

Chapter 5

Working with Layers

Objectives

- Create and modify layers
- Manipulate layered artwork
- Work with layered artwork
- Create a clipping set

Create and Modify Layers

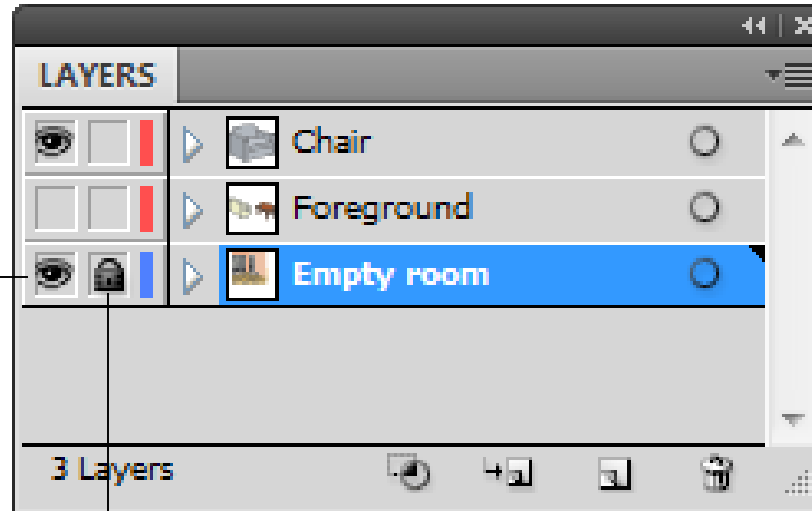
- The Layers panel consists of a series of layers.
- The number of layers are limited only by the computer's memory.
- By default every document is created with one layer, called Layer 1.

Work with Layered Artwork

- The **Eye icon** (Toggles Visibility button) lets you hide and show layers.
- The **Lock icon** (Toggles Lock button) lets you lock and unlock layers.

Work with Layered Artwork

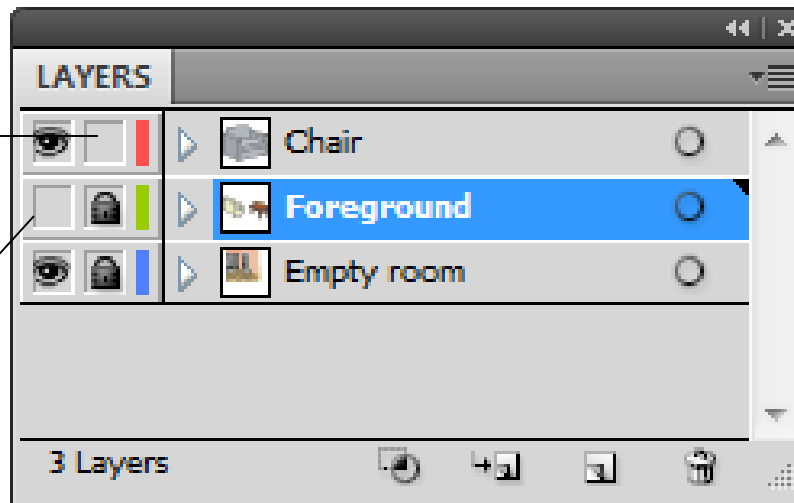
Eye icon (Toggles visibility button)



Lock icon (Toggles lock button)

Work with Layered Artwork.

