

Illustrator Tools Basics

Work at 4 x 4 inches (File>New>Width 4 inches, Height 4 inches and will indicate Custom>OK). S

*Rectangle Tool

Create a square box (hold down the shift key).



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNy0V1DO3gM>

*Fill Color and Stroke Color

Change fill and stroke color in the square.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tX-l8PvxCTc>

*Selection Tool (outlined black arrow) – top most arrow; or add from Edit Toolbar at bottom of tools.

Show proportional change in the square (hold down the shift key to resize the object).



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6LvIhJD4OU>

*Direct Selection Tool (filled in arrow) – second to top arrow; or add from Edit Toolbar at bottom of tools.

(Double click) Grab a point (anchor) in an object (corner of the box for instance) and manipulate that point to make one corner not a right angle.



*Eraser Tool - nine tools from the top; or add from Edit Toolbar at bottom of tools

Erase part of an object. (note: after erasing, with the outline arrow tool – the selection tool -- you can move pieces of the rectangle and manipulate it as a separate object)



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfHC3uXfVmA&list=PL58B3B602755904F8>

*Line Tool (under the rectangle tool -- fourth from the top; or add from Edit Toolbar at bottom of tools)

Draw a straight line

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNkDkc8Mlf0>

*Text Tool and Text on a Path

Type your name on a straight line and on a curved path in 72pt. type from one of the recommended fonts (see course blog). To type on a path, first create a path with (for instance), the Arc tool (Arc Tool may be under the Rectangle Tool; if not, add from Edit Toolbar)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RdqB-iTFTsk>

*Blob Brush Tool – under the Paintbrush tool; or add from Edit Toolbar at bottom of tools.

Place a simple silhouetted photo on the art board and brush around the primary form.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijRNVtUs4f4>

*Image Trace Tool

Make a simple sketch with a thin Sharpie or similar thin felt tip pen on paper.

Scan the sketch using the scanner (or make a photo of it with your phone).

Use Image Trace to trace the scanned felt pen sketch and convert to a path.

If tracing a photo: file>place to bring the image into an Illustrator artboard (work area in Illustrator).

Select the Sharpie image with the filled-in arrow (Direct Selection Tool).

Object>Image Trace>Make and Expand

(The anchor point in the resulting 'path' may be manipulated with the Direction Selection tool – double click)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olaNSI_J36Q

*Curvature Tool

Use the Curvature Pen Tool to draw a curved shape. Fill it with black.



(No tutorial provided.)

*Add Anchor Point Tool

Use the Add Anchor Point tool (located in the same area as the Pen Tool; or add from Edit Toolbar at bottom of tools) to add an anchor point in the middle of one of the vertical paths in a box or other object.

Use the Direct Selection tool (filled arrow) to pull this anchor point inward, creating a triangular shaped element.



(No tutorial provided.)