ExplorNet's
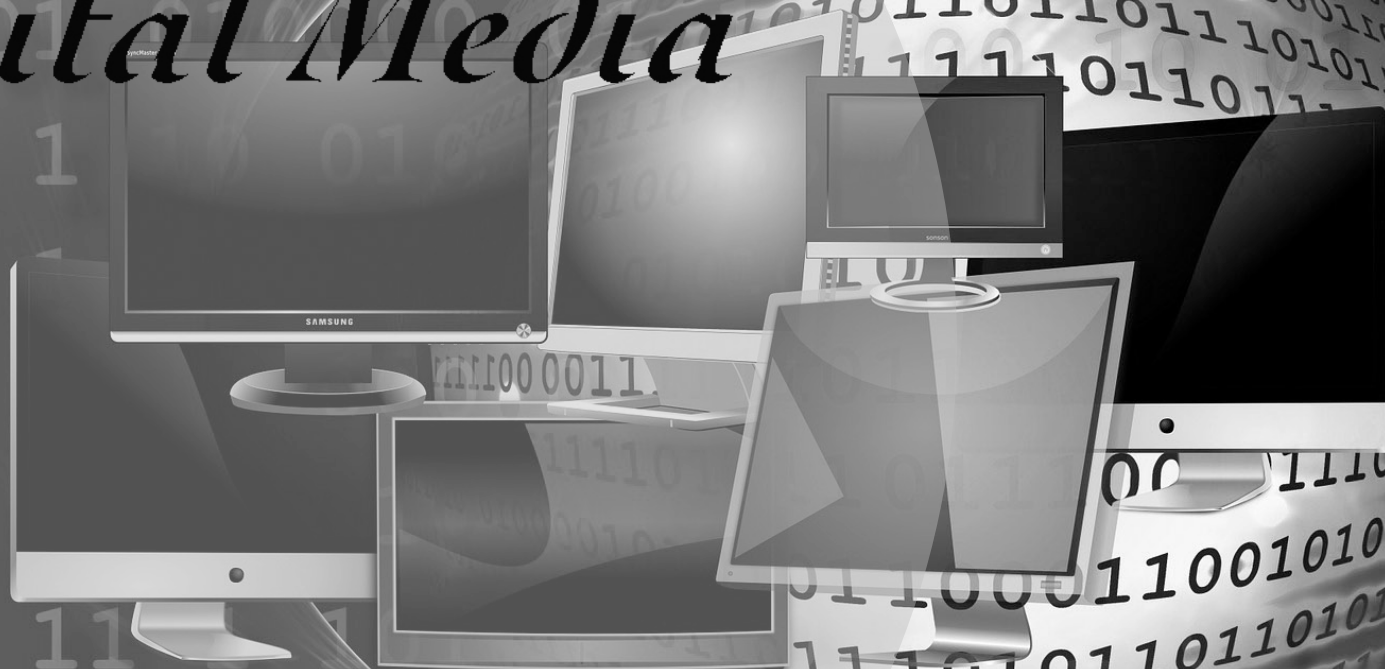
Digital Media

Objective 102.04
Utilize appropriate tools and methods to produce digital graphics.

FREE TRANSFORM

○ Change by using rotate, scale, skew, distort, or perspective in one continuous operation. Instead of choosing different commands, you simply hold down a key on your keyboard to switch between transformation types.

○ Rotating an object turns it around a fixed point that you choose.

