Getting started

For the first lesson of this book, you will get a quick tour of the tools and features in Adobe Illustrator CC, offering a sense of the many possibilities. Along the way, you will create artwork for an amusement park.

1 To ensure that the tools and panels function exactly as described in this lesson, delete or deactivate (by renaming) the Adobe Illustrator CC preferences file. See "Restoring default preferences" in the Getting Started section at the beginning of the book.

    ● **Note:** If you have not already downloaded the project files for this lesson to your computer from your Account page, make sure to do so now. See "Getting Started" at the beginning of the book.

2 Start Adobe Illustrator CC.

Creating a new document

● **Note:** Learn more about creating and editing artboards in Lesson 4, "Transforming Artwork."

An Illustrator document can contain up to 100 artboards (*artboards* are similar to *pages* in a program like Adobe InDesign®). Next, you will create a document with only one artboard.
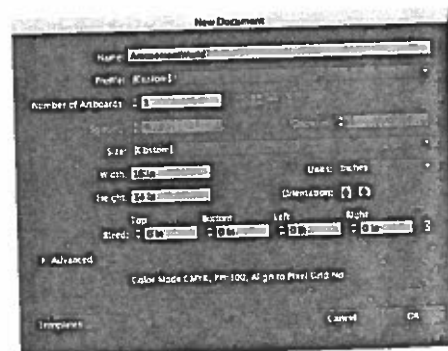
1 Choose Window > Workspace > Reset Essentials.

    ● **Note:** If you don't see "Reset Essentials" in the Workspace menu, choose Window > Workspace > Essentials before choosing Window > Workspace > Reset Essentials.

2 Choose File > New.

3 In the New Document dialog box, change only the following options (leaving the rest at their default settings):

    • Name: **AmusementWorld**

    • Units: **Inches**

    • Width: **16 in**

    • Height: **14 in**

4 Click OK. A new blank document appears.

Sync settings using Adobe Creative Cloud™

● **Note:** For more information on syncing with the Creative Cloud, see "Sync settings using Adobe Creative Cloud" in the Getting Started section of this book.

When you launch Adobe Illustrator CC for the first time, with no previous sync information available, you will see a prompt asking whether you want to start a sync with Adobe Creative Cloud.

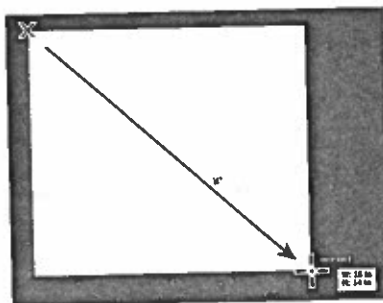   • Click Disable Sync Settings (if the dialog box appears).

1 Choose File > Save As. In the Save As dialog box, leave the name as **AmusementWorld.ai** and navigate to the Lessons > Lesson00 folder. Leave the Format option set to Adobe Illustrator (ai) (Mac OS) or Save As Type option set to Adobe Illustrator (*.AI) (Windows), and click Save. In the Illustrator Options dialog box, leave the Illustrator options at their default settings, and then click OK.

2 Choose View > Rulers > Show Rulers to show rulers in the Document window.

3 Choose View > Fit Artboard In Window, and then choose View > Zoom Out. The white area is the artboard, and where your printable artwork will go.

Drawing shapes

Drawing shapes is the cornerstone of Illustrator, and you will create many of them in the coming lessons. Next, you will create several shapes.

1 Select the Rectangle tool (▦) in the Tools panel on the left.

2 Position the pointer in the upper-left corner of the artboard (see the red X in the figure). When the word "intersect" appears next to the pointer, click and drag down and to the right edge of the white artboard. When the gray measurement label shows a width of 16 in and a height of 14 in, release the mouse button.
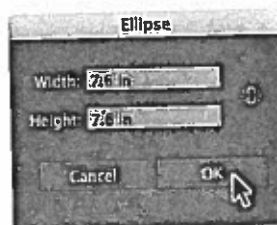
● **Note:** Learn more about creating and editing shapes in Lesson 3, "Using Shapes to Create Artwork for a Postcard."

● **Note:** If the Transform panel opens, click the "x" in the corner of the Transform panel group to close it.

3 Click and hold down on the Rectangle tool in the Tools panel. Click to select the Ellipse tool (⬭).

4 Click roughly in the center of the artboard to open the Ellipse dialog box. Change the Width to 7.6 in and the Height value to 7.6 in by typing in the values. Click OK to create a circle that will become the world. Leave the circle selected.


▶ **Tip:** You can also click the Constrain Width And Height Proportions button (▣) to change both values together.

Applying color

Applying colors to artwork is a common Illustrator task. Experimenting and applying color is easy using the Color panel, Swatches panel, Color Guide panel, and Edit Colors/Recolor Artwork dialog box.

1 Select the Selection tool (▶) in the Tools panel on the left. With the circle still selected, click the Fill color in the Control panel (circled in the figure) to reveal the Swatches panel. Position the pointer over a blue swatch (in the second row of colors). When the tool tip appears that shows "C=85, M=50, Y=0, K=0," click to apply the blue swatch to the fill.

