

## How to export and save files

Illustrator is popular with designers because you can create graphics that can be used in a wide variety of applications. You can easily save your work for print, video, or the web. The Export for Screens workflow is a new way to generate assets of different sizes and file formats in one action (**Figure 1**). When you save for the web, additional options are available that will generate usable CSS code for use in other projects and applications, such as Dreamweaver.



*Figure 1 Exporting for Screens dialog box for Artboards and individual assets*

Saving your work to the Creative Cloud makes your files available to you anywhere and on any device or computer. You can preview many creative file types directly in a web browser on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. These file types include PSD, AI, INDD, JPG, PDF, GIF, PNG, Photoshop Touch, Ideas, and others. You can download some the assets used in [this tutorial here](#).

## Saving for print

To make optimum decisions about printing, you should understand basic printing principles, including how the resolution of your printer or the calibration and resolution of your monitor can affect the way your artwork appears when printed. Illustrator's Print dialog box (**Figure 2**) is designed to help you through the printing workflow. Each set of options in the dialog box is organized to guide you through the printing process.

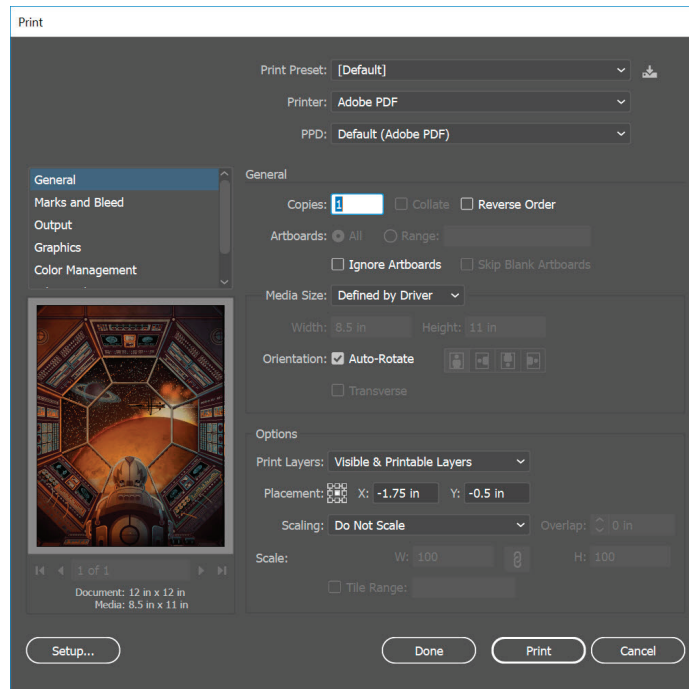


Figure 2 Print dialog box

Printing a composite of artwork from the dialog box helps you to fine-tune your project for print. A composite is a single-page version of artwork that corresponds to what you see in the illustration window—in other words, a straightforward print job. Composites are also useful for proofing the overall page design, verifying image resolution, and identifying problems that may occur on an imagesetter (such as PostScript errors).

### How to print a composite of an artwork to PDF:

1. Choose **File > Print**.

The **Print** dialog box opens (**Figure 2**).

2. To print to a file, select **Adobe PostScript® File** or **Adobe PDF** from the Printer menu (**Figure 3**).

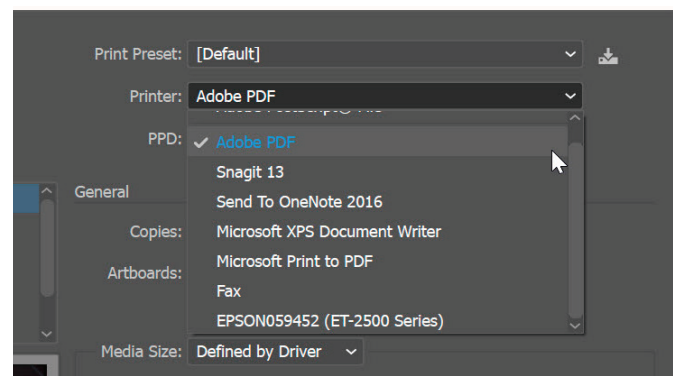


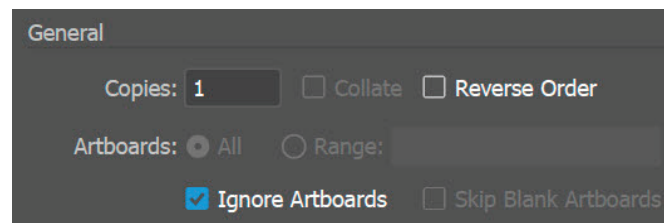
Figure 3 Print dialog box Print Preset menu

3. Choose one of the following artboard options:
  - To print everything on one page, select **Ignore Artboards** in the **General** area of the dialog box (**Figure 4**).
  - To print each artboard separately, deselect **Ignore Artboards** and specify if you want to print all artboards (**All**) or a specific range, such as 1–3.
4. Select **Output** on the left side of the **Print** dialog box, and make sure **Mode** is set to **Composite**.
5. Set additional printing options.
6. Click **Print**.

The **Save PDF** dialog box opens.

7. Name the file, browse to a location, and click **Save**.  
The composite is saved as a PDF (**Figure 5**).

**Note:** If your document uses layers, you can specify which ones to print. Choose **File > Print**, and select an option from the Print Layers menu: **Visible And Printable Layers**, **Visible Layers**, or **All Layers**.



