

# ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR BEASTIARY

## A Simple Hierarchy

### 1) Anatomy of Anchor Points

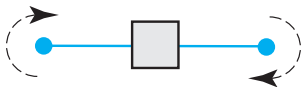


**a. Point**

**b. Non-printing axis handles:** determine how line segment will behave, or curve, between two points. **Note:** be careful not to confuse the axis handles for the actual line segment or axis point.

### 2) Types of Anchor Points

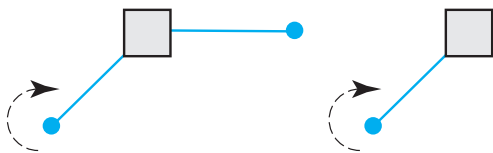
**a. Curve Point-** handles move in unison



**b. Corner Point-** no handles, line segments intersect at point in a straight line.

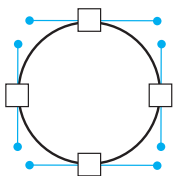


**c. Adjustable corner point-** when two handles are present they move independent of each other. When only one axis handle is present, the single axis moves independently effecting only the curve of the line segment associated with it.)



### 3) Path

**a. Line segment containing many anchor points**

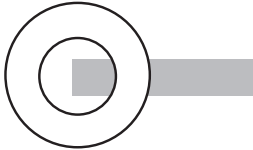


# ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR BEASTIARY (cont.)

## A Simple Hierarchy

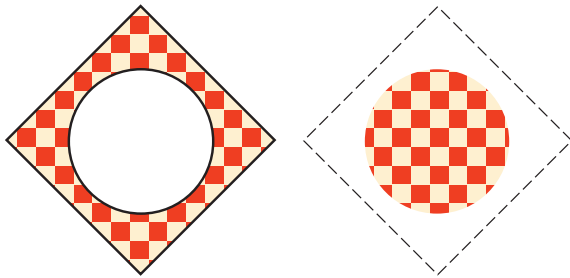
### 4) Compound Path

- a. Two or more line segments one inside of the other in which the Inside path knocks out of the outside path to create a transparent hole like that of a donut.



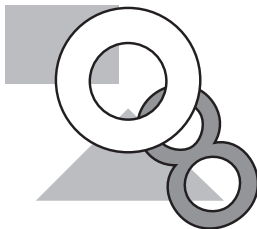
### 5) Masks

- a. Two line segments one on top of the other in which the bottom object becomes constrained into the shape of the object on top. Everything that lies outside the boundary of the uppermost object becomes transparent.



### 6) Groups

- a. Contain two or more paths, compound paths, or combinations of the two. When you click on to select an element contained in a group with the solid arrow tool every element within that group will also be selected.

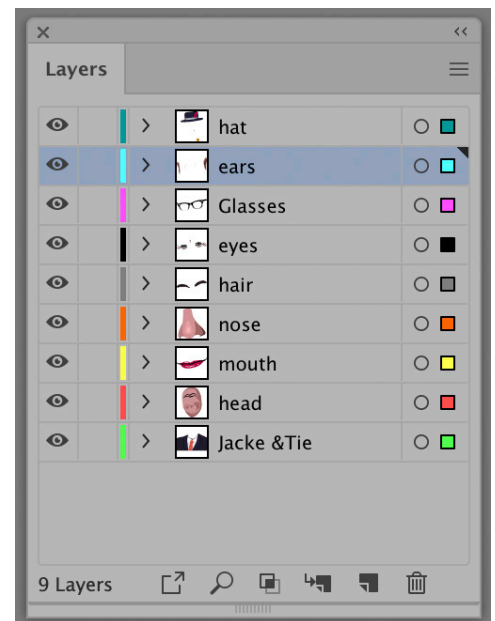


# ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR BEASTIARY (cont.)

## A Simple Hierarchy

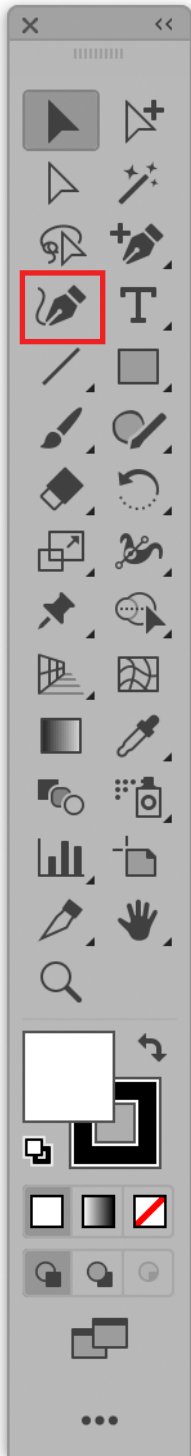
### 7) Layers

a. Virtual planes that lay one on top of another similar to overlaying transparent acetate sheets. There can be as many as 999 Layers in a document and can contain anything from a single point to complete illustrations containing many groups, compound paths, and masks. Layers are useful for dividing up and grouping the artwork into like functions, such as: type on one Layer, straight lines on another. For documents that contain multiple illustrations you can place each one on its own layer for ease in editing, repositioning and viewing.