2 Press the Escape key to hide the Swatches panel.

3 Click the Stroke color in the Control panel (circled in the figure). Click the None color (☑) to remove the stroke (border) of the circle. Press the Escape key to hide the Swatches panel.

4 Choose Select > Deselect, and then choose File > Save.
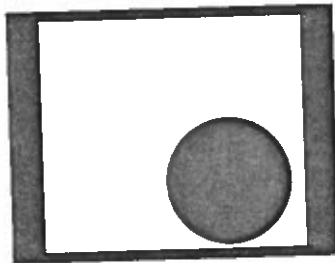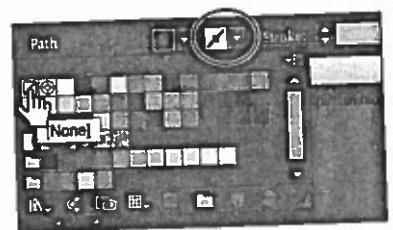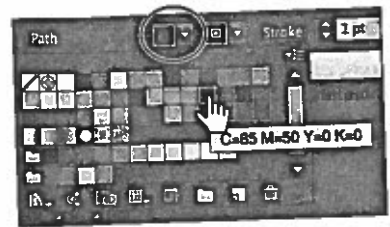
Working with layers

Layers allow you to organize and more easily select artwork. Next, using the Layers panel, you will organize your artwork.

1 Choose Window > Layers to show the Layers panel in the workspace.

2 Double-click directly on the text "Layer 1" (the layer name) in the Layers panel. Type **Background**, and press Enter or Return to change the layer name.

Naming layers can be helpful when organizing content. Currently, all artwork is on this layer.
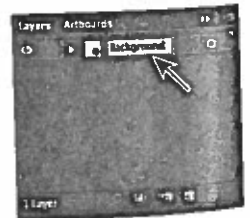
3 Click the Create New Layer button (⬚) at the bottom of the Layers panel. Double-click "Layer 2" (the new layer name), and type **Content**. Press Enter or Return.

4 With the Selection tool (▶) selected, click to select the blue circle. Choose Edit > Cut.

5 Choose View > Fit Artboard In Window.

6 Click once on the layer named Content to select it in the Layers panel. New artwork is added to the selected layer.

7 Choose Edit > Paste to paste the circle on the selected layer (Content), in the center of the artboard.
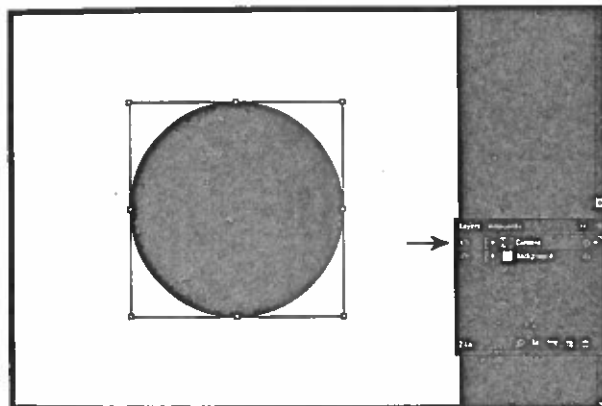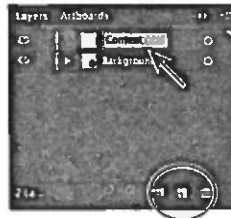
8 Choose Select > Deselect.

Drawing with the Pencil tool

The Pencil tool (✏) lets you draw free-form open and closed paths that contain curves and straight lines. As you draw with the Pencil tool, anchor points are created on the path where necessary and according to the Pencil tool options you set.

1 Double-click the Pencil tool (✏) in the Tools panel on the left to open the Pencil Tool Options dialog box. Drag the Fidelity slider all the way to the right (to Smooth). Click OK.

Changing the Fidelity will help to smooth out the path as you draw.

2 Press the letter D to set the default fill (White) and stroke (Black) for the artwork you are about to create.
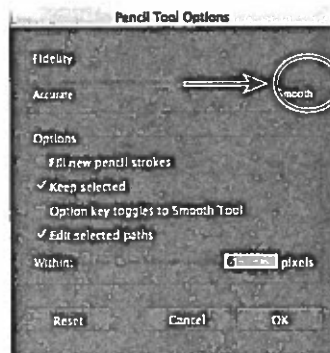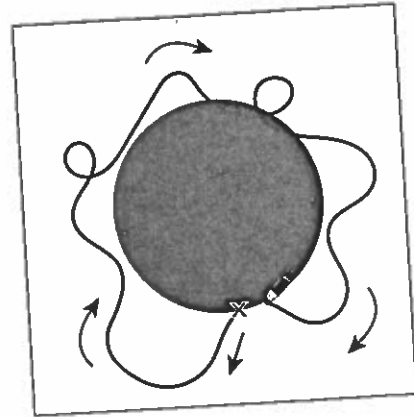
○ **Note:** Learn more about working with the Pencil tool and other drawing tools in Lesson 5, "Creating an Illustration with the Drawing Tools."

