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Welcome to Tech 25. This site is for tech fans, novice or savvy who are looking for quick guides on how to do stuff with your latest tech gadgets like iPhones, Smartphones in general and even social media. We hope you find our guides helpful and entertaining and we help solve your issues or teach you something new. You can start browsing our guides based on categories below. Browse by Category Learn interesting facts about the Galaxy, Science and tech in general. From black holes to WiFi to even facts about Cyber Monday. We got them all. Tips and tricks about social media platforms like Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, Tiktok and more. Learn to be a social media pro with our guides. Learn interesting facts about your favorite tech companies or entrepreneurs. From Elon Musk and Twitter to Larry Ellison and Oracle. Discover interesting tips about your favorite tech gadgets or services. Need to know how to create a table from an Excel sheet? This is your category right here. The Ultimate Adobe Illustrator Tools Guide: Master Every Tool in Your ArsenalAdobe Illustrator is one of the most powerful tools in the design world, but with so many features and options, it can be overwhelming for both beginners and even seasoned professionals. Thats why mastering the Adobe Illustrator toolbar is crucial. Whether youre a new designer or someone looking to refresh your skills, this guide is the perfect resource to help you understand and use every tool in Illustrator with confidence.This in-depth guide covers everything from basic shapes to advanced features like gradients, perspective, and the blend tool. Lets get started with Part 1: learning the basic and essential tools!Part 1: Fundamental Tools Every Illustrator Must KnowWe start with the essential tools, the backbone of every design project. Understanding how these work will give you the foundation to build more complex and intricate designs as you progress. Selection ToolsSelection Tool (V)The Selection Tool is arguably the most frequently used tool in Illustrator. It allows you to select, move, and modify objects. You can adjust their position, size, and overall structure by selecting the object and dragging the handles.(Insert Image: Basic object selection and manipulation)Direct Selection Tool (A)The Direct Selection Tool allows for more precise edits by selecting individual anchor points or paths of a shape. This is particularly useful when you need to manipulate parts of a path or fine-tune certain points without affecting the entire shape. Magic Wand Tool (Y)The Magic Wand Tool is excellent for selecting similar objects based on fill color, stroke color, stroke weight, or opacity. It saves time by allowing you to batch-edit similar objects without selecting them manually.Lasso Tool (Q)The Lasso Tool lets you draw a freehand selection around specific anchor points or parts of a shape, making it a great option when you need precision and control.Basic Shape and Line ToolsRectangle Tool (M)The Rectangle Tool allows you to create perfect rectangles and squares (by holding down the Shift key). Its one of the most commonly used shape tools and can serve as the building block for more complex designs. Ellipse Tool (L)With the Ellipse Tool, you can create circles and ellipses. Hold Shift to make perfect circles, or drag freely for an ellipse.Polygon, Star, and Line Segment ToolsOther useful tools in this category include the Polygon Tool for creating polygons, the Star Tool for stars, and the Line Segment Tool for drawing straight lines between two points. Pen Tool (P)The Pen Tool is the ultimate vector drawing tool, allowing you to create custom shapes by drawing straight or curved lines between anchor points. Mastering the Pen Tool can take time but is essential for creating precise paths and complex shapes.Type Tools Type Tool (T)Use the Type Tool to insert text into your design. Its perfect for creating headlines, body text, or artistic typography. You can type directly on the artboard or inside a shape to make the text follow the contours of that shape.Area Type ToolThe Area Type Tool allows you to fill a closed shape with text, which can be useful for brochures, posters, or when designing within specific boundaries.Transform ToolsRotate Tool (R)Use the Rotate Tool to spin objects around a fixed point. Holding Shift will rotate the object in precise 45-degree increments, which is useful for creating symmetrical designs.Scale Tool (S)The Scale Tool allows you to resize objects proportionally or non-proportionally. Holding down Shift ensures your object scales proportionally.Shear ToolThe Shear Tool helps you skew an object diagonally, giving it a slanted appearance.Reflect Tool (O)With the Reflect Tool, you can flip an object either horizontally or vertically, which is great for creating mirrored designs or duplicating symmetrical elements.Part 2: Advanced Tools for Specialized DesignNow that youve mastered the fundamentals, lets dive into the more advanced tools. These tools are less frequently used but are critical for advanced design work, allowing you to add depth, texture, and realism to your illustrations.Width Tool (Shift + W)The Width Tool is a fantastic feature for adjusting the thickness of different sections of a stroke. You can create varied line widths within a single stroke, adding depth and dimension without needing to outline the stroke.Warp, Twirl, Pucker, and Bloat ToolsThese tools are part of the Liquify Tools group and are perfect for distorting objects or adding unique effects.Warp Tool (Shift + R) bends and warps parts of your design with smooth, freehand movements.Twirl Tool spins parts of the object, adding a swirling, tornado-like effect.Pucker Tool creates sharp, inward points, while the Bloat Tool pushes outwards, giving a swollen effect.Shape Builder Tool (Shift + M)The Shape Builder Tool simplifies creating complex shapes by allowing you to combine or subtract parts of overlapping shapes. You can drag through different areas of your selection to merge or cut them out, perfect for logo design or any vector work involving multiple shapes.Blend Tool (W)The Blend Tool is great for creating smooth transitions between two objects. Whether you want a gradient blend of color or a morphing of shapes, the Blend Tool handles it all.Gradient Tool (G)The Gradient Tool allows you to create color transitions between two or more colors, either in linear or radial form. Mastering gradients can elevate your designs by adding depth and realistic lighting effects.Perspective Grid Tool (Shift + P)The Perspective Grid Tool is invaluable for drawing objects in perspective. It provides a customizable grid that allows you to create 3D-like effects by snapping objects to vanishing