFFECT menu, highlight STYLIZE in the upper section and select DROP SHADOW.



- 3 Select OK to create the blur.
- 4 Re-open the DROP SHADOW dialogue box and experiment with the shadow effects if you want to.

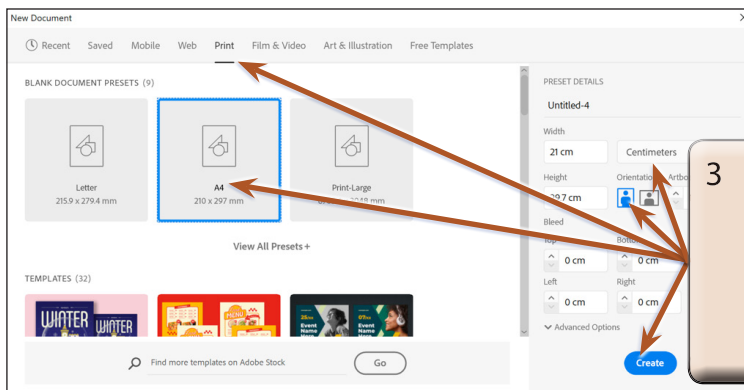


# The Pen Tool

The PEN TOOL is one of Adobe Illustrator's more difficult tools, but a necessary tool for creating efficient and more detailed drawings, so it is worth spending some time learning how to use it.

## Starting a New Document

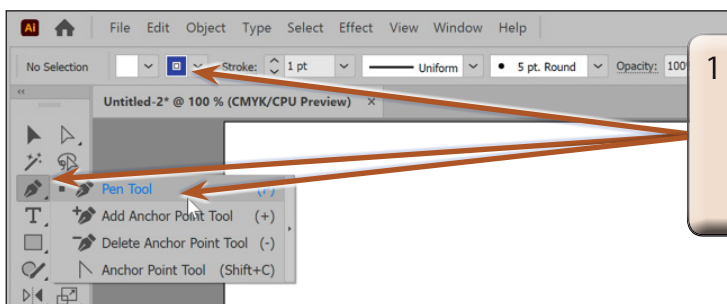
- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



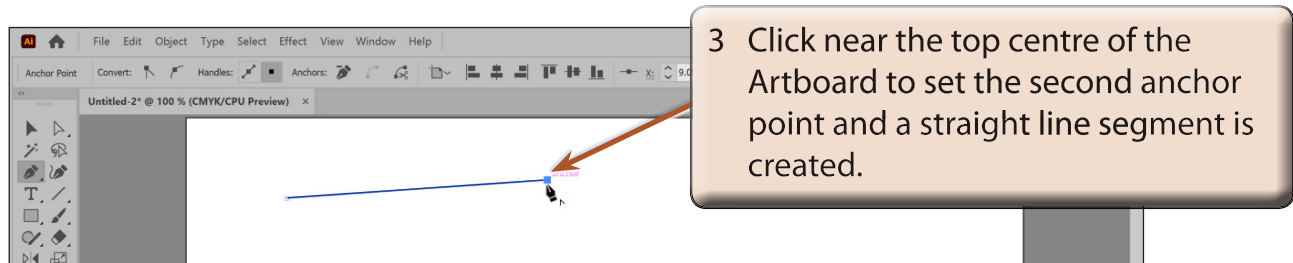
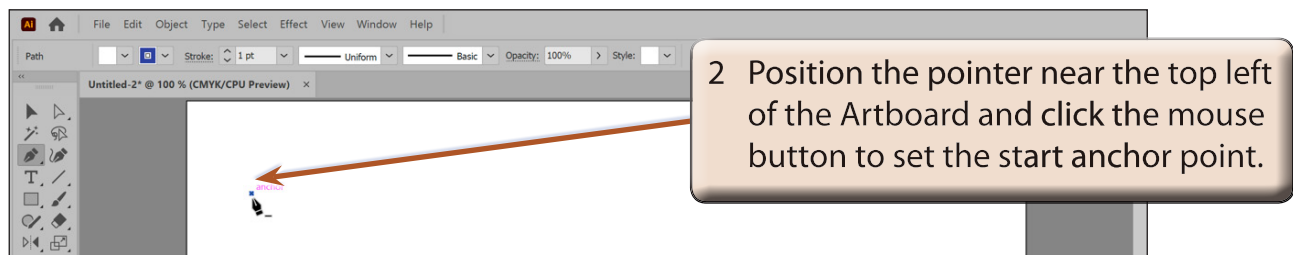
- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## Drawing Straight Paths With the Pen Tool

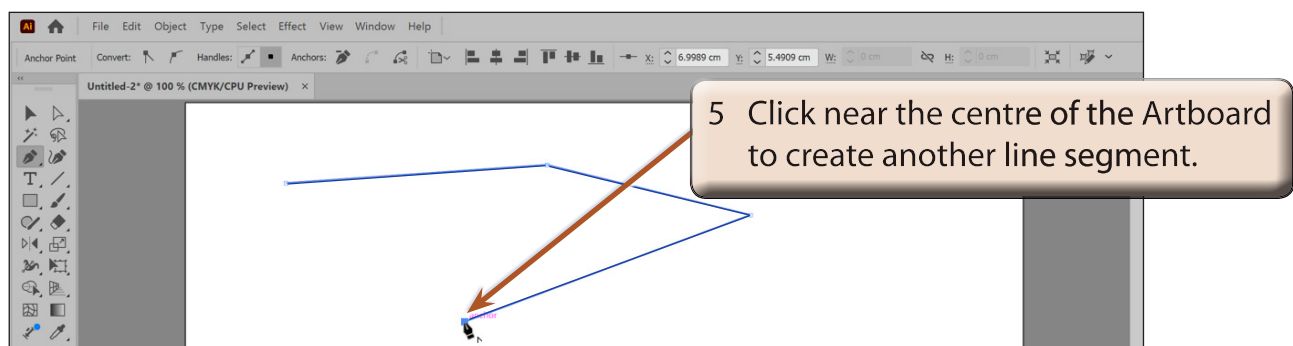
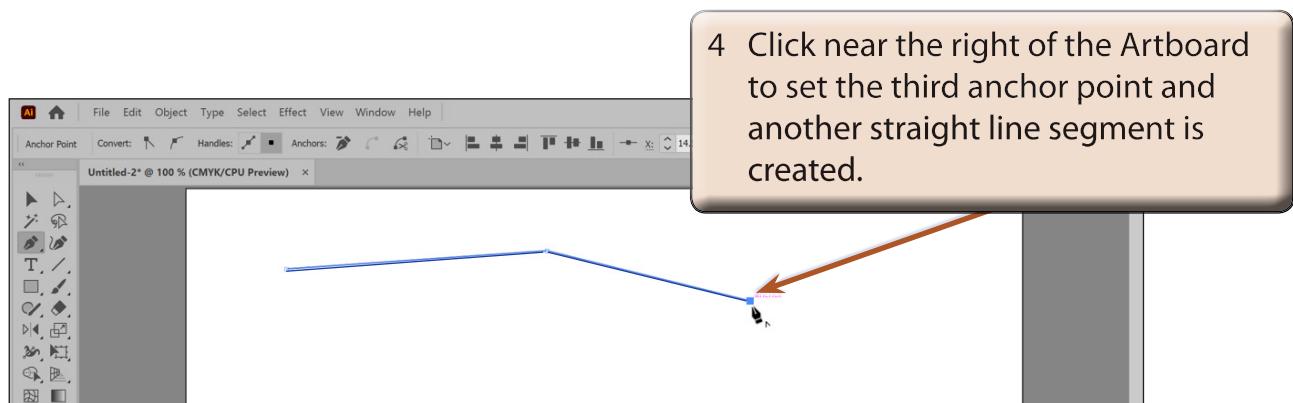
The PEN TOOL can be used to quickly create joined straight lines or create objects with straight sides.

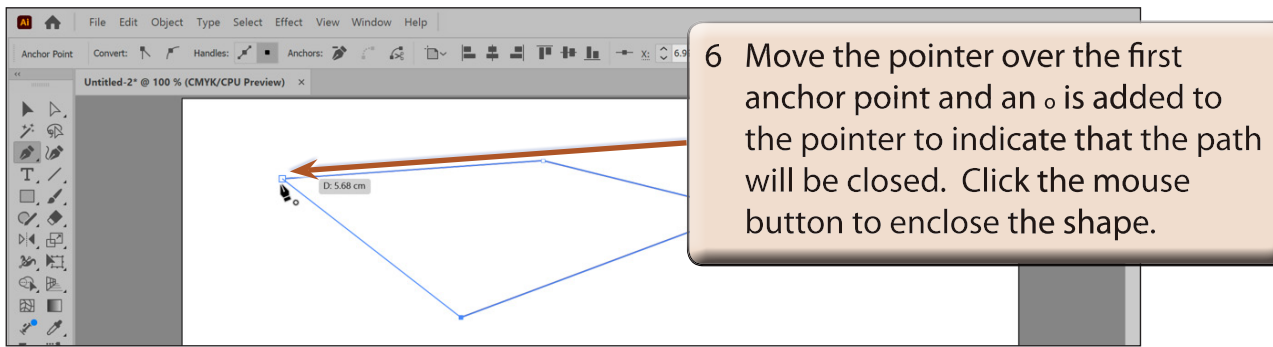


- 1 Select the PEN TOOL in the TOOLBAR and, in the CONTROL panel, select a dark STROKE COLOUR.

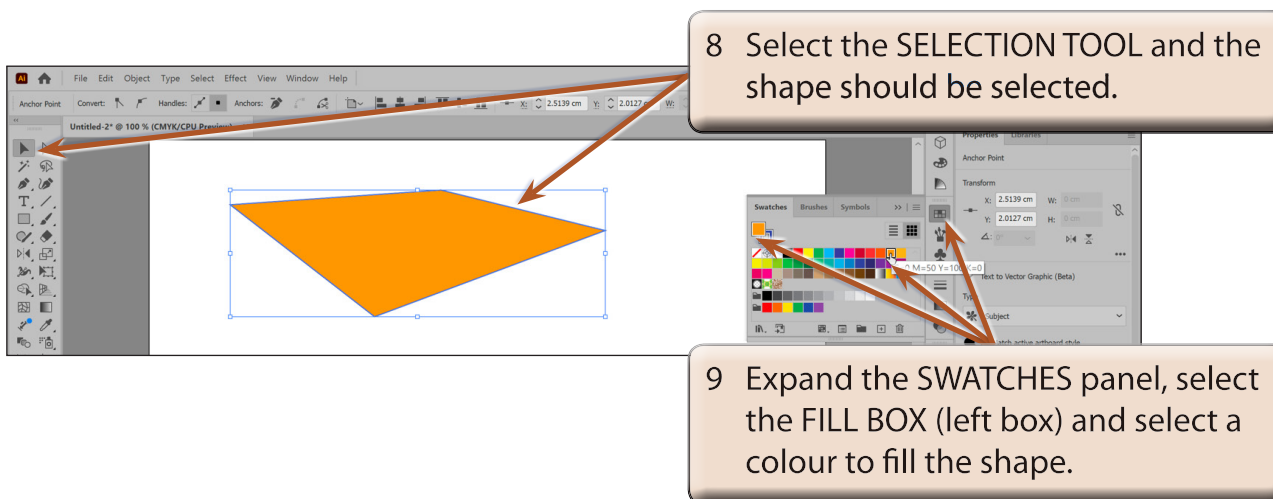


**NOTE:** You can set the **STROKE WEIGHT** for the line segment in the **CONTROL** panel as you did for the **LINE SEGMENT TOOL**.





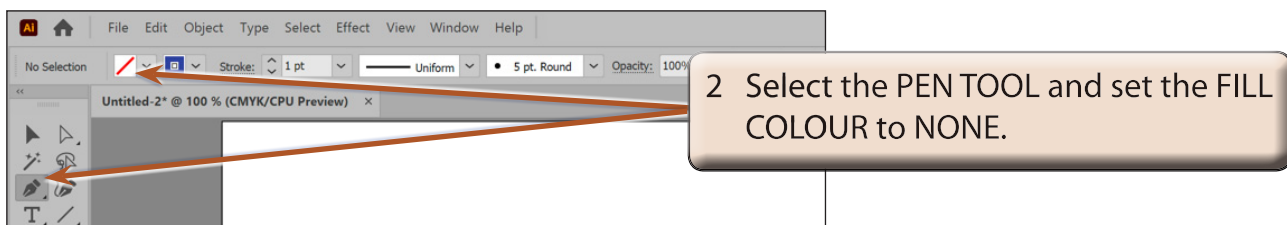
- 7 You can now apply a fill to the object or move the object around the Artboard like other shapes you have created.

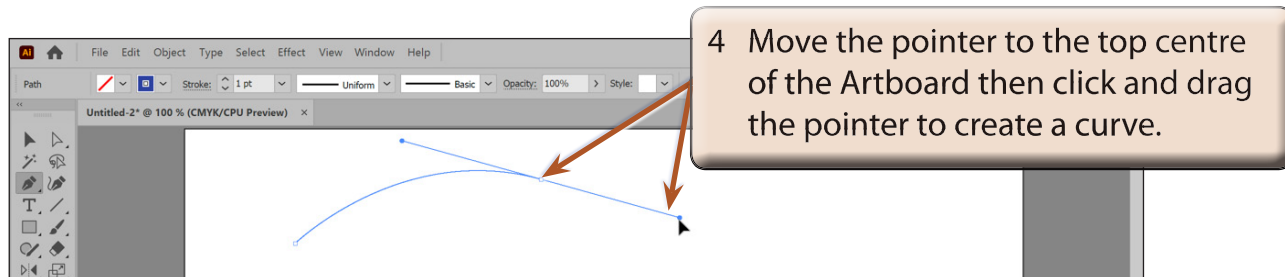
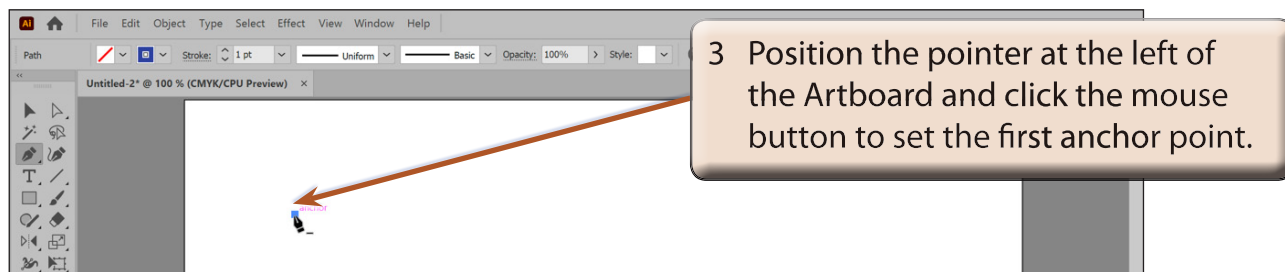


## Drawing Curved Paths

The PEN TOOL can be used to create curves with a minimum number of anchor points. This means that the created shape will be more efficient and accurate.

