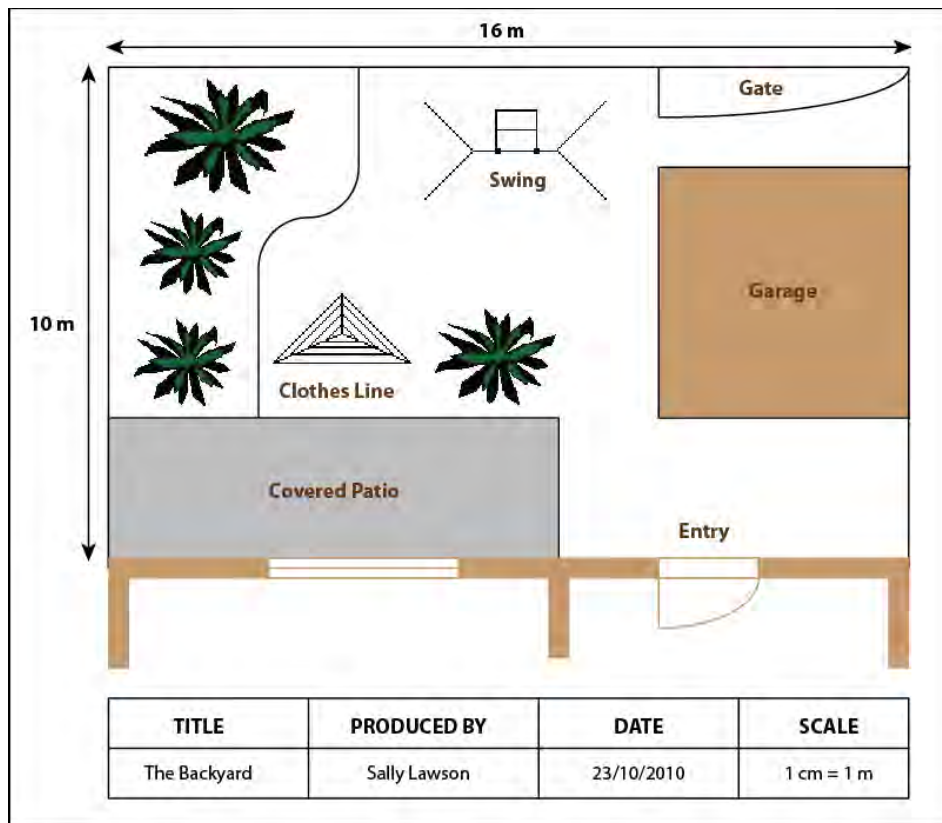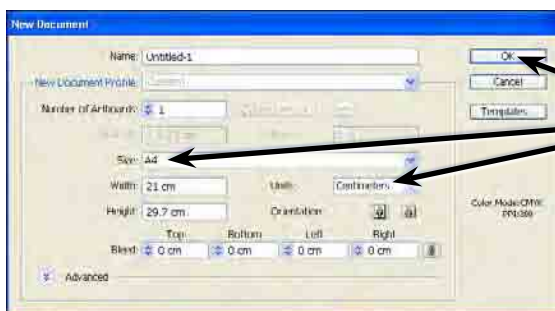# Creating a Backyard Design

In this exercise you will create the following design of a backyard.

Starting a New Document

1   Load Adobe Illustrator CS4 or close the current file and, in the CREATE NEW section of the ILLUSTRATOR WELCOME SCREEN, start a new PRINT DOCUMENT.
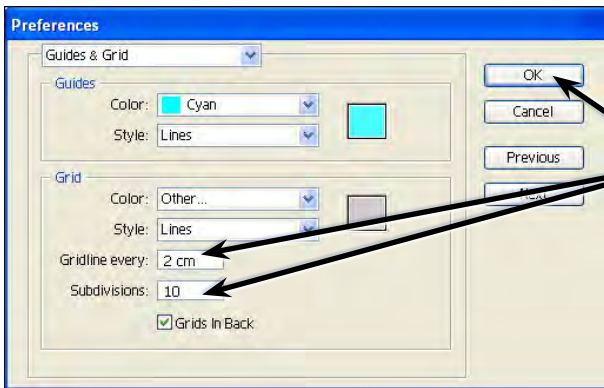

