

Adobe Illustrator Keyboard Shortcuts

Page 1 of 2 · Everyday essentials: tools, editing, selecting and navigating

Windows

Tools

Selection	V
Direct Selection	A
Magic Wand	Y
Lasso	Q
Pen	P
Curvature	Shift + ~
Add / Delete Anchor	+ or -
Anchor Point	Shift + C
Type	T
Line Segment	\
Rectangle	M
Ellipse	L
Paintbrush	B
Blob Brush	Shift + B
Pencil	N
Eraser	Shift + E
Scissors	C
Rotate	R
Reflect	O
Scale	S
Free Transform	E
Width	Shift + W

Tools (continued)

Shape Builder	Shift + M
Blend	W
Mesh	U
Gradient	G
Eyedropper	I
Live Paint Bucket	K
Artboard	Shift + O
Hand	H
Zoom	Z

Edit & duplicate

Undo	Ctrl + Z
Redo	Shift + Ctrl + Z
Cut	Ctrl + X
Copy	Ctrl + C
Paste	Ctrl + V
Paste in Front	Ctrl + F
Paste in Back	Ctrl + B
Paste in Place	Shift + Ctrl + V
Paste on all artboards	Alt + Shift + Ctrl + V
Duplicate by dragging	Alt + drag
Transform Again	Ctrl + D
Transform Each	Alt + Shift + Ctrl + D
Revert	F12
Preferences	Ctrl + K

Select & arrange

Select All	Ctrl + A
Deselect	Shift + Ctrl + A
Reselect	Ctrl + 6
Group	Ctrl + G
Ungroup	Shift + Ctrl + G
Lock selection	Ctrl + 2
Unlock All	Alt + Ctrl + 2
Hide selection	Ctrl + 3
Show All	Alt + Ctrl + 3
Bring to Front	Shift + Ctrl +]
Bring Forward	Ctrl +]
Send Backward	Ctrl + [
Send to Back	Shift + Ctrl + [
Make Clip Mask	Ctrl + 7
Release Clip Mask	Alt + Ctrl + 7
Compound Path	Ctrl + 8
Repeat Pathfinder	Ctrl + 4

View & navigate

Zoom In	Ctrl + =
Zoom Out	Ctrl + -
Fit artboard	Ctrl + 0
Fit all artboards	Alt + Ctrl + 0
Actual Size (100%)	Ctrl + 1
Hand (hold)	Space
Zoom in (hold)	Ctrl + Space
Zoom out (hold)	Ctrl + Alt + Space
Outline mode	Ctrl + Y
Pixel Preview	Alt + Ctrl + Y
Rotate View tool	Shift + H
Reset Rotate View	Shift + Ctrl + 1
Rulers	Ctrl + R
Guides	Ctrl + ;
Grid	Ctrl + '
Smart Guides	Ctrl + U
Hide Edges	Ctrl + H
Hide panels	Tab
Cycle screen modes	F
Presentation Mode	Shift + F

Adobe Illustrator Keyboard Shortcuts

Page 2 of 2 · Type, paths, color, panels, files, plus Pixflow's recommended custom set

Windows

Type

Create Outlines	Shift + Ctrl + O
Align left	Shift + Ctrl + L
Align center	Shift + Ctrl + C
Align right	Shift + Ctrl + R
Justify (last line left)	Shift + Ctrl + J
Font size bigger	Shift + Ctrl + .
Font size smaller	Shift + Ctrl + ,
Tracking tighter	Alt + Left
Tracking looser	Alt + Right
Leading tighter	Alt + Up
Leading looser	Alt + Down
Character panel	Ctrl + T
Paragraph panel	Alt + Ctrl + T
Hidden Characters	Alt + Ctrl + I
Exit text editing	Esc

Color, fill & stroke

Default fill & stroke	D
Toggle fill / stroke	X
Swap fill & stroke	Shift + X
Apply color	<
Apply gradient	>
Apply none	/
Color panel	F6
Gradient panel	Ctrl + F9
Stroke panel	Ctrl + F10
Transparency panel	Shift + Ctrl + F10
Appearance panel	Shift + F6

Panels

Brushes	F5
Layers	F7
New Symbol	F8
Align	Shift + F7
Transform	Shift + F8
Pathfinder	Shift + Ctrl + F9
Info	Ctrl + F8
Graphic Styles	Shift + F5
Symbols	Shift + Ctrl + F11

Files & export

New	Ctrl + N
Open	Ctrl + O
Place (insert image)	Shift + Ctrl + P
Save	Ctrl + S
Save As	Shift + Ctrl + S
Save a Copy	Alt + Ctrl + S
Export for Screens	Alt + Ctrl + E
Document Setup	Alt + Ctrl + P
Print	Ctrl + P
Close	Ctrl + W
Shortcuts dialog	Alt + Shift + Ctrl + K

Paths & drawing

Join	Ctrl + J
Average	Alt + Ctrl + J
Pen: convert anchor (hold)	Alt
Pen: direct select (hold)	Ctrl
Constrain angle (hold)	Shift
Draw from center (hold)	Alt
Brush size down / up	[or]
Make Blend	Alt + Ctrl + B
Make Guides	Ctrl + 5
Lock Guides	Alt + Ctrl + ;

Pixflow recommended custom set

Offset Path	F9
Outline Stroke	F10
Expand Appearance	Shift + F9
Crop Image	Shift + F11
Simplify	Shift + F12
Export As (replaces GPU toggle)	Ctrl + E

Not defaults. Add them in Edit > Keyboard Shortcuts. Save them as your own named set so they are easy to back up.

Shortcut not working?

- Press Esc first. Tool keys type letters while you are editing text.
- Click the canvas so a panel field is not holding focus.
- Check the active set in Edit > Keyboard Shortcuts.
- Switch your keyboard input to English (US).
- Still broken? Hold Ctrl+Alt+Shift while launching Illustrator to reset preferences.