The absence of the Lock icon indicates that this layer is not locked



The absence of the Eye icon indicates that this layer is hidden

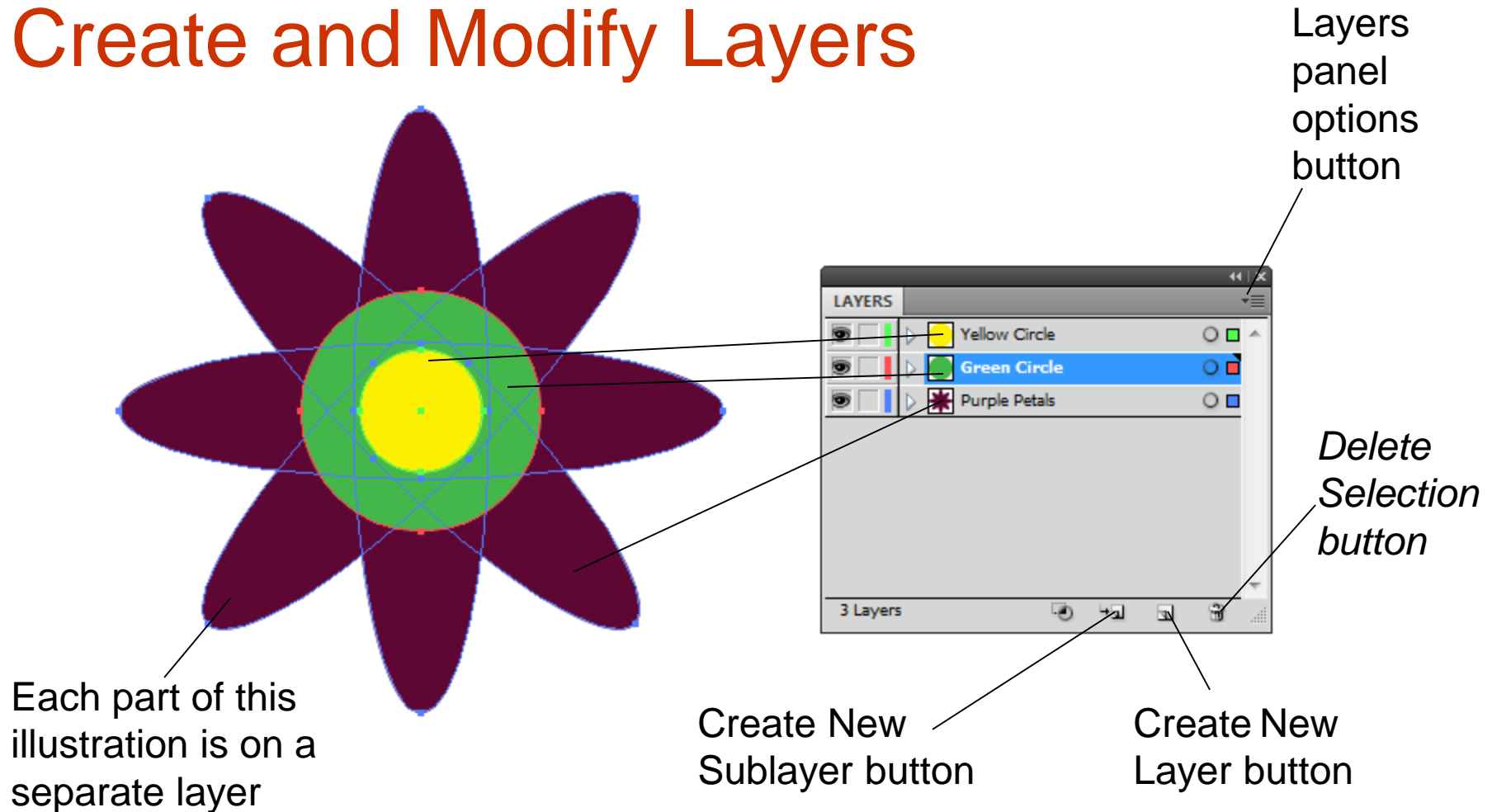
Create and Modify Layers

- Create new layers and move objects into them, segregating and organizing work.
- First object placed on Layer 1 is sublayer called <path>.
- Each object placed on same layer is placed on separate <path> sublayer.

