

# Adobe® Certified Expert Program

## Product Proficiency Exam Bulletin

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### Adobe® Illustrator CS4

### Exam # 9A0-088

#### ACE Certification Checklist

The checklist below will help guide you through the process of obtaining ACE certification.

- Review this bulletin to become familiar with the topic areas and objectives of the exam.
- Identify the topic areas and objectives you need to study.
- Determine which study materials you need to improve your skills.
- For a list of recommended study materials, visit:  
*<http://www.adobe.com/misc/training.html>*
- Study for the exam.
- Contact Pearson VUE to register for an exam: *<http://www.pearsonvue.com/adobe>*
- When registering for the exam, refer to the exam number located at the top of this bulletin.
- Take the exam. Your score is electronically reported to Adobe and will also be displayed when you complete your exam.
- Upon passing the exam, your certificate will be sent to you via email. Please ensure that you have provided an accurate email address.
- You can update your certification profile by going to: <http://www.adobe.com/support/certification/community.html>. You will need the information provided on your score report to create a user account.

## Exam Structure

The following lists the topic areas and percentage of questions delivered in each topic area:

Topic Area	% of Exam	# of Questions
Working with Illustrator documents	20%	13
Drawing and transforming objects	17%	11
Managing color and transparency	9%	6
Using type	12%	8
Controlling effects, appearances, and graphic styles	8%	5
Building graphic objects	12%	8
Working with images	5%	3
Preparing for Web and Flash	8%	5
Preparing for print	9%	6

### Number of Questions and Passing Score

- 65 questions
- 65% minimum required to pass

### Test Content: Topic Areas and Objectives

Following is a detailed outline of the information covered on the exam.

#### 1. Working with Illustrator documents

- Given a scenario, choose the correct document options or create a custom document profile.
- Given a scenario, create a document template.
- Given a scenario, save a document with the appropriate format and options.
- Given a scenario, select the proper settings in the Preferences dialog box.
- Given a scenario, create Guides, Grids, and use Smart Guides.
- Manage Illustrator workspace and panels.
- Build a document structure based on layers.
- Given a scenario, choose a preview mode to visualize the document.
- Customize keyboard shortcuts by using the Keyboard Shortcuts dialog box.
- Control object size and other options by using the control bar.
- Given a scenario, create and use multiple artboards.
- Given a scenario, work with multiple documents.
- View and modify document metadata information.

## **2. Drawing and transforming objects**

- Create and modify a vector object using the Pen tool and bezier controls.
- Given a scenario, customize the Stroke panel settings to achieve the proper visual appearance.
- Given a scenario, cut, erase or delete portions of an object by using the appropriate tool.
- Use Isolation Mode to edit objects, groups, symbols, or layers.
- Given a scenario, create either a clipping mask or layer clipping to hide parts of objects.
- Given a scenario, use a mix of open/closed path, compound path, and compound shapes.
- Align or distribute objects precisely on an artboard.
- Select one or more objects and arrange their stacking order.
- Modify an object with one or more transformation tools.
- Create and apply a pattern swatch.
- Record steps as a reusable Action.

## **3. Managing color and transparency**

- Given a scenario, set up Color Management settings and proof color on screen.
- Given a scenario, create or load swatches, organize them, and apply them to objects.
- Apply transparency options to objects.
- Recolor and fine-tune artwork color by using Live Color.
- Explore color combinations using Color Guide.
- Given a scenario, use the appropriate tools to create, modify, save, and apply color gradients to objects.

## **4. Using type**

- Given a scenario, create the appropriate text object.
- Format type by using character and paragraph attributes.
- Create and apply character and paragraph styles to text.
- Use the Glyph and OpenType panels to obtain special characters.
- Format a story.
- Locate or replace fonts inside a document.
- Given a scenario, customize language dictionaries.
- Given a scenario, adjust and apply hyphenation.

## **5. Controlling effects, appearances, and graphic styles**

- Given a scenario, adjust the appearance of objects by using the Appearance panel.

- Given a scenario, save and apply Graphic Styles.
- Given a scenario, apply the appropriate Live Effect to an object.
- Use the Eyedropper to copy attributes between elements.

#### **6. Building graphic objects**

- Create and format a graph.
- Produce a smooth color mix by using and controlling a gradient mesh.
- Given a scenario, adjust the settings for the Blend tool.
- Given a scenario, choose or create the appropriate brush.
- Create and use a symbol.
- Create and edit a Live Paint Group.
- Apply and edit an object distortion envelope.
- Given a scenario, use the Eraser tool or Blob Brush.
- Given a scenario, prepare and create artwork by using variables.

#### **7. Working with images**

- Import images into your document.
- Manage assets with the Link panel.
- Turn an image into a vector object with Live Trace.

#### **8. Preparing for Web and Flash**

- Given a scenario, choose the proper settings to save illustrator artwork for Web or mobile devices.
- Prepare a document for Flash authoring.
- Given a scenario, export to SWF.

