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 DIGITAL
CLASSROOM®



Jennifer Smith and the AGI Creative Team

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Illustrator® CC
**Digital
Classroom®**

Adobe® Illustrator® CC **Digital Classroom®**

Jennifer Smith and the AGI Creative Team



Adobe® Illustrator® CC Digital Classroom®

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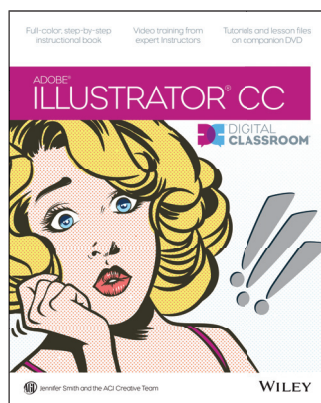
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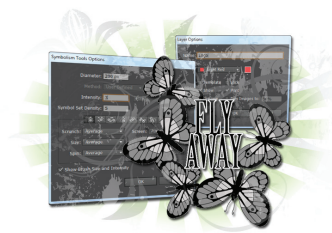
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Starting up

About Illustrator Digital Classroom

The *Adobe® Illustrator® CC Digital Classroom* lets you create artwork for a variety of uses. Illustrator's drawing tools let you take advantage of many ways to control color, text, and artwork in your designs. Illustrator provides you with ways to express your creative ideas and experiment with the presentation.

The *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* helps you get up-and-running right away. You can work through all the lessons in this book, or complete only specific lessons. Each lesson includes detailed, step-by-step instructions, along with lesson files, useful background information, and video tutorials on the included DVD—it is like having your own expert instructor guiding you through each lesson while you work at your own pace. This book includes 14 self-paced lessons that let you discover essential skills, explore new features, and understand capabilities that will save you time. You'll be productive right away with real-world exercises and simple explanations. The *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* lessons are developed by the same team of Illustrator experts who have created many official training titles for Adobe Systems.

Prerequisites

Before you start the *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* lessons, you should have a working knowledge of your computer and its operating system. You should know how to use the directory system of your computer so that you can navigate through folders. You also need to understand how to locate, save, and open files, and you should also know how to use your mouse to access menus and commands.

Before starting the lessons files in the *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom*, make sure that you have installed Adobe Illustrator CC. The software is sold as part of the Creative Cloud, and is not included with this book. Find more information about the Creative Cloud at www.adobe.com/CreativeCloud. You can use the free 30-day trial version of Adobe Illustrator CC available at the adobe.com website, subject to the terms of its license agreement.

System requirements

Before starting the lessons in the *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom*, make sure that your computer is equipped for running Adobe Illustrator CC. The minimum system requirements for your computer to effectively use the software are listed below and you can find the most current system requirements at <http://www.adobe.com/products/Illustrator/tech-specs.html>.

Windows

- Intel® Pentium® 4 or AMD Athlon® 64 processor
- Microsoft® Windows® 7 with Service Pack 1 or Windows 8
- 1 GB of RAM (3 GB recommended) for 32 bit; 2 GB of RAM (8 GB recommended) for 64 bit
- 2 GB of available hard-disk space for installation; additional free space required during installation (cannot install on removable flash storage devices)
- 1024 × 768 display (1280 × 800 recommended)
- Internet connection and registration are necessary for required software activation, membership validation, and access to online services.

Mac OS

- Multicore Intel processor with 64-bit support
- Mac OS X v10.6.8, v10.7, or v10.8
- 2 GB of RAM (8 GB recommended)
- 2 GB of available hard-disk space for installation; additional free space required during installation (cannot install on a volume that uses a case-sensitive file system or on removable flash storage devices)
- 1024 × 768 display (1280 × 800 recommended)
- Internet connection and registration are necessary for required software activation, membership validation, and access to online services.

Starting Adobe Illustrator CC

As with most software, Adobe Illustrator CC is launched by locating the application in your Programs folder (Windows) or Applications folder (Mac OS). If you are not familiar with starting the program, follow these steps to start the Adobe Illustrator CC application:

Windows

- 1 Choose Start > All Programs > Adobe Illustrator CC.
- 2 If a Welcome Screen appears, you can close it.