Create and Modify Layers

- Each layer has thumbnail (miniature picture) to the left of the layer name.
- Change the size of rows in Layers panel by choosing new size in Layers Panel Options dialog box.
 - Click Layers panel options button
 - Click Panel Options

Create and Modify Layers



Create and Modify Layers

- There are two basic ways to create new layers and sublayers:
 - Click New Layer or New Sublayer command in Layers panel menu
 - Click Create New Layer or Create New Sublayer button in Layers panel

Create and Modify Layers

- To duplicate layers, click the Duplicate command in Layers panel menu.
- Drag a layer or sublayer onto the Create New Layer button in the Layers panel.
- All art work will also be duplicated.

Create and Modify Layers



Selection marks for chair are red, the color assigned to the Chair layer

The chair on the artboard and in the Layers panel

Create and Modify Layers

- The Layer Options dialog box allows you to set Layer Options:
 - Name a layer
 - Select a selection color for the layer
 - Lock a layer
 - Show or hide a layer

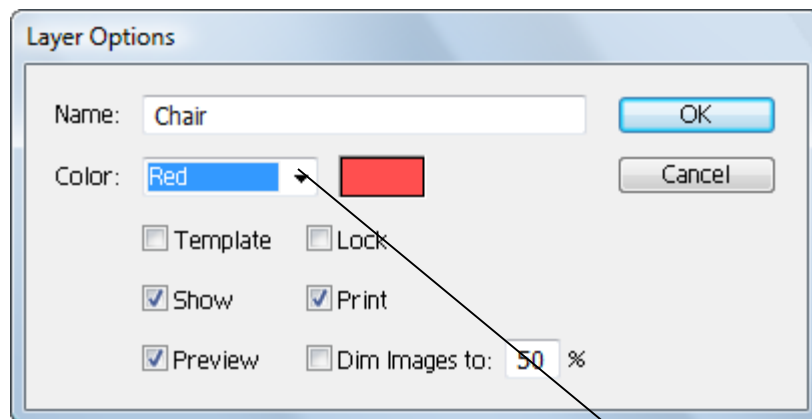
Create and Modify Layers

- Setting layer options
 - Preview option displays all artwork on a layer in Preview mode
 - When Preview option not activated, artwork displayed in Outline mode

Create and Modify Layers

- Setting layer options
 - Print option allows you to print a layer
 - The Dim Images option reduces intensity of bitmap images

Create and Modify Layers

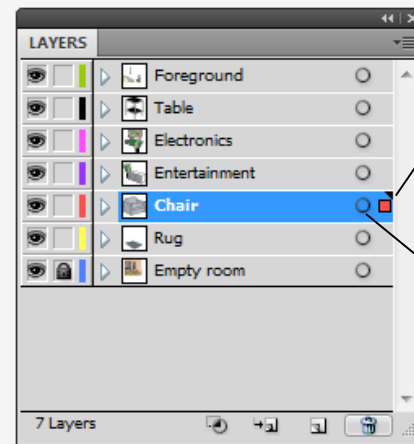
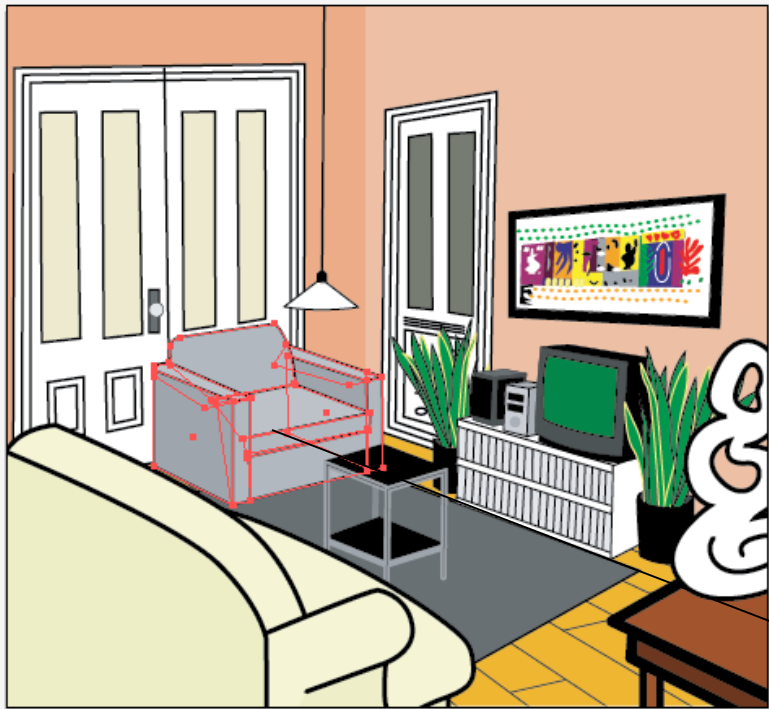