2 Set the SIZE to A4 (or the paper size your printer uses), the UNITS to CENTIMETRES and select OK.

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 any design you create. A scale might be 1 cm = 1 m or 1 cm = 1 km, etc. So that the backyard will fit neatly on the page we will use a scale of 1 cm = 1 m.
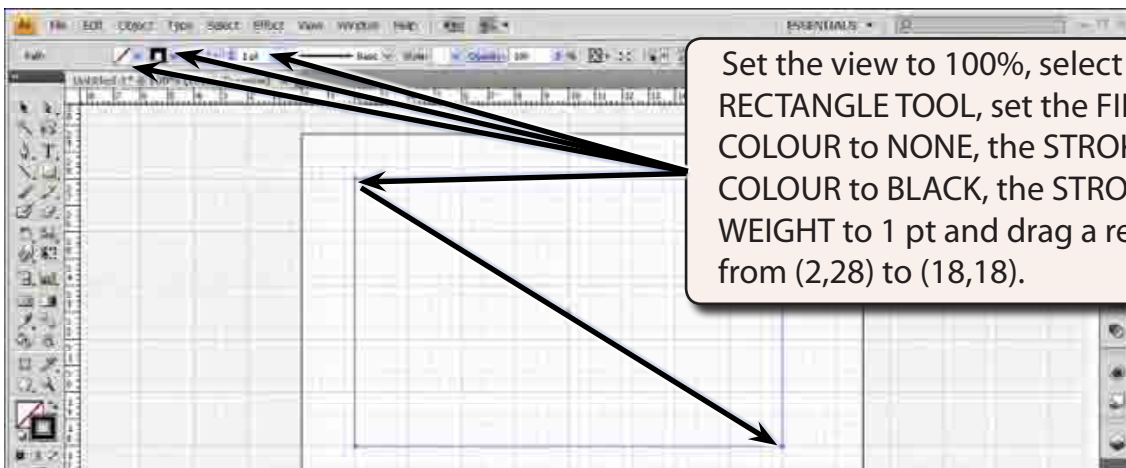
  1   Display the EDIT menu on the Windows system or the ILLUSTRATOR menu on the Macintosh system, highlight PREFERENCES and select GUIDES & GRID.

2 Leave the GRIDLINIES EVERY at 2 cm, enter 10 in the SUBDIVISIONS and select OK.

Entering the Backyard Fence

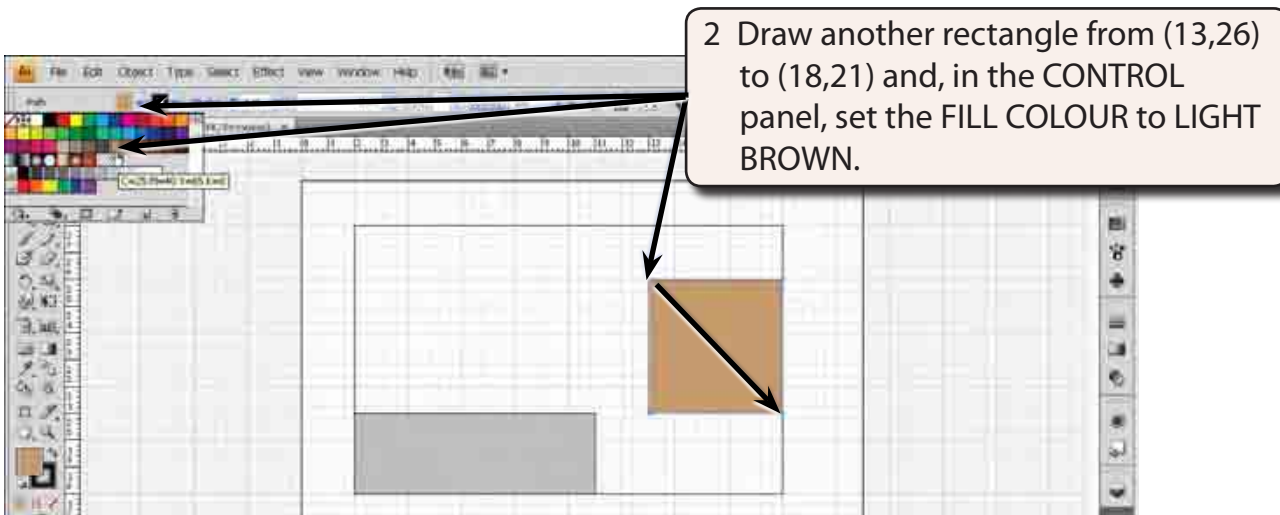A rectangle will be used to define the area of the backyard.
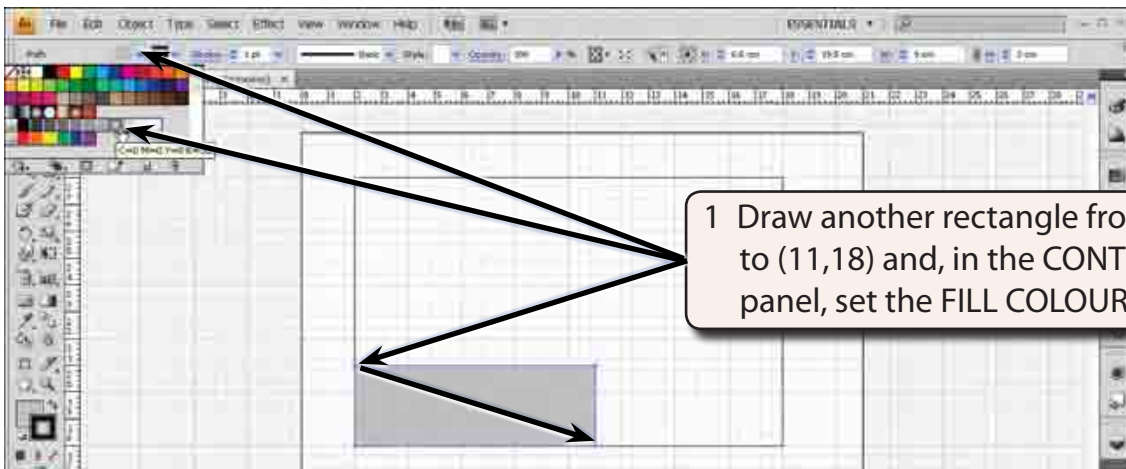