○ Hold Shift while resizing to keep the proportions or use Scale instead.
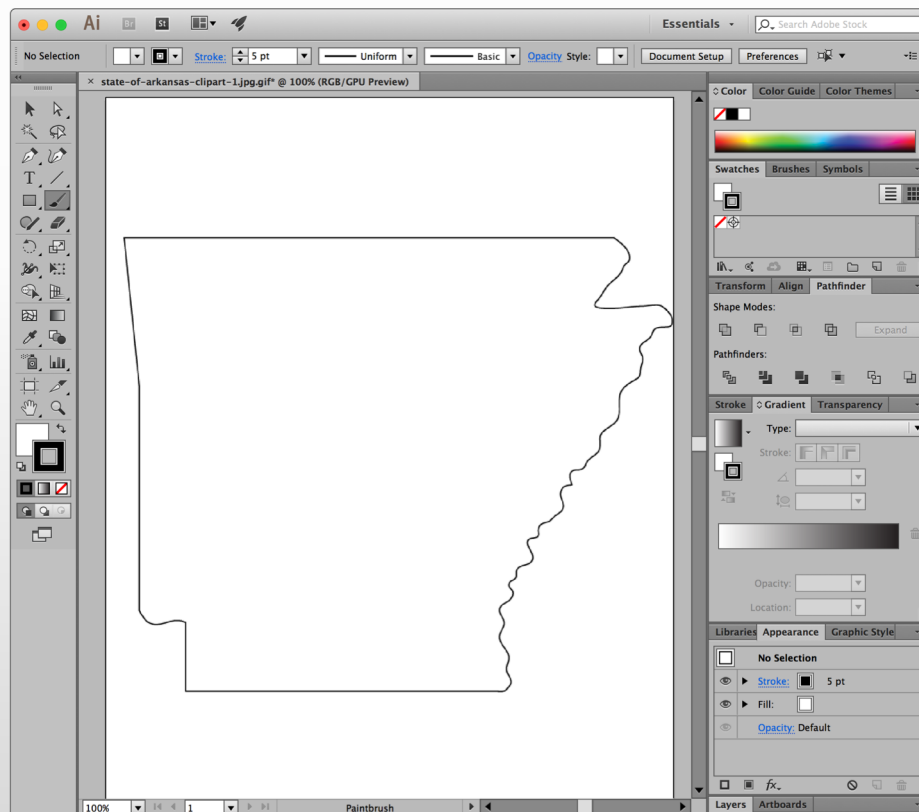
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

o Explain how scaling an image can change it along the x axis, y axis or both.

o Predict the changes in an object when rotating, flipping, reflecting and resizing.
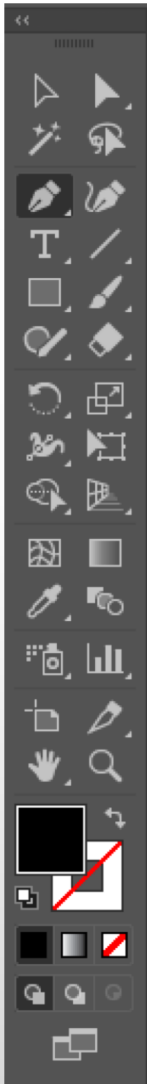
PANELS IN ILLUSTRATOR WORKSPACE

The workspace is same as Photoshop with a few new tools and panels.

o Options Bar

o Document Panel

o Tools Panel

o Color Panel

o Layers Panel

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TOOLS PANEL

Tools panel overview

o Tools grouped and hidden similar to Photoshop.

o The majority of tools have a keyboard shortcut to activate a tool.

OPTIONS BAR

o Displays options for the currently selected tool.
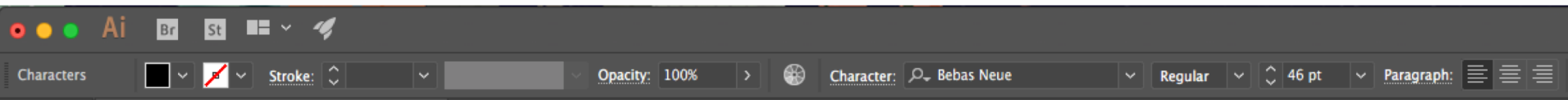
Options Bar with Type Tool selected
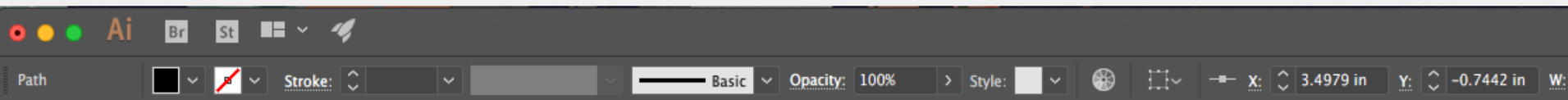
Options Bar with Pen Tool selected

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PATHFINDER PANEL

○ Use to combine objects into new shapes.

