# Adobe Illustrator

Photoshop, which is raster image processing software, is vector graphics software. It can be used both for designs, logos and packaging products as well as for page layout, web or multimedia interfaces, and even for prepress.

## The vector image

Unlike the raster image made up of a mosaic of pixels, the vector image is based on curves generated by mathematical formulas.

Menu:

As in all the software in the suite, the main menu contains all the functions available in the software. You will notice that several functions have shortcuts allowing a faster flow of work..

Art board:

The art board is the equivalent of the Photoshop canvas; this is where you do the work. The worktop can be resized as needed.

Tools options:

The content of this horizontal space varies depending on the tool selected. Various parameters will allow you to adjust the specifics of the chosen tool.

Pannels:

Panels will generally offer more tool adjustment possibilities in addition to providing some specialized functionality. To display them, use the WINDOWS menu.

Tools:

This vertical space contains the various tools, the foreground and background color selection ranges as well as various working and viewing modes..

# Basic principles

## Drawing using the rectangle tool

Select the Rectangle Tool (R), then simply draw a shape on the artboard.

In the tool options, select a background color, an outline color, and an outline thickness. You can also select options before drawing.

Rectangle with rounded corners:

To draw a rectangle with rounded corners, choose the Rounded Rectangle tool, click on the work plane, which will bring up a window allowing you to specify the desired dimensions and radius.

## Manipulating plots

In addition to moving, the Selection tool (V) allows various manipulations of shapes drawn on the work plane.

Resize the shape:

You can resize the shape by dragging one of the eight anchor points on the path. To maintain the aspect ratio, hold down the SHIFT key.

Perform a shape rotation:

You can rotate the shape by bringing the cursor near one of the anchor points at the corners of the path and using the mouse.

Perform a shape deformation:

To warp a path, choose the Direct Selection Tool (A), select one of the four anchor points on the path, then drag the point until you get the desired warp.

## Basic shape control using tool options

By selecting one or more shapes on the artboard using the Selection tool, you can adjust various settings of the tool options in addition to the fill and outline colors.

Outline:

The drop-down menu allows you to customize the thickness of the outline as well as the arrows and the capture field. The term underlined in dotted lines indicates that a control panel is available.

Profile and contour shape:

Drop-down menus to customize the appearance and thickness of the outline.

Opacity:

Capture field used to define the opacity of a shape. The term underlined in dotted lines indicates that an adjustment panel is available in which it is possible to apply blend modes and create masks.

Style:

Menu used to apply a style to a shape.

## Layers

It is possible to create multiple shapes independent of each other on a work plane, on a layer. Using a single layer, however, would very quickly become confusing

## Colours

In addition to the tool-bar color selectors and tool options, the Color and Swatches panels allow you to choose or create new hues. We will cover these panels in detail later.

Color Panel:

Allows you to mix colors for the background and the outline. The sub-menu allows you to choose from different color modes.

Swatches panel:

The color chart allows you to choose and create shades, gradients and, as we will see, patterns. The book icon in the lower left corner of the panel provides access to various color libraries.

# Drawing tools

In addition to shape tools such as the rectangle, several other Illustrator tools allow you to draw vector shapes. Just like with Photoshop, you can use a graphics tablet to draw more naturally.

## Crayon

The pencil tool allows you to produce a path using an outline color. Anchor points and curves are produced automatically, and tool options control the thickness and appearance of the line.

## Eraser

Grouped in the same tool as the Pencil tool, the Eraser tool erases path segments located between two anchor points.

## Round

Grouped in the same tool as the Pencil tool, the Round tool rounds vertices to a point by simply drawing a curve over the vertices.

Blend tool Blend tool allows you to create an interpolation between two objects of different shapes. How to proceed First create two distant shapes, then select them. Using the Gradient Shape tool, click the center point of the first and second object in turn. Double-click the tool to display the Gradient Options window giving access to various settings. Pathfinder panel The Pathfinder panel allows different types of merging of shapes between them. Some features are similar to the Shape Designer tool. How to proceed First create at least two overlapping shapes, then select them. Then display the Pathfinder panel from the Window menu. Shape modes : Allows to join, subtract, intersect or exclude between them.

Strokes Strokes can be worked on in Illustrator more extensively compared to what is possible in Photoshop. The Stroke panel allows more control than just options. Stroke panel Width: Adjusts the thickness of the outline. Aspect : The aspect is the start and end of an open path (eg, a line). Angle: The angle is what the angles of a path look like. Alig. cont. : Contour Alignment allows you to draw the contour inside, outside, or distributed on either side of the path. Dotted: Checking this box transforms an outline into a dotted line. Dashes and spaces: These capture fields make it possible to give a varied measurement sequence with the dotted line. Arrows: These drop-down menus allow you to assign a variable aspect arrow at the start or end of a plot. Scale : The scale allows you to vary the size of the arrowhead. Alignment : Allows you to position the arrowhead inside or outside of the ends of the path. Profile: Allows you to assign a predefined shape to the outline