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Illustrator 2026 tools all 104 tools plus shortcuts and modifiers

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SELECTION TOOLS

Selection (V) cmd/ctrl invokes Direct Selection; opt/alt duplicates; shift constrains motion and scales proportionally; spacebar invokes panning hand; double-clicking group enters isolation mode

Direct Selection (A) cmd/ctrl = Selection; opt/alt = all anchor points; shift constrains; spacebar = hand

Group Selection opt/alt = Direct Selection; shift key stops group selection; spacebar = hand

Magic Wand (Y) double-click for panel options; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; shift adds to selected colors; opt/alt takes away from selected colors; spacebar invokes panning hand

Lasso (Q) cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; shift adds to selected anchor points; opt/alt deselects anchor points; spacebar invokes hand

TYPE TOOLS

Type (T) click = point type; drag = area/para. type; return/enter = new line/paragraph; click a path shape to convert to area type; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; shift = Vertical Type; dbl-click tool = Area Type options

Area Type clicks on the path of a drawn object to convert to a type area; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; click near top of type area to insert cursor; double-click tool for Area Type options

Type on a Path (Shift+T) dbl-click for Type on a Path options; shift = Vertical Type on a Path; while dragging center bracket, hold cmd/ctrl key to prevent flipping over path; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool

Vertical Type click = point type; drag = area/para. type; return/enter = new line; click path shape = convert to area type object; shift key = Type tool; dbl-click tool = Area Type options; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool

Vertical Area Type double-click tool for Area Type options; clicks on the path of a drawn object to convert to a type area; click near top of type area to insert cursor; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool

Touch Type (Shift+T) click a letter starts touch type manipulation including move and rotate; opt/alt = Hand tool; cmd/ctrl = white direct selection tool

Vertical Type on a Path dbl-click for Type on a Path options; shift invokes Type on a Path tool; while dragging center bracket, hold cmd/ctrl key to prevent flipping over path; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool

DRAWING TOOLS

Pen (P) cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; shift constrains to 0°, 45°, 90°; opt/alt invokes Convert Anchor Point tool; spacebar interrupts to move anchor point; cmd/ctrl + opt/alt selects all anchor points

Add Anchor Point (+) opt/alt = Delete Anchor Point tool; cmd/ctrl = selection tool; spacebar = panning hand

Delete Anchor Point (-) opt/alt = Add Anchor Point tool; cmd/ctrl = selection tool; spacebar = pan hand

Anchor Point (Shift+C) drag anchor to curve; click anchor to make sharp corner; shift constrains to 0°, 45°, 90°; opt/alt duplicates path; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand

Pencil (N) double-click tool for Pencil Tool options; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; opt/alt invokes Smooth tool; opt/alt dragging closes path; cmd/ctrl while dragging connects two selected paths

Smooth double-click for Smooth Tool options; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; spacebar = panning hand

Path Eraser opt/alt = Smooth tool; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand

Curvature Tool (Shift+~) opt/alt = continue adding points; double-click to toggle smooth or corner sharp; cmd/ctrl = selection tool; spacebar = panning hand

MORE DRAWING TOOLS

Blob Brush (Shift+B) double-click tool = Blob Brush Tool options; shift constrains; opt/alt invokes Smooth tool; works with calligraphy brushes; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand

Eraser (Shift+E) double-click for Eraser Tool Options dialog; square bracket keys resize brush diameter; shift constrains; opt/alt drag erases rectangular region; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; spacebar = panning hand

Paintbrush (B) double-click for Paintbrush Tool options; shift constrains to 0°, 45°, 90°; opt/alt invokes Smooth tool; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool

Shaper Tool (Shift+N) this tool is meant for touchscreen gestures; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand

Cmd/Ctrl means Command key on macOS, and Control key on Windows. **Opt/Alt** means Option key on macOS, and Alt key on Windows.