○ Use the top row of buttons in the panel to make paths or compound paths.
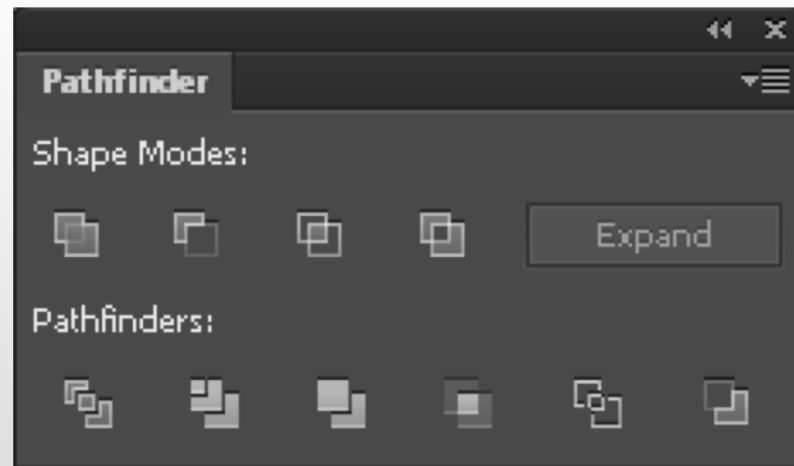
ALIGN PANEL

o Align or distribute selected objects along the axis you specify.

o Can use either the object edges or anchor points as the reference point, and you can align to a selection, an artboard, or a key object.
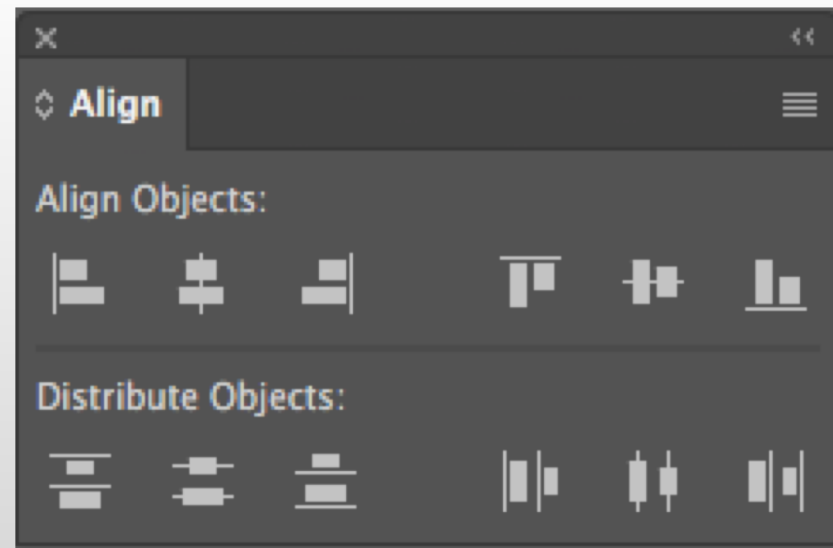
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

o Explain how creating compound shapes using the pathfinder panel allows you to add, subtract, intersect and exclude.

o Discuss how rotations of 45° and 90° could be quicker when holding down the SHIFT key.

o Summarize the difference between positioning objects in relation to each other using the Align panel versus gridlines.

Raster (PNG)

Vector (SVG)

VECTOR IMAGES

Use mathematic equations and geometric elements (points, lines, and shapes) to create art.

Can be scaled infinitely, without any loss of quality or fidelity.

Watch this video:

https://helpx.adobe.com/illustrator/how-to/what-is-illustrator.html?set=illustrator--get-started-

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SYMBOLS

o A symbol is an art object that you can reuse in a document.

o If you create a symbol from a leaf, you can then add instances of that over and over again without actually adding the image multiple times.

o Each symbol instance is linked to the symbol in the Symbols panel or to a symbols library.

o Using symbols can save you time and greatly reduce file size.