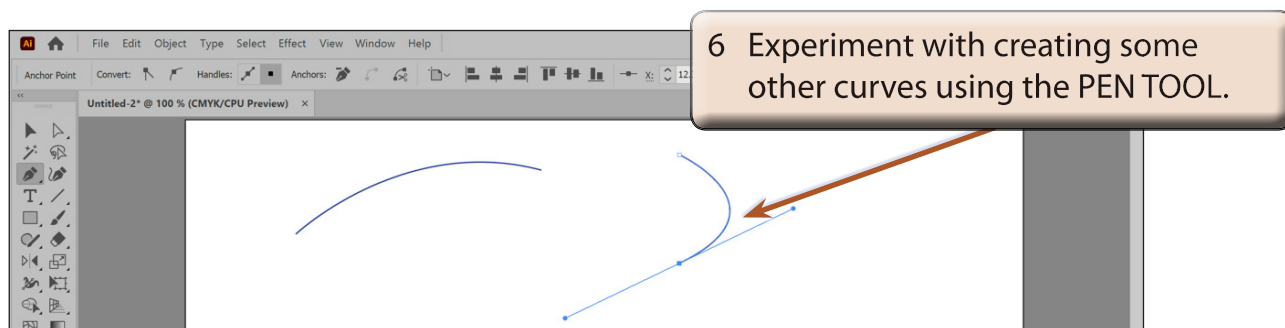
- 1 Delete the previous shape.





- NOTE:**
- i When you click and drag at an anchor point, lines with handles (called Bezier handles) are added to the anchor point and these handles can be dragged to adjust the curve.
  - ii In general, you drag in the opposite direction that you want the curve to take.

- 5 Display the SELECT menu and select Deselect to set the curve. You can also press the **ESC** key to stop the selection and when you use the **ESC** key the anchor points remain on the object.

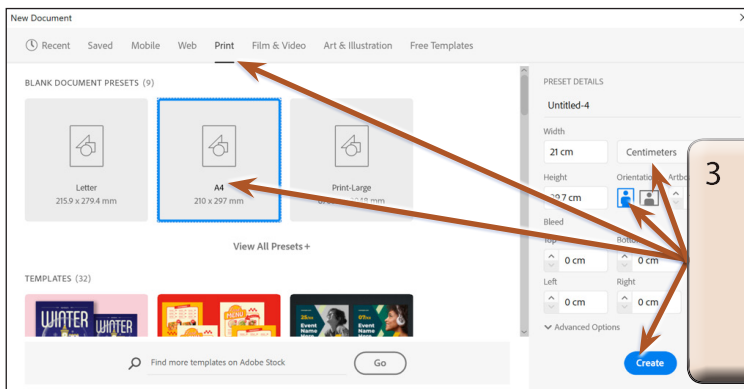


# The Curvature Tool

The CURVATURE TOOL is basically a simplified PEN TOOL for those people who find the PEN TOOL difficult or annoying. The CURVATURE TOOL is not quite as powerful as the PEN TOOL, but it does allow you to quickly create detailed drawings.

## Starting a New Document

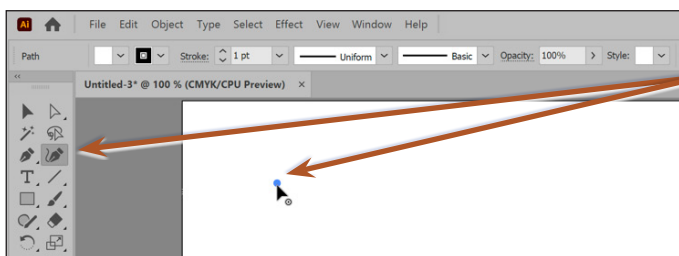
- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



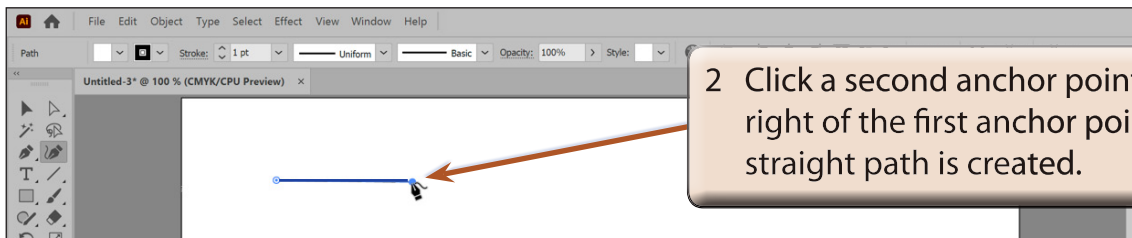
- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## Drawing Simple Curves

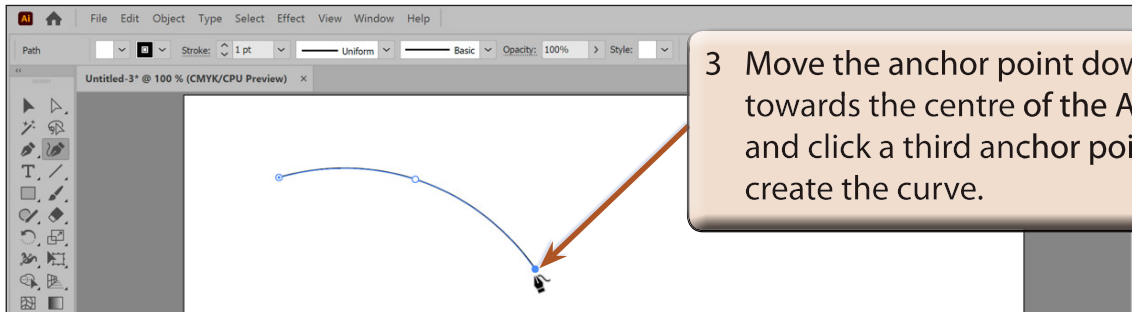
As the name suggests the CURVATURE TOOL is used for creating curves, but it can also be used for creating straight paths. The difference between it and the PEN TOOL is that you do not need to drag anchor points to create the curves with the CURVATURE TOOL, instead you click 3 anchor points along the curve.



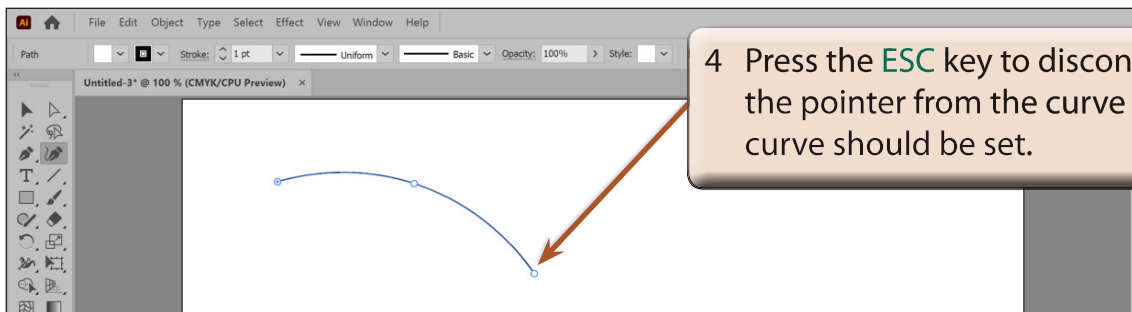
- 1 Select the CURVATURE TOOL from TOOLBAR (it is next to the PEN TOOL) and click an anchor point near the top left of the Artboard.



2 Click a second anchor point to the right of the first anchor point and a straight path is created.

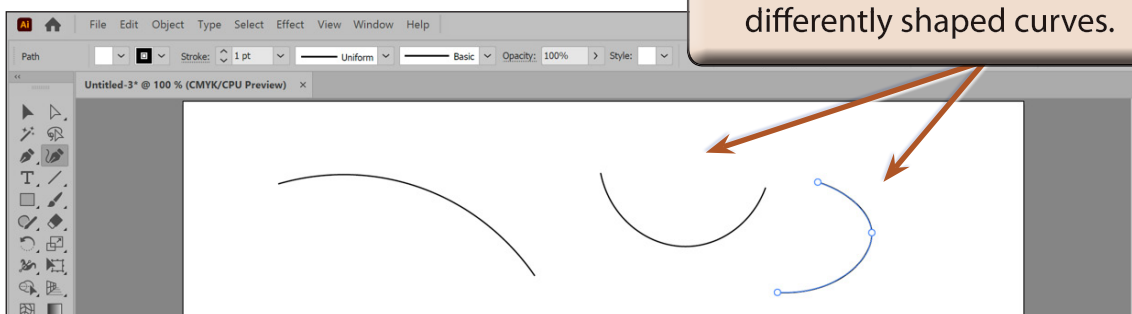


3 Move the anchor point down towards the centre of the Artboard and click a third anchor point to create the curve.



4 Press the **ESC** key to disconnect the pointer from the curve and the curve should be set.

**NOTE:** In general you click the second anchor point part of the way along where you want the curve to finish, then click the third anchor point at the end to create the curve.



5 Repeat steps 1 to 4 to draw some differently shaped curves.

# Adding Content to 3D Objects

Adobe Illustrator allows you to add content to 3D objects you create or to images you import. In this chapter you will use and the GRAPHIC section of the 3D AND MATERIALS panel and the MOCKUP option to add content to 3D objects.

## Adding Text to 3D Shapes

Text can be added to 3D shapes and the text will follow the curves of that shape. To illustrate this, let's say that 1975 was a great year for a brand of wine, so a label to highlight that will be added to a wine bottle.

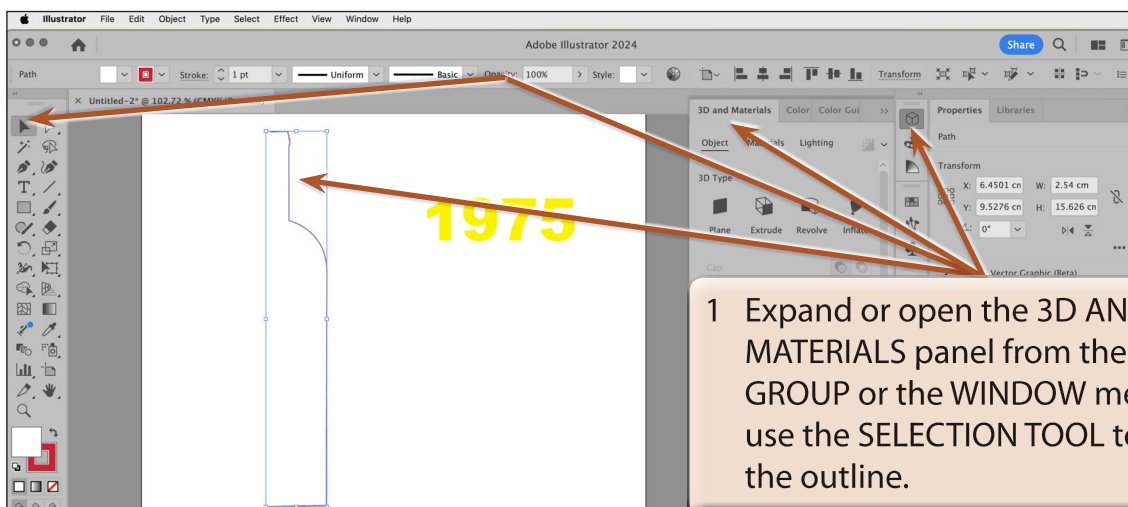
### A Opening the Template

A template with a shape and text has been prepared for you.

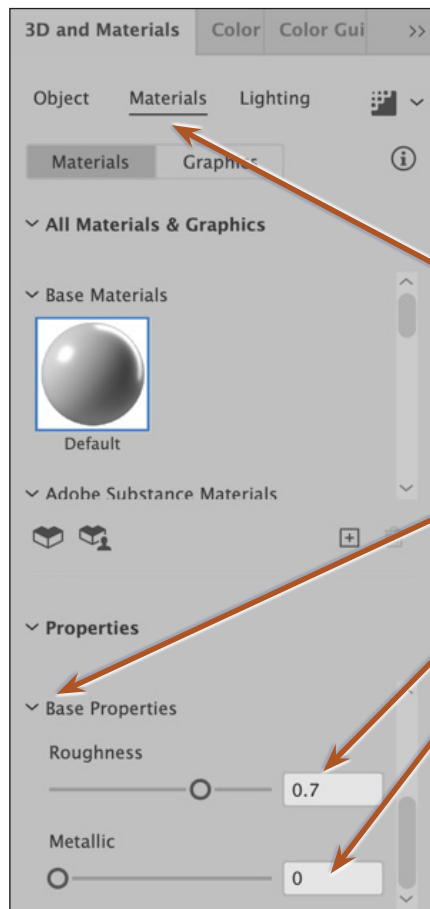
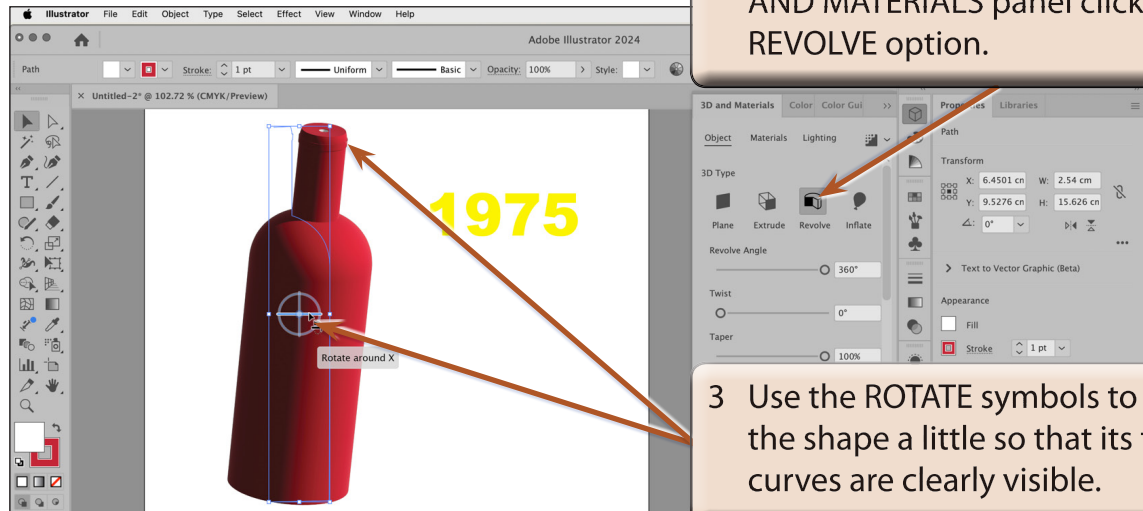
- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document and select OPEN the WELCOME screen or FILE menu.
- 2 Access the CHAPTER 20 folder of the ILLUSTRATOR SUPPORT FILES and open the WINE BOTTLE template.

### B Converting the Path to a 3D shape

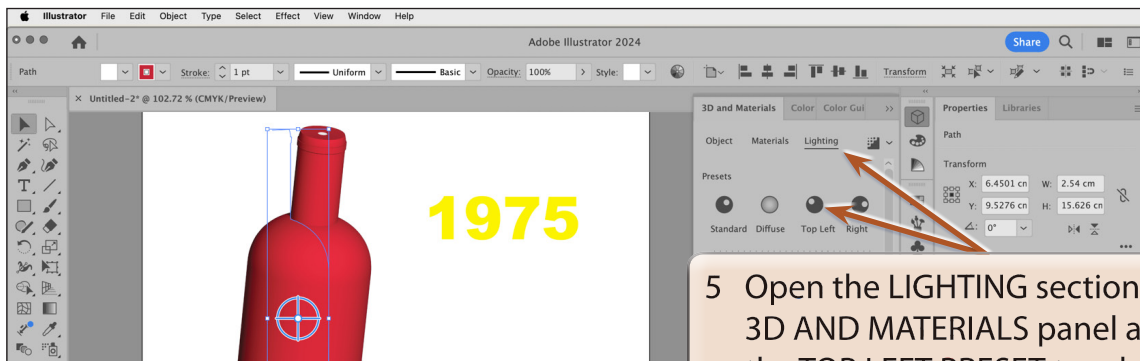
So that you can see the whole process of added text to a 3D shape, just the outline of the wine bottle has been provided, which was created using the PEN TOOL. It will be quickly converted to a bottle then the text will be added to it.