Color list arrow

Create and Modify Layers

- When an object is selected on the artboard:
 - the layer is highlighted in Layers panel
 - the **Indicates Selected Art button** appears
- The Select All command selects every object on artboard.

Create and Modify Layers



Indicates
Selected Art
button for
Chair layer

Click to
target,
drag to move
appearance
button

Selection marks
for chair are red,
the color assigned
to the Chair layer

Manipulate Layered Artwork

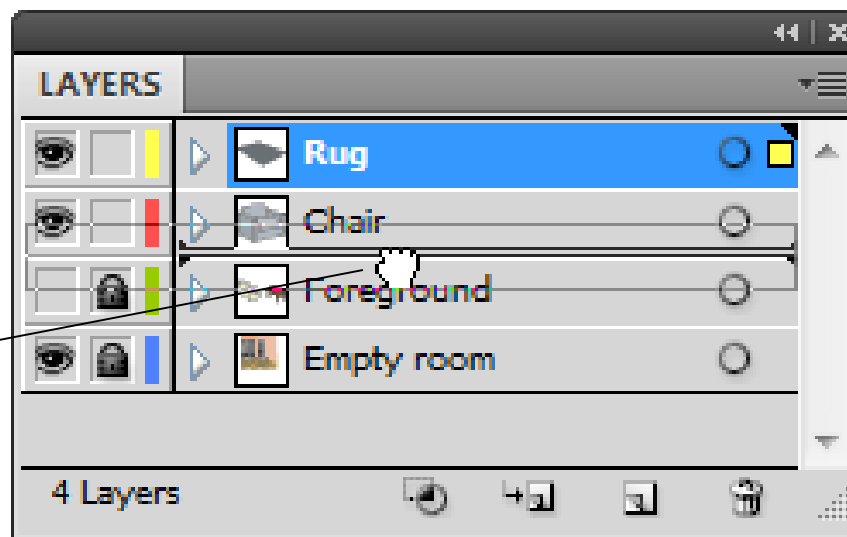
- All objects on a given layer are behind objects on layer above it and above those on a layer below it.
- Multiple objects within a given layer overlap according to stacking order.

Manipulate Layered Artwork

- To change position of layer or sublayer, drag it up or down in panel.
- When layer is repositioned, sublayers move with it.

Manipulate Layered Artwork

Moving a layer on the Layers panel




Changing the order of layers

Manipulate Layered Artwork

- Condensing layers is process of dragging one layer into another.
- Repositioned layer becomes sublayer of layer into which it was dragged.

Manipulate Layered Artwork

- To merge multiple layers and sublayers:
 - Select the layer
 - Press [Ctrl](Win) or  (Mac) to select multiple layers
 - Apply the Merge Selected command on the Layers panel menu