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PEN TOOL

o Use the pen tool to add and delete anchor points.
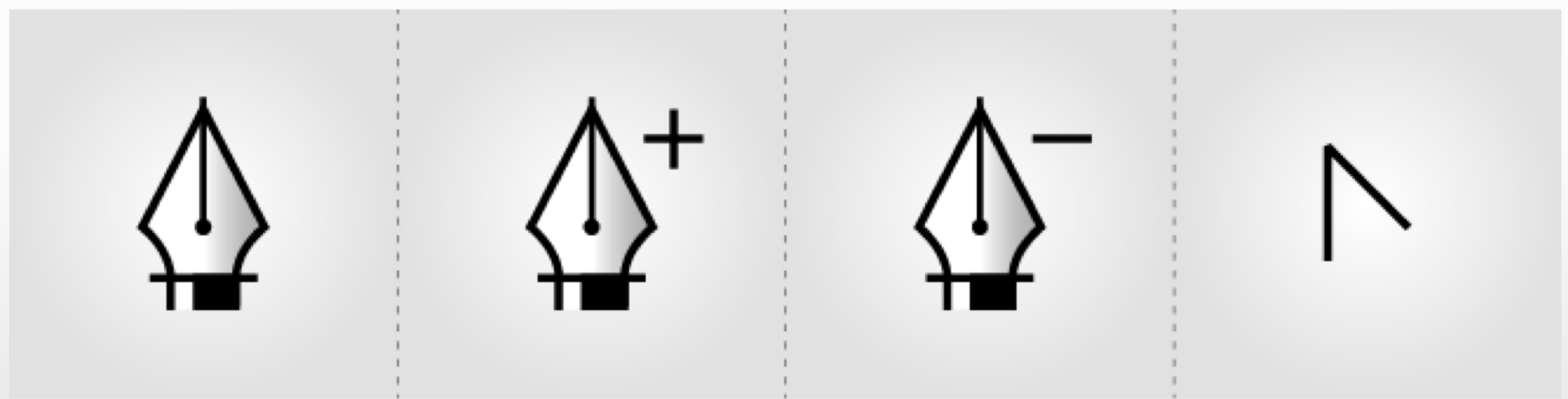
| Pen Tool (P) | Add Anchor Point Tool (+) | Delete Anchor Point Tool (–) | Convert Anchor Point Tool (Shift + C) |

vectortips.blogspot.com

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ANCHOR POINT

○ A point on a path that indicates a change of direction.

○ You can add anchor points or delete anchor points to change the shape of a path.

path or Bézier curve

anchor points
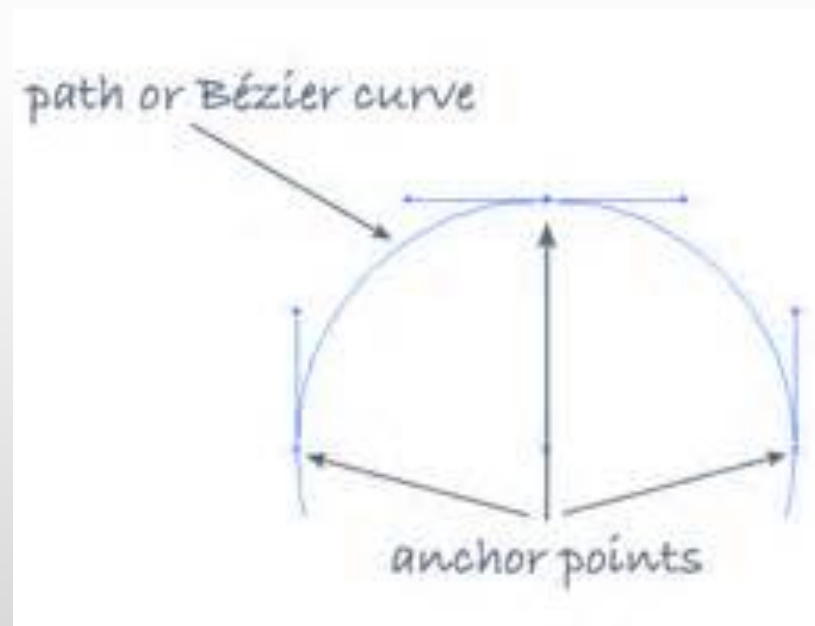
PATHS

Open Path
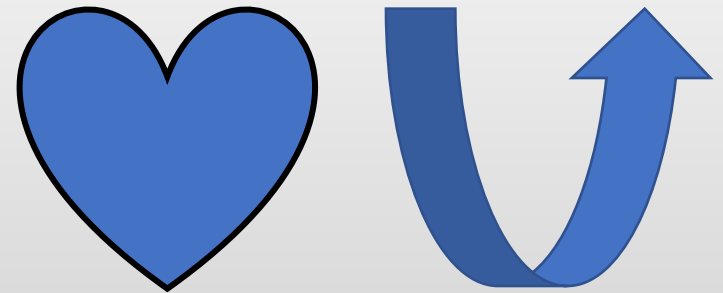
o Open paths do not end. They don't connect back to the original anchor point.