Mac OS

- 1 Open the Applications folder, and then open the Adobe Illustrator CC folder.
- 2 Double-click the Adobe Illustrator CC application icon.
- 3 If a Welcome Screen appears, you can close it.



Menus and commands are identified throughout the book by using the greater-than symbol (>). For example, the command to print a document appears as File > Print.

Access lesson files and videos any time

Register your book at www.digitalclassroombooks.com/CC/Illustrator to gain access to your lesson files on any computer you own, or to watch the videos on any Internet-connected computer, tablet, or smart phone. You'll be able to continue your learning anywhere you have an Internet connection. This provides you access to lesson files and videos even if you misplace your DVD.

Checking for updated lesson files

Make sure you have the most up-to-date lesson files and learn about any updates to your *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* book by registering your book at www.digitalclassroombooks.com/CC/Illustrator.

Resetting Adobe Illustrator CC preferences

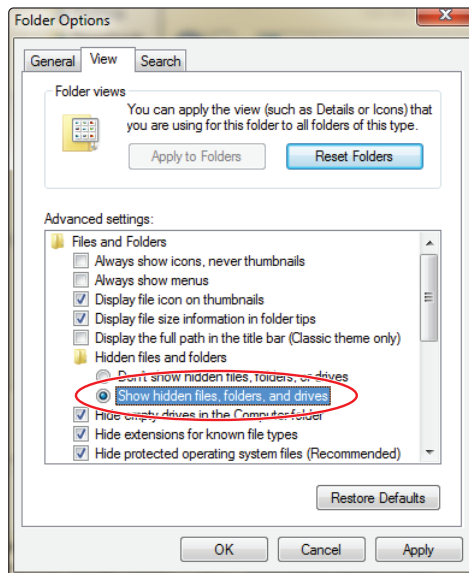
When you start Adobe Illustrator, it remembers certain settings along with the configuration of the workspace from the last time you used the application. It is useful for you to start each of the Adobe Illustrator lessons in this book using the default settings so that you do not see unexpected results. You can use the following steps to reset the Adobe Illustrator CC preferences.

In order to reset your preferences you will need to quit Illustrator and locate the preferences. In Windows and the Mac OS these are in two separate locations. If you are working on a Windows system you might need to change the folder's view settings in order to find the preferences. Keep in mind that when you reset your preferences you lose saved colors, styles and other preferences that might be important to you. If you wish to save your preferences, rename them instead of deleting them; Illustrator will create all new preferences if it cannot locate the appropriately named folder.

Steps to resetting Windows preferences

- 1 Quit Adobe Illustrator CC.
- 2 In Windows, verify that you can find the hidden AppData folder by opening your Control Panel and typing **Folder Options** into the search text field in the upper-right of the Control panel dialog box.
- 3 When Folder Options appears, click Show hidden files and folders.

- 4 In the View tab of Folder Options click the radio box to select Show hidden files, folders and drives. Click OK.



In Windows, you might have to change your folders to show Hidden folders.

- 5 Select C:\Users\user name\AppData\Roaming\Adobe\Adobe Illustrator\.
- 6 Select the folder named Adobe Illustrator CC Settings. If you want to save custom settings to restore at a later time, rename this file **Adobe Illustrator CC Settings folder_old**.
- 7 If you want to delete the preferences and start with new clean preferences, delete the entire Adobe Illustrator CC Settings folder.
- 8 Relaunch Adobe Illustrator CC. Your preferences are back to the original settings.

Steps to resetting Mac OS preferences

- 1 Quit Adobe Illustrator CC.
- 2 Choose User > Library > Preference and select the Adobe Illustrator CC Settings folder.
- 3 Select the folder named Adobe Illustrator CC Settings. If you want to save custom settings to restore at a later time, rename this file **Adobe Illustrator CC Settings folder_old**.
- 4 If you want to delete the preferences and start with new clean preferences, delete the entire Adobe Illustrator CC Settings folder.
- 5 Relaunch Adobe Illustrator CC. Your preferences are back to the original settings.