#### **9. Preparing for print**

- Analyze the content of a document by using the Document Info panel.
- Use the Flattener Preview to preview and create custom settings to control the transparency flattening process.
- Given a scenario, choose the correct overprinting options.
- Preview and analyze on screen color separations.
- Given a scenario, choose the correct print options and create custom print presets.
- Given a scenario, choose the correct PDF presets or customize options.

### **Practice Exam**

Try out these practice questions to get a feel for the types of questions on the ACE exam. Please note that your performance here does not indicate how you will do on the actual exam. To fully prepare for the exam, closely review the topic areas and objectives in this Exam Bulletin.

**3.2 Given a scenario, create or load swatches, organize them, and apply them to objects.**

The Tint Ramp in the Color panel is enabled when you have which kind of swatch colors selected?

- A. all swatch colors
- B. only Global swatches
- C. only Spot Color swatches
- D. both Global and Spot Color swatches

Correct answer: D

**3.4 Recolor and fine-tune artwork color by using Live Color.**

You want to reset the color controls in the Recolor Artwork dialog box to the original colors for the selected artwork. What should you do?

- A. click the Get Colors from Selected Art button
- B. deselect the Recolor Art checkbox, then select it again
- C. choose User Defined from the Limit Color Group drop down list
- D. hold down Option (Mac OS X) or Alt (Windows) while clicking Cancel to reset the dialog box

Correct answer: A

**4.4 Given a scenario, create the appropriate text object.**

You have placed a paragraph of text inside a circular object. You want to increase the space between the edge of the path and the text to 6 pt. What should you do first?

- A. choose Type > Area Type Options.
- B. choose Object > Text Wrap > Make
- C. choose Type > Optical Margin Alignment
- D. change the Left Indent and Right Indent fields in the Paragraph panel to 6 pt

Correct answer: A

#### **4.6 Locate or replace fonts inside a document.**

You have a complex document with many vector, bitmapped, and text objects. No objects are currently locked. You want to select all the text objects on all the layers in order to change them all to a particular font. What should you do?

- A. choose Select > All, then Select > Object > Text Objects
- B. with nothing selected, choose Select > Object > Text Objects
- C. select all the layers in the Layer panel, then choose Options for Selection in the panel menu
- D. with nothing selected, choose the Type tool, then press Command-A (Mac OS) or Ctrl-A (Windows)

Correct answer: B

#### **5.2 Given a scenario, save and apply Graphic Styles.**

You want to apply a graphic style to a text object without removing the text color. What should you do?

- A. choose Reduce to Basic Appearance from the Appearance panel menu
- B. hold down Shift-Option (Mac OS) or Shift-Alt (Windows) while clicking on the graphic style
- C. select the text with the Selection tool instead of the Type tool before clicking on the graphic style
- D. deselect Override Character Color from the Graphic Styles panel menu before applying the Graphic Style

Correct answer: D

#### **6.4 Given a scenario, choose or create the appropriate brush.**

You build a pattern brush and applied it to a several paths on your artboard. Now you select one of these paths and you want to edit some stroke options for the brush on that one path. What should you do?

- A. double-click the brush name in the Appearance panel
- B. choose Graphic Style Options from the Graphic Styles panel menu
- C. double-click the brush in the Brushes panel to edit it; when you click OK, choose Apply to Strokes

- D. choose Brush Options from the Brushes panel menu to edit the brush; when you click OK, choose Leave Strokes

Correct answer: A

### **7.3 Turn an image into a vector object with Live Trace.**

You want to use Live Trace to convert a high-contrast grayscale bitmapped image to vector artwork. You only want vector shapes drawn around the black areas of the image. What should you do in the Tracing Options dialog box to accomplish this?

- A. set the Mode to Greyscale
- B. select the Ignore White checkbox
- C. decrease the Threshold slider to 1
- D. increase the Path Fitting slider option

Correct answer: B

### **8.3 Given a scenario, export to SWF**

How can you export each layer of a document as separate SWF files?

- A. choose File > Device Central
- B. choose File > Save as and select FXG (fxg) from the Format pop-up menu
- C. choose File > Export, and select Flash (swf) from the Format pop-up menu
- D. choose File > Save for Web and Device, and choose SWF as the optimized file format

Correct answer: C

### **9.4 Preview and analyze on screen color separations.**

What is required in order to use the Separation Preview panel?

- A. The file must be saved first.
- B. The document must be flattened first.
- C. The Document Color Mode must be set to RGB.
- D. The Document Color Mode must be set to CMYK.

Correct answer: D

**9.5 Given a scenario, choose the correct print options and create custom print presets.**

You create a 24x60-inch poster design. Before finalizing it you would like to print an actual-sized proof. However, your printer only accommodates up to 11x17-inch paper. Which should you select in the Print dialog box?

- A. Tile radio button
- B. Fit to Page radio button
- C. Do Not Scale radio button
- D. Defined by Driver from the Size pop-up menu

Correct answer: A