3 Choose Window > Swatches to show the Swatches panel. Click the Fill box (circled in the figure) and select the None (☑) swatch to remove the fill. Leave the Swatches panel open.
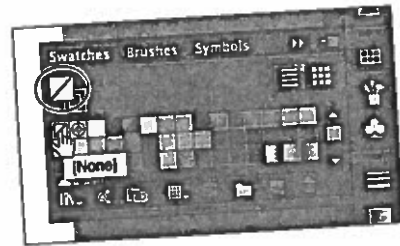
Next, you'll create a figure similar to the one shown below. The path you draw won't match exactly as shown, and that's okay.

4 On the artboard, starting where you see the red X in the figure, click and drag to create a path around the blue circle. Draw all the way around the blue circle and come back *close* to where you started drawing. Make sure that you don't see a circle (✐) next to the Pencil tool, indicating that the path will be closed. *If you see the circle next to the Pencil, release the mouse button, press Delete and try the path again.* Release the mouse button to stop drawing the path.


5 Leave the path selected.

Editing strokes

In addition to changing the color of strokes, you can also format them in many other ways. That's what you'll do next with the path you just drew.

1 With the path still selected, click the word "Stroke" in the Control panel above the document to open the Stroke panel. Change the following options:

- Stroke Weight: **60 pt**
- Dashed Line: **Selected**
- Dash: **28 pt**
- Gap: **3 pt**
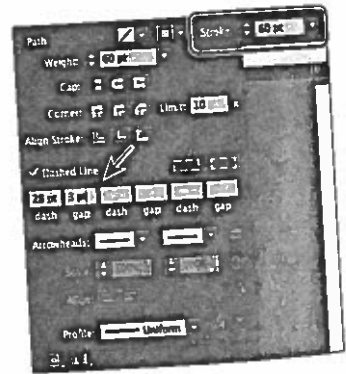
2 Press the Escape key to hide the Stroke panel.

3 In the Swatches panel, click the Stroke box, and then select the "CMYK Red" swatch in the first row of colors. Leave the shape selected.
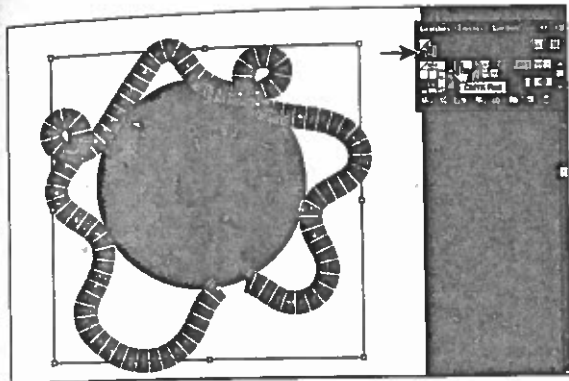
Working with the Width tool

The Width tool (✐) allows you to create a variable width stroke and to save the width as a profile that can be applied to other objects. Next, you'll change the width of the red path.

1 Select the Width tool (✐) in the Tools panel. Position the pointer over the left side of the red path (see the figure). When the pointer shows a plus sign (+) next to it, drag toward the center of the path. When the gray measurement label next to the pointer shows a Width of approximately 0.2 in, release the mouse button.
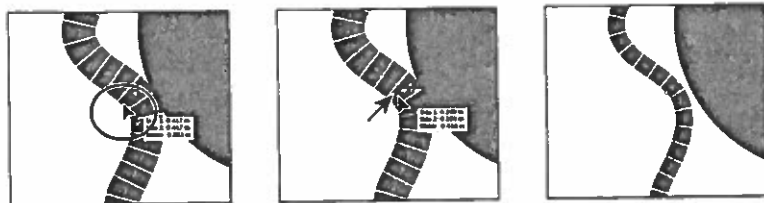
2 Position the pointer at the bottom of the path on the curve (see the figure below). When the pointer shows a plus sign (+) next to it, drag away from the red path. When the gray measurement label shows a Width of approximately 0.5 in, release the mouse button.

3 Move to the right side of the path and drag away from the path to make the stroke wider (see the second part of the following figure).

4 Move to the top loop and drag toward the path to make the width narrower (see the third part of the following figure).
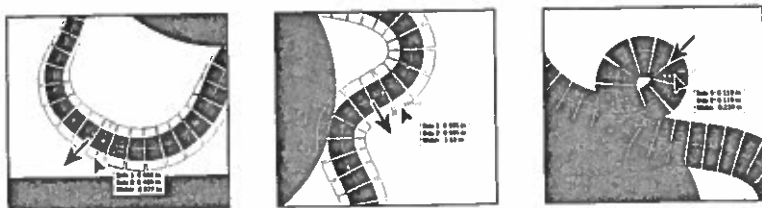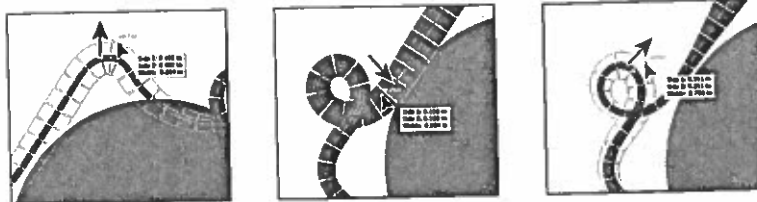
5   Try editing other parts of the path and see how it is affected. Use the next figure as a reference for how we adjusted the rest of the path. If you edit a part of the path and don't like the edit, you can choose Edit > Undo Width Point Change and try it again.

