Introduction to Illustrator

Training course outline

Adobe Illustrator is the industry leading application for creating and editing vector graphics.

Introduction to Illustrator training provides a thorough grounding in Illustrator, teaching techniques for producing professional-standard illustrations and type effects.



Course summary

Provides the essential knowledge you need to use Illustrator effectively. You learn how to:

- Use Illustrator's powerful drawing tools to work with shapes and layers, and apply effects and styles.
- Create sophisticated artwork and graphics for print, web, mobile and motion designs.
- Create logos with special type effects.
- Use Illustrator's Image Trace and Live Paint tools.

Duration Two days.

Who should attend?

This course is ideal for new and novice Illustrator users. As well as graphic/Web designers, this course is relevant to anyone in a design-related role who needs to create illustrations, logos, diagrams, advertisements or other graphics.

In-class or live online

You can attend in-person at our centres, or participate live online from your place of work or home.

To read about our approach to online training, see armada.co.uk/liveonline.

General information

Courses are hosted by highly experienced instructors with vast experience of using the application professionally.

Whilst attending training at our centres, you'll have the use of a computer running licensed Adobe Creative Cloud software to practice the techniques taught. You can choose to use a Windows computer or Mac.

Refreshments and lunch are provided.

Course fees can be paid by card or bank transfer. We accept purchase orders from UK-registered companies and public sector organisations.

Course materials and certificate You'll receive:

- A comprehensive training guide and practice files.
- An e-certificate (PDF) confirming successful course completion.

Method of delivery

Training is designed for the busy professional, being short and intensive and combining lecture and demonstration. Practical exercises carried out under guidance help you learn the techniques taught.

You have ample opportunity to discuss specific requirements with the trainer.

After course support

Following training, you're entitled to 30 days' email support from your trainer.

Further information See armada.co.uk/course/ai.

Course syllabus See over.

Follow-on course Advanced Illustrator (1 day). See armada.co.uk/course/advai for details.



Course syllabus

Topics	Sub-topics
Introduction	Interface – window, panels and menus Bitmap vs vector graphics Locating help
Drawing basics	New documents - document setup Basic shapes - rectangles/ellipses Viewing - preview/outline Object Stacking order Selecting and modifying shapes Colour - fills and strokes
Selections	Selection and direct select tools Magic Wand and Lasso selections
Simple drawing	Shaper tool - 'predictive' drawing Pencil tool - freehand drawing Eraser Curvature tool - simple, smooth, more accurate shapes
Drawing - pen tool	Drawing with the pen tool Modify shapes - cut, join, align Alignment/smart guides Drawing using guides Drawing over a template
Fills and textures	Colour theory - RGB/CMYK Colours - creating, editing, sharing Spot colours - Pantone™ Creating Gradients Libraries - sharing/accessing various elements throughout Illustrator and Creative Cloud Accessibility; checking for colour blindness and colour contrast
Transformations	Free Transform tool Scale, rotate, reflect and shear tools Repeating transformations
Editing	Grouping, locking, visibility Isolation mode Align, distribute and group objects

Topics	Sub-topics Sub-topics
Symbols	Symbols - updateable graphics Modifying symbols
Layers	Introduction to layers Creating layers, locating an object within a layer, moving items from layer to layer Controlling layers – viewing, locking, printing
Saving and file formats	Saving - file types - ai, eps, pdf Exporting - file types Share on behance - online showcase
Preferences	Configuring preferences - units, increments, grids/guides, interface
New artboards	Artboard tool – rotating, moving, resizing
Styling	Brushes – art, scatter, calligraphic, bristle, pattern Effects - Applying editable effects as bitmap or vector
Туре	Type characteristics - size/leading/tracking Point and area type tools Importing type Text wrap Spell checking Outlining type - pros and cons Touch type tool - adjust individual letters Downloading Adobe Fonts
Clipping masks	Masking objects Creating and modifying a clipping mask
Tracing	Image Trace - vectorising bitmap images Live Paint - quicker painting for areas
Combining shapes	Compound paths Shapebuilder tool Pathfinder - combine several shapes

