

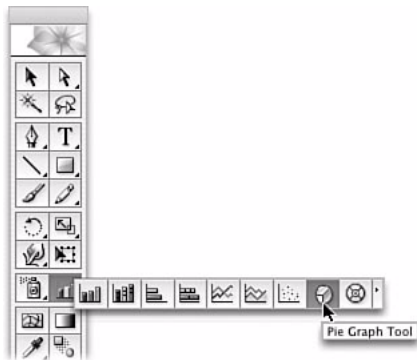
From [www.studio.adobe.com](http://www.studio.adobe.com)

# Liven up your presentations

If you've had to create business presentations before, you know how dull and boring those corporate graphs can look. Well, with the Adobe® Creative Suite 2 in your hands, you can make those executives sit up in their leather chairs and take interest in the cool graphics you can create—especially with Adobe Illustrator® CS2. Let's start by launching Illustrator and creating a new document that is 9 inches by 5.5 inches.

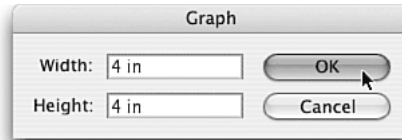
*Note: Because this is a presentation that will be viewed onscreen, you can choose RGB for the color mode for this graph, which will allow your colors to appear more vibrant onscreen.*

Choose the Pie Graph tool.



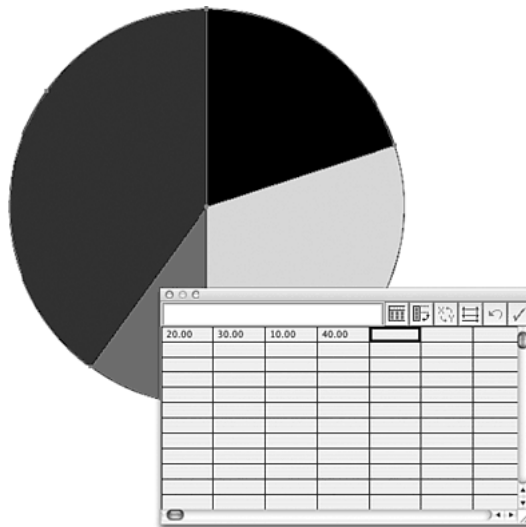
Choosing the Pie Graph tool.

Click once on the artboard to bring up the Graph dialog box. Enter a value of 4 in for both Width and Height.



Specifying the size of the graph.

In the Graph Data window that appears, enter values of 20, 30, 10, and 40. Click the Check Mark button to see the values updated in the pie graph itself.



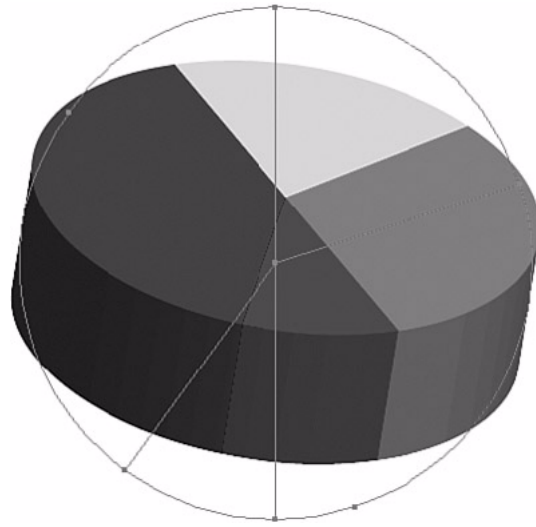
Adding values to the graph.

Close the Graph Data window and switch to the Direct Selection tool. Select each pie wedge individually and fill it with a color of your choice. When you're done, choose the Selection tool and select the entire graph. Press the X key to put the focus on the Stroke attribute, and then press the / (slash) key to set the Stroke color to None.



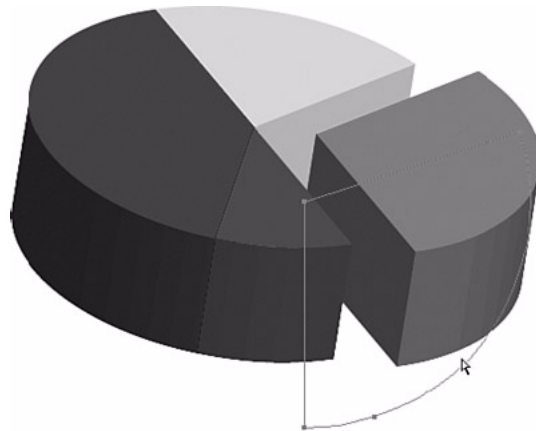
*The pie graph with the colors specified and all the strokes removed.*

I'll bet you're thinking that the graph doesn't look very exciting at this point, and I'd have to agree with you. So you'll add some punch by applying a 3D effect. With the graph still selected, choose Effect, 3D, Extrude and Bevel. Position the dialog box so that you can see your artwork on your screen (if possible), and click the Preview button. You'll see your dull chart suddenly turn into an eye-catching 3D chart. Change the Extrude Depth to 75 point and rotate the x-axis (shown in red) to 55°. Click OK and deselect the graph.