SHAPE TOOLS

Line Segment (L) dbl-click tool or click artboard for Line Segment Tool options; shift constrains; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar drag to move; ~ key drag draws array of lines; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool

Arc double-click tool or click artboard for Arc Segment Tool options; shift constrains proportions; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar interrupts drawing to move; Tilde~ key plus drag draws array of arc segments; C while dragging makes closed/open arc; F or X while dragging flips arc to a concave/convex path; ↑/↓ arrow keys while dragging changes arc angle in 5% increments; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool

Spiral double-click tool or click artboard for Spiral options; cmd/ctrl dragging changes decay; shift constrains to 0°, 45°, 90°; R = reverse; ↑/↓ adds/subtracts spiral segments; opt/alt while dragging adds/subtracts segments while changing length of spiral; spacebar to move object; cmd/ctrl plus opt/alt to reset the spiral tool

Rectangular Grid dbl-click tool or click artboard for Rectangular Grid Tool options; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; shift constrains square; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar interrupts drawing to move; V F C or X while dragging to change skew values by 10%; ↑/↓/←/→ arrow keys while dragging to change number of lines

Polar Grid dbl-click tool or click artboard for Polar Grid Tool options; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; shift constrains to square; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar interrupts drawing to move; V or F or C or X while dragging to change skew values by 10%; ↑/↓/←/→ arrow keys while dragging to change number of lines

Rectangle (M) click the artboard for Rectangle dialog box; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used Selection tool; shift constrains square; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar interrupts drawing to move object

Rounded Rectangle click the artboard for Rounded Rectangle dialog; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used Selection tool; shift = square; opt/alt = from center; spacebar moves; ↑/↓ changes corner radius in 1pt increments

Ellipse (L) click the artboard for Ellipse dialog box; shift constrains to circle; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar interrupts drawing to move object; drag pie widget handle to make pie segments, see Transform panel; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool



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Polygon click artboard for Polygon dialog box; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; shift constrains bottom horizontal; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar drag to move; ↑/↓ arrows while dragging = number of sides

Star click the artboard for Star dialog box; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used Selection tool; shift constrains bottom side horizontal; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar interrupts drawing to move object; ↑/↓ arrows while dragging changes number of sides; cmd/ctrl while dragging holds inner radius still

Flare double-click tool or click the artboard for Flare Tool options; drag to place the center handle of the flare, then drag to set the size of the center, the size of the halo, and to rotate angle of rays. While dragging, press Shift to constrain rays. ↑/↓ arrow to add or subtract rays; cmd/ctrl to hold the center of the flare constant. Drag again to add rings to the flare and place end handle. While dragging, ↑/↓ arrows add or subtract rings. Tilde key randomly places rings. Each element [center, halo, rings, and rays] is filled with color at different opacity settings

TRANSFORM TOOLS

Free Transform (E) drag bounding box handle to scale; shift drag handle to scale proportionately; opt/alt shift drag handle to scale from center; drag near handle to rotate; shift drag near handle constrains to 0°, 45°, 90°; spacebar invokes panning hand; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool

Rotate (R) double-click tool = Rotate dialog box; opt/alt click to set centerpoint of rotation; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; shift dragging constrains; drag then opt/alt rotates a copy; spacebar = panning hand

Reflect (O) double-click tool for Reflect dialog; opt/alt click sets axis reference point; click once, reposition, then click second set reflection axis; cmd/ctrl for last-used selection tool; shift drag 90°; drag then opt/alt rotates a copy; spacebar = panning

Scale (S) double-click tool for Scale dialog box; shift drag to scale horizontally, vertically, or proportionally by shift-dragging diagonally; option/alt scales a copy; click to set vanishing point, then drag toward or away from vanishing point; tilde+shift+drag to scale pattern fill only, command/control invokes the last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes the panning hand

Shear double-click for Shear dialog box; opt/alt click to set reference point and open Shear dialog; click once, reposition, then drag to slant; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; shift drag constrains width or height; drag then opt/alt shears a copy

MODIFY/RESHAPE TOOLS

Blend (W) double-click tool for Blend Options; opt/alt click blend object for Blend Options; spacebar invokes panning hand; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; edit spine with pen or selection tool

Join cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand

Knife opt/alt = straight; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; spacebar = pan hand