Manipulate Layered Artwork

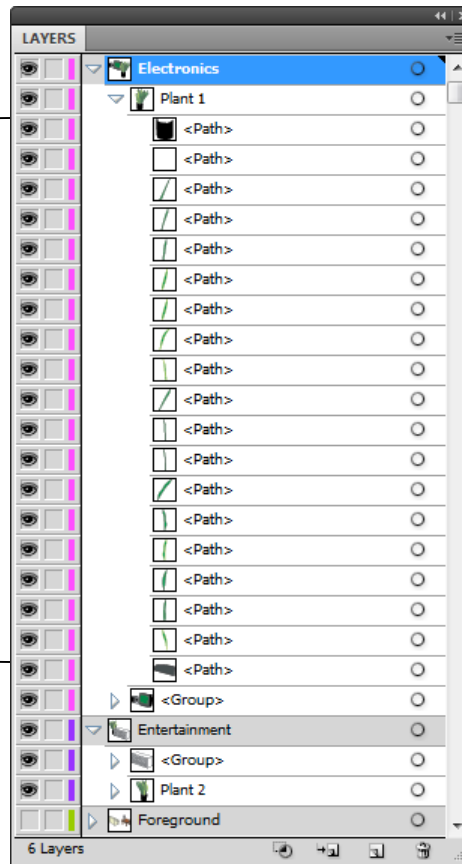
- One or more objects on a layer are **sublayers**.
- When first object placed on layer, triangle appears to left of layer name.
 - Click triangle to expand layer and see sublayers.
 - Click again to collapse layer and hide sublayers

Manipulate Layered Artwork

- When grouped artwork is placed into a layer, a sublayer is automatically created.
- Assigned name <Group>
- Triangle appears on <Group> sublayer
 - Click to expose sublayers

Manipulate Layered Artwork

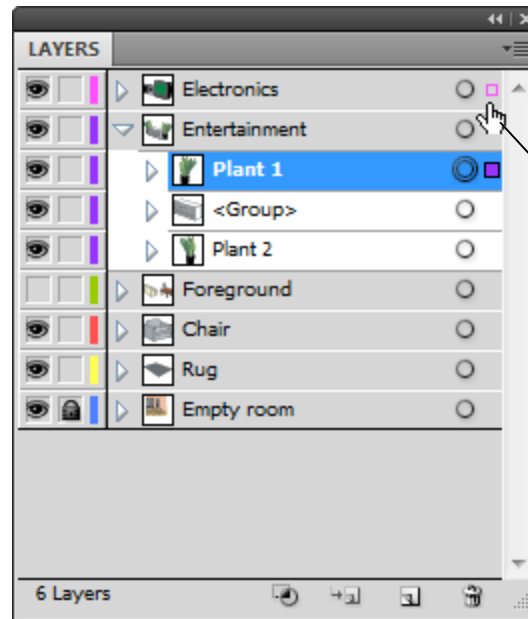
Each object in a group is placed on its own sublayer.



Manipulate Layered Artwork

- To move sublayers simply drag and drop a sublayer from one layer to another.
- Drag artwork from one layer to another by dragging the Indicates Selected Art button.
 - You can also cut and paste
 - You can also use Send to Current Layer command

Manipulate Layered Artwork



Drag the
Indicates
Selected Art
button to
another layer

Dragging a sublayer to another layer

Work with Layered Artwork

- Press [Alt] (Win) or [option] (Mac) while clicking the Eye icon once to show all layers.
- Click a second time to hide all layers except the layer you clicked.

Work with Layered Artwork

- Press [Ctrl] (Win) or [Command](Mac) and click the Eye icon to toggle between Outline and Preview modes.
- Press [Alt][Ctrl](Win) or [option][Command] (Mac) and click the Eye icon to switch all other layers between Outline and Preview modes.

Work with Layered Artwork

The Chair layer is shown in Preview mode and all other layers are shown in Outline mode.