Set the view to 100%, select the RECTANGLE TOOL, set the FILL COLOUR to NONE, the STROKE COLOUR to BLACK, the STROKE WEIGHT to 1 pt and drag a rectangle from (2,28) to (18,18).

> **NOTE: This has drawn a rectangle that represents 16 m across (16 cm on the screen) and 10 m down (10 cm on the screen).**

Entering the Patio and Garage

Filled rectangles will be used to represent the patio and garage.

1 Draw another rectangle from (2,21) to (11,18) and, in the CONTROL panel, set the FILL COLOUR to GREY.

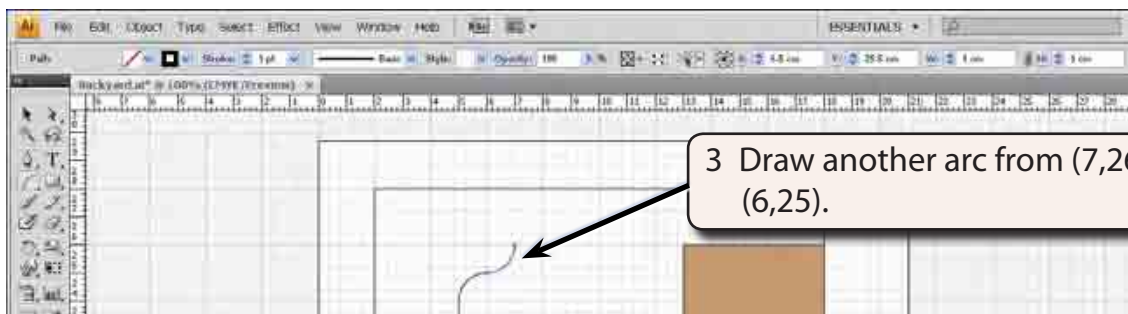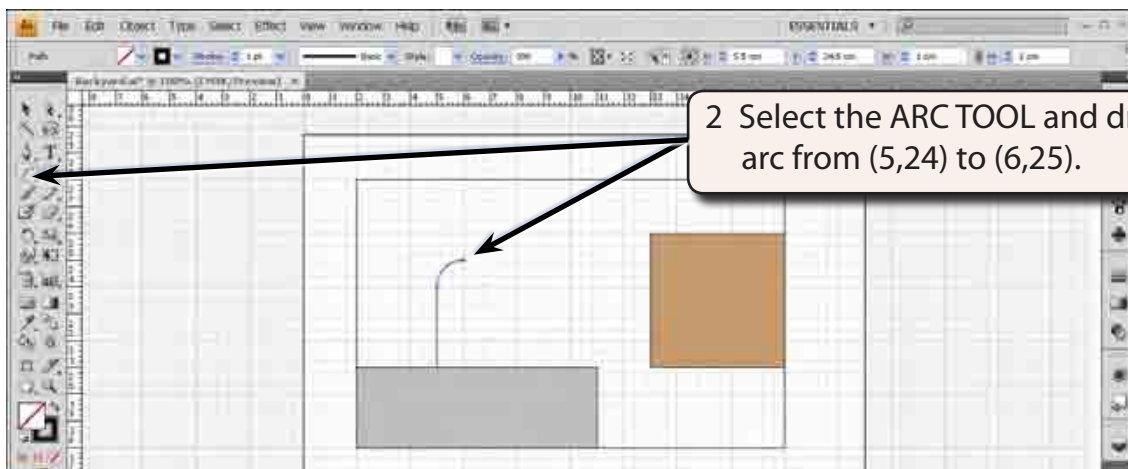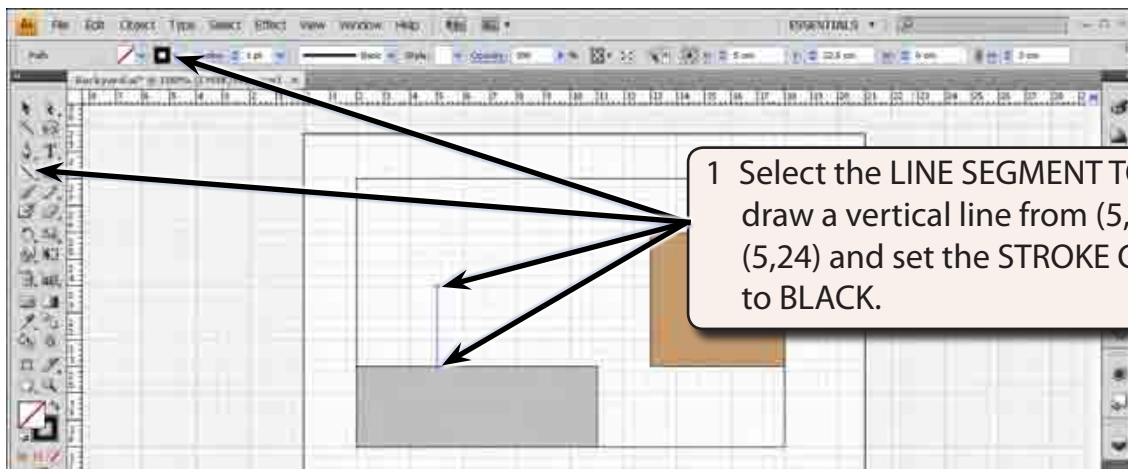2 Draw another rectangle from (13,26) to (18,21) and, in the CONTROL panel, set the FILL COLOUR to LIGHT BROWN.