points.Mesh Tool (U)The Mesh Tool offers advanced shading and color transitions by dividing an object into a grid. You can adjust each mesh point individually to create lifelike gradients and complex shadows. Mastering Adobe Illustrator: Final ThoughtsAdobe Illustrator offers a vast array of tools, and mastering them is key to creating high-quality vector designs. While some tools are used every day, others like the Mesh Tool or the Perspective Grid Tool may be used only in special situations, but knowing how to use them can be a game-changer for your design process.If youre looking for more hands-on learning and practical demonstrations, be sure to check out my YouTube video where I walk you through some of these tools step by step! This video will help you see these tools in action and give you additional tips to improve your design workflow.Download Adobe Illustrator +Photoshop Lite Free LifeTimeAdobe illustrator Full Course Introduction to Adobe Illustrator ToolsAdobe Illustrator has colossal assortments of tools fused in it, and when Adobe Illustrator is launched then we go over certain tools which we use to apply the changes; the various instruments utilized here are clarified beneath with representations, and this Adobe Illustrator Tool is about the selection of items from the pictures and comprises of various sub tools such as draw tool, a type tool, paint tool, magic tool, modify the tool, navigate tool, artboard tool, layers panel and A most significant aspect regarding this is we can utilize shortcuts to initiate these tools. One of the most important things about this is that we can use shortcuts to activate these tools. 1. Select the tool artboard tool is activated by pressing Shift + Q; in this, we can select and modify there within the selection.2. DrawWhen its the time to show the talent and draw an image in Illustrator, then all needed tools are bonded together in this tool. From the Pen tool to Pie Graph, we can take startup by using all of these tools. While drawing, we need some of the easy blended tools like polygon, start tool, ellipse tool, rounded rectangle tool, and rectangle. We just have to click on this tool, and we can make use of these ready-made shapes.There are some other tools for making and editing symbols and graphs; we dont have to play with the tools used above. Here we can place a symbol and edit by 8 different types of tools just for the symbol. To show some mathematical values, we need to place a pie chart or bar graph, then we get the readymade tools where we just have to enter the values, and the graph is ready. We can modify it in the way we want and adjust the values as per. . Type Tool Adobe Illustrator Tool is used to enter the text in between the illustrations wherever we want. We get a chance to write anything anywhere, and mainly, we can write in any position we want as we have a vertical type tool, Vertical type on path tool, Type on path tool, and Vertical area type tool. One of the lovely tools is the Touch-type tool; by using this, we can click anywhere on the screen and write text there; also, we can access this tool by pressing Shift + T.4. Paint tool Paint tool consists of the Gradient tool, mesh tool, shape builder tool, live paint bucket, and lives paint selection tool. The gradient tool is used to show the shades of color and can make a new one by mixing two or more colors. Similarly, to help this tool, it has a live paint bucket that even consists of combining various colors. The modification is a key part of the software as it has to make changes in the existing without affecting the original object. Here in this, we can do lots of changes like rotate, making the mirror of the original, scaling images, reshaping the existing shapes, adjusting the width & height, and warping it.The tool which I like is a Twirl tool; as in this tool, as long as we hold our click, the more twirl well come to see. This twirl is used to create more complex shapes by repeating them again and again. We can use it on the edges of the circle also; we can change the options by double-clicking on the tool.Even there is a Warp tool which is used to deflate the object by controlling the points. Further Pucker tool can be used to squash everything towards the center. . Navigate ToolHere we go with the navigation tool, which we can say plays an eternal part, as it is used every minute. If we make some changes in the design, then we need to zoom in and zoom out the illustration to see how changes affect. While applying the effects or while applying the colors, we need a hand tool for panning objects. As we need these tools continuously in command, we can access these by pressing H and Z. . Artboard ToolIt is the tool which is the platform for the printable section or a platform for an object to be exported. Before creating the artboard, we can choose different preset sizes or define our own custom artboard. We can create a seamless artboard for a single document and can modify its size, width, and length and can place it anywhere on the screen. To access this tool, we need to open this tool and directly add objects by dragging and dropping them. Each artboard is bounded by a thick solid line and shows the maximum printable area. The canvas is the region outside the artboard that can be extended up to a 220-inch square window. . Layers PanelUsually, in any photo editing softwares layers are the common tool which is used to make a duplicate copy of the image or illustration. By using this tool, we can keep the original copy unaffected by the changes. As if we didnt like any changes made, we dont have to do undo all the time; we can directly remove the layer and can start with the fresh work.Another use of the layer is that we can hide, lock and can save the appearance. We can even create the template of layers that we can use to track the artwork and exchange layers with the other softwares like Photoshop.Usually, in layers, Adobe Illustrator assigns a special color to each layer as it can be done up to 9 different colors. The same color has been reflected in the window of the box, path, anchor points and center of the object.We can see in the below image how the different layers are created and how they are named. We can see the four columns as well named from the left side of the page as 1. Visibility column 2.Edit column 3.Target column 4.Selection column. We can control the characteristics by clicking on them. ArticlesThis has been a guide to know What is Adobe Illustrator Tools. Here we have discussed the basic concepts and the characteristics. You may also look at the following articles: Its also important to have a good understanding of the tools and features available in Illustrator. One of the most useful tools for creating complex shapes is the Shape Maker tool. This