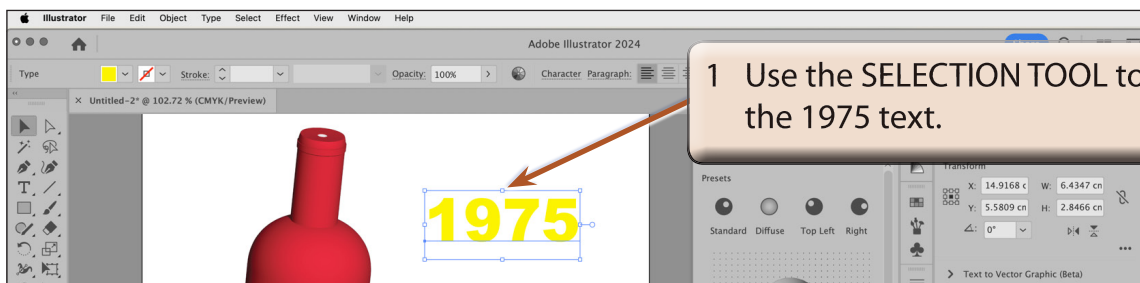


5 Open the LIGHTING section of the 3D AND MATERIALS panel and select the TOP LEFT PRESET to add some lighting to the object.

**NOTE:** You can add more MATERIAL and LIGHTING properties if you want to. Just a quick basic shape has been created here.

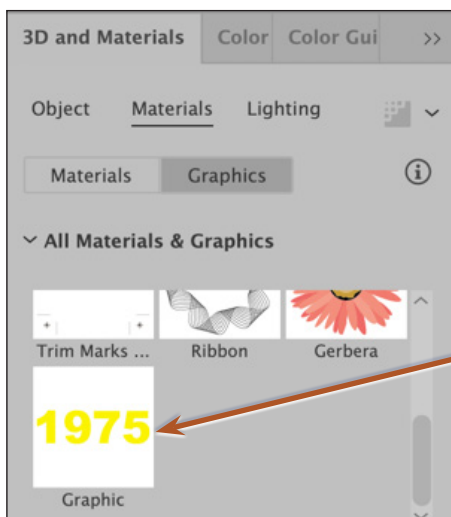
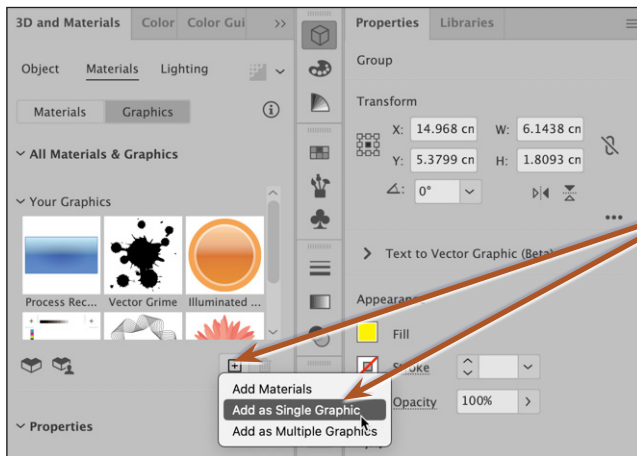
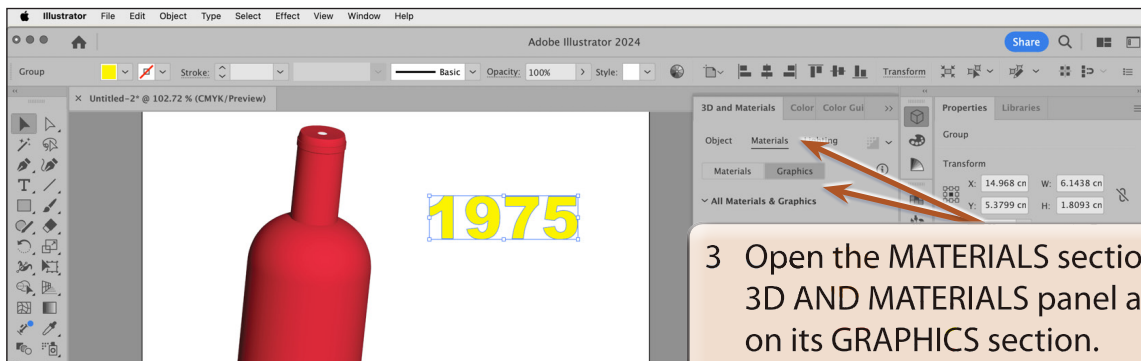
## C Adding the Text to the Bottle

The text needs to be converted to individual letters (shapes) and added to the MATERIALS section of the 3D AND MATERIALS panel.



1 Use the SELECTION TOOL to select the 1975 text.

- 2 Display the TYPE menu and select CREATE OUTLINES to separate the letters into shapes.

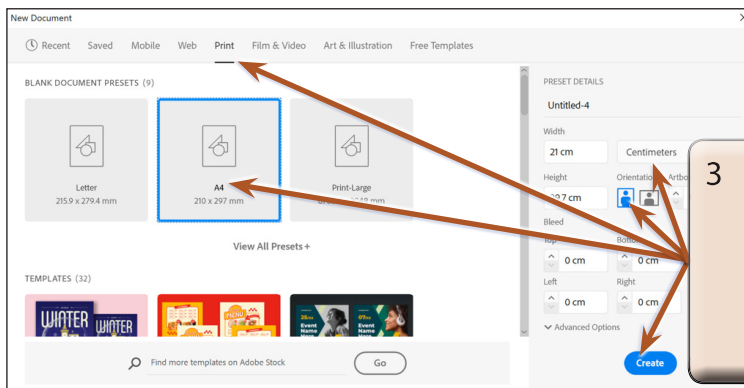


# Using Envelopes

Envelopes can be used to distort or reshape selected objects. You can distort an object to be displayed within another shape (envelope) that you draw or you can apply warps and meshes within the shape.

## Starting a New Document

- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



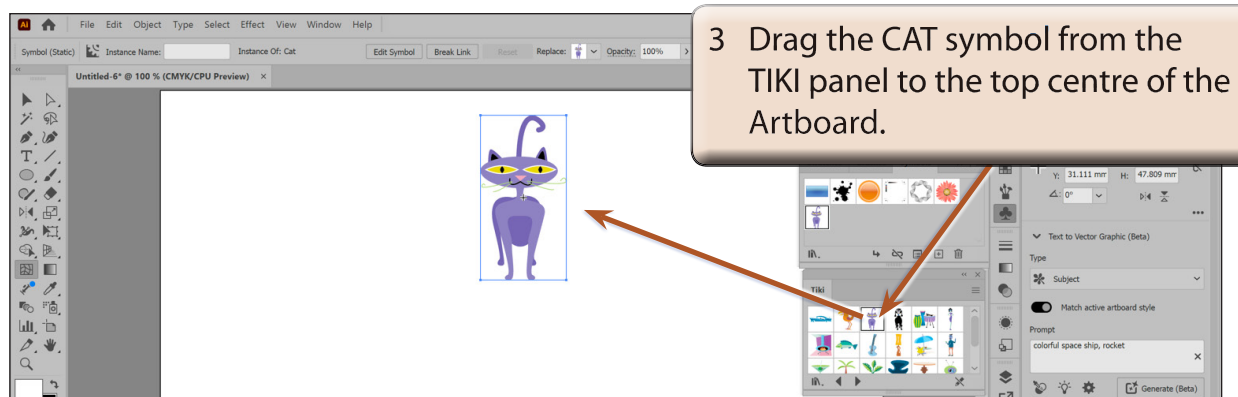
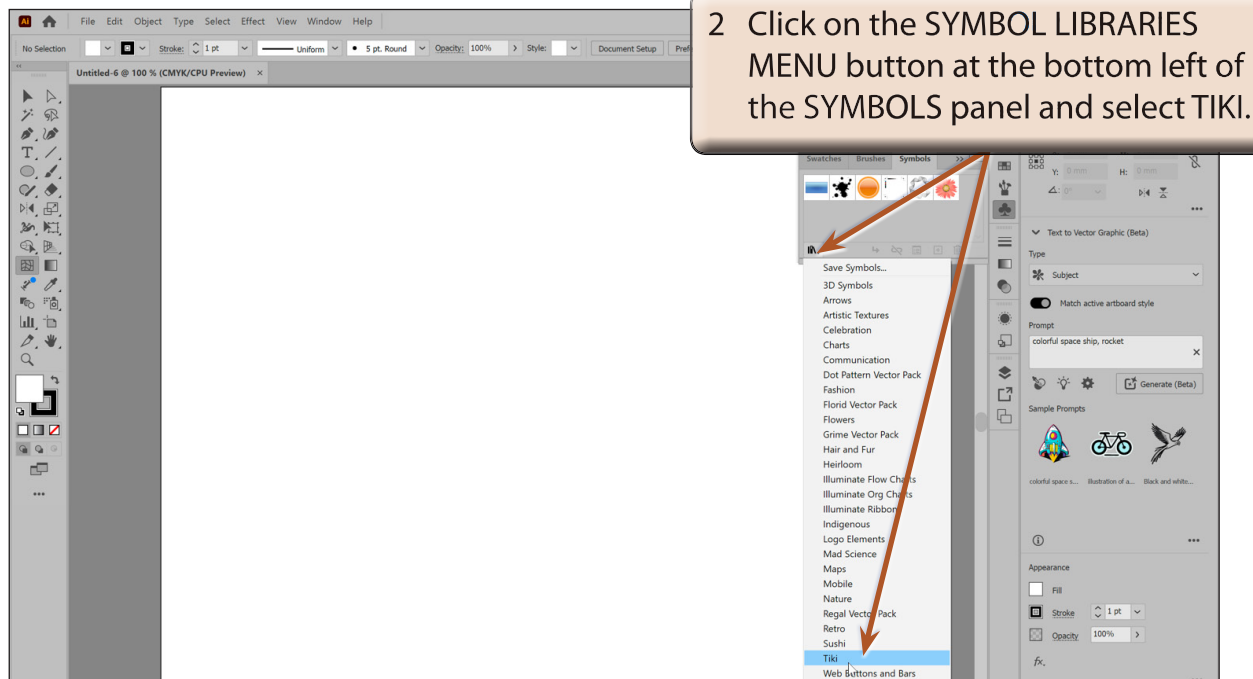
- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## Making an Envelope

Let's set a symbol to be displayed in an irregular shape.

### A Selecting the Symbol

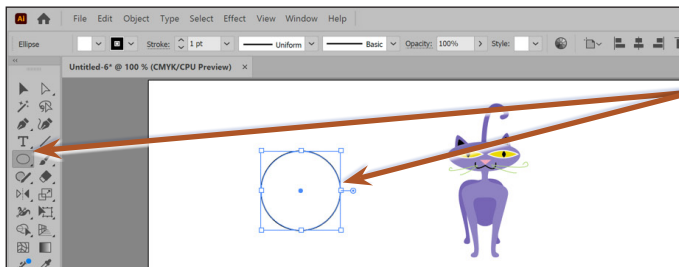
- 1 Expand the SYMBOLS panel in the PANEL GROUP.



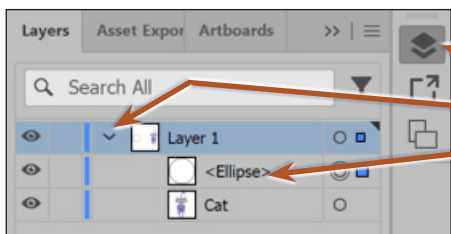
**NOTE: The CAT symbol will be added to the SYMBOLS panel when you drag it on to the Artboard.**

4 Close the TIKI panel.

## B Drawing the Envelope Shape

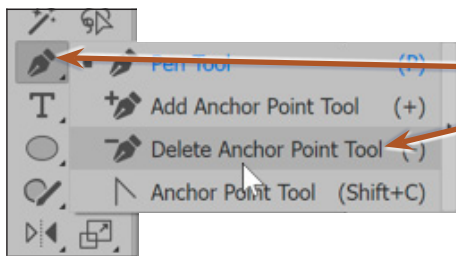


1 Select the ELLIPSE TOOL from within the SHAPES TOOL, hold down the **SHIFT** key and drag a small circle next to the symbol.

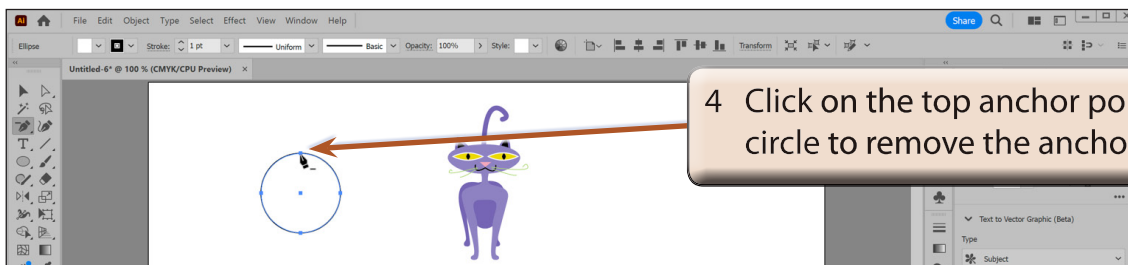


2 Expand the LAYERS panel at the base of the PANEL GROUP, expand the LAYER 1 layer and notice that the <ELLIPSE> is above the symbol.

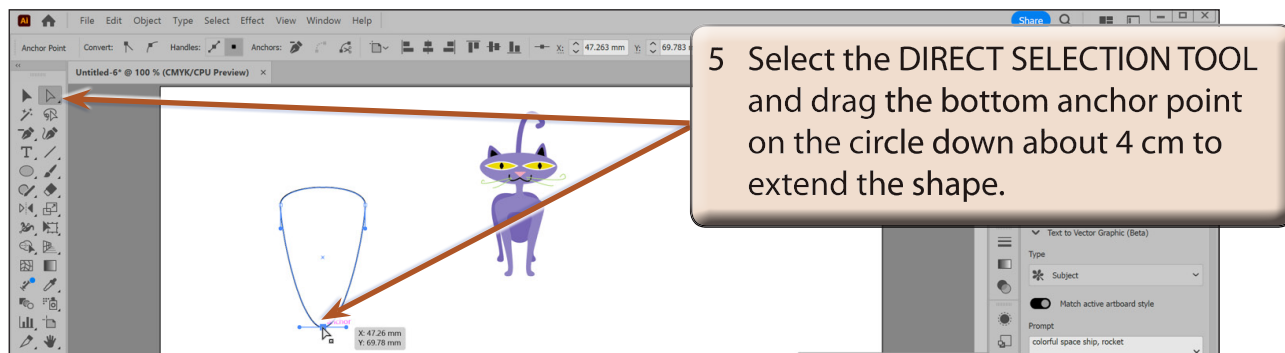
**NOTE:** The envelope shape must be above the shape to be distorted in the stacking order in the LAYERS panel for the envelope to be created. If it isn't, you can click on the ENVELOPE SHAPE and use the OBJECT menu - ARRANGE - BRING TO FRONT to move the shape to the top of the stacking order.



