

Adobe Illustrator is a **professional vector-based design and drawing program**. Used as part of a larger design workflow, Illustrator allows for the creation of everything from single design elements to entire compositions. Designers use Illustrator to create posters, symbols, logos, patterns, icons, etc.

## The text tool

Just like Photoshop, Illustrator allows you to create free or captive texts. Illustrator's text looks much better, however, because it is vector and not matrix. You will therefore gain by doing all the typographical work of your projects in software like this one, reserving Photoshop for image processing.

### Character panel

The Character panel allows you to choose the desired font and style. It also lets you choose body size and line spacing, define approach and kerning, and perform vertical and horizontal scale variations. It is also possible to perform a vertical shift as well as a rotation of the characters

### Paragraph panel

The Paragraph panel is useful for captive text, that is, text contained in a text box. To create captive text, draw a box using the Text tool, then type or paste your text into it. The created box can then be resized using the Selection tool without distorting the characters.

### Curvilinear Text Tool

The Curvilinear Text tool aligns the baseline of typefaces on a path.

This tool can be used both with paths produced with the pen tool and with shapes.

## Deformation

All elements produced in Illustrator can be distorted in a variety of ways, whether using tools, adjustments or filters.

### Text distortion

After creating a text, you can choose from the options of the **Create Envelope tool** (Create With Warp). This displays the Warp Options window.

## Swirl Tool

This tool allows you to swirl the path of a shape using a tool with options similar to those of the brush.

## Contraction Tool

This tool lets you perform contractions in the path of a shape using a tool with options similar to those of the brush.

## Crystallization Tool

This tool allows you to create a crystallization effect from the path of a shape using a tool whose options are in many ways similar to those of the brush.

## Deformation of the envelope

An envelope distortion similar to that applied to text can be applied to a shape.

To do this, choose from the **SUBJECT / WRAPPING ENVELOPE** menu. You have two options (we'll see more of them later): **Create From Warp** or **Create From Mesh**.

## Sketch

Sketch distorts the fill and outline to create the impression of a drawing rendering.

## Torsion

To apply this deformation, choose in the menu **EFFECT / DISTORTION AND TRANSFORMATION / TORSION**.

## Zigzag

To apply this deformation, choose in the menu **EFFECT / DISTORTION AND TRANSFORMATION / ZIGZAG**.

## Painting

We have already seen a few painting tools like the brush or the shape designer, but different modes and different approaches can make your job easier..

## Fill and stroke

Basically, in Illustrator, elements are created by setting an outline color and a background color which will both be used for the entire element

## Live painting

While an illustration is usually made up of a multitude of paths, elements, and layers, editing one element can force several others to adjust.

## Tracing shadows and highlightss

When all the general shapes have been drawn, including the eyes and mouth, it is time to add details by drawing the shadows

## Apply gradients using an opacity mask

An opacity mask allows you to vary the opacity of an element. By creating a gradient mask, it is therefore possible to change the opacity from 100% to 0%.

Thus, if we take the example of the hair again, it is possible to create an opacity mask on a copy of the hair, to superimpose the latter on the original hair and to change the blend mode to obtain the result. longed for.