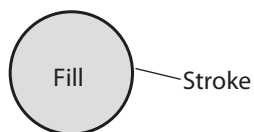
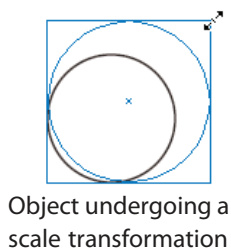
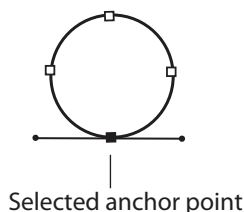
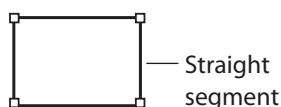
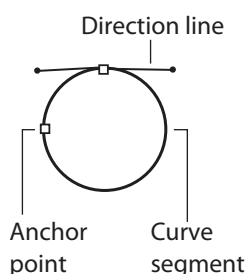
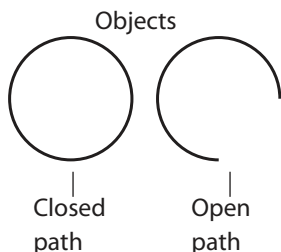


Mini-Glossary for Vector Art



Path (Or “object”) Any individual shape that’s created in Illustrator. A path can be open (a line with two endpoints) or closed (no endpoints). Path segments are joined together by smooth and/or corner anchor points.

Smooth anchor points have a pair of direction lines that move in tandem and form a straight line. Corner points can have no direction lines, one direction line, or a pair of direction lines that can be moved independently.

A curve segment can join two smooth points, or a corner point and a smooth point. A straight segment always joins two corner points. You can reshape any path by modifying its anchor points and/or segments.

Direction lines The pair of antennae that stick out from every smooth point. To reshape a curved segment, you’ll rotate, lengthen, or shorten a direction line on the anchor point that connects the segment.

Select To highlight an object in the document window for editing. Only selected objects can be modified. When a whole object is selected, its anchor points are solid (not hollow). The Selection tool selects whole objects or groups; the Group Selection tool selects nested groups; the Direct Selection tool and Lasso tool select parts of objects; and the Magic Wand tool selects objects based on such criteria as fill color, stroke color, stroke weight, opacity, or blending mode.

Layer A tier of a document that holds a stack of objects. An illustration can contain multiple top-level layers and sublayers. The actual objects that make up an illustration (paths, type, mesh objects, etc.) are nested within top-level layers or sublayers.

Group Two or more objects that are united via the Group command so they can be moved or modified in unison.