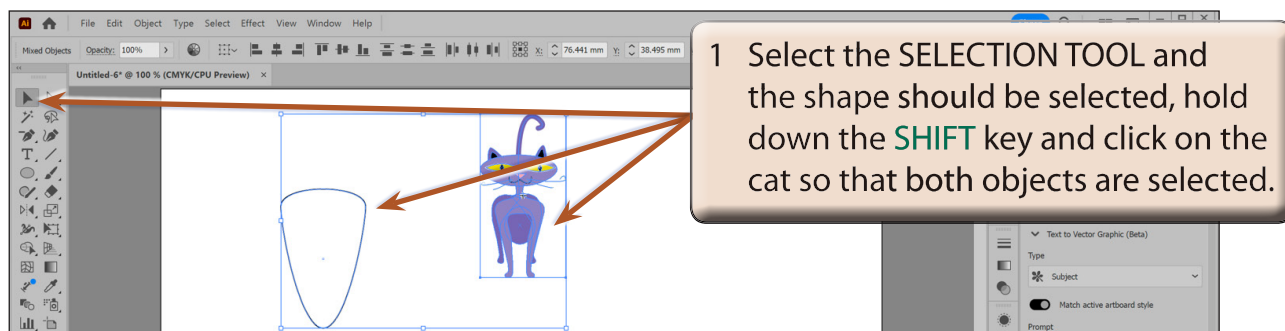
3 Select the DELETE ANCHOR POINT TOOL from within the PEN TOOL in the TOOLBAR.



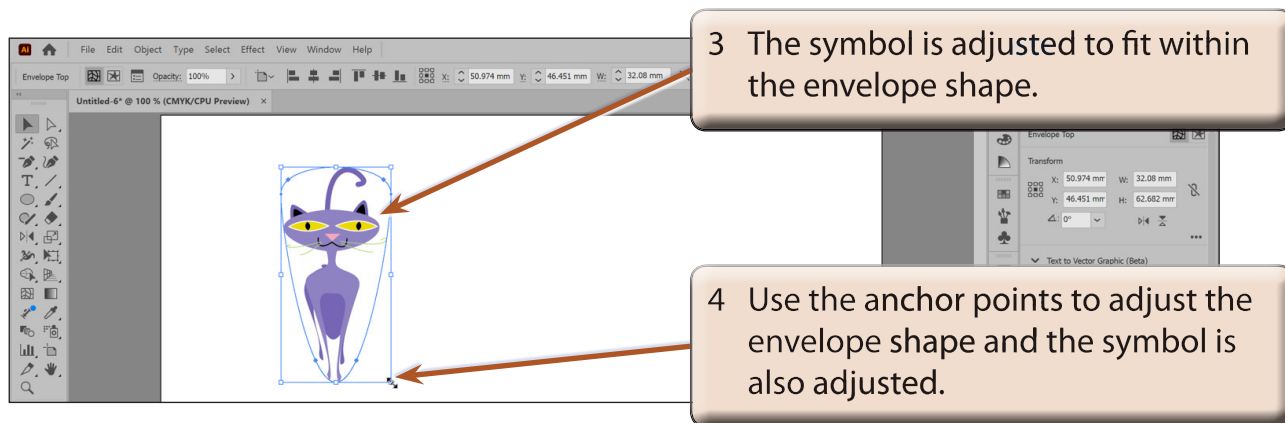
4 Click on the top anchor point on the circle to remove the anchor point.



## C Distorting the Symbol into the Shape



- 2 Display the **OBJECT** menu, highlight **ENVELOPE DISTORT** and select **MAKE WITH TOP OBJECT**.

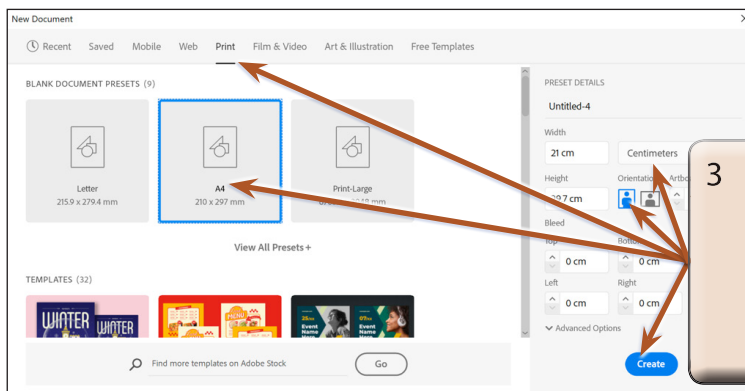


# Creating Masks

Masks allow you to display part of an image through a shape. There are two types of masks in Adobe Illustrator, Opacity Masks and Clipping Masks.

## Starting a New Document

- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## Opacity Masks

Opacity Masks allow you to fade an image using a gradient fill. The easiest way to demonstrate this is to fade a photograph.

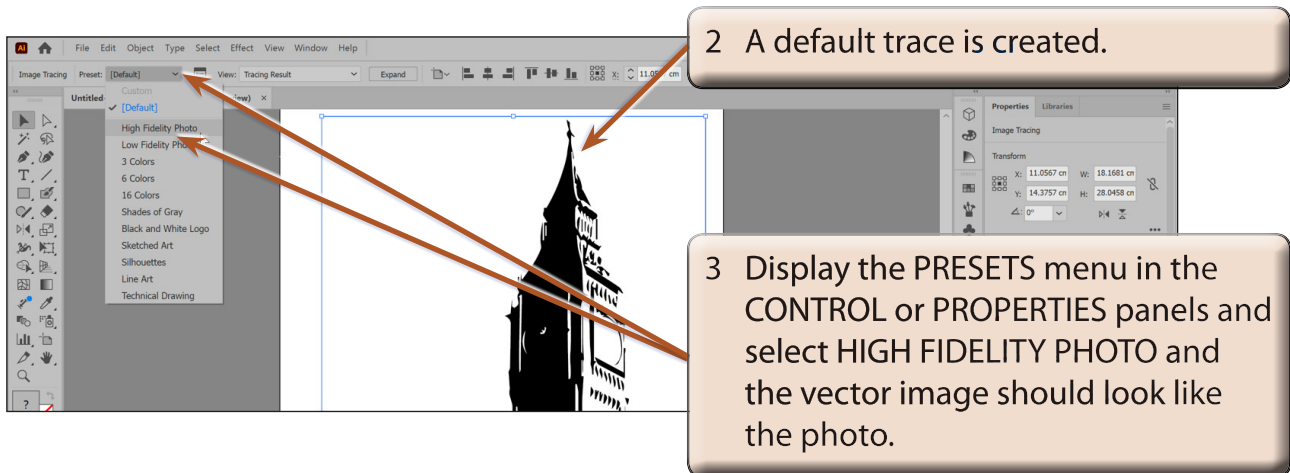
### A Importing the Image

- 1 Display the FILE menu and select PLACE.
- 2 Access the ILLUSTRATOR SUPPORT FILES folder, open the CHAPTER 22 folder, select the BIG BEN image, check that the LINK box is turned off and click on PLACE.
- 3 Click on the Artboard to insert the image then move the image to the top centre of the Artboard.



## B Converting the Photo to a Vector Image

Unfortunately, the latest version of Adobe Illustrator has trouble applying an Opacity Mask on bitmap images directly. So, a solution to this problem is to convert the photo to a vector image.



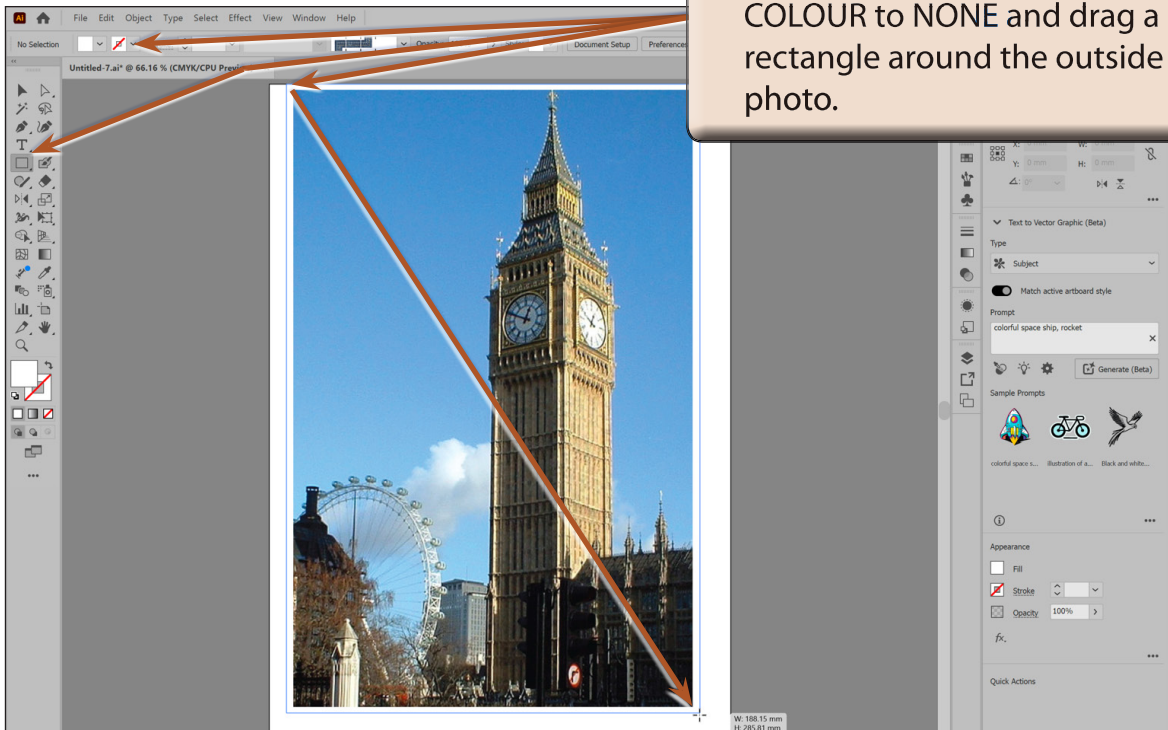
4 Display the SELECT menu and select DESELECT to deselect the image.

- NOTE:**
- i You can click on the IMAGE TRACE arrow in the CONTROL panel and select HIGH FIDELITY PHOTO or click on the IMAGE TRACE button in the PROPERTIES panel and select HIGH FIDELITY PHOTO to apply the image trace preset in one step.
  - ii If you try to apply an Opacity Mask to a bitmap image and it doesn't work, convert that image to a vector image using live trace.



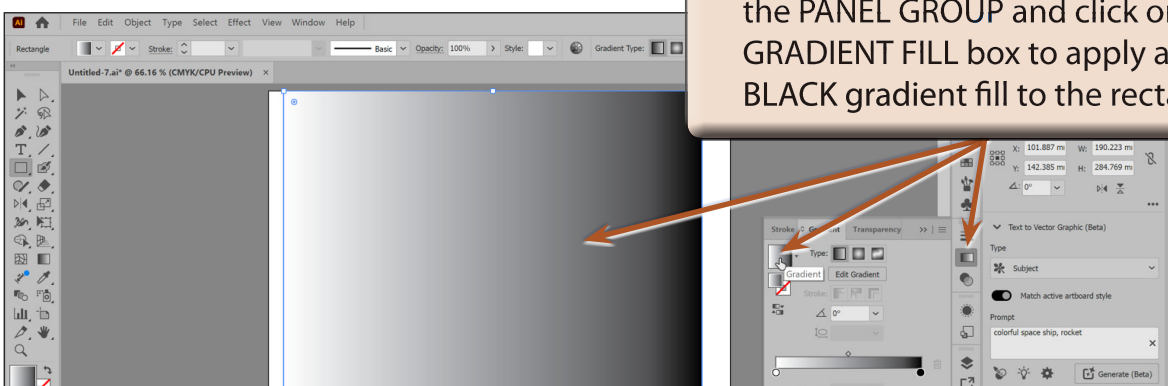
## C Applying the Opacity Mask

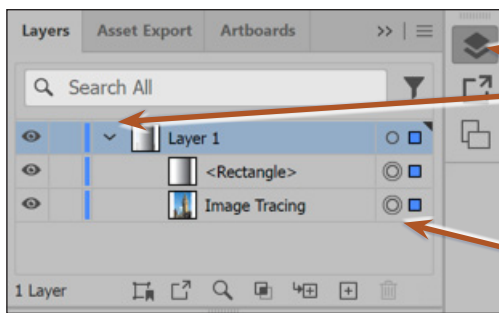
- 1 Select the RECTANGLE TOOL, set the FILL COLOUR to WHITE, the STROKE COLOUR to NONE and drag a rectangle around the outside of the photo.



**NOTE:** You can adjust the anchor points of the rectangle so that it accurately covers the photo.

- 2 Expand the GRADIENT panel in the PANEL GROUP and click on the GRADIENT FILL box to apply a WHITE BLACK gradient fill to the rectangle.

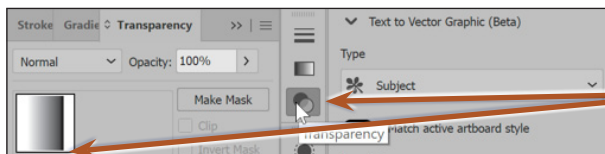




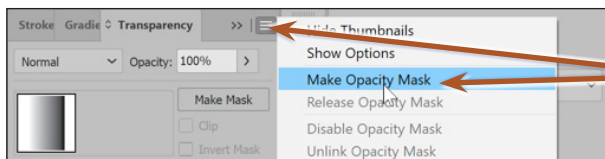
3 Expand the LAYERS panel in the PANEL GROUP and expand the LAYER 1 layer.

4 Hold down the **SHIFT** key and click on the circle to the right of <IMAGE TRACING> so that both it and the <RECTANGLE> are targeted.

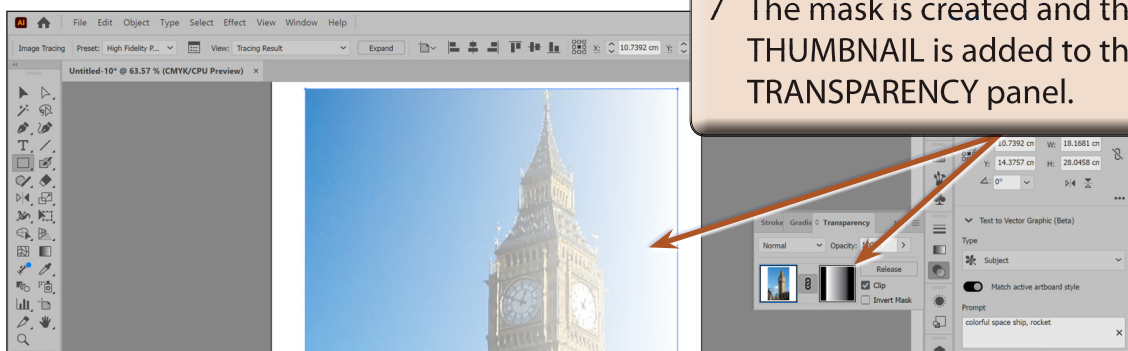
- NOTE:**
- i Both boxes to the right of the <rectangle> and <Image Tracing> circles should be **BLUE** to indicate that both are targeted.
  - ii Targeting objects from the LAYERS panel allows you to select objects that are behind others on the Artboard.