6   With the path still selected, choose Object > Arrange > Send To Back to send it behind the blue circle.
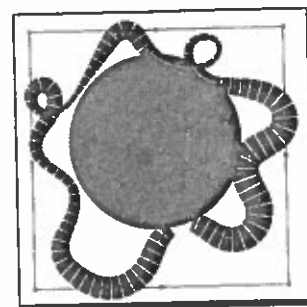

## Creating shapes using the Shape Builder tool

The Shape Builder tool (⬮) is an interactive tool for creating complex shapes by merging and erasing simpler shapes. Next, you will finish a castle tower using the Shape Builder tool.

1   Choose File > Open, and open the Pieces.ai file in the Lessons > Lesson00 folder on your hard disk.

The Pieces.ai file contains a series of individual shapes (rectangles) that make up a tower and a group of shapes that make a flag. You'll finish the tower by combining the shapes using the Shape Builder tool.

2   Choose Select > All On Active Artboard to select the tower shapes. The flag shapes are locked, which means they can't be selected without unlocking them.

3   Select the Shape Builder tool (⬮) in the Tools panel on the left. Position the pointer to the left and above all of the selected shapes (see the red X in the figure). Press the Shift key and drag to the right and down. Make sure you don't drag across the green rectangle, otherwise it will be added to the other shapes (see the figure). Release the mouse button and then the Shift key to combine the shapes.
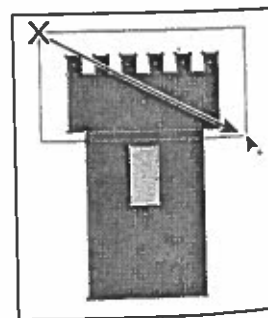
4 Position the pointer over the green rectangle. Holding down the Option (Mac OS) or Alt (Windows) key, when you see a mesh pattern appear in the fill of the object, click to subtract the highlighted green shape from the larger tower shape.
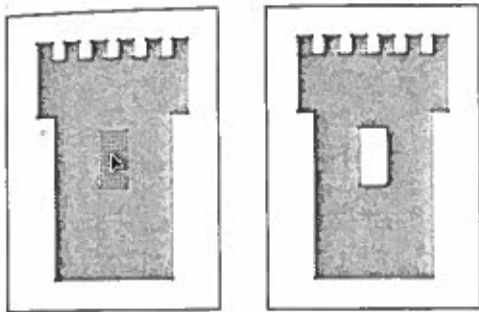
5 Select the Selection tool (⬆) in the Tools panel on the left, and in the Swatches panel, click the Fill box (if needed) and choose the purple/blue color with the yellow tool tip that shows as "C=100, M=100, Y=25, K=25."
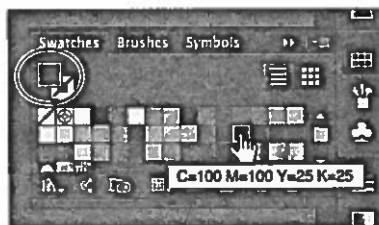
Copying content

In Illustrator, there are a lot of ways to copy content. In this section, you will use several methods for copying content between documents and in a single document.

1 Choose Object > Unlock All to unlock the flag.

2 Choose Select > All On Active Artboard to select all of the shapes.

3 Choose Edit > Copy.

4 Choose File > Close to close the file without saving.

5 With the AmusementWorld.ai file showing, choose Edit Paste to paste the artwork into the center of the Document window.

6 Choose Select > Deselect.

7 With the Selection tool (⬆) selected in the Tools panel, click and drag the tower shape to position it like you see in the figure. Leave it selected.

As you drag, you will see green alignment guides and a gray measurement label. These are a part of the Smart Guides feature you will learn about in a later lesson.
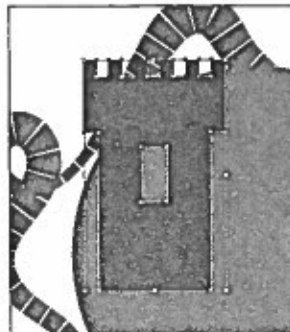
8 With the tower artwork still selected, Option-drag (Mac OS) or Alt-drag (Windows) a copy of the tower to the right and position it like you see in the figure. Release the mouse button and then the key.
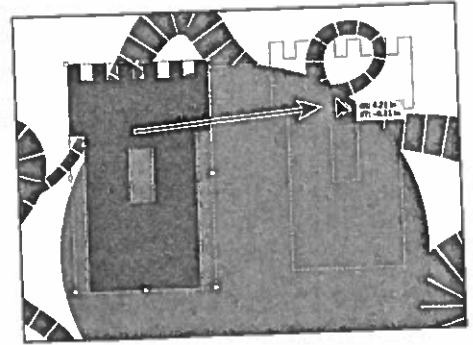
9 Choose Edit > Copy, and then choose Edit > Paste to paste a copy in the center of the Document window.