**Figure 4** General area of the Print dialog box



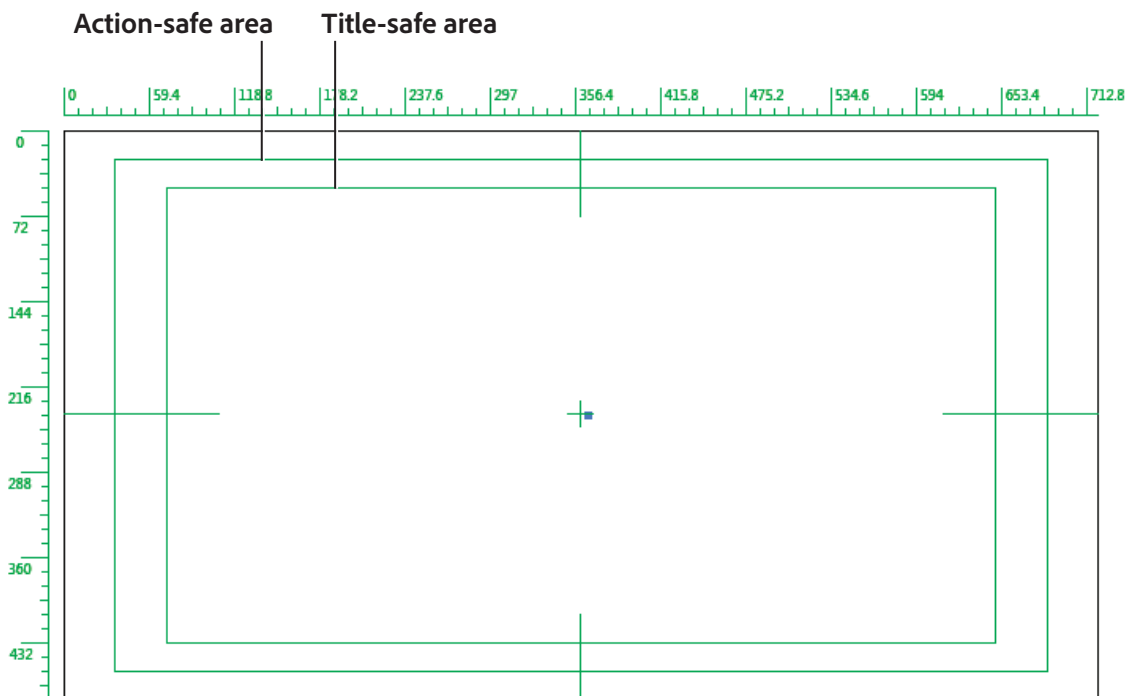
**Figure 5** Printed PDF

## Saving for video

Illustrator can create images of various aspect ratios so they appear properly on devices such as video monitors. You can select a specific video option (using the New Document dialog box) to compensate for scaling when the final image is incorporated into video.

## Safe zones

The Video and Film preset provides several preset video- and film-specific crop area sizes (Note that the Artboard option changes to Crop Size for this profile). The document is created with nonprinting guides that delineate the action-safe and title-safe areas of the image (**Figure 6**).



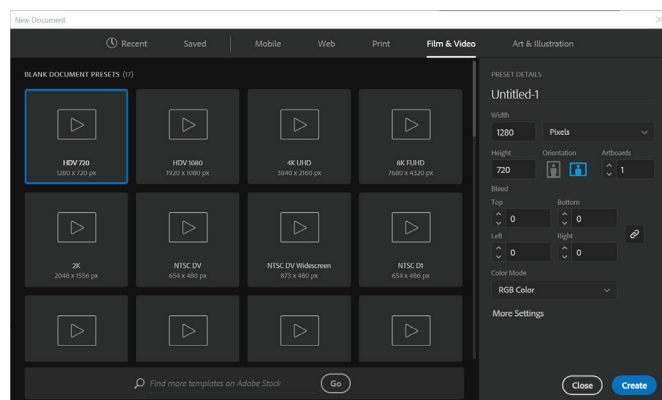
**Figure 6** Video preset file size guides include action safe area (outer rectangle) and title safe area (inner rectangle)

Safe zones are useful when you edit for broadcast and videotape. Most consumer TV sets use a process called overscan, which cuts off a portion of the outer edges of the picture, allowing the center of the picture to be enlarged. The amount of overscan is not consistent across TVs. To ensure everything fits within the area most TVs display, keep text within the title-safe margins, and all other important elements within the action-safe margins.

Illustrator creates only square pixel files, so to ensure that the sizes are interpreted correctly in video applications, Illustrator adjusts the Width and Height values. For example, if you choose NTSC DV Standard, Illustrator uses a pixel size of 654 x 480, which translates to 740 x 480 pixels in video-based applications.

## How to save for video:

1. Choose **File > New**.  
The **New Document** dialog box opens.
2. In the dialog box, click the **Film & Video** category tab.
3. Click **View All Presets +** button to reveal all options.  
Review the blank document presets for HDTV, HDV, DCI, NTSC and other video formats (**Figure 7**).
4. Select one of the Film & Video presets, or create your own custom size using the **Preset Details** panel.