5 Expand the TRANSPARENCY panel in the PANEL GROUP and notice that there is one thumbnail box.



6 Click on the panel's OPTIONS MENU button and select **MAKE OPACITY MASK**.



7 The mask is created and the **MASK THUMBNAIL** is added to the TRANSPARENCY panel.

# Art, Pattern and Bristle Brushes

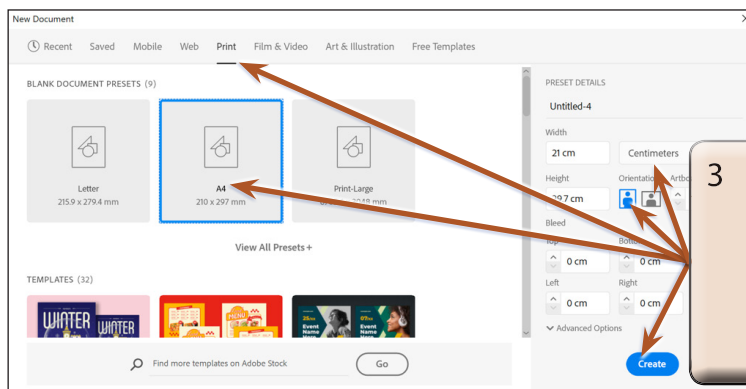
Illustrator provides numerous types of artistic brushes that allow paint-like sketches to be created, but still with the advantage of being vector based.

## The Art Brush

The ART BRUSH allows you to attach symbols or images to the PAINTBRUSH TOOL and paint with them so that multiple versions of the image or symbol can be placed on the Artboard. This means that each painted version is slightly different giving a more realistic look to the copies. For example, you can use this tool to create a forest of trees or a bed of flowers.

### A Starting a New Document

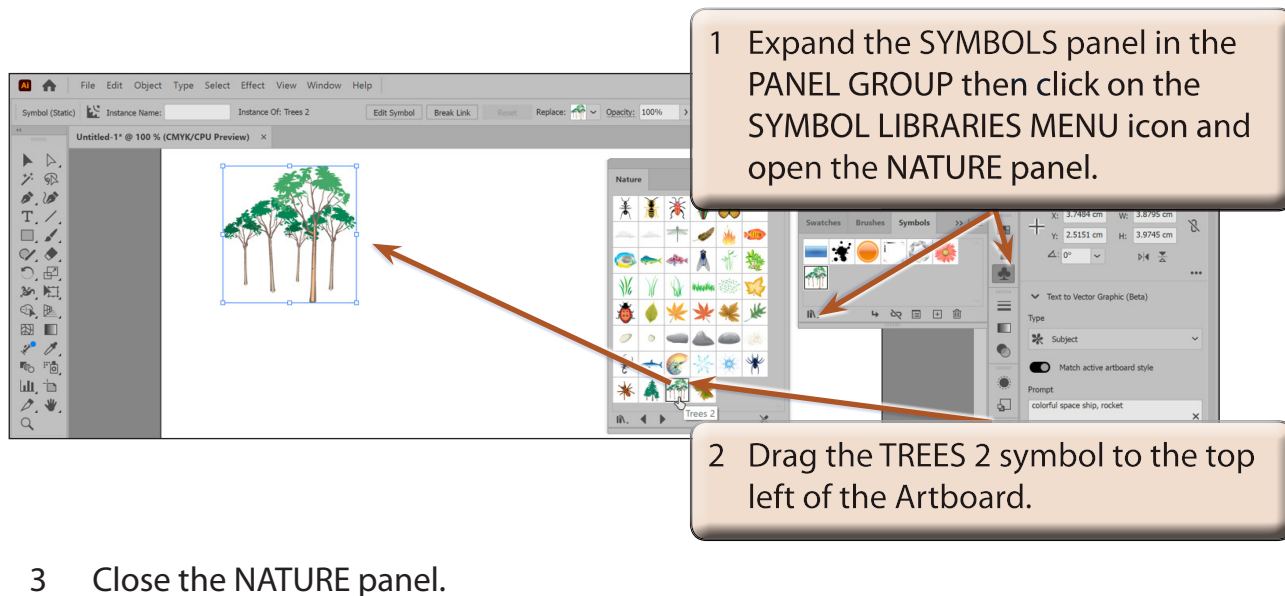
- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

## B Adding the Image to the Artboard

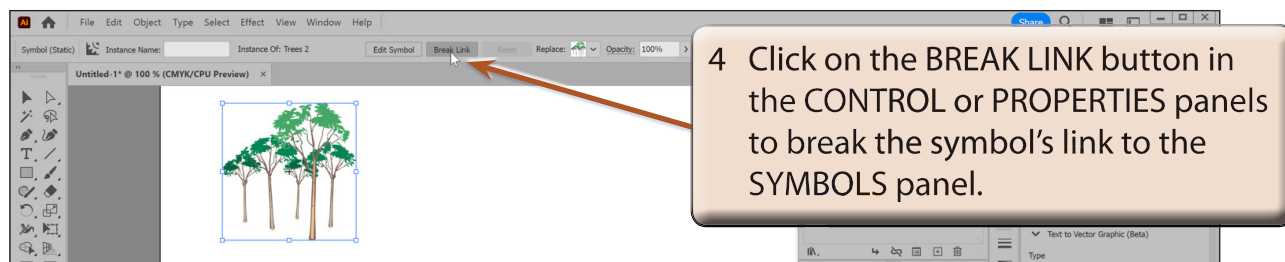
In this case a symbol will be used as the image, but you could import an image and apply a LIVE TRACE on it to convert it to a vector image.



1 Expand the SYMBOLS panel in the PANEL GROUP then click on the SYMBOL LIBRARIES MENU icon and open the NATURE panel.

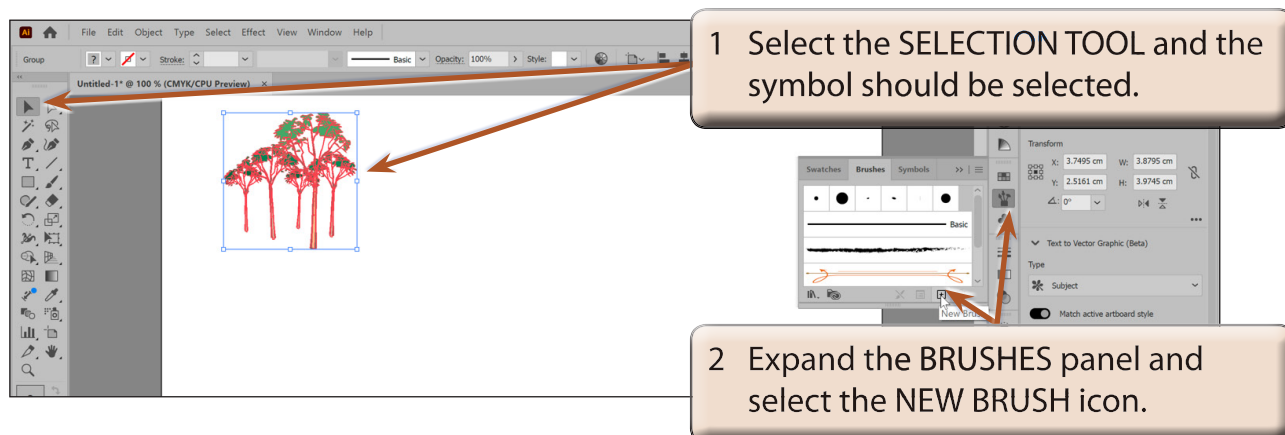
2 Drag the TREES 2 symbol to the top left of the Artboard.

3 Close the NATURE panel.



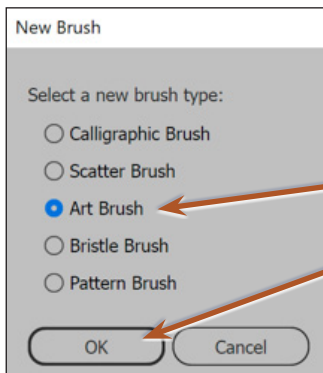
4 Click on the BREAK LINK button in the CONTROL or PROPERTIES panels to break the symbol's link to the SYMBOLS panel.

## C Creating the Art Brush

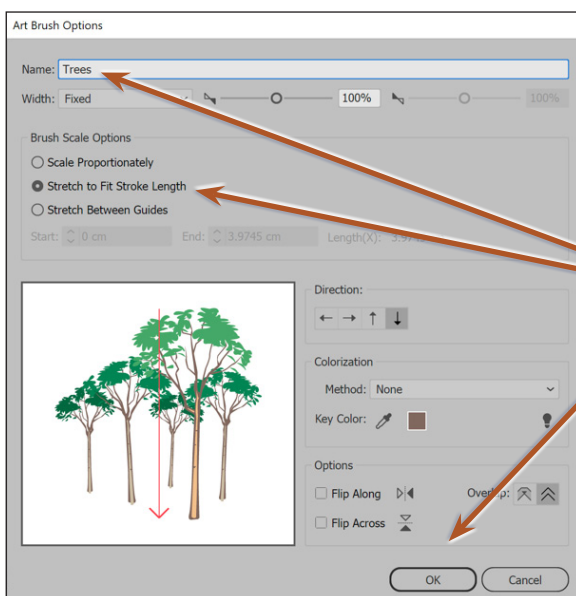


1 Select the SELECTION TOOL and the symbol should be selected.

2 Expand the BRUSHES panel and select the NEW BRUSH icon.

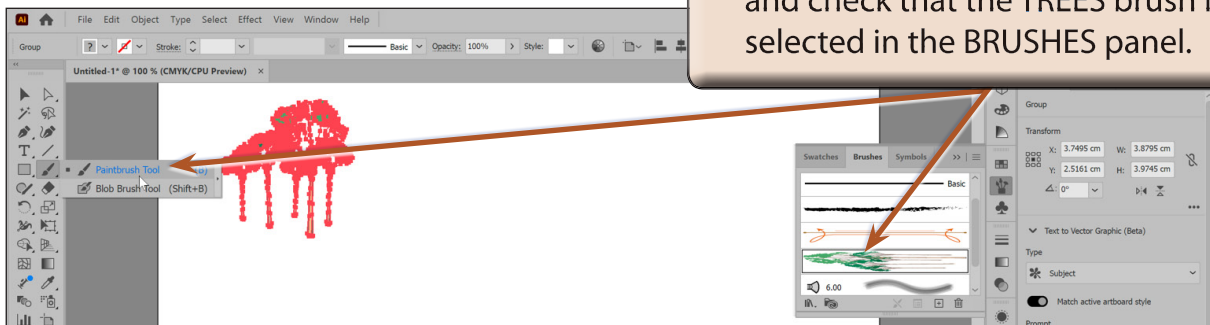


3 In the NEW BRUSH dialogue box select ART BRUSH and select OK.

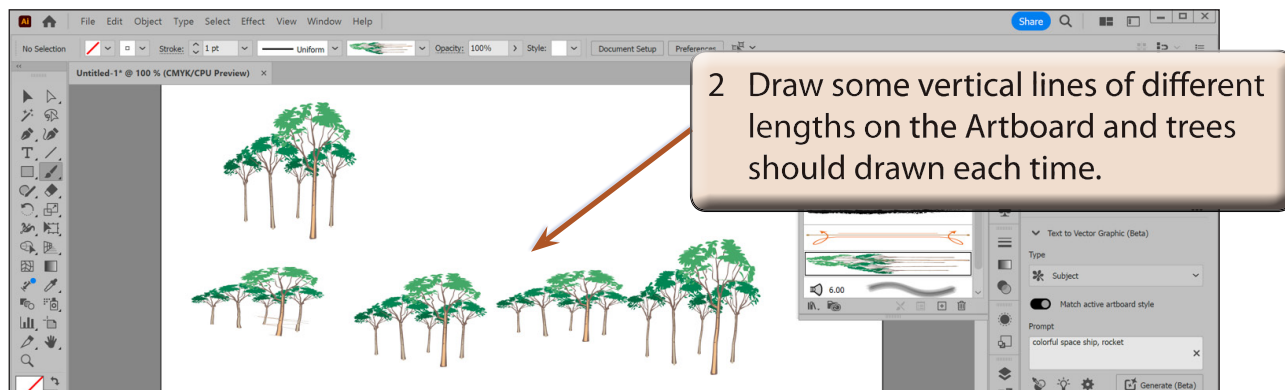


4 The ART BRUSH OPTIONS dialogue box is opened, name the brush TREES, leave STRETCH TO FIT STROKE LENGTH selected and click on OK.

## D Painting the Trees



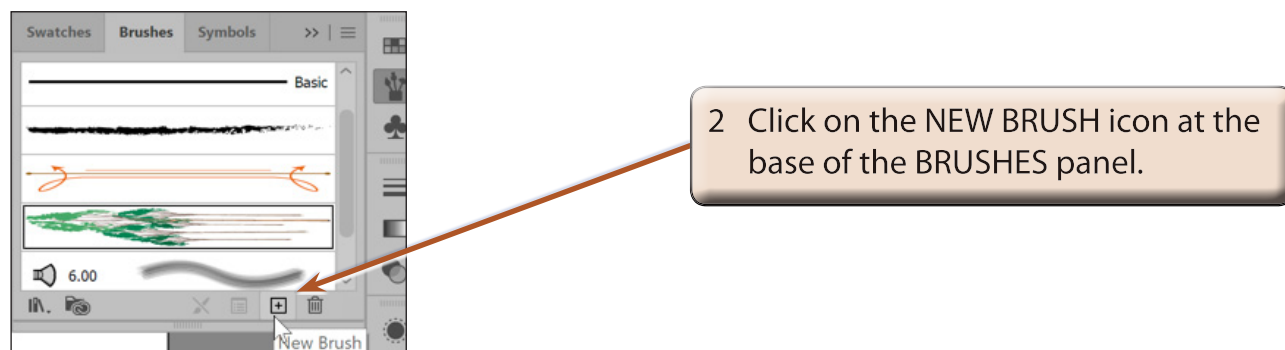
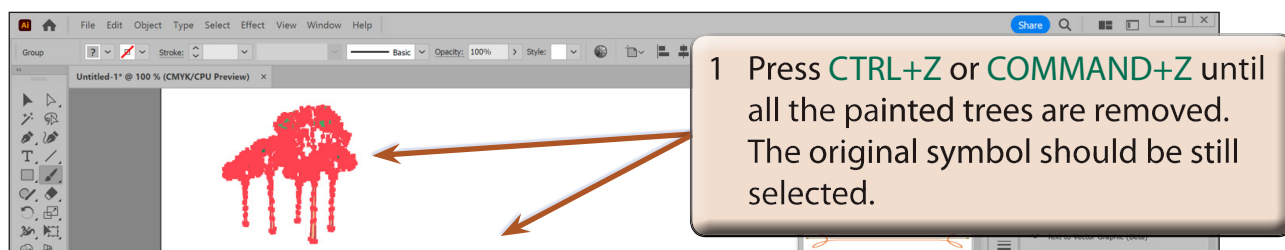
1 Select the PAINTBRUSH TOOL and check that the TREES brush is selected in the BRUSHES panel.



- NOTE:**
- i You can hold down the **SHIFT** key as you drag the vertical lines to ensure that the trees are vertical.
  - ii Notice that the images are stretched in the longer lines. This can be prevented.

## E Limiting the Stretching of Images

The stretching that occurs when painting an image can be prevented. In this case, it might be better if the tree trunks can stretch, but the branches remain fixed in size.



