

Save artwork

When you save or export artwork, Illustrator writes the artwork data to a file. The structure of the data depends on the file format that you select.

There are five basic file formats—AI, PDF, EPS, SVG—to which you can save artwork.

You can also export artwork in a variety of file formats for use outside of Illustrator. These formats are called *non-native formats* because Illustrator will not be able to retrieve all of the data if you reopen the file in Illustrator. For this reason, it is recommended that you save artwork in AI format until you are finished creating it, and then export the artwork to the desired format.

Save in Illustrator format

If your document contains more than one artboard and you want to save to a previous version of Illustrator, you can choose to save each artboard as a separate file or combine the content from all artboards into a single file.

- 1 Choose File > Save As or File > Save A Copy.
- 2 Type a filename, and choose a location for the file.
- 3 Choose Illustrator (*.AI) as the file format, and click Save.
- 4 In the Illustrator Options dialog box, set the desired options and click OK:

Version Specifies the version of Illustrator with which you want your file to be compatible. Legacy formats don't support all the features in the current version of Illustrator. Therefore, when you select a version other than the current version, some options for saving aren't available, and certain kinds of data will be changed. Be sure to read the warnings at the bottom of the dialog box so that you are aware of how the data will be changed.

Create PDF Compatible File Saves a PDF representation of the document in the Illustrator file. Select this option if you want the Illustrator file to be compatible with other Adobe applications.

Include Linked Files Embeds files that are linked to the artwork.

Save Each Artboard To A Separate File Saves each artboard as a separate file. A separate master file that includes all of the artboards is also created. All of the content that touches an artboard is included with the file for that artboard. If artwork needs to be shifted to fit it onto a single artboard, a warning appears to let you know. If you don't select this option, the artboards are combined into a single document and are converted to object guides and (in Illustrator CS3) crop areas. The artboard used for the saved file is based on the size of the default document startup profile.

Save in EPS format

Virtually all page layout, word-processing, and graphic applications accept imported or placed encapsulated PostScript (EPS) files. The EPS format preserves many of the graphic elements you can create with Adobe Illustrator, which means that EPS files can be reopened and edited as Illustrator files. Because EPS files are based on the PostScript language, they can contain both vector and bitmap graphics. If your artwork contains multiple artboards, these artboards are preserved when you save to EPS format.

Save in SVG format

SVG is a vector format that produces high-quality, interactive web graphics. There are two versions of the SVG formats: SVG and **Compressed SVG** (SVGZ). SVGZ can reduce file sizes by %50 to %80; however, you cannot edit SVGZ files using a text editor.

Create Adobe PDF files

About Adobe PDF

Portable Document Format (PDF) is a universal file format that preserves the fonts, images, and layout of source documents created on a wide range of applications and platforms. Adobe PDF is the standard for the secure, reliable distribution and exchange of electronic documents and forms around the world. Adobe PDF files are compact and complete, and can be shared, viewed, and printed by anyone with free Adobe Reader® software.

Create Adobe PDF files

You can create different types of PDF files from within Illustrator. You can create multipage PDFs, layered PDFs, and PDF/x-compliant files. Layered PDFs allow you to save one PDF with layers that can be used in different contexts. PDF/X-compliant files ease the burden of color, font, and trapping issues.

Create an Adobe PDF

- 1 Choose File > **Save As** or File > Save A Copy.
- 2 Type a filename, and choose a location for the file.
- 3 Choose Adobe PDF (*.PDF) as the file format, and click Save.
- 4 Either choose a preset from the Adobe PDF Preset menu, or select a category from the list on the left of the dialog box and then customize the options.
- 5 Click Save PDF.