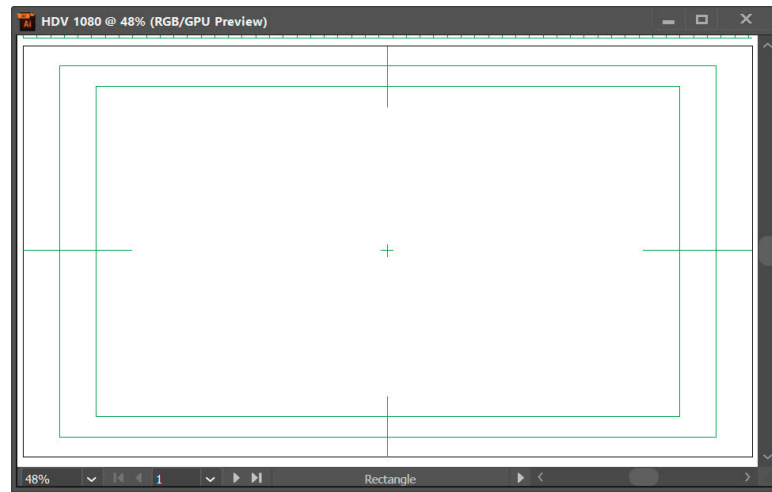


**Figure 7** New Document dialog box



5. Click **Create**.

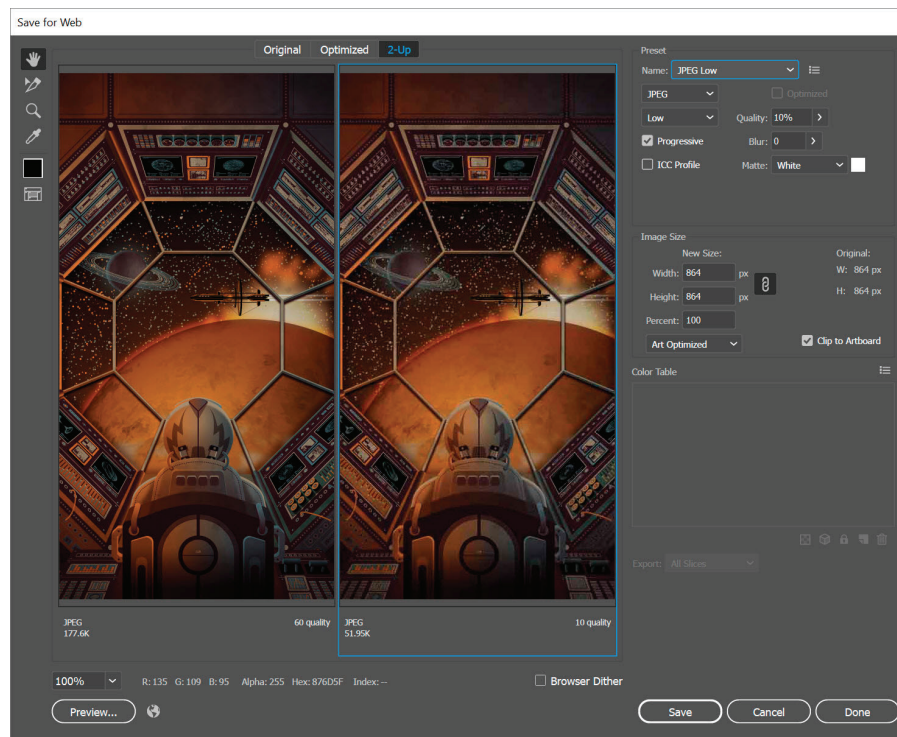
The new document window opens (**Figure 8**).



*Figure 8 New video preset document*

## Saving for the web

Illustrator provides a variety of tools for creating layout for web pages or creating and optimizing web graphics. For example, use web-safe colors, balance image quality with file size, and choose the best file format for your graphic. Web graphics can take advantage of slices and image maps, and you can use a variety of optimization options to ensure your files display well on the web. You use the Save For Web dialog box to select optimization options and preview optimized artwork (**Figure 9**).



*Figure 9 Save For Web dialog box*

## How to optimize an image for the web:

1. Choose **File > Export > Save For Web (Legacy)**.

The **Save For Web** dialog box opens (**Figure 9**).

2. Click a tab at the top of the dialog box to select a display option: **Original**, **Optimized**, or **2-Up**.
3. (Optional) If your image contains multiple slices, select one or more slices you want to optimize.
4. Select a preset optimization setting from the Preset menu (**Figure 10**), or set individual optimization options. The available options change depending on the file format you select.
5. Fine-tune the optimization settings until you are satisfied with the balance of image quality and file size (**Figure 11**).
6. If optimizing an image with an embedded color profile other than sRGB, you should convert the image's colors to sRGB before you save the image for use on the web. This ensures that the colors you see in the optimized image will look the same in different web browsers. The **Convert To sRGB** option is selected by default.
7. Click **Save**.
8. In the **Save Optimized As** dialog box, do the following, and then click **Save**:
  - Enter a filename, and select a location for the resulting file or files.
  - Select a Format option to specify what kind of files you want to save: an HTML file and image files, only image files, or only an HTML file.
  - (Optional) Set output settings for HTML and image files.
  - If your image contains multiple slices, select an option for saving slices from the Slices menu: **All Slices** or **Selected Slices**.

The image is optimized for the web (**Figure 12**)