tool allows you to draw basic shapes and then combine them to create more complex objects. With the Shape Maker tool, you can quickly create custom shapes and designs that would be difficult to achieve using traditional drawing tools.Another important tool in Illustrator is the Illustrator Pen. This tool allows you to draw precise, scalable vector graphics. With the Illustrator Pen, you can create complex shapes and lines that can be resized without losing quality. Whether youre creating logos, illustrations, or designs for print or web, the Illustrator Pen is an essential tool for any designer.If youre new to Adobe Illustrator or looking to brush up on your skills, Vivi Designing is here to help you learn. Photoshop and Illustrator tutorials can be a great way to learn new techniques and improve your workflow.For those looking to take their skills to the next level, Vivi Designing offers numerous tips and techniques to help you take control of your design.In addition to paid courses, we offer you step-by-step guides on some of the important techniques.Whether youre a beginner or a seasoned professional, theres always more to learn in Adobe Illustrator. With the right computer and the right tools, you can create stunning designs and illustrations that stand out from the crowd. So why not take the time to learn Illustrator online for free and start creating your own vector art today? With the right training and practice, you can achieve your design goals and create the kind of work that truly inspires you.In this article, you will learn aboutBasic Tools used in Adobe Illustrator. There are many tools in Illustrator that, are used while creating artwork, but today we will focus on the use of basic tools that a beginner must know. So, lets begin with the tools that are in the tool panel.There are many ways tocurve text in Adobe Illustrator. You can use the Arc effect from Envelope Distort, or you can use theType on a Path toolIn case if you select a shape accidentally, no need to worry. Just click on that shape again and it will be deselected.In the above image, you can see that the square and circle shapes are selected with the help of the selection tool.The Direct Selection tool helps in extending the edges of the existing shape to form a new shape. This tool is placed next to the selection tool in the tool panel. The shortcut key used for this tool is A.Compare the above image with the selection tool image and you with notice the changes in the shapes which have been done with the help of the Direct Selection tool.This can be used in selecting shapes and objects with simpler attributes. This tool helps save your time. Instead of selecting similar shapes one by one, you can easily select them with just one click.Click on the magic wand tool in the tool panel or you can press Y, the shortcut key, then click on one object and other objects with similar attributes to the selected object will also get selected, and then you can edit those objects at the same time.In the above image, I had just clicked on the triangle shape, and the star shape was automatically selected as both the shapes have the same fill color.This is another version of the Selection tool. This tool also helps in the selection of more than one object or shape. Click on the Lasso Tool and Drag the tool on the shapes you want to select. This tool is just another option for the selection of objects. You can find this tool next to the magic wand tool in the tool panel.This is the most commonly used tool in the illustrator. In the beginning, you may find it difficult to use but later on, you will enjoy using this tool.The Pen Tool is used to draw something by creating paths. Paths are lines with two endpoints called anchors and anchors have two handles that help reshape the object.When you right-click on the Pen tool in the tool panel you will see other tools:To add anchor points to the path, select the path and then click on the pen tool then move the pointer to the path, a plus sign (+) will appear next to the pointer, and click to set a point on the path.To delete any existing anchor point on the path, follow the same procedure of adding an anchor point, but the difference here is that a minus sign will appear next to the pointer when you move the pointer to an existing anchor point, click to delete the anchor point.You can find this tool in the tool panel just next to the Pen tool. This tool helps in giving a smooth curve to a path. With the help of the Curvature tool, you can create any form of shape.In the above image, you can see that a straight line has been converted into a curve with the help of this tool. To reshape a path with the help of this tool, select the path and click on the curvature tool. Then move the pointer on the path and when a plus sign appears on the pointer click to add a point. With a left click, you can drag that point to give a desired shape to the path.We use this tool to add text to your artwork or image. There are sub-tools under this tool which you can see by right click on the type tool icon. With the help of the type tool, you can type a single line text or a paragraph text.To type Normal Text, Click on the type tool and then click on the artboard.For Paragraph Text, Select the Type tool and then move the pointer to the artboard and with a left-click, drag to form a rectangle or square shape. You can adjust the shape as per text and you can even align the text.Area Type ToolType on a Path ToolVertical Type ToolVertical Area Type ToolVertical Type on a Path ToolTouch Type Tool (Shift+T)By not making it more confusing, I will explain the use of these above-mentioned sub-tools in forthcoming articles.It helps in drawing straight lines and you can adjust the length, angle, color, and width of the line accordingly.The name clearly states what this tool will do for you (obviously it will draw a rectangle). But this tool has other shapes too. Just right-click on the rectangle tool and you will find:Rounded Rectangle toolEllipse Tool (L)Polygon ToolStar ToolFlare toolTo pan across a document, you have to click on the Hand Tool. The shortcut key for using the hand tool is H but you can also press the space bar to activate the hand tool and pan across the whole document.If you want to obtain the desired shape by adding or subtracting two or more shapes then Shape Builder is the tool for you. With this tool, you can either add/combine two or more shapes by adding their paths or you can subtract two or more paths to form another shape. You will get a clear view of how to use this tool by understanding the below image-In the above image to get the desired shape 2 overlapping circles are drawn with the help of the Ellipse tool. Select both circles with the help of the Selection Tool and click on the Shape Builder Tool