Puppet Warp click to add pins; drag on or near a pin to move or rotate the mesh

Reshape position cursor over the anchor point or a path segment and click to make focus; shift-click to add more focus points; cmd/ctrl invokes selection tool; shift-dragging constrains; opt/alt dragging duplicates; spacebar = panning hand

Scissors (C) opt/alt = Add Anchor Point; cmd/ctrl = selection tool; space = hand

Shape Builder (Shift+M) drag to merge selected objects; opt/alt drag to remove object regions; shift drag to marquee select objects

Width (Shift+W) double-click for Width Point Edit dialog box; shift double-click to also adjust width of adjoining points; drag two different points onto each other to make discontinuous width point; opt/alt drag for non-uniform width; opt/alt drag width point to duplicate; opt/alt shift drag to copy and move all points on path

PAINT TOOLS

Gradient (G) opt/alt dragging gradient annotator endpoint changes radius and angle; opt/alt dragging across multiple selected objects makes multiple gradient sliders; shift constrains; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; spacebar = hand

Mesh (U) click to add a mesh point; opt/alt to remove a mesh point; shift to drag a mesh point along mesh line; spacebar invokes panning hand; cmd/ctrl to invoke last-used selection tool

Live Paint Bucket (K) double-click tool for Options; click to paint face; drag to paint multiple faces; double-click to flood into adjacent faces; triple-click to paint all faces with same fill; shift paints strokes only; click edge to stroke; double-click edge to stroke all connected edges; triple-click an edge to stroke all edges of same stroke; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; opt/alt = eyedropper; spacebar = pan hand

Live Paint Selection (Shift+L) double-click tool for Live Paint Selection Options; click to select face or edge; drag to select multiple faces and edges; double-click to select contiguous faces; triple-click to select all faces or edges with same fill or stroke; shift click or shift drag to add or remove items from selection; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; opt/alt invokes eyedropper; spacebar invokes panning hand

OTHER TOOLS

Artboard (Shift+O) double-click for Artboard options; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; shift constrains to draw square artboard; opt/alt duplicates current artboard and objects; spacebar = panning hand

Eyedropper (I) double-click tool for Eyedropper Options; opt/alt applies attributes to unselected object; shift click to sample only color from a portion of gradient, pattern, mesh, or image; shift then opt/alt to add the appearance attributes to selected object; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; spacebar = panning hand

Measure double-click tool for Guides and Grid prefs; cmd/ctrl = selection tool; shift constrains; spacebar = panning hand

Perspective Grid Tool (Shift+V) double-click tool for Perspective Grid Options; shift drag constrains vertically; opt/alt click vanishing plane handle to change view

Perspective Selection (Shift+M) shift drag vanishing plane handle or object to move; opt/alt drag vanishing plane handle or object to copy;

Slice (Shift+K) shift drag to constrain square; opt/alt drag to draw from center; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand

Slice Select click to select; shift click to select multiple slices; shift drag selects multiple slices; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar = pan hand



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GRAPH TOOLS

- Column Graph (J)** click or drag on artboard to define area size; shift constrains to square; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand; edit with Group Selection tool
- Stacked Column Graph** click or drag on artboard to define size; same as column graph; edit with Group Selection tool
- Bar Graph** click or drag on artboard to define area size; same as column graph; edit with the Group Selection tool
- Stacked Bar Graph** click or drag to define area size; same as column graph; edit with Group Selection tool
- Line Graph** click or drag on artboard to define area; same as column graph; edit with Group Selection tool
- Area Graph** click or drag on artboard to define area; same as column graph; edit with Group Selection tool
- Scatter Graph** click or drag on artboard to define area size; same as column graph; edit with Group Selection tool
- Pie Graph** click or drag on artboard to define area; same as column graph; edit with Group Selection tool
- Radar Graph** click or drag on artboard to define area; same as column graph; edit with Group Selection tool