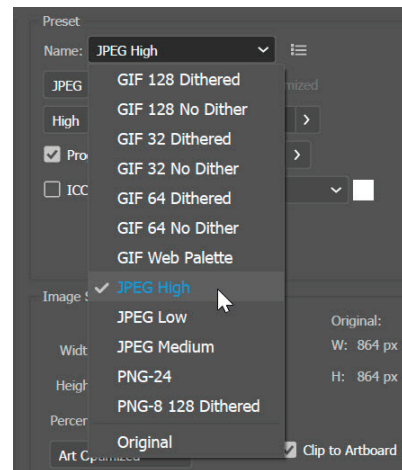


Figure 10 Image Preset options

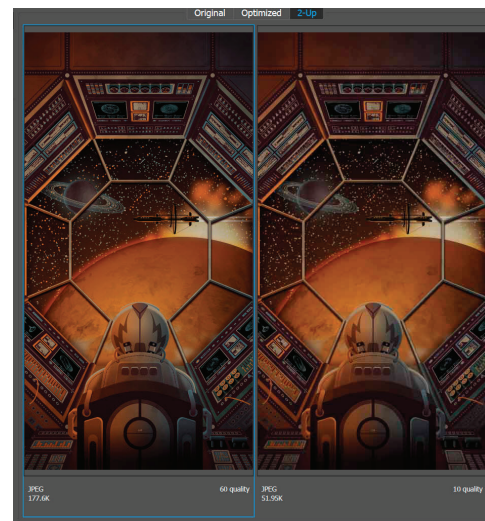


Figure 11 Save For Web dialog box, 2-Up view

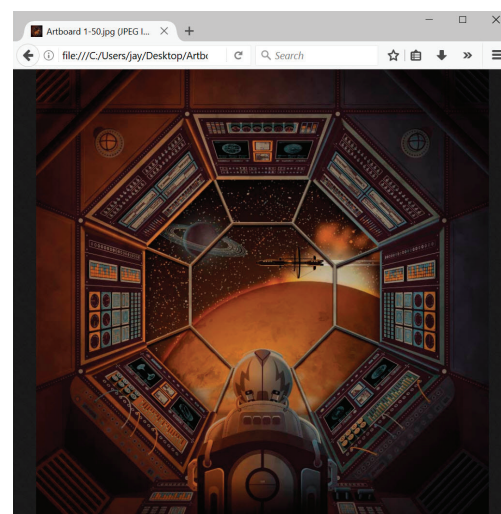
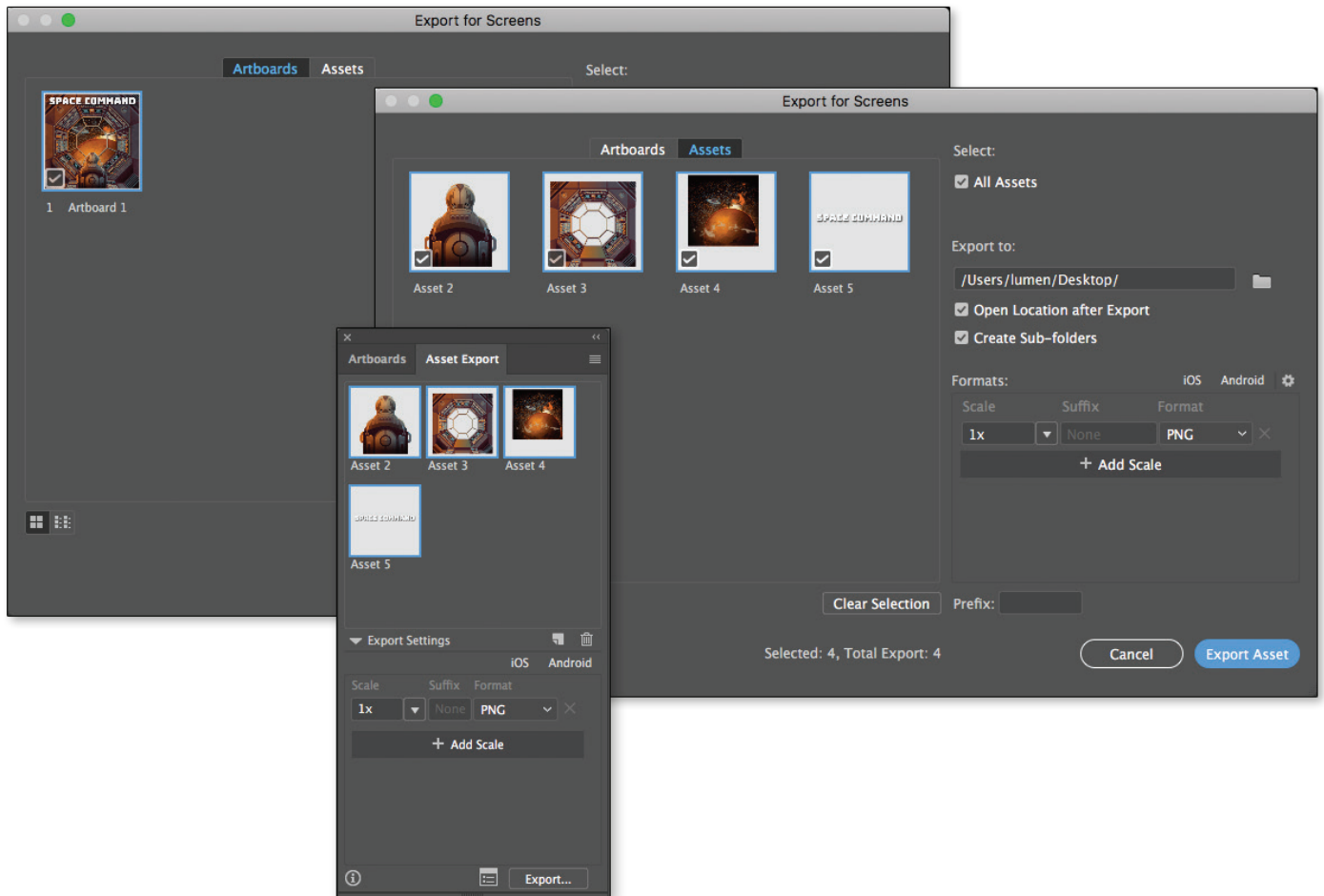


Figure 12 Optimized, exported image

## Export for Screens workflow

The Export for Screens workflow is a new way to generate assets of different sizes and file formats in one action. The ability to quickly export makes the generation of imaging collateral simpler and faster - especially for web and mobile workflows. You can export entire artboards using Export for Screens, or individual artworks like icons, logos, images, mockups, and more using the Asset Export panel and Export for Screens dialog box (**Figure 13**).



**Figure 13** Save Export for Screens dialog box: Artboards (left) and Assets (right), Asset Export panel (center)

For example, in a mobile app development scenario, the User Experience Designer may want to frequently regenerate updated icons and logos. She can add these icons and logos to the Asset Export panel, and then export them to various file types and sizes in one click of a button.

### Useful features:

- Export to multiple formats and sizes in one quick action.
- Export to typical or custom sizes (scales): 1x, 2x, 3x, 0.5x, 1.5x, and more.
- The algorithm to generate PNG files has been revised to:
  - Generate PNG files faster than before.
  - Produce better transparency in PNG-8 files.