in the tool panel.Move the pointer on the path you want to remove, there will be a plus sign at the end of the pointer, click & hold the alt key and a minus sign will appear at the end of the pointer. Now the path that will be removed will get highlighted in red color, click to remove the path.You can even combine two or more shapes with the help of the Shape Builder Tool. See the below image-To combine both circles, first select them with the help of the selection tool and then click on the Shape Builder Tool. Move the pointer on the circles with a plus sign at the end and with a left click, drag the pointer from one circle to another. The highlighted path is the preview of the result of the tool. Click to combine the shapes.This is a very useful tool as it helps in giving different shades to your artwork, from solid to light fill. You will enjoy using this tool as it is easy to use and helps give a new effect to your artwork with the use of different colors. You can find the gradient tool in the tool panel.When you double-click on the gradient tool a gradient window will appear. To fill your artwork with gradient, select your artwork first with the selection tool. Then click on the gradient tool. There are two types of gradient fill, linear and radial. Select the type of gradient from the gradient window.In the gradient window, you will see a gradient slider which helps in adjusting the colors. When you will open the gradient window there will be only two colors on the gradient slider, white and black. You can change the color by double-clicking on the small pointer placed below the slider.When you move the cursor close to the gradient slider, a plus sign will appear, click and this will help in adding a new pointer to the slider. You can see in the above image that I have added color pointers and even I have changed the color of the pointers. After selecting the artwork, click on the gradient tool, and with a left click drag your cursor over the artwork. A gradient slider will appear there. You can rotate the slider at any point in the artwork to adjust the color.Practice this tool and you will end up playing with colors.The Eyedropper tool helps in copying color from any object, image, or artwork.If you are wondering how I have got this raster image in the illustrator then keep patience, I will explain this in my forthcoming articles.Now get back to the eyedropper tool. With the help of this tool, I have copied these different shades from the image.To copy any color, select the object or shape in which you need to copy the color then click on the eyedropper tool and move the tool over the color to be copied, and then click. You can also copy color from and object to another.With the help of the eyedropper tool, you can fill or change the color of more than one object at the same time.As the name suggests, this tool is used to zoom in and out of the artboard. You will find this tool next to the hand tool in the tool panel.Ctrl + +: This will help you to Zoom InCtrl + -: This will help you to Zoom OutThe tool used for filling color, gradient, or pattern in the artwork. Fill is done in the inner area of the object but it is not compulsory. It can be applied to both close-ended and open-ended artwork.On the other hand, stroke is the outer line of the artwork or object.You can easily identify from the name itself what is the function of this tool. Yes, this tool helps in erasing but erasing what?This tool helps in erasing the path. Right-click on the erase tool on the tool panel and you will find two more tools; Scissor Tool and Knife.A Scissor Tool is used for cutting the path and a knife is used to cut an object or shape into two or more parts.From the above image, you can understand the use of the Scissor Tool. To cut a path from the object, select the object with the Selection tool, and then right-click on the erase tool.Select the Scissor Tool move the scissor towards the object and click on the anchor point of the path that you want to cut.The blue highlighted line will show you the path that will get cut. If that is the path that is required to be cut then click and the path will get removed from the object.Now learn the use of knives. Select the object which you want to cut into different parts.Right-click on Erase Tool and select a knife.Move the knife on the object and with left click-drag the knife over the object in the direction in which you want to cut the object.Then click on the selection tool, the whole object will get selected, deselect the object.Again click on the selection tool and move the pointer on the object this time only the part of the object will get selected.Drag the selected part apart from the other part. This is how the knife tool works.We all know what blending means and the same meaning applies here. Blend Tools help in blending colors.In this image, you can see a blend options window; this will appear when you double-click on the blend tool.In the above image, I have blended two different shades of color.To do this, draw a circle with the ellipse tool and make a duplicate copy of it. (Select the circle, press and hold the alt key, and at the same time with left click-drag the circle.This will duplicate the object.) Fill one circle with a color and another circle with another color. (For Strokes click on No Fill. You can see in the above image strokes are not filled) Now select both the circle and double-click on the blend tool.The blend option window will appear. Select smooth color in spacing and click OK. Move the pointer on the first circle, a plus sign will appear, then click to blend the circles.There are a lot more things to do with the blend tool just give it a try.Artboard is the place where you draw or create your artwork. You can find this tool in the tool panel. This tool is used to edit the artboard.With the help of this tool, you can change the appearance of the artboard. From the appearance panel also you can edit the artboard.See the below image to understand more about the Artboard Tool.Now you have learned the Basic Tools of Adobe Illustrator. In the next article, you will learn about the basic panels used in Adobe Illustrator.The fundamental tool in Adobe Illustrator is the Selection Tool (shortcut: V). It allows you to select and manipulate objects, making it an essential tool for every Illustrator user.Adobe Illustrator offers a wide range of tools to facilitate diverse design tasks. Some notable tools include the Pen Tool, Type Tool, Shape Tools, Gradient Tool, Eyedropper Tool, and Brush Tool, among others.Determining the most important tool can vary based on your design needs. However, the Pen Tool is often considered crucial due to its versatility in creating precise and intricate shapes.When it comes to illustration, the Pen Tool and the Brush