10 Drag the tower up like in the next figure.

11 In the Swatches panel (Window > Swatches), click the Fill box and select the White swatch.
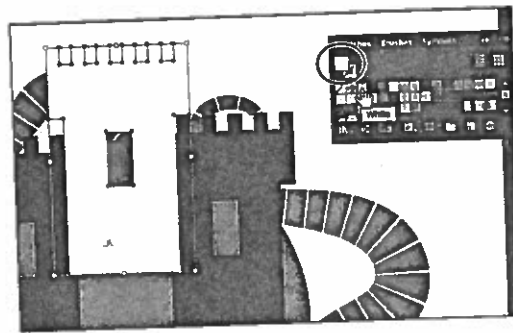
12 Choose Object > Arrange > Send To Back to send the white tower behind the other artwork.

Working with symbols

A *symbol* is a reusable art object stored in the Symbols panel. You will now create a symbol from artwork.

1 Click the flag artwork you pasted previously.

2 Choose Window > Symbols to open the Symbols panel. Click the New Symbol button (▣) at the bottom of the Symbols panel.

3 In the Symbol Options dialog box that appears, name the symbol **Flag**, and click OK.

The artwork now appears as a saved symbol in the Symbols panel, and the flag artwork on the artboard you used to create the symbol is now a symbol instance.
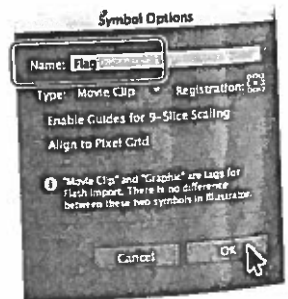
4 Choose View > Outline to see the artwork without fills. Drag the flag by the stroke (border), up to the top of the white tower.

   You'll need to select the flag by the stroke (border) since there is no fill to click on in Outline mode.

5 Choose Object > Arrange > Send To Back.

6 Choose View > Preview.

7 From the Symbols panel, drag the Flag symbol thumbnail onto the artboard like you see in the figure. Drag one more Flag symbol from the Symbols panel onto the artboard and position it like you see in the figure. Leave the last symbol instance on the artboard selected.
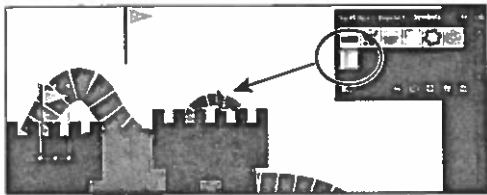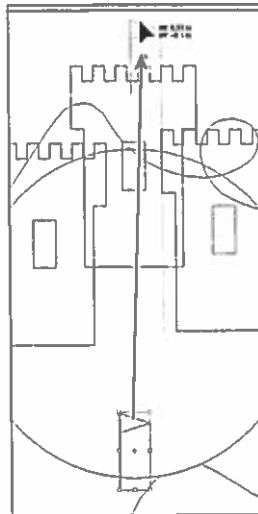
● **Note:** Your Flag symbol instances may be in different locations than those in the figure. That's okay.

8 With one of the flags selected, click the Edit Symbol button in the Control panel above the artwork. This allows you to edit the symbol artwork in Isolation mode without affecting the other artwork.

9 In the dialog box that appears, click OK.

10 Click the gray flag shape on the artboard. Click the Fill color in the Control panel and select the yellow swatch with the tool tip that shows "C=0, M=10, Y=95, K=0" to change the fill color of the flag. Press the Escape key to close the Swatches panel.
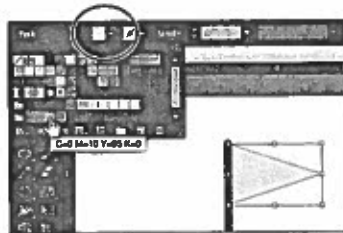

11 Press the Escape key to exit the editing (Isolation) mode and notice that the other flags have changed.

▶ **Tip:** You can also double-click away from the selected artwork to exit Isolation mode.

12 Click one of the blue towers, and then Shift-click the other blue tower to select both. Choose Object > Arrange > Bring To Front to arrange the towers on top of the flags.

13 Click the blue circle, and choose Object > Arrange > Bring To Front to place the circle on the towers. Drag it into position like you see in the figure.
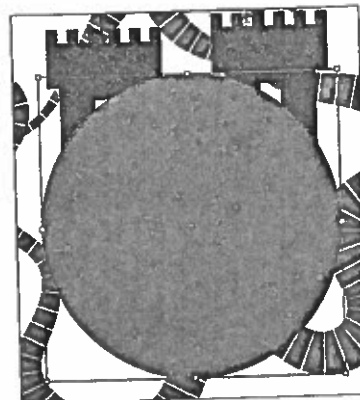

Placing images in Illustrator

In Illustrator, you can place raster images, like JPEG (jpg, jpeg, jpe) and Adobe Photoshop® (psd, pdd) files, and either link to them or embed them. Next, you will place an image of a map.