WARP TOOLS

- Bloat** double-click tool for Bloat Tool Options dialog box; otherwise same as Warp tool
- Crystallize** double-click for Crystallize Tool Options dialog box; otherwise same as Warp
- Pucker** double-click for Pucker Tool Options dialog box; otherwise same as Warp tool
- Scallop** double-click for Scallop Tool Options dialog box; otherwise same as Warp tool
- Twirl** double-click tool for Twirl Tool Options dialog box; otherwise same as Warp tool
- Warp (Shift+R)** dbl-click for Options; shift constrains 90°; opt/alt drag change ellipse; shift opt/alt drag change diameter; spacebar = hand; cmd/ctrl for selection tool
- Wrinkle** double-click tool for Options dialog box; otherwise same as Warp tool

CUSTOM TOOLBAR

- Edit Toolbar** displays the Edit Toolbar dialog box

SYMBOL TOOLS

- Symbol Sprayer (Shift+S)** double-click for Symbolism Tools Options dialog box; square brackets change brush size; shift square brackets changes intensity; opt/ alt key reverses action; spacebar invokes panning hand; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool
 - Symbol Shifter** dbl-click for Symbolism Tools Options dialog box; [or] change brush size; shift square brackets changes intensity; opt/alt key reverses action; shift brings symbol instances forward; shift opt/alt sends symbol instances backward; spacebar invokes panning hand; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool
 - Symbol Scruncher** same as Symbol Sprayer tool
 - Symbol Sizer** double-click for Symbolism Tools Options dialog box; square brackets change brush size; shift square brackets changes intensity; opt/alt key reverses action; shift removes symbol instances; spacebar invokes panning hand
 - Symbol Spinner** double-click for Symbolism Tools Options dialog box; spacebar invokes panning hand; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool
 - Symbol Stainer** double-click for Symbolism Tools Options dialog box; square brackets change brush size; shift square brackets changes intensity; opt/alt key reverses action; shift maintains tint intensity; spacebar invokes panning hand
 - Symbol Screener** same as Symbol Sprayer tool
 - Symbol Styler** double-click for Symbolism Tools Options dialog box; square brackets change brush size; shift square brackets changes intensity; opt/alt key reverses action; shift maintains style intensity; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar = hand
- ## NAVIGATION TOOLS
- Hand (H)** double-click fits artboard in window; drag to pan view; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool
 - Print Tiling** click or drag to position; double-click to reset; cmd/ctrl = last-used selection tool; spacebar = panning hand
 - Rotate View (Shift+H)** drag to rotate, shift-drag for constrained 15° increments, cmd/ctrl = selection tool
 - Zoom (Z)** double-click zooms to 100%; aka Actual Size; opt/alt zooms out; cmd/ctrl invokes last-used selection tool; spacebar invokes panning hand

FILL & STROKE & APPLY CONTROLS

- Fill Button** double-click fill button for Color Picker; x toggle activates stroke or fill
- Stroke Button (X)** double-click for Color Picker; x toggle activates fill or stroke
- Swap Fill and Stroke (Shift X)** swaps fill color for stroke color on selected object
- Default Fill and Stroke (D)** this sets the fill color to white and the stroke color to black on the selected object
- Apply Color (<)** sets the stroke or fill to the current color or the last color used
- Apply Gradient (>)** applies the last-used gradient; cmd/ctrl click resets mid-point blend diamond to middle
- Apply None (/)** sets the activated icon for stroke or fill color to none

DRAW NORMAL/BEHIND/INSIDE MODES

- Draw Normal (Shift D)** is the default drawing mode; new objects stack upwards as you draw them
- Draw Behind (Shift D)** causes new objects to stack downwards and is honored when creating layers; placing symbols or files; opt/alt dragging; and Paste in Place
- Draw Inside (Shift D)** this works to make a clipping mask, but retains the object's fill and stroke appearance

SCREEN MODES

- Presentation Mode (Shift F)** displays artwork against a black background but has no visible icon. Esc to leave. No keyboard shortcuts work when in this mode
- Normal Screen Mode (F)** displays artwork in a standard window, with a menu bar at the top and scroll bars
- Full Screen with Menu Bar (F)** displays full-screen with menu and scroll bars
- Full Screen Mode (F)** displays full-screen with no title/menu bar nor panels