Tool are frequently used. The Pen Tool is great for creating sharp, vector-based designs, while the Brush Tool offers a more organic, hand-drawn feel.Adobe Illustrator CC (Creative Cloud) is the most suitable version for beginners. It offers a user-friendly interface, access to the latest features, and ample learning resources.Learning Illustrator can be made easier through a combination of online tutorials, courses, and practice. Start with basic tools and gradually explore advanced features to build a strong foundation.Adobe Illustrator may seem complex initially, but with consistent practice and learning, it becomes more manageable. The key is to start with the basics and gradually build your skills over time.To begin designing in Illustrator, follow these steps:Familiarize yourself with the interface and basic tools.Choose a project or concept to work on.Sketch your ideas on paper or digitally.Use the Pen Tool, Shape Tools, and other tools to bring your sketches to life.Experiment with colors, gradients, and effects to enhance your design.Creating a logo in Illustrator involves these steps:Define your brands identity and values.Sketch out several logo concepts.Open Illustrator and create a new document.Use the Pen Tool to trace or refine your sketch.Incorporate text using the Type Tool.Experiment with colors, shapes, and effects to finalize your logo.100%(4)100% found this document useful (4 votes)12K viewsThis document provides an overview of every tool in Adobe Illustrator. It discusses the basic functions of tools like the selection tool, direct selection tool, pen tool, type tool, shape toAI-enhanced title and descriptionSaveSave The Complete Guide to Adobe Illustrator Tools For Later100%100% found this document useful, undefined100%(4)100% found this document useful (4 votes)12K viewsThis document provides an overview of every tool in Adobe Illustrator. It discusses the basic functions of tools like the selection tool, direct selection tool, pen tool, type tool, shape toAI-enhanced title and descriptionAdobe Illustrator can be pretty daunting for beginners. The variety of tools and panels as amazing as they are need some time getting used to. But where do you start? The following 10 essential tools are for anyone starting out with Illustrator.But first, what is Adobe Illustrator and why should I use it?Adobe Illustrator is a graphics design software specially for vector graphics. Vectors are a type of image that are created using paths rather than pixels. This means they are quite different from a standard JPEG file type. A benefit of using a vector image is the scalability. Re-sizing and editing can be done easily and doesnt leave you with blurry, pixelated images.This is why Adobe Illustrator is preferred for logo design, illustrations and typography. For architecture students and alike, this software can be great for creating effective diagrams, maps and even simple perspective images.1. The pen toolThe pen tool is a versatile feature in Illustrator and can not only be used to create all sorts of shapes but also to trace hand-drawn sketches and effectively create quick and editable drawings. By using the Direct Selection Tool (a.k.a. the white mouse) you can easily edit the anchor points and any Bezier curves.Here are some examples of ways to use the pen tool:Using the Pen Tool (P) hold down Shift to create straight lines at 0, 45 and 90 angles.creating straight linesUsing the Pen Tool (P) click to start a point, then click, hold and drag to create a curve.creating a bezier curveIf aligning points, make sure to turn on Smart Guides by going to View > Smart Guides.using smart guides to alignTo edit shapes after they are closed, use the Direct Selection Tool (A) and click on one point to isolate, or drag over more and move to the desired position.adjusting anchor points 2. Type tool and its extra bits Many people use the type tool to simply add text to an illustration or drawing, but Illustrator allows you to do much more. This is particularly useful for typography and logo designers but can be a useful tool overall.By holding down on the type tool, you can see the list of different options such as Type on a Path Tool and Vertical Type Tool.type tool and its extra bitsCreating text around a shape or path can be done by holding down the Type Tool (T) > Type on a Path Tool.Then make sure to click on a path that has no fill or stroke. This can be done for the standard shapes or by making one of your own. Its also not limited to lines and curves.*Make sure to click exactly where you want the text to start on the path.creating text around a pathAnother great feature is to convert a text into outlines. Illustrator allows you to treat a letter or word as a group of shapes rather than text which can then be modified.First type out the word or letters in the desired font (dont worry about the size) and then go to Type > Create Outlines. To separate each letter, you can select everything using the Selection Tool (V) and go to Object > Ungroup (Shift + Ctrl + G)turning text into shapesungrouping shapes3. The Paintbrush Tool This tool is quite effective for those with a graphics tablet. It allows your strokes to be vectorized and used as shapes to essentially create amazing illustrations. With pressure sensitivity turned on you can create a varied line in a matter of seconds. changing the pressure sensitivity of a brushusing a graphics tablet4. Layers are your best friend The layers panel is probably the glue that holds Adobe Illustrator together. It is extremely essential when creating any kind of graphic. There are many small features within this panel that are important to unpack. For example, let's say you forget to create your layers, but want to separate each shape or object on to its own layer. Select the shape, and in the layers panel click on the small square on the right-hand side. Then drag this up to move the shape on to its own layer without affecting the artwork.moving shapes to their own layersYou can also drag and drop layers to move shapes in front or behind one another. It is a good habit to name all your layers so that they are easily accessible.naming layers is keyTo lock or hide layers you can click on the lock shaped icon and the eye icon respectively. This can be useful when you dont want to mess-up a specific layer and work on top or when you want to try things out and not have other layers interfering. locking or hiding layers can be useful5. Live paint Although this may seem like one of the more complicated tools in Adobe Illustrator, it is a highly useful one for adding colour to images quickly. Have your line work art or shape ready. Use the Selection Tool (V) to select everything you want to colour and go to Object > Live Paint > Make. live paintThen use the Live Paint Bucket