3 Save the document in your STORAGE folder as:
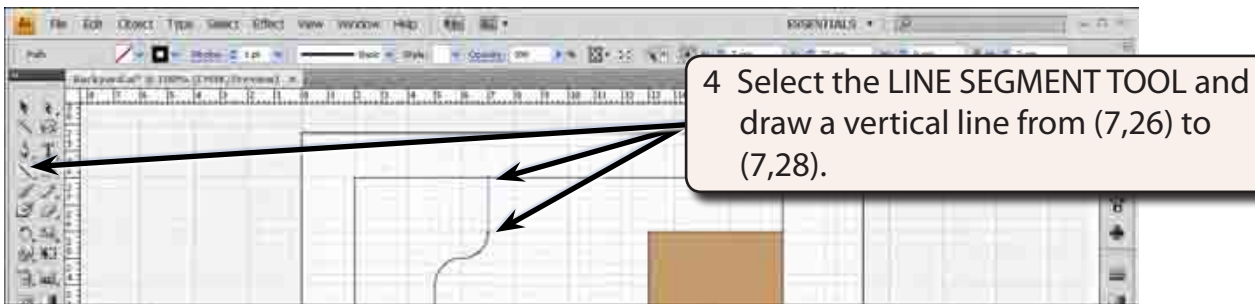
Backyard

Creating the Garden Section

A garden section with plants will be created along the left side of the backyard.

A   Setting the Plants Area

1 Select the LINE SEGMENT TOOL, draw a vertical line from (5,21) to (5,24) and set the STROKE COLOUR to BLACK.

2 Select the ARC TOOL and draw an arc from (5,24) to (6,25).

3 Draw another arc from (7,26) to (6,25).

4 Select the LINE SEGMENT TOOL and draw a vertical line from (7,26) to (7,28).

B Inserting the Plants

Plants will be inserted to the left of the garden perimeter.

1 Display the FILE menu and select PLACE.

2 Access the PIT2 SUPPORT FILES, open the GRAPHICS folder and load the SHRUB image.

3 Use the SELECTION TOOL to move the shrub to just above the grey rectangle and resize it so that it is about 2 cm x 2 cm.

4 Use the ALT or OPTION key to drag 2 copies of the shrub above itself.