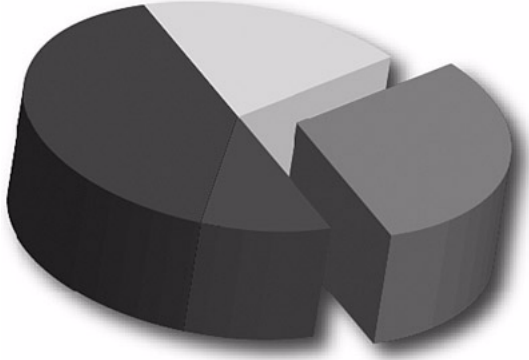
*The 3D pie chart, extruded and rotated.*

To add emphasis to one of the pie wedges, switch to the Direct Selection tool and drag one of the wedges out from the center. Because the 3D is applied as a live effect, the graph will update to show that wedge in an "exploded" view.



*Adding emphasis to a pie wedge value by dragging it outward from the center.*

For a final effect, use the Selection tool to select the entire graph and choose Effect, Stylize, and Drop Shadow to add a nice drop shadow to the pie graph.



*Adding a soft drop shadow makes the pie graph seem to pop off the screen.*

Save the graph file as a native Illustrator (.AI) file. If you are using Version Cue, save it into the main folder of your Version Cue project (not the web-specific ones). Remember to include a comment when you save the file.

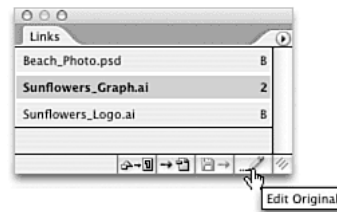
You can now place the graph into a presentation you create in Adobe InDesign®.

*Note: To keep the project simple and within the scope of this tutorial, we just created a simple graph in Illustrator. Of course, you could also create legends, add text and values, and include other information.*

## Making some changes

Just when you're thinking that you have some time to actually grab some lunch, you get an e-mail from your manager or client saying that the numbers have changed for the graph. So much for your lunch plans, right? Maybe not.

Suppose that the e-mail says you need to change the values of the graph to 15, 35, 20, and 30. The first thing you'll do is open the presentation file in InDesign. Then select the placed graph and, from the Links palette, click on the Edit Original button. This action launches Illustrator (if it isn't already open) and automatically opens the graph file for you.



*Using the Edit Original button in the InDesign Links palette.*

Using the Selection tool, select the graph and choose Object, Graph, Data; enter the new values into the Graph Data window. Click on the Apply button to update the graph, and then close the Graph Data window.

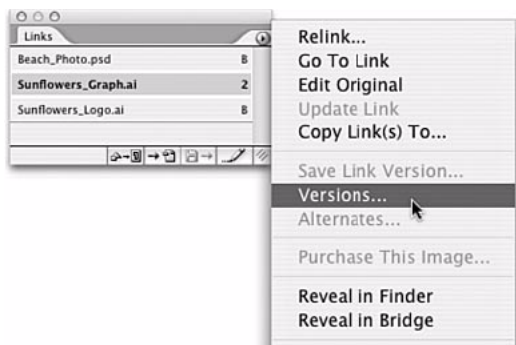
Now choose File, Save a Version, and add a comment about the change you just made. Close the Illustrator file. If you're not playing along using Version Cue, just save the file as you would normally.

Now switch back to InDesign and you'll see the graph update automatically with the new values. If I were you, I'd head out to lunch before another e-mail from the client comes your way...

## Change a version

Well, you come back from lunch only to notice another e-mail from the client apologizing for the earlier e-mail, but the original graph numbers that he supplied were the correct ones—not the ones he e-mailed you right before lunch. Before you reach for the antacid tablets, remember that you’ve been using Version Cue in this project (for those of you who haven’t, keep reaching for those tablets), and you’re going to let Version Cue do the work for you.

Simply highlight the graph file in the Links palette and choose Versions from the Palette menu.



*Choosing to view the versions of a file.*

You’ll then be presented with the “Adobe Engineers, I Owe You One” dialog box (at least, that’s what I like to call it). You’ll see a list of all the versions you’ve created for this file, along with thumbnails and comments to help you see the changes that were made to each of the versions. Click on Version 1 to highlight it, and click on the Promote to Current Version button at the bottom of the dialog box. Add a comment about the change you just made, and you’re done. The graph updates automatically to the correct version.



*Promoting Version 1 to the current version in the Versions dialog box.*

## Exporting a PDF from InDesign

Well, it seems everything is finally approved on the presentation, so you’ll export a PDF from InDesign. Choose File, Export; give the file a name; click Save; and choose the Acrobat 6 Layered preset in the Export PDF dialog box (even though you don’t have layers in your document). To save some time, check the View PDF After Exporting box and click Export.

**Reproduced from "Sams Teach Yourself Adobe CS 2 All in One" by Mordy Golding** © 2006 Sams Publishing. Used with the permission of Pearson Education. To buy this book, please visit [www.sampublishing.com](http://www.sampublishing.com).

**Find more tools, tips, and resources for Adobe software in the Adobe Resource Center at [www.studio.adobe.com](http://www.studio.adobe.com).**



© Adobe, the Adobe logo, Illustrator, InDesign, and Version Cue are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and/or other countries.

© 2005 Adobe Systems Incorporated. All rights reserved.