Tool (K) which is hidden under the Shape Builder Tool and choose a colour. The areas highlighted in red are ones you can colour in. If you try to colour elsewhere you get an error box. live paint bucketAt the end, make sure to Expand everything. This can be done by selecting everything using the Selection Tool (V) and clicking on the expand button or going to Object > Live Paint > Expand. If you missed any areas that cannot be used with the Live paint tool, you can always select and Merge by going to Object > Live Paint > Merge and go back and paint them.expand - alwaysYou can also get rid of the strokes to get a clean, line-less finish.et fin6. Swatches Swatches are useful when you have a certain colour palette you want to stick to. Incredibly useful in logo designing or to create a tone within your artwork. To create a swatch, you can go to Window > Swatches and create a new swatch with the colour you have already selected. creating a swatchThis can also be sorted into groups. Simply create a new group by clicking on the upper right-hand side options and choosing New Colour Group. creating a swatch groupYou can name your swatches for a project and edit these as you go. You can also download or create swatches you find online. We like to use Adobe Colour (to look at new colour swatches or groups of swatches that you can easily re-create or download without having to enter the Hex code. 7. Pathfinder Tool The pathfinder tool is a simple one in Adobe Illustrator, but it lets you play around with different shapes and basically creates either cut-outs or merges two or more shapes to become one. You can find the pathfinder panel by going to Window > Pathfinder.Next, with two shapes as an example, we can use the different options to create completely new shapes:pathfinder panelThe first is to merge the two shapes. You can do this by placing one on top of each other and clicking on the merge tool.merging two shapesTo cut out the front-most shape, click on the second option Minus Front.pathfinder minus toolThis tool is something you can play around with and figure out which options best suit your project. 8. Image Trace Image trace is a good illustrative tool for artists or design students. It can turn sketches and images into a vectorised format making it easy to edit. Here we show you two examples of the ways in which image trace can be used.This photo of a man can be turned into a vector with a few easy steps. We've used an image from Freepik for this example.Hand photo created by luis_molinero.To get your saved or scanned photo you can go to File > Place to add the image in Adobe Illustrator.Re-scale your image and hold down the Shift key to make sureyou dont lose the proportions.Next, on the top toolbar you can see the option to Image Trace. When you click on this, dont be alarmed if your image disappears or becomes a hideous mess. image trace panelClick on the Image Trace Panel to display more options. Our photo has been turned into a silhouette image which we can further alter. We can now change the level of detail and magically get rid of the white background.Click on the Advanced arrow and make sure the Ignore White box is checked. check this magic boxBut what if you wanted to keep the colours? Or make the image not so detailed?To do this, simply choose Colour in the Mode drop down list. You can use the slider below to change the number of colours you want present. Essentially, the smaller number of colours means less detail. *This is extremely helpful when creating vector people to use for architectural illustrationscolour image traceHere we have 5 colours selected as well as the Ignore Whitebox checked. However, the colours are seemingly dull and too similar. Dont fear, we can change this too.Click on the Expand button in the toolbar or go to Object > Live Paint > Expand. Next, using the Direct Selection Tool (A) we can click on one of the areas that we want to change.selecting the same colourBut selecting each and every area of that colour can be difficult and long. To make this easier, go to Select > Same > Fill Colour. Now all those areas are selected we can choose a new colour to replace this. image tracedWhat if you wanted to Image Trace a scanned image or document? Place your image and start the Image Trace process like before. In the Preset drop down menu, you can choose a range of different presets with different setting to suit the outcome. Here we've used the 'sketched art' preset to get a simple plan outline.scanned images work well too9. Patterns Patterns are an easy tool in Adobe Illustrator and making your own pattern allows you to fill larger areas with the same shape rather than copying and pasting it again and again.Here we have a hexagon with the letter 'S' cut out (Remember creating outlines and pathfinder cut out?) which we want to make into a pattern to fill a rectangular shape. Select your shape with the Selection Tool (V) and go to Object > Pattern > Make.making a patternNow we can adjust the size, spacing and angle of the pattern you want to create. You can name your pattern to use in the future as this gets saved as a Swatch. Use the Pattern Tile Tool in the top left to adjust the spacing manually.adjusting the size You can also use the presets to change the style of the pattern. Were going to select Brick by Column. brick by columnNow, you can click Done to save this as a pattern. Basically, we can use the pattern as we would any fill colour. Since it has been added to swatches, we can create a rectangle and select the swatch to fill it with our pattern.using the swatch to fill a shapepattern made10. Exporting Youre all done and dusted testing out these handful of features and actually managed to create something along the way. But what now? Saving and exporting is just as important as the actual outcome. The Save As feature allows you to save your document as an Illustrator file (.Ai) and an Adobe PDF whereas the Export' feature lets you save in a large number of formats, the most common being .png or .jpeg.You can also save your artboards as separate images or pages in a PDF.These 10 tools and features are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Illustrator but now that youve covered the basics we hope you turned from a newbie to someone who knows some of the ins and outs of this particular software and dont worry if it takes a while or if along the way you make some happy accidents and reveal even more features.Which other tools, tips and tricks do you like using in Adobe Illustrator? Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Alright, yall today begins the first of our two-part series where I give you an overview of EVERY SINGLE Adobe Illustrator tool.Whether youre a total newbie to Illustrator or youve used it millions of times, youll find this guide to be super helpful! Even I learned of a few new tools while putting this post together.The thing about Adobe Illustrator is that there's typically more than one way to accomplish the same task. Just because you know how to do something one way, doesnt mean its the easiest or most straightforward way of going about it. With that being said, some of these tools offer super short cuts to processes you may already have a system for, while others will probably yield a similar amount of time and effort to accomplish the same end goal. Either way, this guide is a quick and easy overview of what each Adobe Illustrator tool does and its general uses. Also, note that not every Adobe Illustrator tool is super relevant or useful (at least in my mind).So understand that mastering every single one of these tools is totally not necessary. There are several Illustrator tools that you will probably never touch once in your whole graphic designer life. So if at any point while youre going through this list,it seems like an Illustrator tool is extremely specific and realistically something youll never use youre probably right. But just in case, Ive laid them all out for you anyway!Because there are SO many Adobe Illustrator tools, Ive split this post into two parts, starting with the top half of the Illustrator toolbar, ending with the bottom.So below are the top half of the Adobe Illustrator tools (which you can find in the toolbar on the left-hand side of your workspace): The selection tool is the black arrow icon that you use all the time. It functions as a typical cursor, allowing you to select,click and drag objects and text around your screen. The direct selection tool allows you to individually select and edit specific anchor points of vector shapes or lines.Where the regular selection tool would select the entire shape, the Direct Selection Tool enables you to edit one angle, side, point or curve at a time.- Group Selection ToolThis tool allows you to easily select a specific object within a group in order to move, edit, or resize it individually.I actually didnt even realize this was a real tool until today, but Im super glad it exists because this will save me a lot of time and eliminate the need for a million double clicks (which accomplishes the same thing but takes a lot longer)! This tool allows you to click on a single object in order to automatically select everything in your workspace with that same fill color.This would come in handy if you ever needed to adjust the same color on a bajillion different shapes. By using the magic wand tool you only have to click once to do so, instead of clicking on every object individually! The lasso tool works similarly to the Direct Selection Tool in that it allows you to select individual anchor points within a shape or object. However, the Lasso Tool allows you to draw around an area of points you want selected so that youre able to easily select several at a time. The pen tool is probably the most important tool of the entire program. This Illustrator tool allows you to click in your workspace to create anchor points.By clicking and dragging these anchor points, you can maneuver their handles, which give your paths curvature and shape. By connecting several anchor points with this tool, you can create unique, hand drawn vector shapes.This tool takes some practice, but once you have it down, you will be able to draw freaking awesome vector illustrations. I use the pen tool every single time I open Illustrator, so if there is any tool to master, its definitely this one!- Add Anchor Point Tool (+)The add actor point tool allows you to click in the middle of an existing path to add an extra anchor point to your shape or line.You would use this tool if you needed to add an extra curve or angle to your shape, without having to fully redraw it.Once youve added the new anchor point to your path, use the direct selection tool and/or the anchor point tool to manipulate it into the curve or angle you want to create.- Delete Anchor Point Tool (-)The delete anchor point tool deletes anchor points from paths (pretty self-explanatory, I know).- Anchor Point ToolThis tool allows you to add or maneuver handles of existing anchor points in order to add curvature to shapes youve already created. The curvature tool is another great way to create vector shapes, especially if your shape has mostly curved edges.It's harder to have perfect control over your curves using this tool than is with the pen tool, BUT the curves of this tool are also more perfectly round than the curves you would create using the pen tool. I suggest using this tool in combination with the pen tool to create the perfect shape best of both worlds! This tool allows you to add text to your Illustrator document.To use this tool, either click on your artboard and begin typing which allows you to type without any boundaries; or you can click and drag to create a text box and THEN begin typing which will restrict your text to stay within that text box.- Area Type ToolThe area type tool allows you to convert an existing shape into a text box and type within it.- Type on a Path ToolThis tool allows you to use an existing line or shape as a path to type on.- Vertical Type ToolThe vertical type tool allows you to type your text vertically instead of horizontally.- Vertical Area Type ToolThis is exactly like the area type tool, but this tool allows you to type vertically instead of horizontally.- Vertical Type on a Path ToolThis tool is exactly like the type on a path tool, but allows you to type vertically instead of horizontally.- Touch Type ToolThis it allows you to select individual letters of existing text and move them around. This tool does exactly what you think it does draws lines! Unlike the pen tool however, you cannot make connected lines, only individual ones.For this tool and the ones nested under it, you can either click and drag to create your lines, or you can click one single time on the artboard and specify it's dimensions first. If you hold down the shift key you can create a line at a 0, 45, or 90 degree angles.- Arch ToolThis tool makes arches imagine that! However, I personally dont find it the easiest to control and would recommend using the curvature tool instead but try them both out and see which you prefer!- Spiral ToolAnother obvious one this tool makes spirals! This is actually a super fun tool, however I dont know that Ive actually ever used it for a real project before. But if you can find a practical use for this kudos!- Rectangular Grid ToolThis tool is actually be super helpful because it allows you to create create tables or anything else youd need a grid with rows and columns for.Once the tool is selected, you can click one time on your artboard, which will bring up a window where you can specify the size and amount of rows and columns you want. Hit okay and your grid will appear!