### Formats available:

- PNG (PNG-8, PNG-24)
- JPEG (JPEG 100%, JPEG 85%, JPEG 50%, JPEG 25%)
- SVG
- PDF

### How to export entire artboards:

1. Click **File > Export > Export for Screens**.

The **Export for Screens** dialog box opens (Figure 13).

2. Select the **Artboards** tab and choose from the artboards available to export. Click an artboard to select or de-select it. You can also choose what you want to export using the **Select** settings:
  - **All** Select all artboards. Each artboard will be exported individually.
  - **Range** Select individual artboards to export, from the available options. For example, 1, 2, 4-6 selects artboards 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6.
  - **Full Document** Exports the entire document as one artwork.
3. Specify the location and format settings for the exported files (Figure 14):
  - **Location** Specify the folder location where exported files will be placed.
  - **Scale** Specify the scale factor for the output file.
  - **Suffix** Provide a string that will serve as the end of the file names generated.
  - **Format** Specify if you need .png, .svg, .jpg, or .pdf file output.
  - **Add Scale** Click this button to add an additional output scale/format to export.
  - **Presets:** Select for **iOS** or **Android** preset file output types.
4. Click the **Export Artboards** button.

### How to export individual artworks:

1. Click **Window > Asset Export** to launch the **Asset Export** panel (Figure 15).

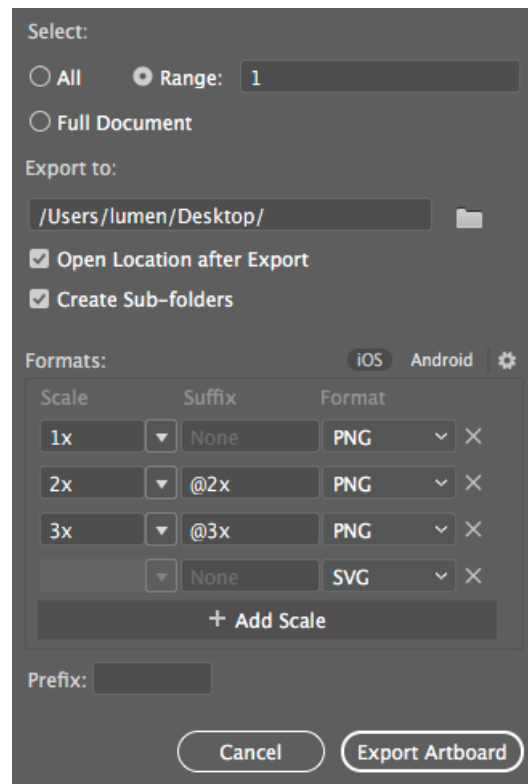


Figure 14 Export for Screens detail, iOS options

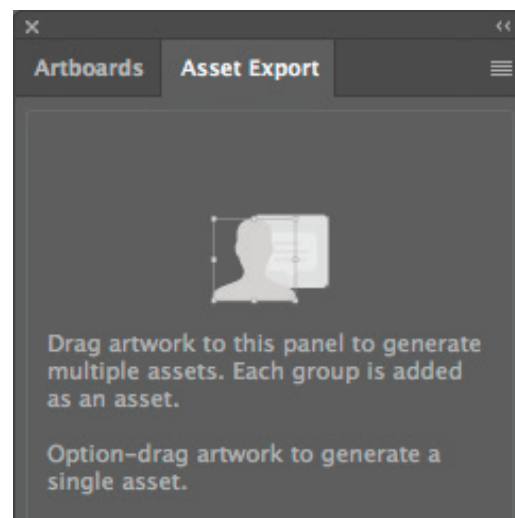


Figure 15 Detail of the Asset Export panel



2. Do one of the following:
  - Drag artwork into the **Asset Export** panel.
  - Right-click an asset, and then choose **Collect for Export > As Single Asset** from the context menu (**Figure 16**).

The asset is added to the **Asset Export** panel. Continue adding objects in the **Asset Export** panel that you want to export.

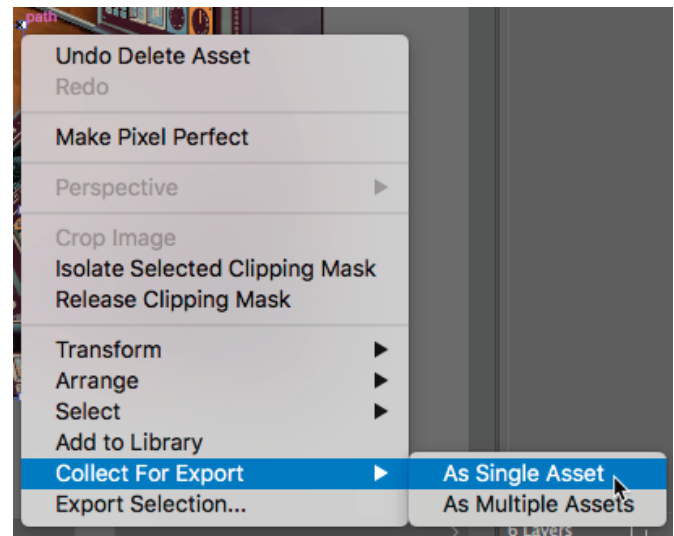
Review the collected assets in the **Asset Export** panel. A border indicates whether the asset is selected for export or not (**Figure 17**).