NEW TOOLS

- Dimension Tool** double-click for options; click/drag to measure; shift to constrain; spacebar invokes panning hand
- Object on Path Tool** double-click tool for options
- Generative AI** click button for Generative AI options



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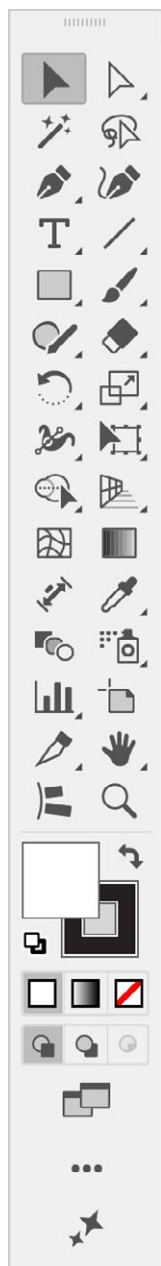
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Illustrator 2026 tools panel all 104 tools plus shortcuts



SELECTION TOOLS

- Selection (V)
- Direct Selection (A)
- Group Selection
- Magic Wand (Y)
- Lasso (Q)

DRAWING TOOLS

- Pen (P)
- Add Anchor Point (+)
- Delete Anchor Point (-)
- Anchor Point (Shift+C)
- Pencil (N)
- Smooth
- Path Eraser
- Blob Brush (Shift+B)
- Curvature Tool (Shift+~)
- Eraser (Shift+E)
- Paintbrush (B)
- Shaper Tool (Shift+N)

TRANSFORM TOOLS

- Free Transform (E)
- Rotate (R)
- Reflect (O)
- Scale (S)
- Shear

NAVIGATION TOOLS

- Hand (H)
- Print Tiling
- Rotate View (Shift+H)
- Zoom (Z)

TYPE TOOLS

- Type (T)
- Area Type
- Type on a Path (Shift+T)
- Vertical Type
- Vertical Area Type
- Vertical Type on a Path
- Touch Type (Shift+T)

SHAPE TOOLS

- Line Segment (\\)
- Arc
- Spiral
- Rectangular Grid
- Polar Grid
- Rectangle (M)
- Rounded Rectangle
- Ellipse (L)
- Polygon
- Star
- Flare

GRAPH TOOLS

- Column Graph (J)
- Stacked Column Graph
- Bar Graph
- Stacked Bar Graph
- Line Graph
- Area Graph
- Scatter Graph
- Pie Graph
- Radar Graph

MODIFY/RESHAPE

- Blend (W)
- Join Tool
- Knife
- Puppet Warp
- Reshape
- Scissors (C)
- Shape Builder (Shift+M)
- Width (Shift+W)

PAINT TOOLS

- Gradient (G)
- Live Paint Bucket (K)
- Live Paint Selection (Shift+L)
- Mesh (U)

OTHER TOOLS

- Artboard (Shift+O)
- Eyedropper (I)
- Measure
- Perspective Grid (Shift+V)
- Perspective Selection (Shift+M)
- Slice (Shift+K)
- Slice Select

WARP TOOLS

- Bloat
- Crystallize
- Pucker
- Scallop
- Twirl
- Warp (Shift+R)
- Wrinkle

SYMBOL TOOLS

- Symbol Sprayer (Shift+S)
- Symbol Shifter
- Symbol Scruncher
- Symbol Sizer
- Symbol Spinner
- Symbol Stainer
- Symbol Screener
- Symbol Styler

FILL AND STROKE

- Activate Fill vs Stroke Button
- Swap Fill and Stroke (Shift+X)
- Default Fill and Stroke (D)
- Apply Color (<)
- Apply Gradient (>)
- Apply None (/)

DRAW MODES

- Draw Normal (Shift+D)
- Draw Behind (Shift+D)
- Draw Inside (Shift+D)

SCREEN MODES

- Normal Screen Mode (F)
- Full Screen with Menu Bar (F)
- Full Screen Mode (F)

EDIT TOOLBAR

- Edit Toolbar

NEW TOOL

- Dimension Tool
- Objects on Path Tool