- Polar Grid ToolThis tool makes a polar grid, which apparently is a circular target looking thing, with perpendicular lines that meet in the middle. I have no idea what you would ever use this for, but its there if you need it I guess?! This tool makes squares and rectangles.If you want a perfect square you can hold down the shift key as you click and drag.Otherwise just click and drag normally to make a rectangle. If you need your shape to be an exact size, just click one time and specify the size you want your shape to be in the box that will pop up.- Rounded Rectangle ToolThis tool works exactly the same as the rectangle tool, but the corners are rounded instead of squared.If you want to adjust the roundness of the corners, use the direct selection tool and click and drag on the little circular points that show up on the insides part of the corners and adjust them accordingly.- Ellipse Tool (L)Fun fact: an ellipse is a circle. So any time you want a circle or an oval, this is the tool youll need.To create a circle, hold down the shift key. If you want an oval, just click and drag. Like the rectangle tool(s), if you want a specific sized circle, just click once on the artboard and adjust your settings accordingly.- Polygon ToolThe polygon tool makes any number of sided shapes from triangles to hexagons to octagons and beyond.With the tool selected, all you need to do is click once on your artboard and define how many sides you want your shape to have.- Star ToolThis tool obviously makes stars. With this tool, you can choose how many points you want your star to have, as well as how far in the inner points go towards the center.The star tool is super fun to play around with, given how many different variations you can come up with. Again, just click in your workspace with the tool selected to define the number of points you want your star to have, as well as the distance you want between them.-Flare ToolThis is another random tool that I have never actually used and I dont totally understand who does. It makes this weird multi-circular shape with some weird gradient flares.Play around with it because I dont even really know how to describe what this tool does. Youll see how weird it is for yourself. The paint brush tool makes thicker, paint-like strokes that you can change the width, shape and texture of.This tool creates brush strokes that are made up of actual lines, so after youve painted them, you can use the direct select tool to can move around the points and smooth out any curves that arent quite perfect. You can also change the width of the stroke after its already been drawn by changing the line weight.- Blob Brush ToolThe blob brush tool is the same as the paint brush tool, but instead of creating lines down the middle of your brushstrokes, it creates a vector shape AROUND the brushstroke. So instead of creating a single path, it creates an entire an area instead. The shaper tool allows you to draw general shapes by hand, but then will automatically clean them up and create the shape you intended. So if you used this tool to draw a super crappy rectangle, the moment you release your finger from the mouse pad, it will automatically create a non-crappy rectangle for you.- Pencil ToolThe pencil tool is similar to the brush tool in that you can draw lines by hand without using the pen or line tools. I dont use it often because it can be difficult to handle precisely, but occasionally it comes in handy!- Smooth ToolThis tool smooths out lines, making them less rigid and bumpy.By clicking and dragging the smooth tool over top of a line youve drawn, it will automatically change around the anchor points to create a smoother transition between them. I personally dont find this tool to work super well, but its always worth a shot!- Path Eraser ToolWith a line selected, you can use the path eraser tool to draw along segments of the line you want to be erased.- Join ToolThe join tool allows you to take two paths and join them together to create one single path. With the join tool selected, just click and drag a circle around the two end points of the path you want to be connected, and Illustrator will join them together for you. The eraser tool erases. I know,shocking, right? This tool really does come in handy if you want to get rid of a section of a vector object or path.Unlike the path eraser tool, this tool can erase entire sections of shapes, causing your vector shape to redraw its outside bounding lines.- Scissors ToolThe scissors tool can be used to cut apart a vector object or path.If you want to slice apart an object, use the scissors tool to click on one side and then click on the other. Now your shape is cut into two pieces which you can move around individually. You can also use this tool on a path by clicking once on the section of the path you want to be separated.- Knife ToolThe knife tool allows you to do the same thing as the scissors tool, but instead of only cutting straight lines, the knife tool can cut in any jigsaw manner you want! Just click and drag the knife through the shape and voila! The rotate tool allows you to rotate shapes in a circular manner.To use it, select the tool and click once in the middle of the shape, defining your axis point (that blue dot) of which you want your shape to rotate around. Then click and drag outside of the shape to rotate it around!- Reflect Tool (O)The reflect tool works similarly to the rotate tool, but instead reflects the image or object instead of just rotating it.Again, you need to select an axis point, then click and drag outside of the shape to reflect it. This tool works similarly to the reflect and rotate tools, in that you have to define an axis point, then resize by clicking and dragging outside the shape. I find it easier to forgo using this tool by just resizing the shape as normal while holding down option and shift (which resizes it proportionately and centered to where the object already resides).. But to each it's own!- Shear ToolThe shear tool angles and skews your objects to look like they are going back into space. This tool works the same as the previous, where you select and axis point, then click and drag outside of the shape to shear it.- Reshape ToolThe reshape tool allows you to select multiple anchor points on a line or shape, and move them all in the same direction.Its essentially the same as the direct selection tool but is easier in maneuvering several points at the same time, especially if you want them all to move in the same direction.Whew! Thats a lot of tools. But guess what? Thats only HALF! Read Part Two HERE!

Illustrator functions. What are the basic tools of adobe illustrator. Adobe illustrator functions.