1 Choose File > Place. In the Place dialog box, navigate to the Lesson00 folder in the Lessons folder and select the Map.psd file. Make sure that the Link option in the dialog box is selected, and click Place.
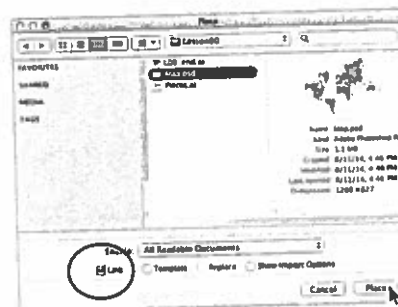
2 Click to place the map on the artboard. Drag the map over the blue circle so it is positioned roughly like you see in the figure.

3 Choose File > Save.

Using Image Trace

You can use Image Trace to convert photographs (raster images) into vector artwork. Next, you will trace the Photoshop file.

1 Choose Window > Image Trace to open the Image Trace panel.

2 In the Image Trace panel, choose "3 Colors" from the Preset menu.

The image is converted to vector paths, but it is not yet editable.

3 In the Image Trace panel, click the toggle arrow to the left of Advanced. Select Ignore White near the bottom of the panel. Close the Image Trace panel by clicking the small "x" in the corner.
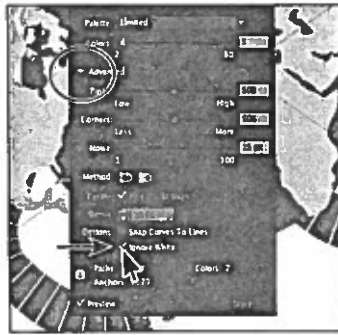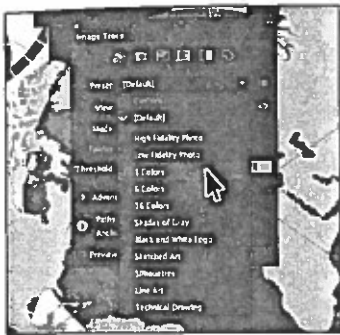
4 With the map still selected, click the Expand button in the Control panel to make the object editable artwork.

The map image is now a series of vector shapes that are grouped together.

5 Choose Object > Arrange > Send Backward to put the map behind the blue circle.

6 Choose Window > Workspace > Reset Essentials.

Creating a clipping mask

A *clipping mask* is an object that masks other artwork so that only areas that lie within its shape are visible—in effect, clipping the artwork to the shape of the mask. Next, you will copy the blue circle and use the copy to mask the map.

1 With the Selection tool ( ) selected, click the blue circle.

2 Choose Edit > Copy, and then choose Edit > Paste In Front to paste a copy of the circle directly on top of the original circle.

3 With the circle still selected, press the Shift key, and click the map artwork to select it as well.

4 Choose Object > Clipping Mask > Make.
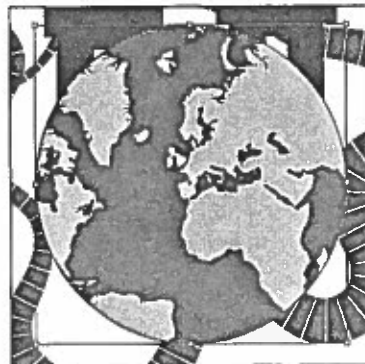
Note: Learn more about working with clipping masks in Lesson 14, "Using Illustrator CC with Other Adobe Applications."

Creating and editing gradients

Gradients are color blends of two or more colors that you can apply to the fill or stroke of artwork. Next, you will apply a gradient to the background shape.

1 Click the white rectangle in the background to select it.

2 Choose Window > Gradient to show the Gradient panel on the right side of the workspace. In the Gradient panel, change the following options:

- Click the white Fill box (circled in the figure), if it's not already selected, so that you can apply the gradient to the fill of the rectangle shape.

- Click the Gradient menu button (▾) to the left of the word "Type," and choose "White, Black" from the menu.

- Choose 90 from the Angle menu.
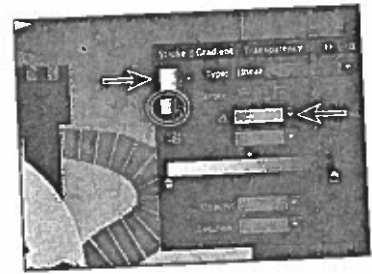
3 Drag the white color stop in the Gradient panel (see the figure below) to the right until the Location value below it shows roughly 50%.

4 Double-click the black color stop on the right side of the gradient slider in the Gradient panel (circled in the figure below). In the panel that appears, click the Color button (▦) (if it's not already selected), and change the color values to C=75, M=0, Y=15, K=0. Press the Escape key to hide the Color panel.
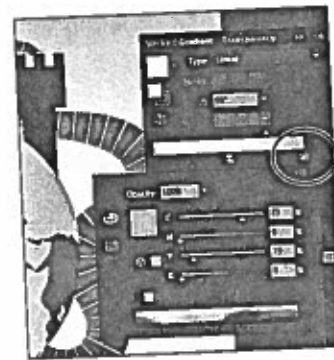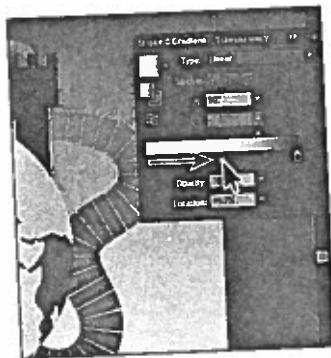
5 Click the Stroke color in the Control panel (circled in the figure). Click the None color (⬚) to remove the stroke (border) of the rectangle (if necessary). Press the Escape key to hide the Swatches panel.
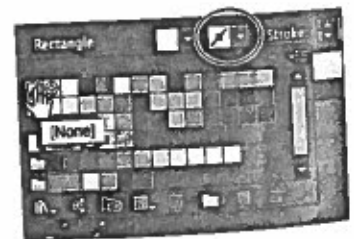
Next, you'll create a circle and apply a transparent gradient on the world.

