**ILLUSTRATOR**

**What does an illustrator do?**

An illustrator is an artist who specializes in improving writing or explaining concepts by providing a visual representation that matches the content of the associated text or idea.

Adobe Illustrator is a [vector graphics editor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vector_graphics_editor) and design program developed and marketed by [Adobe Inc.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adobe_Inc.)

**Tools**

After opening illustrator a sidebar that appears at the left of the screen with a variety of tools to select, create, and manipulate objects or artworks in Illustrator. These tools can be selected as following: drawing, typing, painting, reshaping, slicing and cutting, symbolism, moving and zooming, and graph. Some tools have a small triangle at the bottom right of the toolbox icon. A small triangle has the option to view or expand some hidden tools by holding down the mouse button on the triangle.

Some examples of basic tools in Illustrator are selection tools, paintbrush tools, pen tools, pencil tools etc. e.g.

**Selection tools** are used to the layout, adjust, and organize the artwork by selecting, positioning, and stacking objects accurately. Moreover, selection tools can group, lock or hide, and measure objects.

**Paintbrush tools** can be used to modify the appearance of the artwork. There are different types of brushes: calligraphic, scatter, art, pattern, and bristle.

**Pen tools** create straight and curved lines for the artwork and they can add anchor points to paths and delete from paths.

**Pencil tools** allow the user to draw and edit freehand lines.

**Direct selection tool** helps in extending the edges of the existing shape to form a new shape. This tool is placed next to the selection tool in the tool panel.

**Magic wand tool** used in selecting shapes and objects with simpler attributes. This tool is helpful in saving time. Instead of selecting similar shapes one by one it can easily select them with just one click.

**Curvature tool** helps in giving a smooth curve to a path. With the help of the Curvature tool, we can create any form of shape.