

Demonstration & Discussion

Adobe Illustrator

Clipping Masks, Pathfinder, Blends

Clipping Mask Tool Pathfinder Panel Blend Tool

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A Clipping Mask is like a frame for visual assets on your artboard.

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http://worldartsme.com/gold-frame-clipart.html#gal_post_14271_gold-frame-clipart-1.jpg

Use the Clipping Mask tool to control edges and boundaries of any object (especially photographs) on your artboard.

First, place an image on your artboard...

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Place an Image on the Artboard



File Menu \rightarrow **Place**

First, place an image on your artboard...



Then, draw the frame for the Clipping Mask as a new shape (rectangle, ellipse, etc.)...



Then, draw the frame for the Clipping Mask as a new shape (rectangle, ellipse, etc.)...



Then, select both the image and the shape at the same time...



Then, select both the image and the shape at the same time, and under the Object menu...



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Object Menu → Clipping Mask → Make

Voilà! A simple tool for controlling the edges of image information on the artboard!

The best thing about the Clipping Mask Tool is that we haven't permanently deleted the image information...

The best thing about the Clipping Mask Tool is that we haven't permanently deleted the image information, the rest of the photo is still there...

We can both Make and <mark>Release</mark> the Mask...

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Pathfinder Panel

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Use the **Pathfinder** panel to quickly and efficiently create complex geometries by adding or subtracting multiple objects.

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Use the **Blend** tool to interpolate the shapes that are formed when one shape changes into another shape.

Object → **Blend** → **Make**

Two Shapes... Blended!

Blend Tool – Case Study Example

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