ASSIGNMENT 2

Adobe Illustrator

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.

ector vs. Raster

Computer graphics fall into two main categories: vector graphics and raster graphics. Understanding the difference between the two helps you create, edit, and import artwork appropriately.

What are vectors?

Drawing programs such as Adobe Illustrator create vector graphics, which are composed of lines and curves defined by mathematical objects called “vectors.” Vectors describe a graphic according to its geometric characteristics. For example, a bicycle tire in a vector graphic is drawn using a mathematical equation for a circle with a certain radius, set at a specific location, and filled with a specific color. You can move, resize, or change the color of the tire without losing graphic quality because the underlying equations will compensate for your actions.

A vector graphic is resolution-independent, that is, it can be scaled to any size and printed on any output device at any resolution without losing its detail or clarity. As a result, vector graphics are the best choice for type (especially small type) and bold graphics that must retain crisp lines when scaled to various sizes.

Illustrator’s interface can be easily broken down into small categories which can be more easily understood. We will first begin with the main toolbox on the left-hand side of the screen and from there we will work our way around the workspace.

The key components we will be covering are the following:

The toolbox

The Color palette

The Transparency palette

The Stroke palette

The Gradient palette

The Layers palette

The Toolbox

The main toolbox is located on the left-hand side of the screen by default. The toolbox holds most of the tools that you will use. Illustrator has a total of 53 tools to choose from, but not all of them are immediately visible. Tools marked with a little triangle in the lower right-hand corner of their icon have additional, related, tools available. To access these related tools, click and hold on a tool’s icon.

The Color Palette

Color Palette

The Color palette is used for defining fill and stroke colors. A different Color palette will be displayed, depending on which color scheme you pick (RGB or CMYK). The example Color palette is for the CMYK color scheme. Colors can be chosen from the color spectrum or defined exactly by numerical values in the right-hand fields. As with the Color Picker, the fill color is represented by the solid square in the upper left corner while the stroke is represented by the framing square beneath the solid one.

The example Color palette does not display an “Out of Web” or “Out of Gamut” warning. “Out of Web” means that the color you are trying to use is not capable of being displayed on the Web.