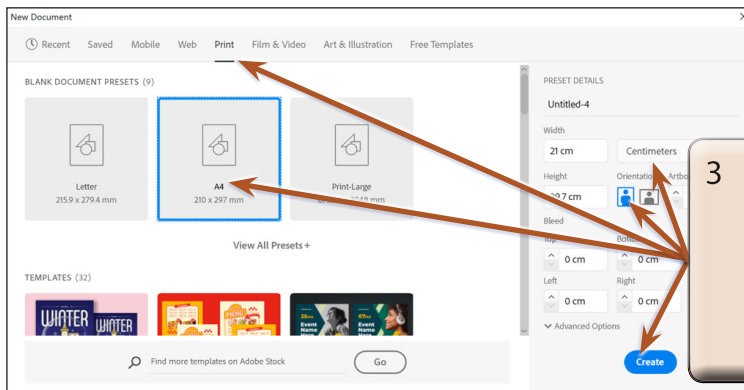


# The Mesh Tool

The MESH TOOL allows you to quickly apply gradients to parts of a vector object to create a realistic 3D look.

## Starting a New Document

- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.

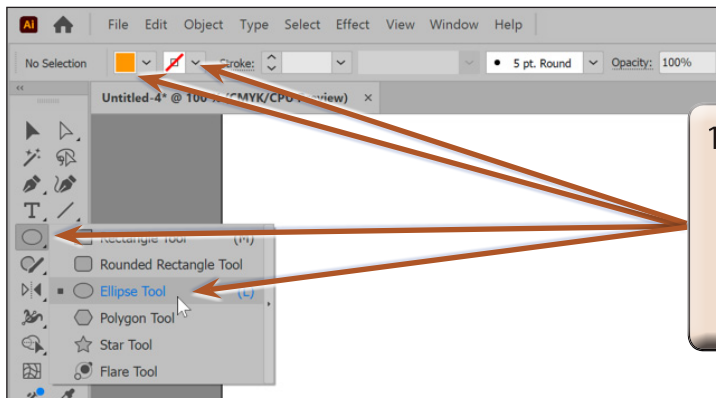


- 3 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses), set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

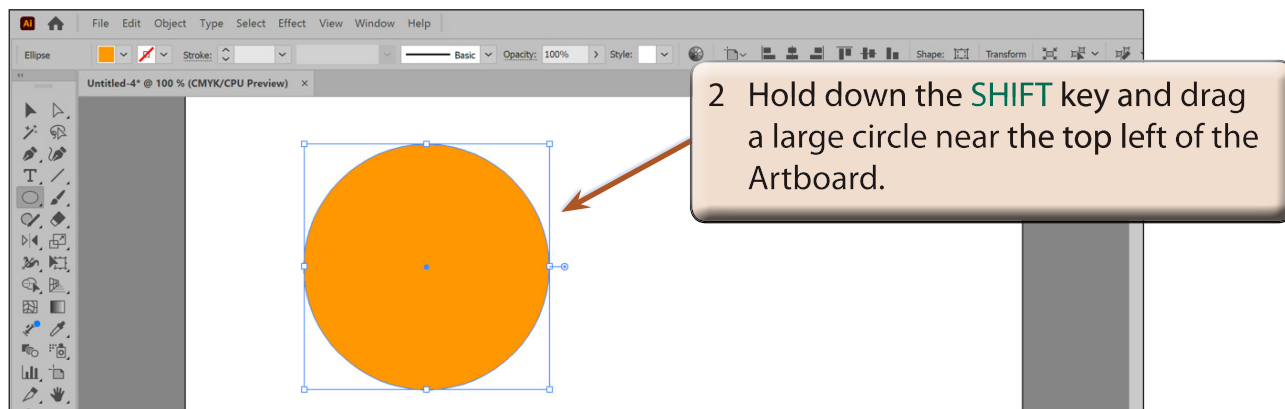
## Creating a Sphere With the Mesh Tool

The simplest application of the MESH TOOL is in the creation of spheres.

### A Drawing the Ellipse

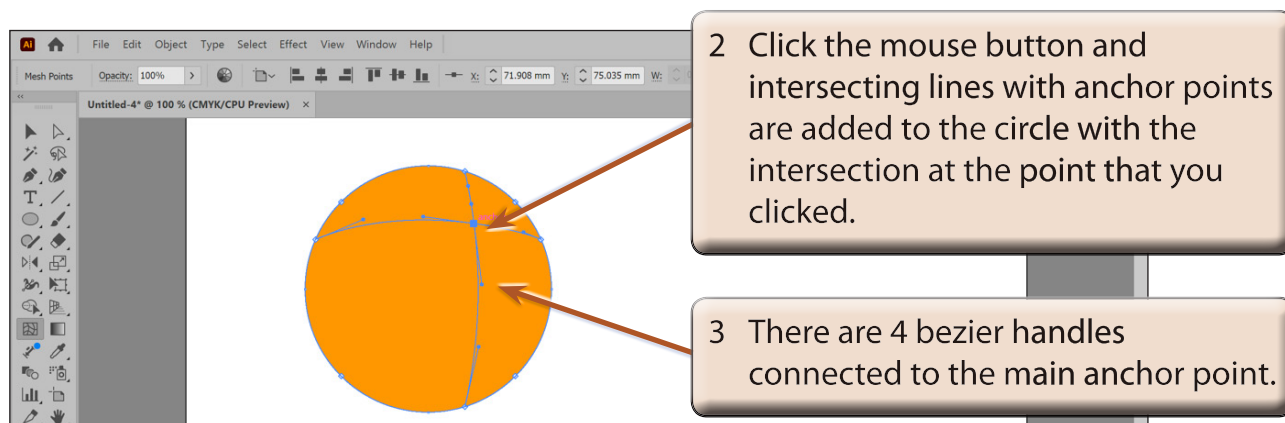
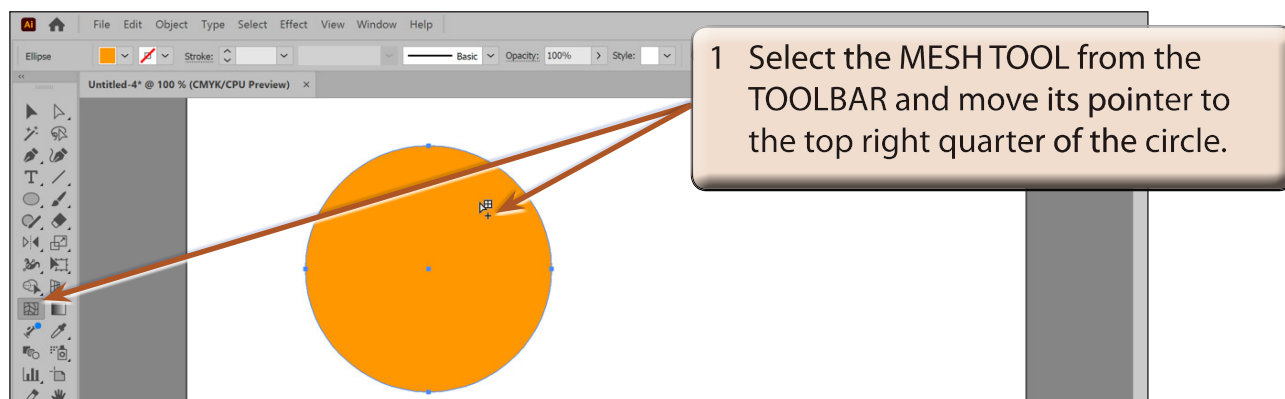


- 1 Select the ELLIPSE TOOL from within the SHAPES TOOL and, in the CONTROL panel, set the FILL COLOUR to ORANGE and the STROKE COLOUR to NONE.



## B Setting the Mesh Point

To apply the 3D effect you click the MESH TOOL pointer at the point that you want the light source to be. Let's set the light to come from the top right of the Artboard.





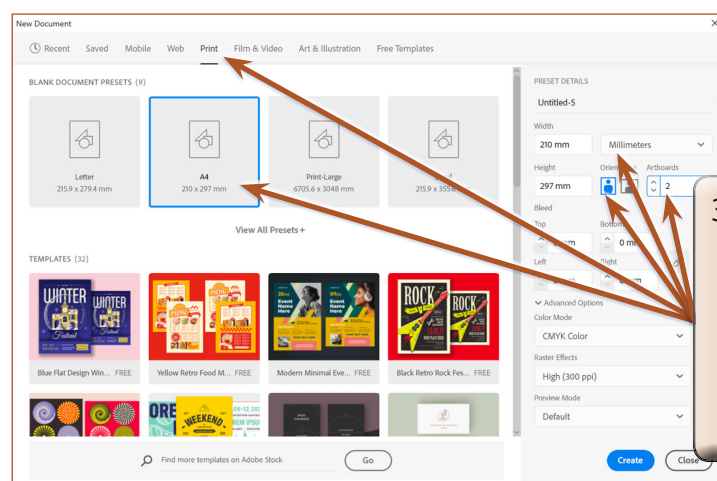
# Multiple Artboard Documents

Documents are not restricted to one Artboard. In fact, you can create documents with up to 100 Artboards where each acts as a separate page, and these pages can be of different sizes.

In this case a simplified two-page brochure will be created for a real estate agency that likes to provide brochures when clients look through a house that is open for inspection.

## Starting a New Document

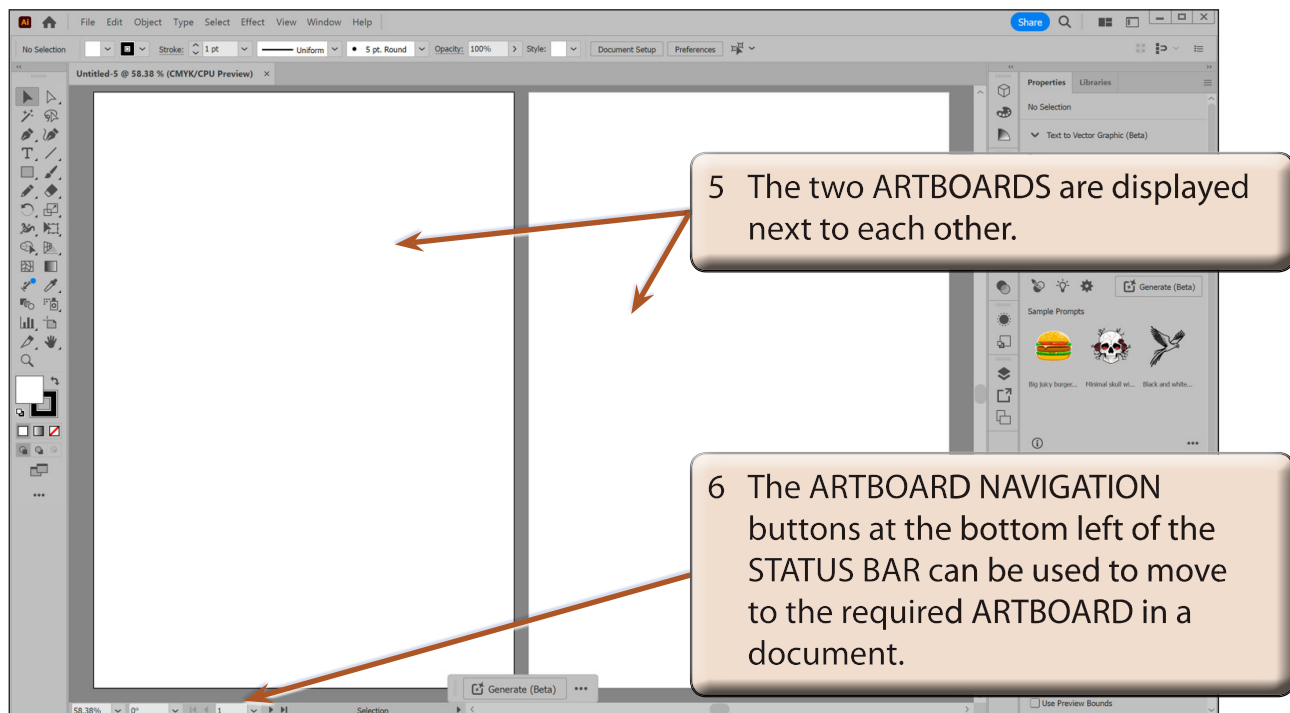
- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



- 3 Set the PROFILE to PRINT followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses). Set the NUMBER OF ARTBOARDS to 2, leave the UNITS set to MILLIMETRES and the ORIENTATION set to PORTRAIT.

- 4 Select CREATE to start the document.

**NOTE:** There are presets available in the CONTROL and PROPERTIES panels that allow you to set the size of Artboards to desktop, tablet and mobile phone screen sizes when you are creating documents for display on those devices.



- 7 Click in the LEFT ARTBOARD or use the ARTBOARD NAVIGATION box to select 1 to make the first ARTBOARD active.

## Completing the First Artboard

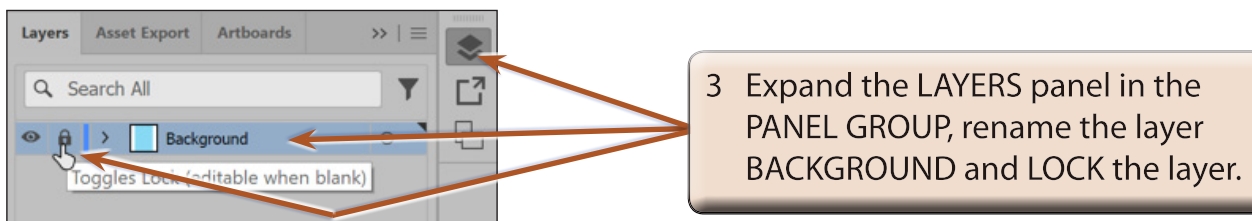
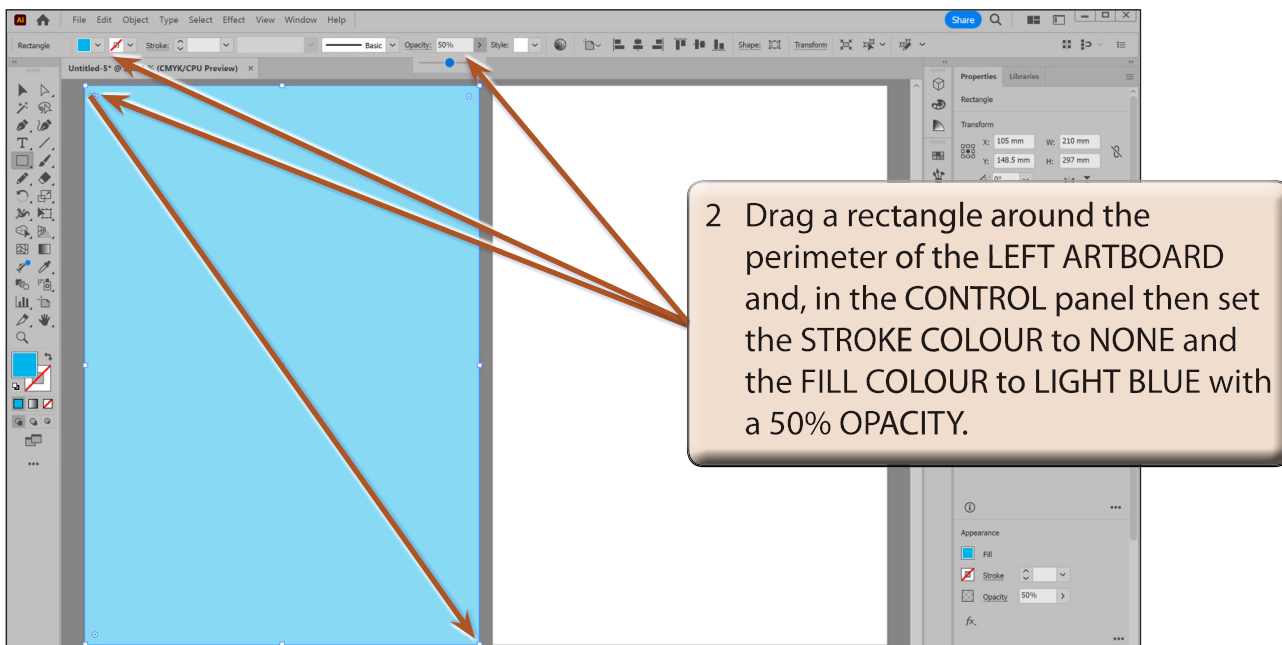
The front (or first page) of the document will contain a heading, a photo of the house, some details about the house and some contact information for the Real Estate Agency. The back (or second) page will contain a floor plan diagram of the house.