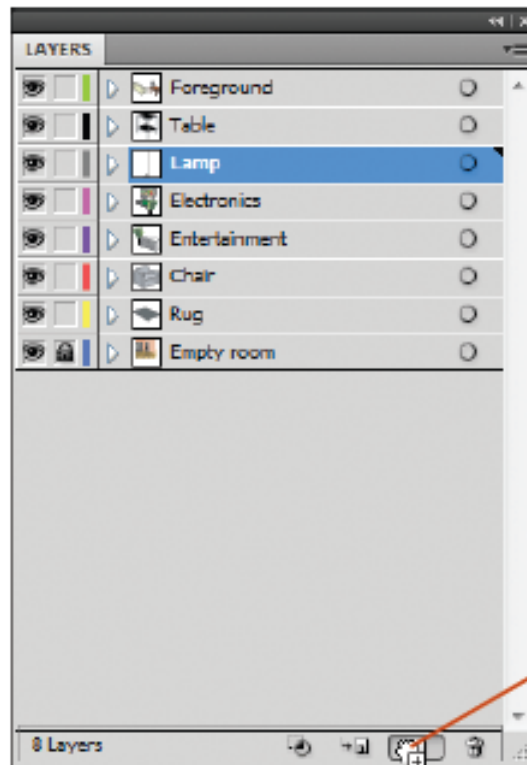
Work with Layered Artwork

- To locate an object, select an object on the Layers panel, and use the Locate Object command.
- To reverse the order of layers:
 - Select layers to be reversed
 - Click the Layers panel options button
 - Click Reverse Order

Work with Layered Artwork

- You can reverse layers by selecting them, then clicking Reverse Order on the Layers panel.
- You can choose whether or not to print artwork on a specific layer in the Layer Options dialog box.

Work with Layered Artwork



To duplicate a layer and its contents, drag it on top of the Create New Layer button

Work with Layered Artwork

- When you import a Photoshop file you can opt to have the file open with layers intact.
- In the Photoshop Import Options dialog box that appears, click the Convert Layers to Objects option button, then click OK.
- Illustrator will preserve as much of the layer structure as possible.

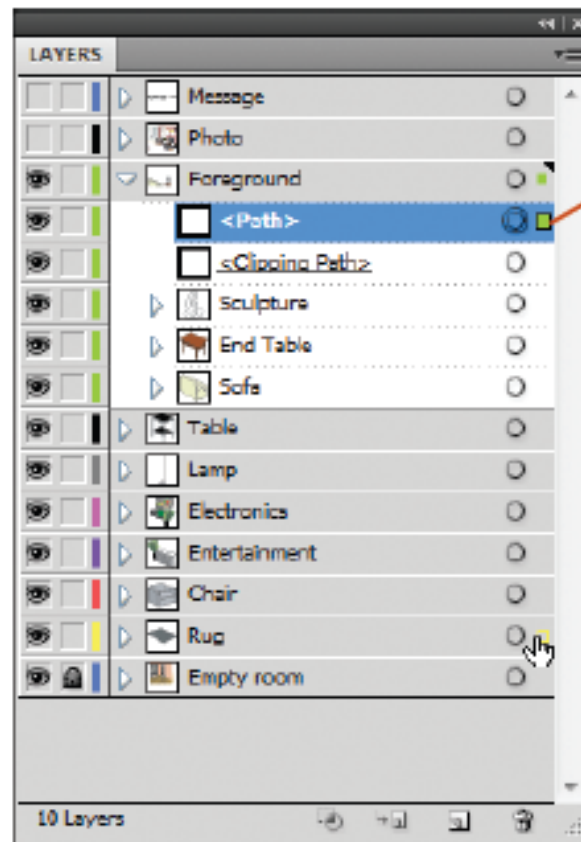
Create a Clipping Set

- **Clipping set** is used to distinguish clipping paths used in layers from clipping paths used to mask nonlayered artwork.
- Clipping set refers to a clipping mask and masked sublayers as a unit.

Create a Clipping Set

- The following rules apply to clipping sets:
 - Clipping mask and objects to be masked must be in same layer
 - Sublayer must be in <Group> sublayer unless you first select layer that sublayer is in

Create a Clipping Set



You can drag the Indicates Selected Art icon to move a selected object to another layer

Create a Clipping Set

- Top object in clipping set becomes mask for all objects below it.
- A <Group> sublayer can be a clipping set.
- Dotted lines between sublayers indicate that they are included.

Create a Clipping Set

When you apply the **Flatten Artwork command**, all visible objects in artwork are consolidated in a single layer.

- Select the layer to consolidate the artwork
- Click Flatten Artwork on Layers panel menu