# Command Keys For The Pen Tool In Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop

Whether drawing in Adobe Illustrator or outlining with the pen tool in Adobe Photoshop you can access the other primary drawing tools associated with the pen tool through the use of keyboard shortcuts. This eliminates having to continually go back and forth to the toolbox to change tools. This will save much time and make the drawing experience more enjoyable.

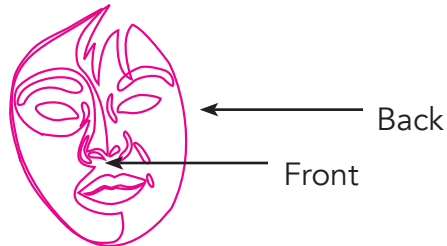


## The only tool you need to have selected in the toolbox is the pen tool.

- Space Bar= Scroll..... 
- Space Bar + Command (apple)= Zoom in..... 
- Space Bar + Command (apple) + Option= Zoom out..... 
- Command= Selection tool..... 
- Command + Tab= Switches between selection tool & direct selection tool..... 
- Pen placed over a line segment= Add a point..... 
- Pen placed over an existing point= Delete a point..... 
- Option= Change direction point..... 
- Single click on the last point drawn= Constrain a point..... 

# TIPS FOR OUTLINING/DRAWING WITH THE PEN TOOL IN PHOTOSHOP/ILLUSTRATOR

- 1) Think Topographically (i.e. in layers from back to front)**  
**(Illustrator)**

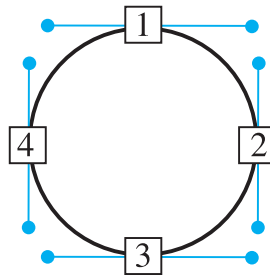


- 2) Create closed paths and overlap whenever you can to help in trapping.**  
**(Illustrator)**



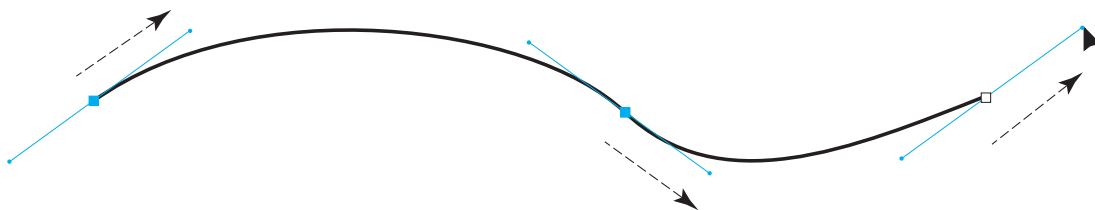
When closing the path the pen tool cursor will display a tiny circle next to the tool, this indicates that by clicking on the point you will close the path

- 3) Add a point every place the artwork changes direction.**  
**(Illustrator & Photoshop)**



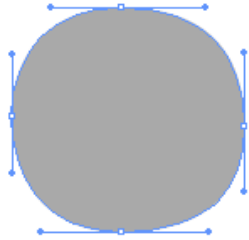
A circle changes directions 4 times, therefore 4 anchor points are needed to describe the gesture of the circle. You can also make a figure "8" using just 4 points. Practice drawing a circle and a figure "8"

- 4) Click, and "Pull out" the axis in the direction you are drawing.**  
**(Illustrator & Photoshop)**



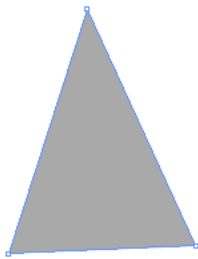
- 5) With pen tool selected use the command keys to access the other pen tool options.**  
**(Illustrator & Photoshop)**

# Simple Pen Tool Exercise with Primitive Shapes



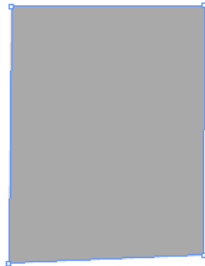
**1.**

Start by drawing a circle in 4 moves.



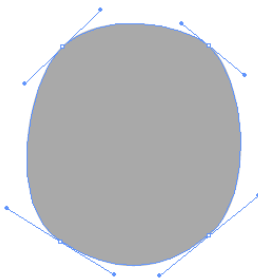
**2.**

Using the pen tool, its different options, and the selection tools convert the circle to a triangle in 8 moves. Try doing it with just the pen tool selected and using the command keys



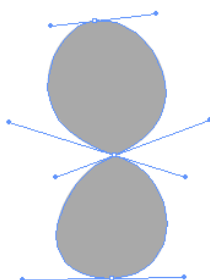
**3.**

Convert the triangle to a square in 3 moves.



**4.**

Convert the square back to a circle in 4 moves.



**5.**

Convert the circle to a figure eight in 6 moves. Try drawing just a figure eight in 4 moves then try to draw in 2 moves.