A grid could be used to accurately layout the document, but as this is a simplified brochure, it won't be necessary in this case.

### A Creating the Background

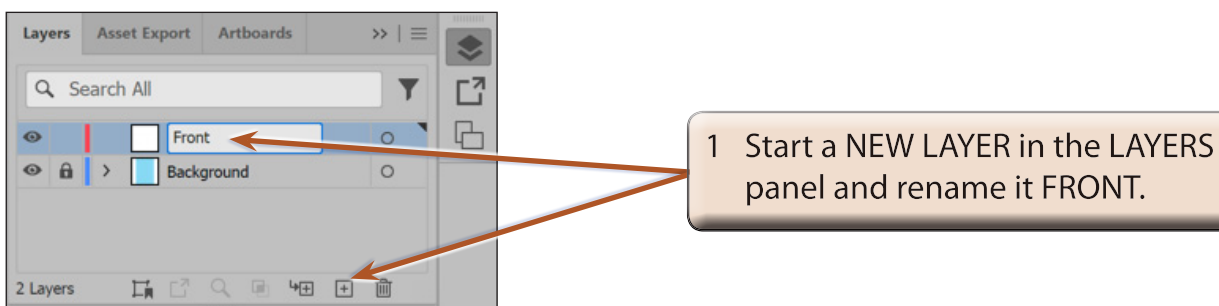
A coloured background will be applied to the first page

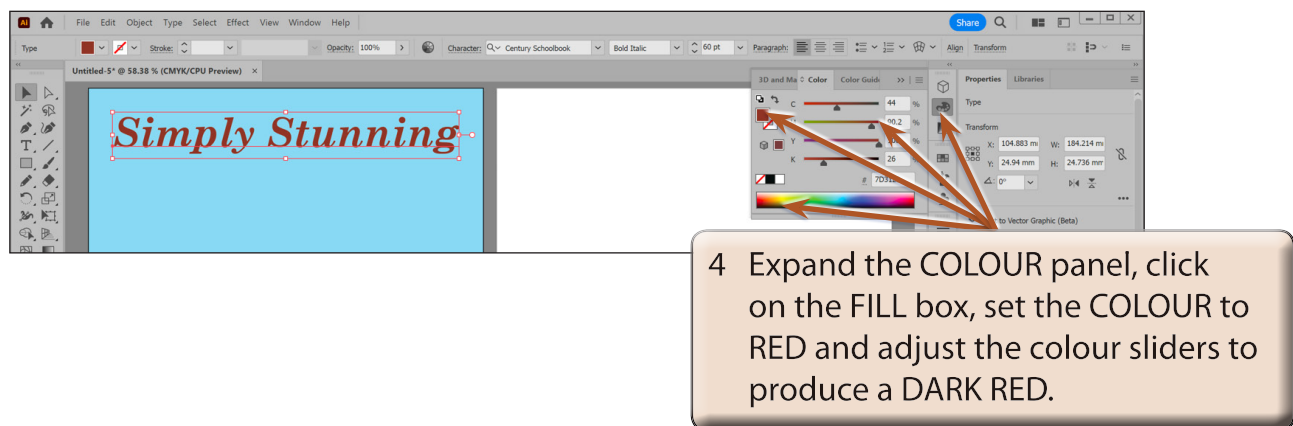
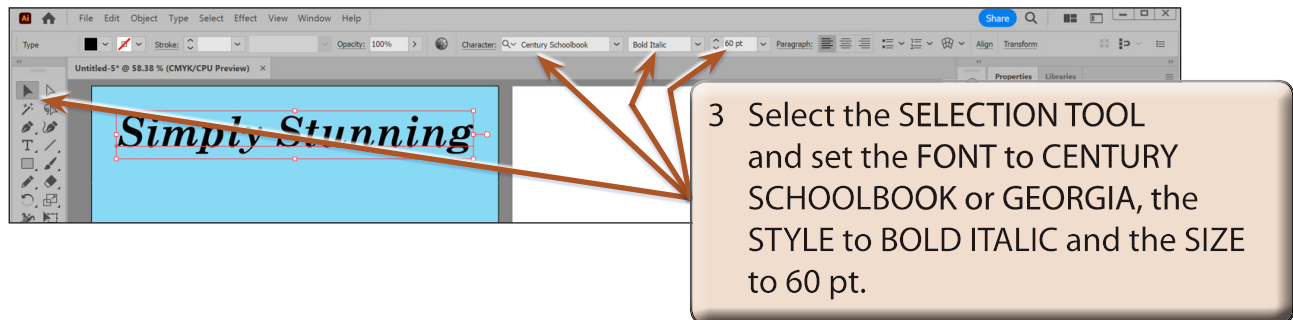
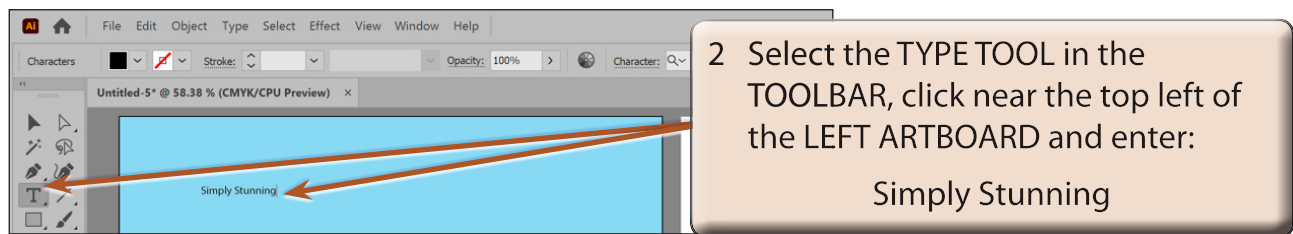
- 1 Select the RECTANGLE TOOL from the TOOLBAR.



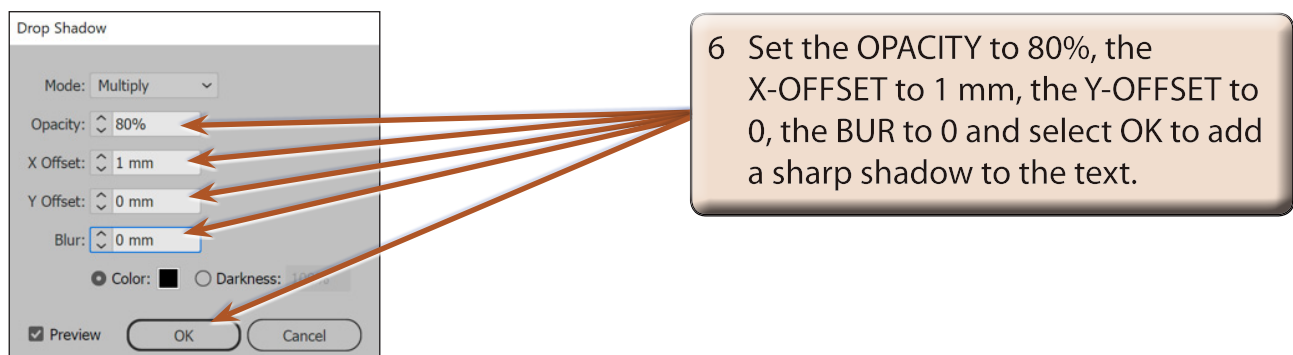
**NOTE:** Locking the layer will prevent the background from being accidentally selected as other elements of the front page are added. If the background needs to be altered, its layer can be unlocked.

## B Entering the Main Heading



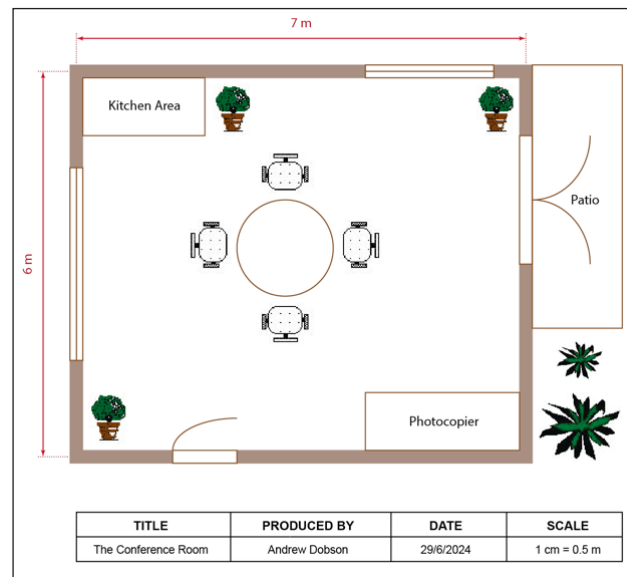


- 5 A drop shadow effect will be applied to the heading, although in an actual brochure you might want to apply more effects. Display the EFFECT menu, highlight the upper STYLIZE option and select DROP SHADOW.



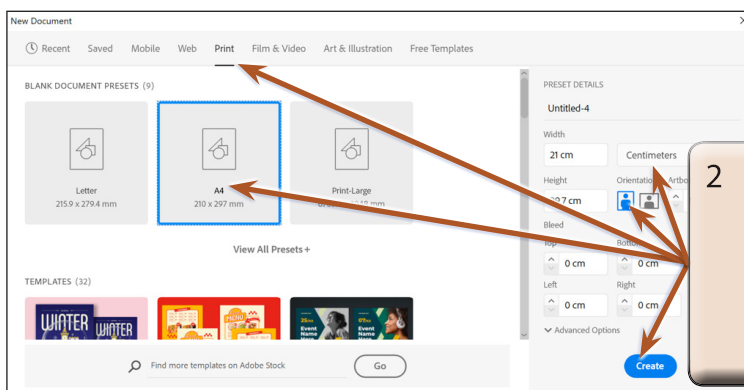
## Creating Accurate Designs

Adobe Illustrator provides tools to create highly accurate designs, some of which in the past have required a dedicated and expensive Computer Aided Design program. To illustrate how to produce an accurate design, the following Conference Room diagram will be created.



## Starting a New Document

- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current file and select NEW FILE from the WELCOME screen or NEW from the FILE menu to start a new document.



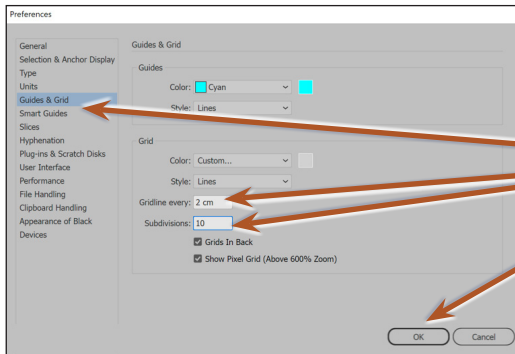
- 2 Select the PRINT profile followed by the A4 preset (or the paper size your printer uses). Set the UNITS to CENTIMETRES, the ORIENTATION to PORTRAIT and select CREATE.

- 3 Use the VIEW menu to turn on SHOW RULERS, SHOW GRID and SNAP TO GRID.

## Setting the Scale

You should select an appropriate scale for a design such as this. A scale might be 1 cm = 1 m or 1 cm = 1 km, etc. To ensure that the conference room will fit neatly on the page, a scale of 1 cm = 0.5 m will be used and a more accurate grid will be applied.

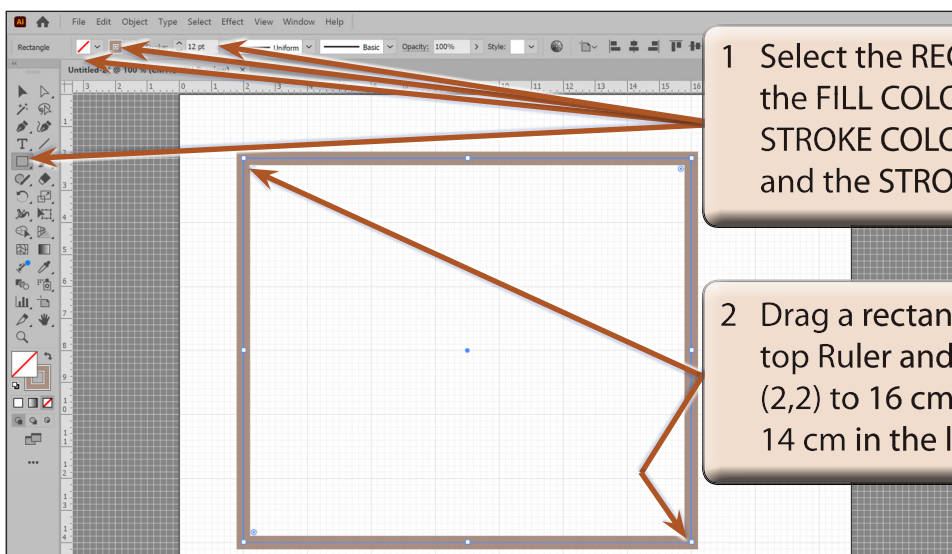
- 1 In the CONTROL or PROPERTIES panels click on the PREFERENCES button.



- 2 Select the GUIDES & GRID category, set the GRIDLINES EVERY to 2 cm, enter 10 in the SUBDIVISIONS box and select OK.

## Entering the Walls of the Room

Thick shaded lines (0.4 cm thick) will be used to produce the outline of the room.



- 1 Select the RECTANGLE TOOL, set the FILL COLOUR to NONE, the STROKE COLOUR to LIGHT BROWN and the STROKE WEIGHT to 12 pt.