6   Click within the green of the map artwork, and choose Object >
    Lock > Selection.

7   Click again on the map, and you will select the blue circle behind it since the
    map artwork is locked and can't be selected.

8   Choose Edit > Copy, and then Edit > Paste In Place to paste it on top of all
    other artwork.

9   In the Gradient panel, change the following options:

    - Click the Fill box (circled in the figure), if it's not already selected, so that you
      can apply the gradient to the fill of the rectangle shape.

    - Click the Gradient menu button (⊡) to the left of the word "Type," and
      choose "White, Black" from the menu.

    - Choose Radial from the Type menu.
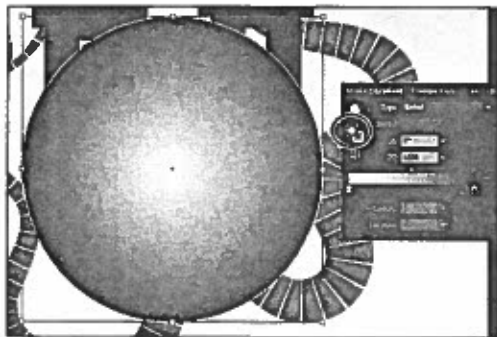
10 Double-click the black color
    stop on the right side of
    the gradient slider in the
    Gradient panel (circled in
    the figure). In the panel that
    appears, click the Swatches
    button (⊞), and select the
    white swatch. Change the
    Opacity to 0. Press Enter or
    Return to hide the Color panel.
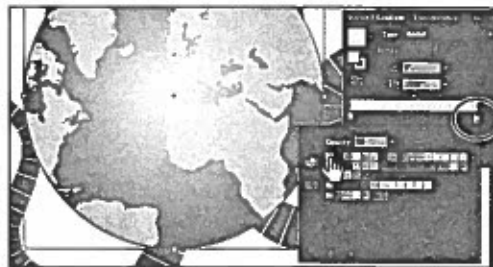
11 Select the Gradient tool (⬛) in the Tools
    panel on the left. Click and drag across the
    circle, starting at the red X in the figure, to
    reposition and resize the gradient.

12 Choose Object > Lock > Selection to lock
    the gradient circle.

Working with type

Next, you will add some text to the project and apply formatting. You will choose a Typekit font that requires an Internet connection. If you don't have an Internet connection, you can choose another font.

1 Select the Type tool (T) in the Tools panel on the left, and click in a blank area of the artboard. Type **Amusement Park**.

2 With the cursor still in the text, choose Select > All to select it.

3 In the Control panel above the artwork, type 73 pt in the Font Size field (to the right of the Font Family), and press the Enter or Return key.
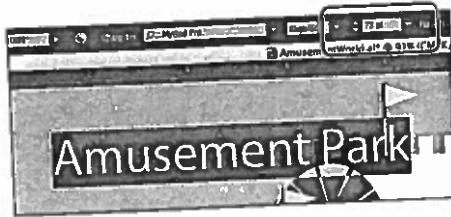

▶ **Tip:** If you don't see the character options like font size in the Control panel, click the word "Character" to see the Character panel.

4 Click the Fill color in the Control panel above the artwork and choose the purple/blue color with the yellow tool tip that shows as "C=100, M=100, Y=25, K=25."

Next, you will apply a Typekit font. You will need an Internet connection. *If you don't have an Internet connection or access to the Typekit fonts, you can choose any other font from the font menu.*

5 Click the arrow to the right of the Font field. Click the Add Fonts From Typekit button to sync a font from Typekit. This opens a browser, launches the Typekit.com website, and signs you in to the site.
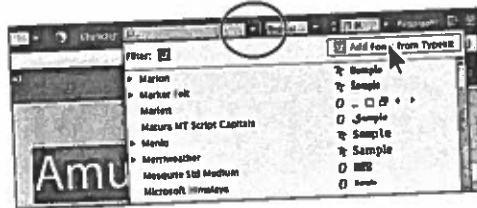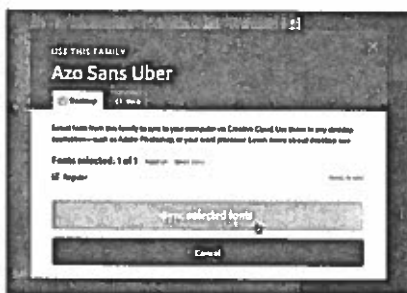
6 In the browser, click the Sans Serif button to sort the listing of fonts and make sure that the Desktop Use button is selected. Choose Name from the Sort By field to sort the fonts alphabetically.
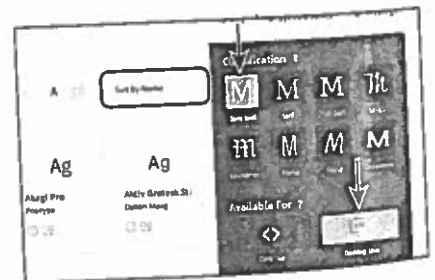
7 Find Azo Sans Uber in the list (or another font, if you don't see that one). Hover over it and click +Use Fonts.