Closed Path

o A closed path has the same beginning and ending point.

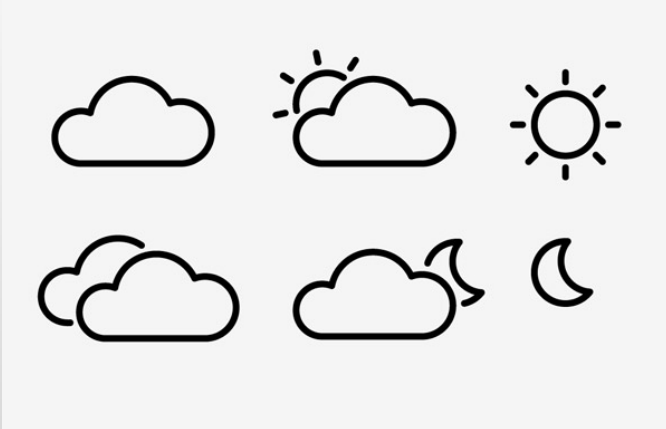o It forms a complete shape than can be filled with color or text.

FILL AND STROKE

Stroke

o Stroke is the outline of a shape, text or image.
- Weight
- Color
- Style

Fill

o Fill is the inside color of a closed shape.

PATTERNS

o A repeating pattern fills the image with a unique assortment of shapes and colors.

IMAGE TRACE

○ Use the Image Trace to trace and vectorize an image.

○ Watch this video:
- https://youtu.be/ NsHPoyyNKrY

Left: the original bitmap image.
Right: after tracing it with the Live Trace command.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

o Identify three or more raster graphic image file types that could be converted into vector artwork.

o Discuss how a strong understanding of the swatches panel is important when creating patterns.

o Differentiate between saving items to the symbol library and linking graphics.

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AREA VS. POINT TYPE

Area Type

o Area type fills the text in a closed path.

o Use this when you want text to appear inside a shape or object.
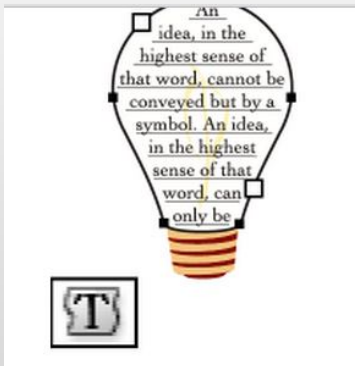
Point Type

o Point type begins right where you click and does not automatically wrap to the next line.

o [Area vs. Point Type](#) video

TYPE ON A PATH

o The text flows along an open or closed path.
  - Horizontally, the characters are parallel to the baseline.
  - Vertically, the characters are perpendicular to the baseline.
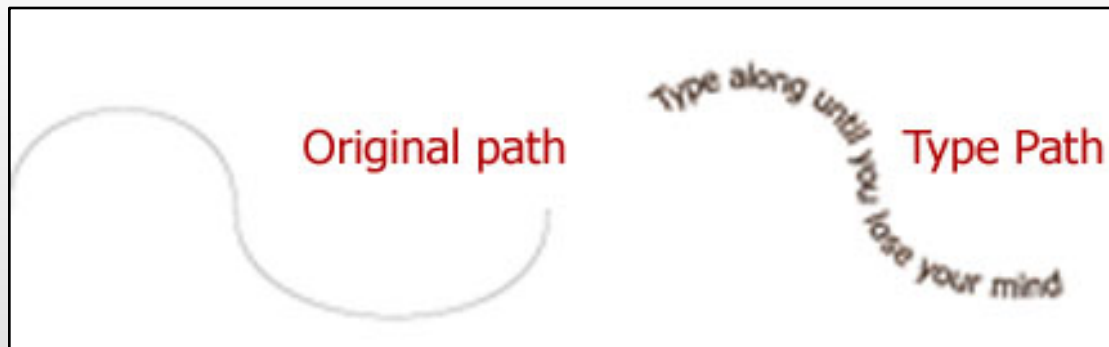
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

o How would text along a path change if the baseline shift was a negative number?

o Predict the spacing change when the leading between baselines is increased? How would decreasing the leading change the type?

o Summarize how typing on a path can be used in both open and closed paths.