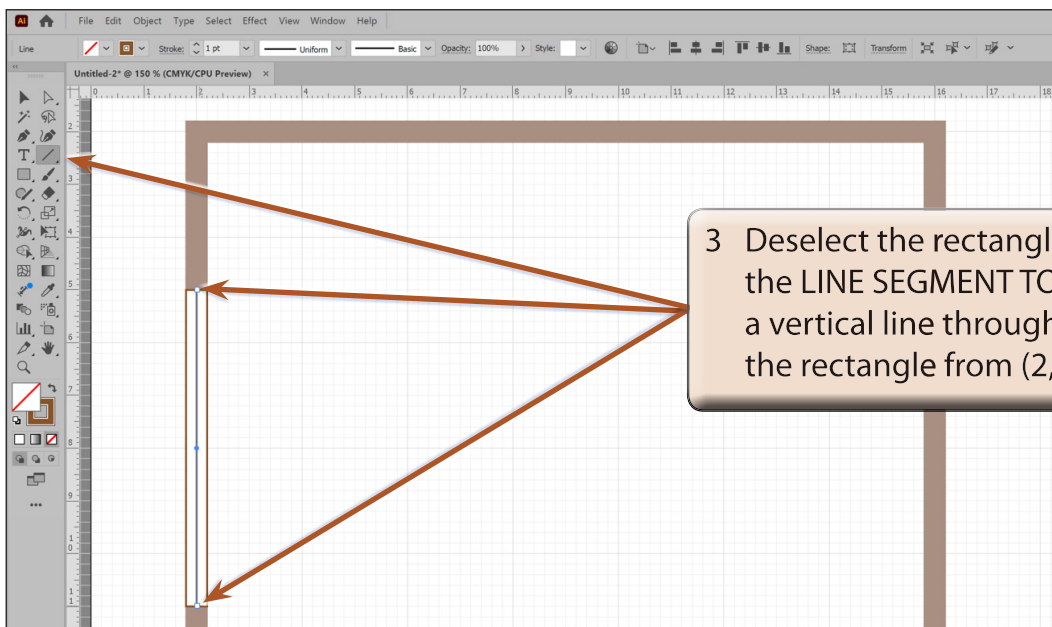
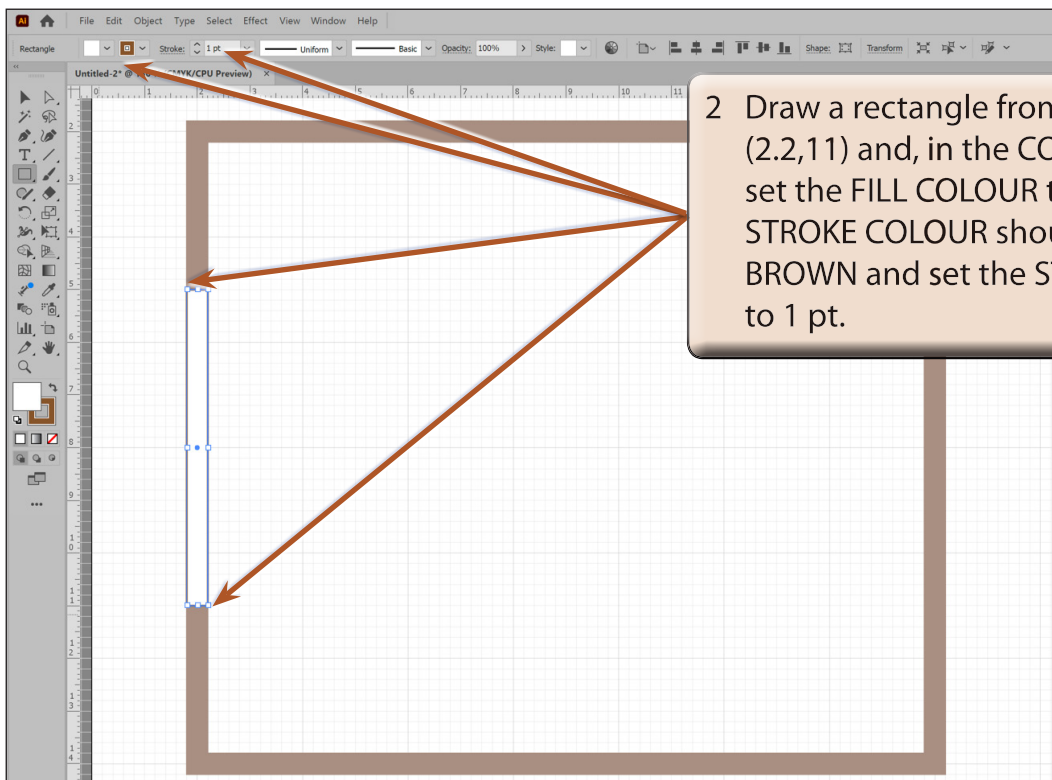
- 2 Drag a rectangle from 2 cm in the top Ruler and 2 cm in the left Ruler (2,2) to 16 cm in the top Ruler and 14 cm in the left Ruler (16,14).

**NOTE:** This has drawn a rectangle that represents 7 m across (14 cm on the screen) and 6 m down (12 cm on the screen).

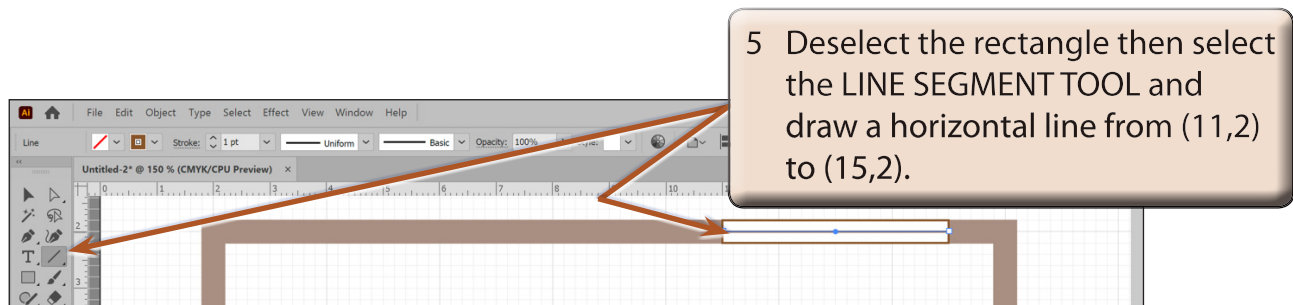
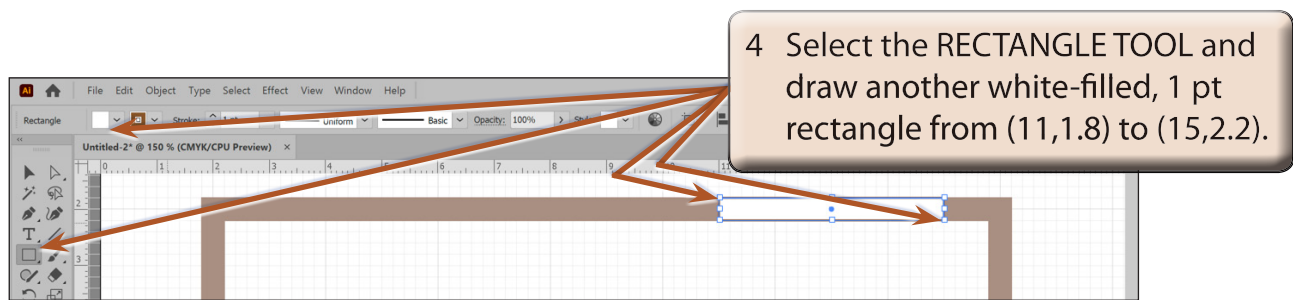
## Adding the Windows

Windows are usually represented by a thin rectangle with a line through it.

- 1 Increase the VIEW to 150% using **CTRL+** or **COMMAND+** and scroll to the rectangle.



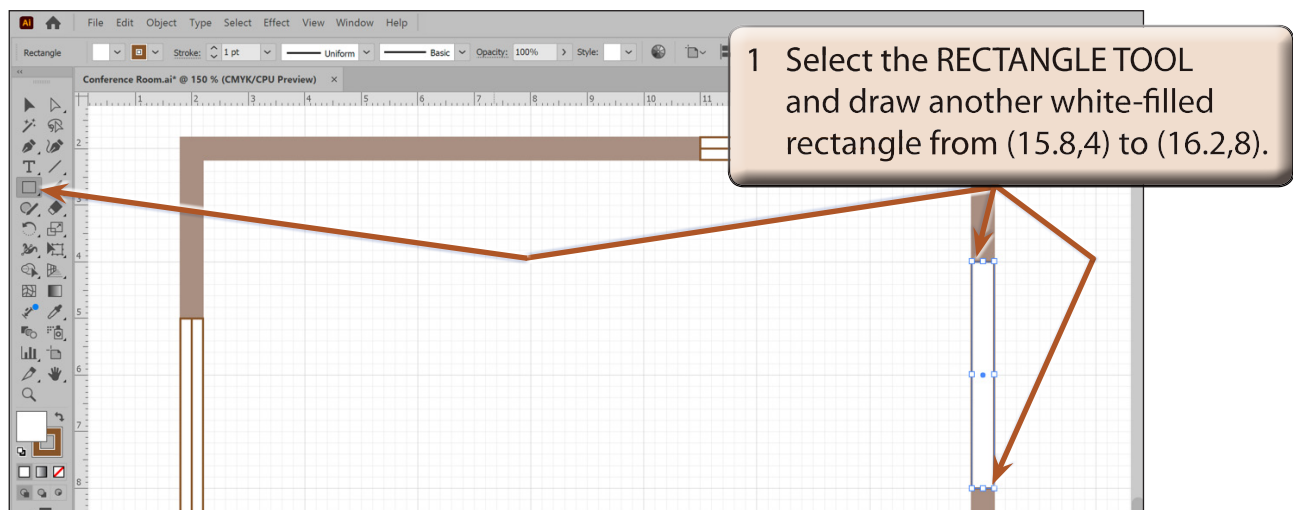




- 6 Save the document in your STORAGE folder as:
- Conference Room

## Adding the Doors

The doors will be represented by a rectangle with an arc attached to it. There are two sets of doors required, one set of double doors and one single door.



- 2 Press **SHIFT+CTRL+A** or **SHIFT+COMMAND+A** to deselect the rectangle.



# Useful Tools

This chapter will look at some additional useful tools that Adobe Illustrator provides. It includes exporting images, intertwining objects, creating graphs, using Photoshop effects and adding arrowheads to lines.

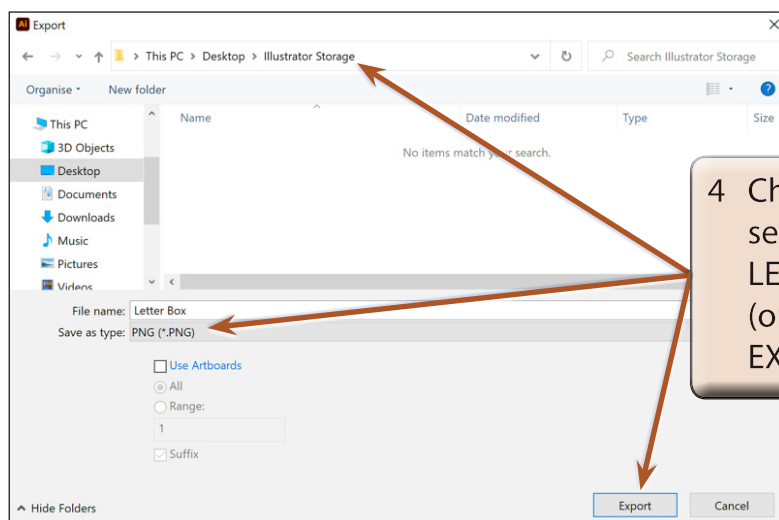
## Exporting Images

Illustrator is often used to create graphics for use in web sites. These graphics need to be the smallest size possible whilst still retaining their quality. Illustrator allows you to save files in a variety of compressed formats or files can be saved in the SVG format, which converts the image to code.

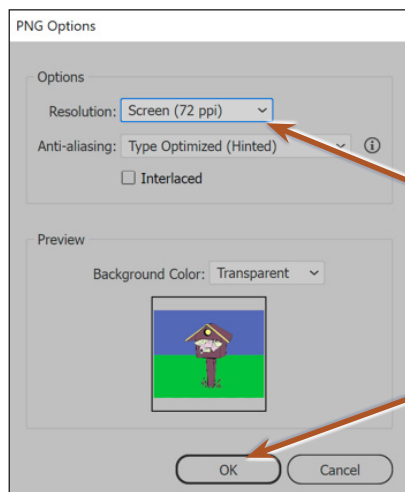
### A Exporting as Compressed Files

The two most common compressed formats used for web graphics are JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) and PNG (Portable Network Graphics). In general, JPEG images have a white background added to them whereas PNG files can be set to a transparent background.

- 1 Load Adobe Illustrator or close the current document.
- 2 Open the LETTER BOX document from your STORAGE folder.
- 3 Display the FILE menu, highlight EXPORT and select EXPORT AS.



- 4 Check that your STORAGE folder is selected, leave the FILE NAME as LETTER BOX, set the SAVE AS TYPE (or FORMAT) box to PNG and select EXPORT.



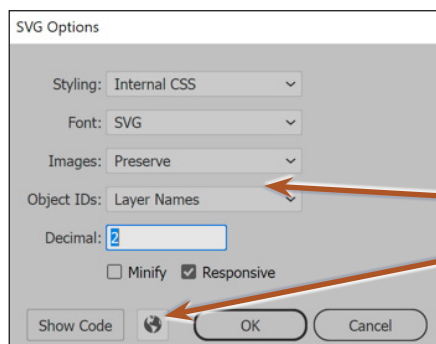
5 You can adjust the settings if need be (such as the RESOLUTION), but the default settings will suffice, so select OK to export the image.

- 6 You might like to repeat steps 3 to 5 to save the image as a JPEG image by setting the SAVE AS TYPE (or FORMAT) box in the EXPORT dialogue box to JPEG.

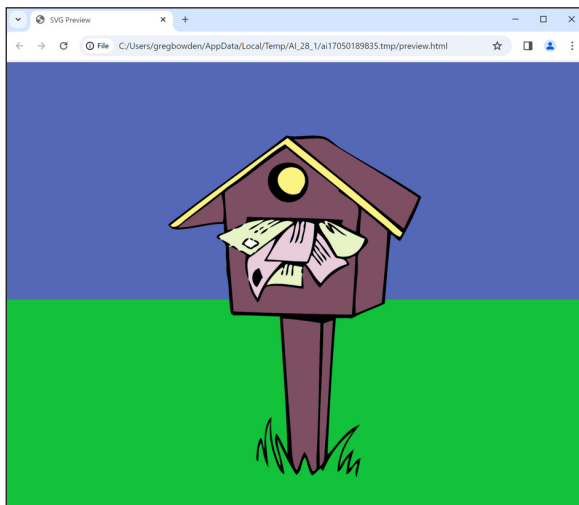
## B Exporting as an SVG File

SVG stands for SCALABLE VECTOR GRAPHICS and it converts the image into code. The advantage of the SVG format is that images can be resized within a web site without the image losing its quality.

- 1 With the LETTER BOX file open, display the FILE menu, highlight EXPORT and select EXPORT AS.
- 2 Check that your STORAGE folder is accessed, set the SAVE AS TYPE (or FORMAT) box to SVG and select EXPORT (refer to diagram on the previous page).

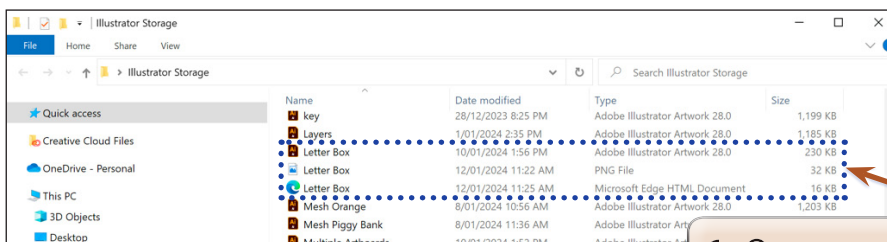


3 As with PNG and JPG formats, you can alter the settings if need be, but the default settings will be fine. Click on the PREVIEW IN A BROWSER icon to see what the file will look like in a web browser.



4 Adjust the size of the browser window and the quality of the image should be maintained.

5 Close the browser, return to Adobe Illustrator and click on OK to export the SVG file.



6 Open your STORAGE folder and look at the relative file sizes of the LETTER BOX files. The advantage of an SVG file is not only its scalability, but its file size is also small.

**NOTE:** If you just want to export parts of images, the part can be selected then **EXPORT SELECTION** used from the **FILE** menu. The next section will cover that process more detail.

## Exporting Assets

You can export individual assets or all the assets of a drawing in one step. This includes creating different format versions or screen resolution versions of the assets.

### A Selecting the Assets

The assets of a drawing are added individually to the ASSET EXPORT panel then exported.

- 1 The LETTER BOX file should be open in Adobe Illustrator.