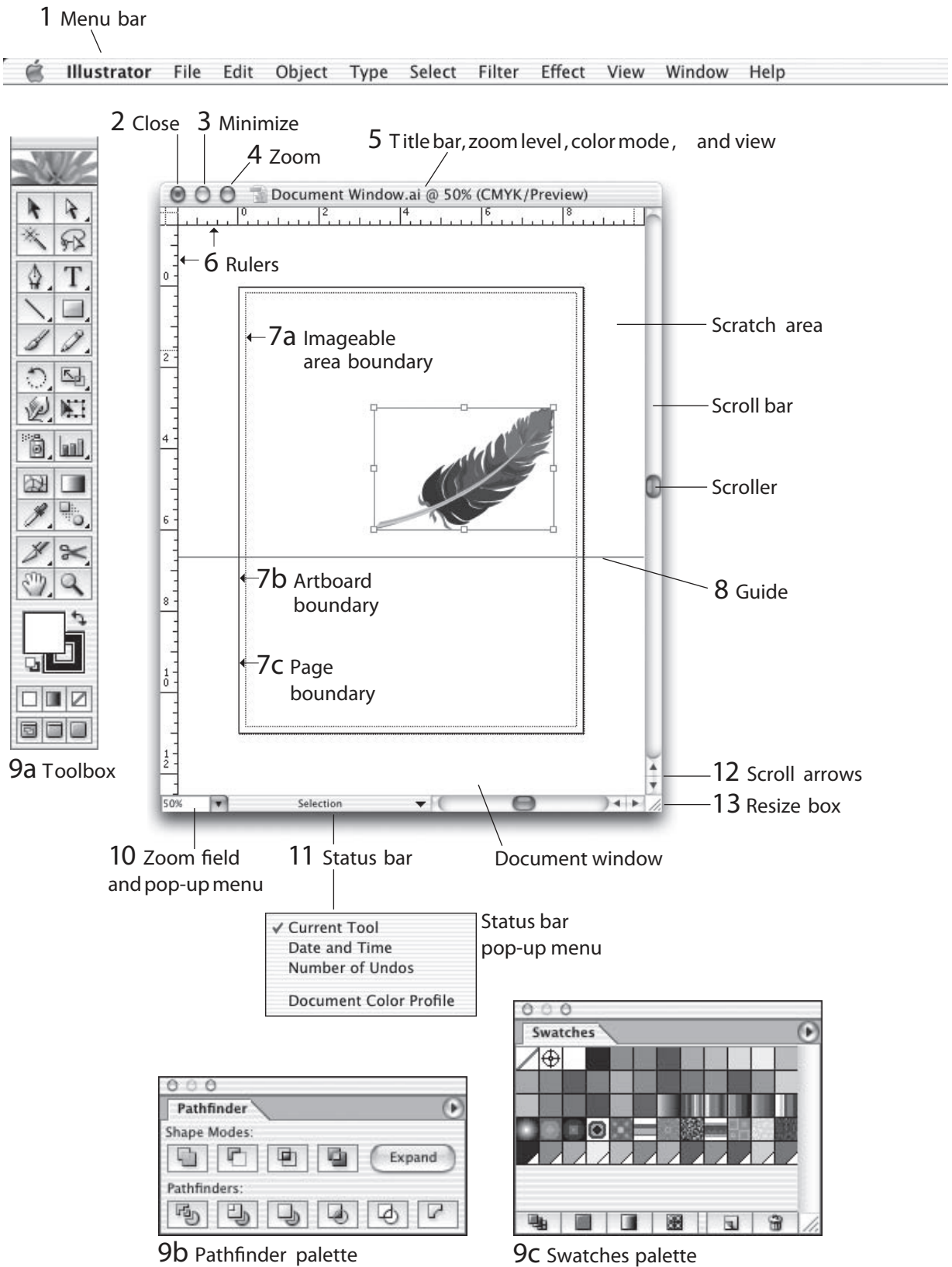
Transform To rotate, scale, reflect, or shear an object, or create a blend between two objects.

Fill The color, pattern, or gradient that’s applied to the inside of an object.

Stroke The solid color that’s applied to the edge of an object.

On the screen

The Illustrator screen in Macintosh



Key to the Illustrator screen

1 Menu bar

Use the menu bar to open dialog boxes or palettes or to choose commands.

2 Close button (red)

To close a document or a palette, click its close button.

3 Minimize button (yellow)

Click the minimize button to shrink the document window to an icon in the Dock; click the icon in the Dock to restore the document window to its previous size.

4 Zoom button (green)

Click a document window zoom button to enlarge the window. Click again to restore the window to its previous size. (Click a palette zoom button to shrink the palette or restore it to its previous size.)

5 Title bar, zoom level, color mode, and view

The illustration's title, zoom level, color mode (CMYK or RGB), and view (Preview, Outline, Pixel Preview, or Overprint Preview) are listed on the title bar.

6 Rulers

The current position of the pointer is indicated by a marker on the horizontal and vertical rulers. Ruler increments can be displayed in any of these measurement units: points, picas, inches, millimeters, centimeters, or pixels.

7a–c Imageable area, artboard boundary, and page boundary

The imageable area within the margin guides is the area that will print on the paper size currently selected in File > Print (General). The artboard is the user-defined work area and the largest possible printable area. The nonprinting page boundary matches the current paper size. Objects located in the area outside the artboard will save with the file, but they won't print.

8 Guide

Drag from the horizontal or vertical ruler to create a guide. Guides are used only for aligning objects; they don't print.

9a–c Palettes

Pathfinder and Swatches are five of 31 moveable palettes that open from the Window menu. The Toolbox contains 74 (yes, 74!) drawing and editing tools, as well as color controls and screen mode buttons.

10 Zoom field

Enter a new zoom percentage in this field or choose a preset zoom percentage from the pop-up menu.

11 Status bar

Depending on which category you choose from the pop-up menu, the status bar displays the name of the Current Tool, the current Date and Time from System Preferences > System > Date & Time, the Number of available Undos/Redos, or the Document Color Profile. Option-press the status bar pop-up menu to learn the Moon Phase, Shopping Days 'til Christmas, and other vital statistics.

12 Scroll arrows

Click the downward-pointing scroll arrow to move the illustration upward in the document window. Click the upward-pointing scroll arrow to move the illustration downward in the document window.

13 Resize box

To resize a document window, drag its resize box diagonally.