**Note:** Only assets with a border are exported. Click a thumbnail to select or deselect it.

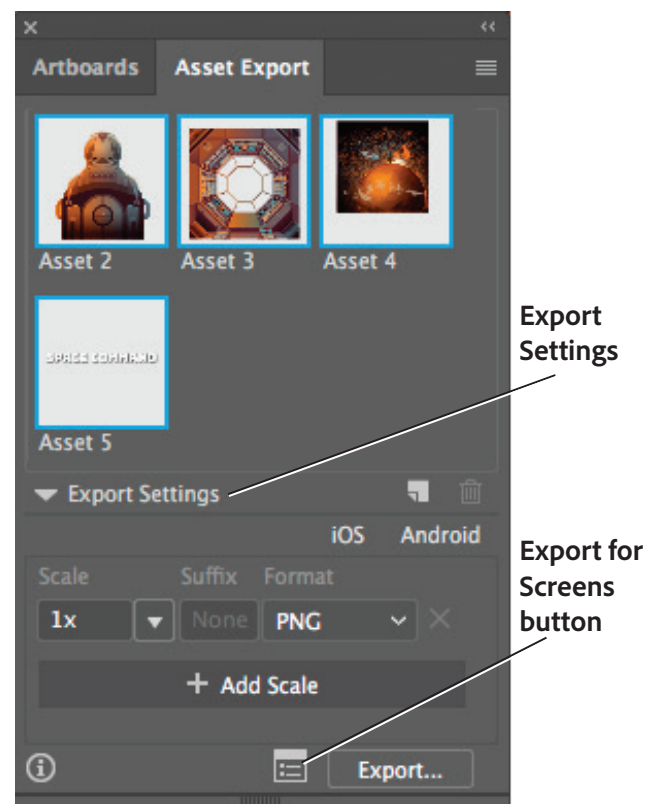
3. Click the **Export Settings** triangle to view or add what formats/sizes you want to export your files to:
  - **Scale** Specify the scale factor for the output file.
  - **Suffix** Provide a string that will serve as the end of the file names generated.
  - **Format** Specify if you need .png, .svg, .jpg, or .pdf file output.
  - **Add Scale** Click this button to add an additional output scale/format to export.
  - **Presets:** Select for **iOS** or **Android** preset file output types.

4. To generate files, click the **Export** button.

**Note:** To change the folder location of the asset you're exporting, or to specify details like a file suffix, use the **Export for Screens** dialog. Click the dialog box icon to open the **Export For Screens** dialog. All options set in the **Asset Export** panel are retained in the **Export For Screens** dialog.



**Figure 16** Asset Export panel detail



**Figure 17** Asset Export panel

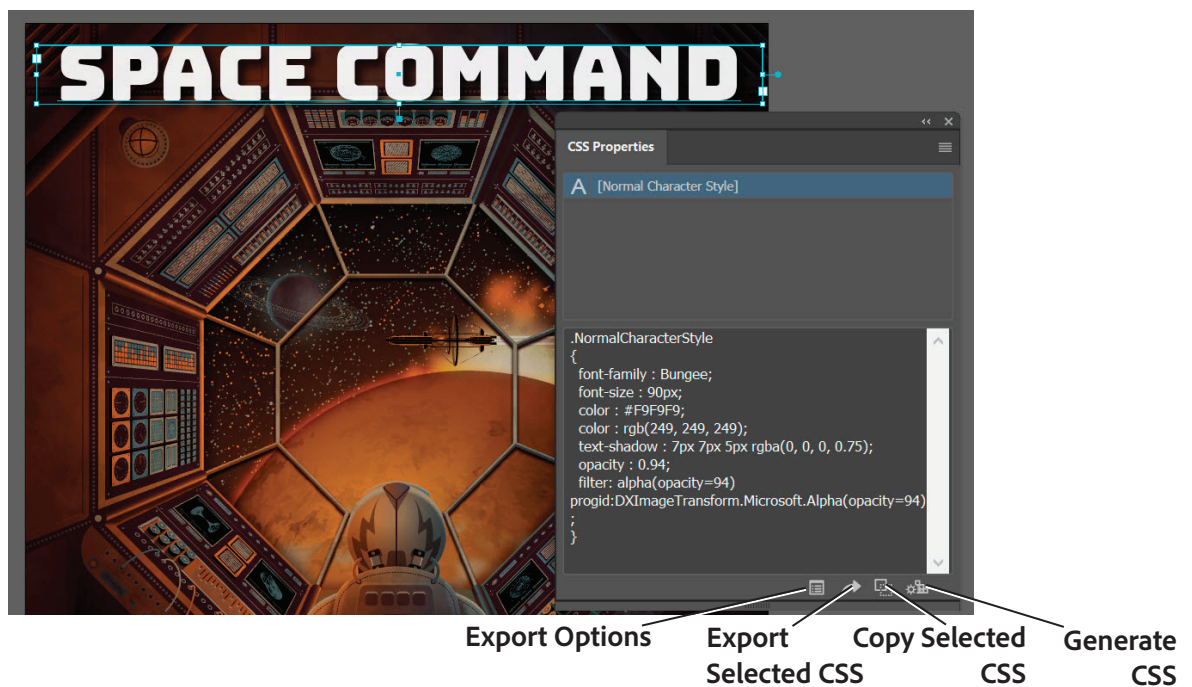
## Generating CSS code

You can easily create the design for an HTML page in Illustrator. This serves as a good visual guide for a web developer, who can then code the layout, styles, and objects into a page in an HTML editor. However, replicating the exact appearance and position of components and objects is a time-consuming and tedious process.

With Illustrator, you create the layout for an HTML page and then also generate and export the underlying CSS code that determines the appearance of the components and objects on the page. CSS allows you to control the appearance of text and objects (similar to character and graphic styles). You can choose to export the CSS code for individual objects or for the entire layout designed in Illustrator.

In the CSS Properties panel (**Figure 18**), you can do the following:

- View the CSS code for selected objects.
- Copy the CSS code for selected objects.
- Export one or more, or all selected Illustrator elements to a CSS file.
- Export rasterizable images used.
- Generate browser-specific CSS code.

