

GDT 106/01

ILLUSTRATOR GRAPHICS

Mon. & Wed. 9:30 - 11:25 a.m.
GM 011

Matt Lang
lmc101@wccnet.edu
734.477.8508

Office: GM300

Office Hours by Appointment



OBJECTIVES

- » Gradient Mesh

GRADING CRITERIA

- » Illustrator digital file named and saved to Class Folder > Turn In
- » Work correctly and on time
- » Named and organized layers
- » Bleed guide used
- » Overall creativity of work
- » Presentation of final printed piece

Exploration 4: Gradient Mesh

DUE Wed (11/01), printed in color and saved to the class folder.

Find an image of an object (fruit, bottle, vegetable) that you would like to recreate in 3-D. Place the image in an Illustrator document (8 x 10 inches, with a 9 pt. bleed) on a template layer that is **not dimmed**.

Begin by drawing the outline of the object with the pen tool. Once the outline is complete, use the gradient mesh tool to add lines of mesh to the shape by clicking on the outline, taking the contours of the object into consideration. Add as many lines as you think you will need. You can always add or subtract lines as you go. Selecting a point in the mesh will allow you to change the color of just that area of the mesh. You can move the points, lines and curves around to get the proper look (use the direction handles and the direct select tool, or the lasso tool). Use the direct select tool to select a point or select an area in between four points to move them. To delete a line, select a point and hit Delete.

It may be easier to have some parts of your object created separately from the larger object, and on another layer. For example, the bottle cap and rounded dots on the bottle example are separate objects from the main bottle. You may also want to move your picture over to an adjacent artboard once you add a mesh to your object since it will now be filled with color. If you are up for a bigger challenge try to recreate a human face. If you do a simpler object, then create a background or other objects to go with it. You can use things like effects, envelope distort or anything we've learned so far to enhance your image. Remember to use the eyedropper tool to sample colors from the original image, save colors to swatches in a group. And, as always, *be creative!*