To restore custom settings, Quit Adobe Illustrator, and then delete the new AIPrefs file and restore the original name of the previous AIPrefs file.

Loading lesson files

The *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* DVD includes files that accompany the exercises for each of the lessons. You can copy the entire lessons folder from the supplied DVD to your hard drive, or copy only the lesson folders for the individual lessons you want to complete.

For each lesson in the book, the files are referenced by file name. The exact location of each file on your computer is not used, as you might have placed the files in a unique location on your hard drive. We suggest placing the lesson files in the My Documents folder (Windows), at the top level of your hard drive (Mac OS), or on your desktop for easy access.

Copying the lesson files to your hard drive

- 1 Insert the *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* DVD supplied with this book.
- 2 On your computer desktop, navigate to the DVD and locate the folder named *ailessons*.
- 3 You can install all the files, or just specific lesson files. Do one of the following:
 - Install all lesson files by dragging the *ailessons* folder to your hard drive.
 - Install only some of the files by creating a new folder on your hard drive named *ailessons*. Open the *ailessons* folder on the supplied DVD, select the lesson you want to complete, and drag the folder(s) to the *ailessons* folder you created on your hard drive.

Unlocking Mac OS files

Macintosh users might need to unlock the files after copying them from the accompanying disc. This only applies to Mac OS computers and is because the Mac OS might view files that are copied from a DVD or CD as being locked for writing.

If you are a Mac OS user and have difficulty saving over the existing files in this book, you can use these instructions so that you can update the lesson files as you work on them and also add new files to the lessons folder.

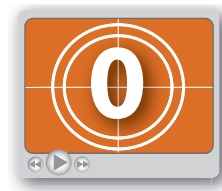
Note that you only need to follow these instructions if you are unable to save over the existing lesson files, or if you are unable to save files into the lesson folder.

- 1 After copying the files to your computer, click once to select the *ailessons* folder, then choose **File > Get Info** from within the Finder (not Illustrator).
- 2 In the *ailessons* info window, click the triangle to the left of **Sharing and Permissions** to reveal the details of this section.
- 3 In the **Sharing and Permissions** section, click the lock icon, if necessary, in the lower-right corner so that you can make changes to the permissions.
- 4 Click to select a specific user or select **everyone**, then change the **Privileges** section to **Read & Write**.
- 5 Click the lock icon to prevent further changes, and then close the window.

Working with the video tutorials

Your *Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* DVD comes with video tutorials developed by the authors to help you understand the concepts explored in each lesson. Each tutorial is approximately five minutes long and demonstrates and explains the concepts and features covered in the lesson.

The videos are designed to supplement your understanding of the material in the chapter. We have selected exercises and examples that we feel will be most useful to you. You might want to view the entire video for each lesson before you begin that lesson. Additionally, at certain points in a lesson, you will encounter the DVD icon. The icon, with appropriate lesson number, indicates that an overview of the exercise being described can be found in the accompanying video.



DVD video icon.

Setting up for viewing the video tutorials

The DVD included with this book includes video tutorials for each lesson. Although you can view the lessons on your computer directly from the DVD, we recommend copying the folder labeled videos from the *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* DVD to your hard drive.

Copying the video tutorials to your hard drive

- 1 Insert the *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* DVD supplied with this book.
- 2 On your computer desktop, navigate to the DVD and locate the folder named videos.
- 3 Drag the videos folder to a location on your hard drive.

Viewing the video tutorials with the Adobe Flash Player

The videos on the *Adobe Illustrator CC Digital Classroom* DVD are saved in the Flash projector format. A Flash projector file wraps the Digital Classroom video player and the Adobe Flash Player in an executable file (.exe for Windows or .app for Mac OS). Note that the extension (on both platforms) might not always be visible. Projector files allow the Flash content to be deployed on your system without the need for a browser or prior stand-alone player installation.