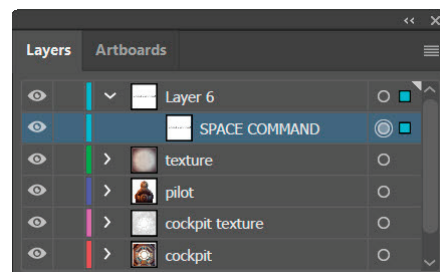


*Figure 18 CSS Properties panel*

### How to view and extract CSS code:

1. To generate CSS code, ensure that objects in your Illustrator document are named in the **Layers** panel (**Figure 19**).
2. Select **Window > CSS Properties**.

The **CSS Properties** panel opens (**Figure 18**).



*Figure 19 Layers panel*

3. In an open Illustrator document, do one of the following:
  - Select one object (**Figure 21**). The CSS code for the object is displayed in the **CSS Properties** panel (**Figure 22**).
  - Hold **Shift**, select multiple objects, and then click the Generate CSS button in the **CSS Properties** panel.
  - Press **Ctrl/Cmd + A** to select all the objects, and then click the Generate CSS button in the **CSS Properties** panel.

The generated CSS code is displayed.

4. To obtain the CSS code that has been generated, do one of the following:

To copy selected code, select specific code, and then:

- To copy to the clipboard, click Copy Selected Style.
- To export to a file, click the flyout menu, and then click Export Selected CSS.

To copy all the code, make no selection in the CSS code, and then:

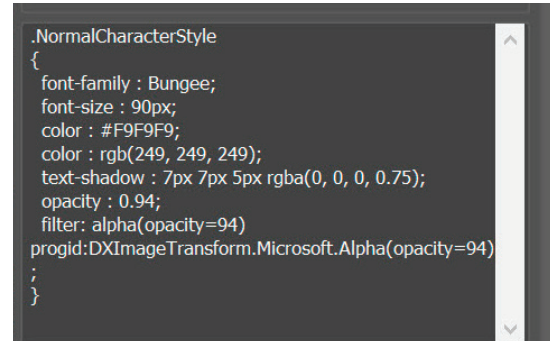
- To copy to the clipboard, click Copy Selected Style.
- To export to a file, click the flyout menu, and then click **Export All**.

5. While saving CSS code to a file, set the CSS options in the **CSS Export Options** dialog box (**Figure 23**).

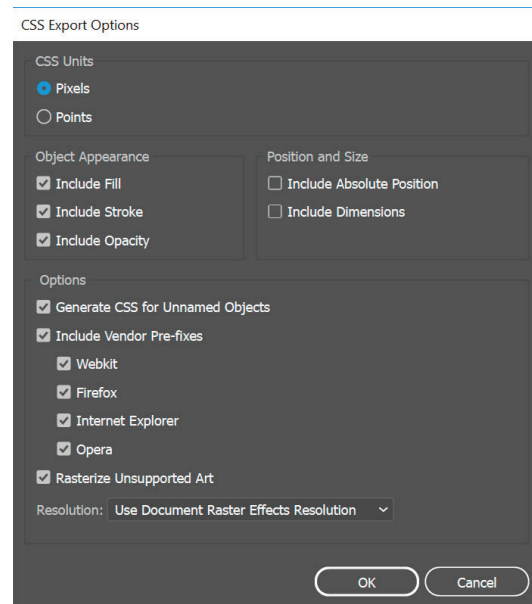
The exported CSS is ready to be placed within another application, such as Dreamweaver (**Figure 23**).



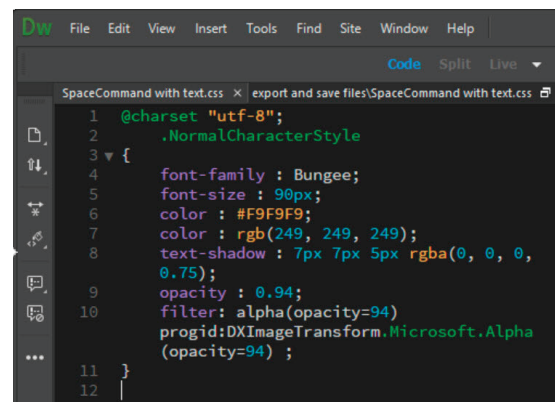
*Figure 21 Selected image*



*Figure 22 CSS code for selected image*



*Figure 23 CSS Export Options dialog box*



*Figure 24 Exported CSS in Dreamweaver*

## Saving to Creative Cloud

Your Adobe Creative Cloud account comes with online storage so your files are available to you anywhere and on any device or computer (**Figure 24**). You can preview many creative file types directly in a web browser on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. These file types include PSD, AI, INDD, JPG, PDF, GIF, PNG, Photoshop Touch, Ideas, and others.