8 Click Sync Selected Fonts in the window that appears.

9 After it is synced, click the Launch The Creative Cloud Application button to open the Creative Cloud Desktop application.

In the Creative Cloud desktop application, you will be able to see any messages indicating that font syncing is turned off (turn it on in that case) or any other issues.

10 Return to Illustrator. With the text still selected, in the Font field in the Control panel, begin typing Azo.

11 Click Azo Sans Uber Regular in the menu that appears to apply the font.

12 Select the Selection tool ( ), and drag the text roughly into position over the world, like you see in the figure and leave it selected.

**Note:** It may take a few minutes for the font to sync with your computer.

Warping text

Next, you will see how you can warp text into different shapes using a preset envelope warp.

1 With the text object still selected, choose Object > Envelope Distort > Make With Warp.

2 In the Warp Options dialog box, make sure that Arc is chosen from the Style menu. Change the Bend to **36%** and select Preview. Click OK.
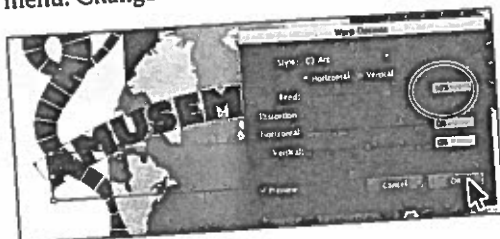

Working with brushes

Brushes let you stylize the appearance of paths. You can apply brush strokes to existing paths, or you can use the Paintbrush tool (🖌) to draw a path and apply a brush stroke simultaneously.

1 Select the Line Segment tool (/) in the Tools panel on the left. Pressing the Shift key, click and drag from the left side of the artboard (see the red X in the figure) to the right. When the gray measurement label shows a width of roughly 15.3 in, release the mouse button and then the key.
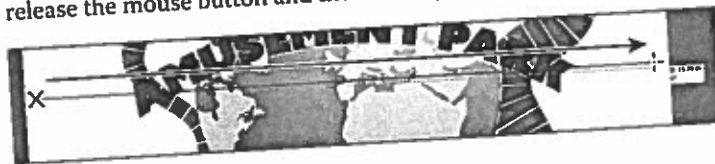

2 Choose Window > Brush Libraries > Decorative > Decorative_Banners And Seals to open the brush library as a panel.

3 Click the Banner 1 brush in the panel to apply it to the path. Click the "x" in the corner of the Decorative_Banners And Seals panel to close it.
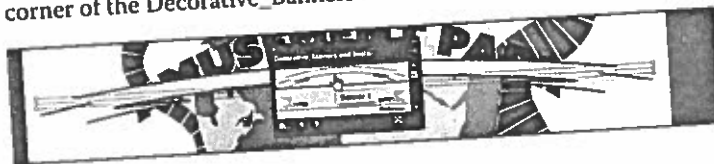
4 Change the Stroke weight to 5 pt in the Control panel above the artwork.

The brush is an art brush, which means that it stretches the banner artwork (in this case) along the path.
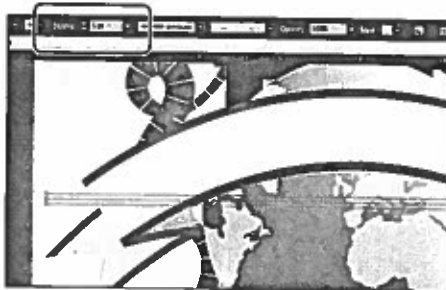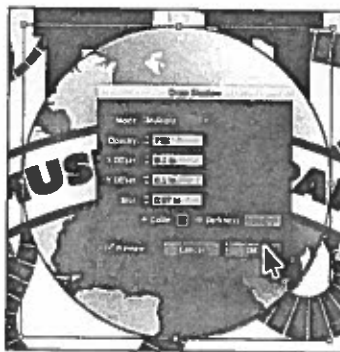
5 Choose Object > Arrange > Send Backward to arrange the banner behind the text.

6 Select the Selection tool (▶) and drag both into position like you see in the figure.

Working with effects

Effects alter the appearance of an object without changing the base object. Next, you will apply the Drop Shadow effect to the world artwork.

1 With the Selection tool (▶), click the blue circle.

2 Choose Effect > Stylize > Drop Shadow. In the Drop Shadow dialog box, set the following options (if necessary):

* Mode: **Multiply** (the default setting)

* Opacity: **75%** (the default setting)

* X Offset and Y Offset: **0.1 in** (the default setting)

* Blur: **0.07 in** (the default setting)

3 Select Preview, and then click OK.

4 Choose File > Save, and then choose File > Close.