Kennesaw State University

University Information Technology Services

Illustrator CS5.1

Essential Skills

University Information Technology Services

Training, Outreach, Learning Technologies and Video Production

Copyright © 2013 KSU Department of University Information Technology Services
This document may be downloaded, printed, or copied for educational use without further permission of the University Information Technology Services Department (UITS), provided the content is not modified and this statement is not removed. Any use not stated above requires the written consent of the UITS Department. The distribution of a copy of this document via the Internet or other electronic medium without the written permission of the KSU - UITS Department is expressly prohibited.

Published by Kennesaw State University – UITS 2013
The publisher makes no warranties as to the accuracy of the material contained in this document and therefore is not responsible for any damages or liabilities incurred from its use.

University Information Technology Services

Illustrator CS5.1 Essential Skills

Table of Contents

Introduction 5

About Vector Graphics 5

Opening Illustrator 5

Opening a New Document 6

Exploring the Interface 7

Illustrator Tools and Shortcuts 8

Keyboard Shortcuts for Drawing 9

Using Color in Illustrator 10

Pen Tools 11

- Pen Tool 11
- Add Anchor Point Tool 13
- Delete Anchor Point Tool 14
- Convert Anchor Point Tool 14

The Selection Tools 14

- Select Tool 14
- Direct Selection Tool 16
- Group Selection Tool 18
- Magic Wand Tool 18
- Lasso Tool 19

The Line Tools 20

- Line Segment Tool 20
- Arc Tool 22
- Spiral Tool 22
- Rectangular Grid Tool 22
- Polar Grid Tool 23

The Pencil Tools 24
Pencil Tool 24
Smooth Tool 27
Path Eraser Tool 28
Creating Basic Shapes 28
Rectangle Tool 29
Rounded Rectangle Tool 29
Ellipse Tool 30
Polygon Tool 30
Star Tool 31
The Eraser Tool 31
The Shape Builder Tools 32
Shape Builder Tool 33
Live Paint Bucket Tool 34
Changing the Background Color of an Artboard 35
Text 36
Point Type 37
Area Type 37
Adding Text to a Path 37
Adding Text on a Closed Shape 37
Saving a file 38
Printing 40
Resources 42
Additional Support 42

Introduction

Illustrator is a vector graphic editing program by Adobe. This booklet is designed to introduce you to the essential skills you need to get started using some of the basic Illustrator tools. These instructions were created using Illustrator CS5.1 for Windows; the Mac OS X version is similar.

About Vector Graphics

Vector graphics are made up of lines and curves called vectors. They are resolution-independent, meaning they can be scaled to any size and printed at any resolution without losing detail. You can move, resize, or change the color of vector objects without losing the quality in the graphic.

Opening Illustrator

Follow these instructions to access the Illustrator program.

1. Click the Windows **Start** button.
2. Click **All Programs**.
3. Scroll down and click the **Adobe Master Collection CS5.5** folder.
4. Click **Adobe Illustrator CS5.1**.

Click here to download full PDF material