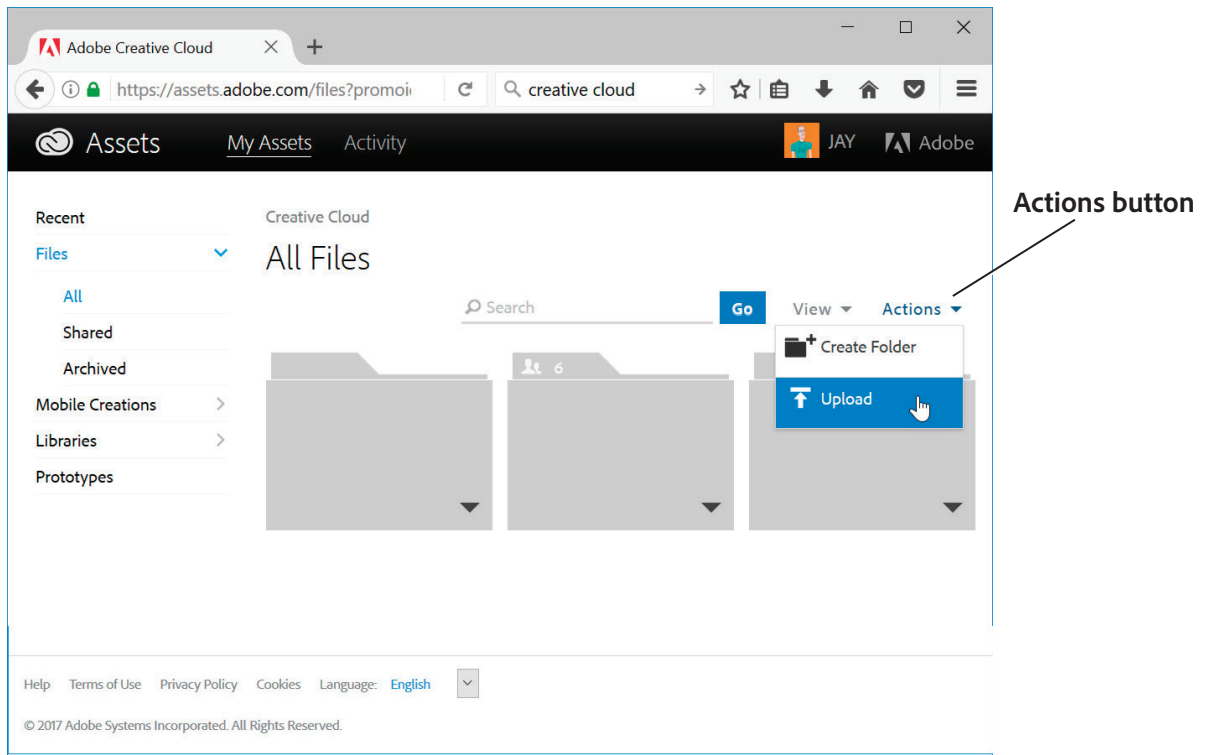


Figure 24 Creative Cloud Files page

### How to save to Creative Cloud:

1. Log into your Creative Cloud account.
2. Drag and drop assets from your desktop to the Files page on Creative Cloud (**Figure 25**).

You can also upload and manage your files on Creative Cloud by using the Actions button on the Creative Cloud Files page (**Figure 24**).

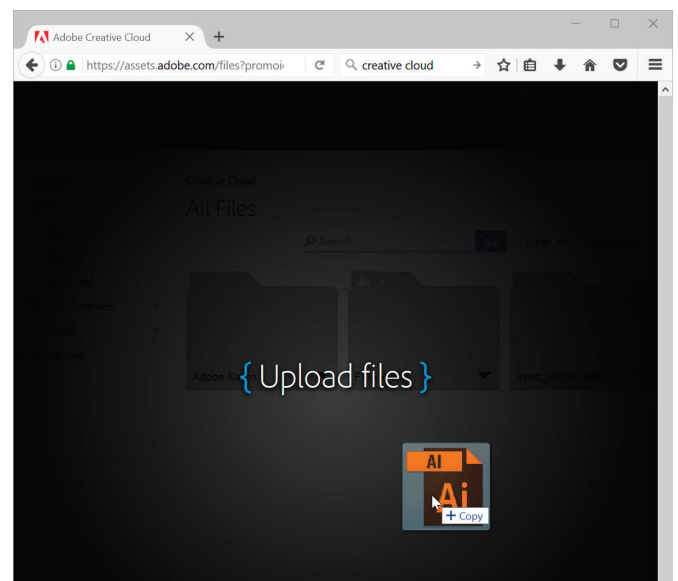


Figure 25 Drag and drop files



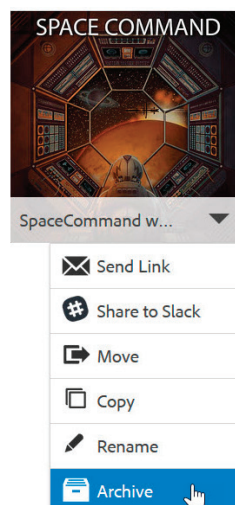
3. To delete files, select the Archive option by clicking the menu triangle in the lower-right corner of the file (**Figure 26**).

4. Click the Archive button to confirm.

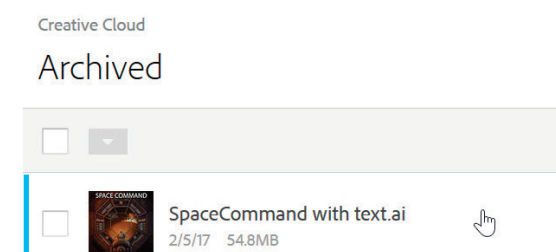
The item is moved to the Archive page (**Figure 27**).

5. To permanently delete files, select the files to delete permanently and click the Permanently Delete option in the Action menu (**Figure 28**).

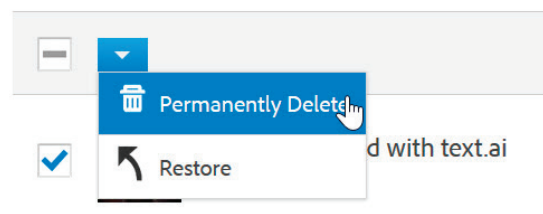
6. In the confirmation dialog box, click Permanently Delete (**Figure 29**).



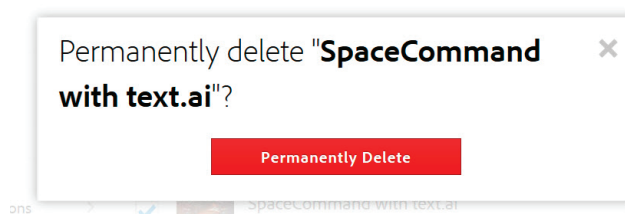
**Figure 26** Menu triangle



**Figure 27** Creative Cloud Archive page



**Figure 28** Action menu



**Figure 29** Permanently Delete confirmation dialog box

## For more information

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