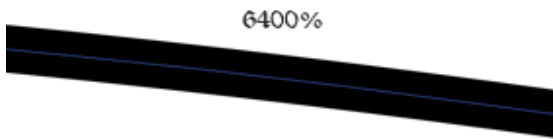


Adobe Illustrator Lesson 1: Vector vs. Raster

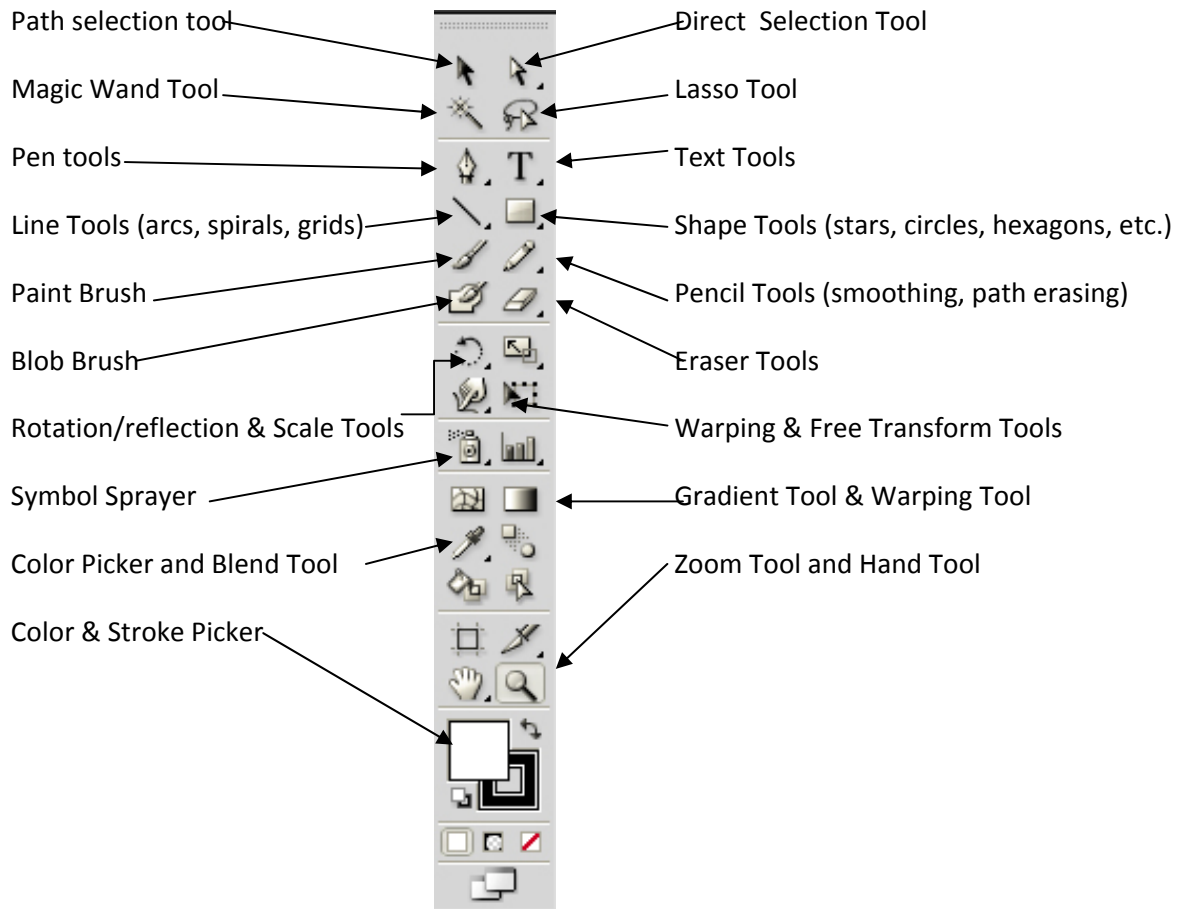
Raster images are made up of little dots called pixels which determine the size and resolution of an image when it is displayed on a computer monitor. There are a finite number of pixels and each one is assigned a color and place in the overall image. This is the most common graphic that you see on-line. When you copy that image and then use Photoshop or another editing program to work on it you can zoom waaaay in and the whole thing fragments into a blurry mess.



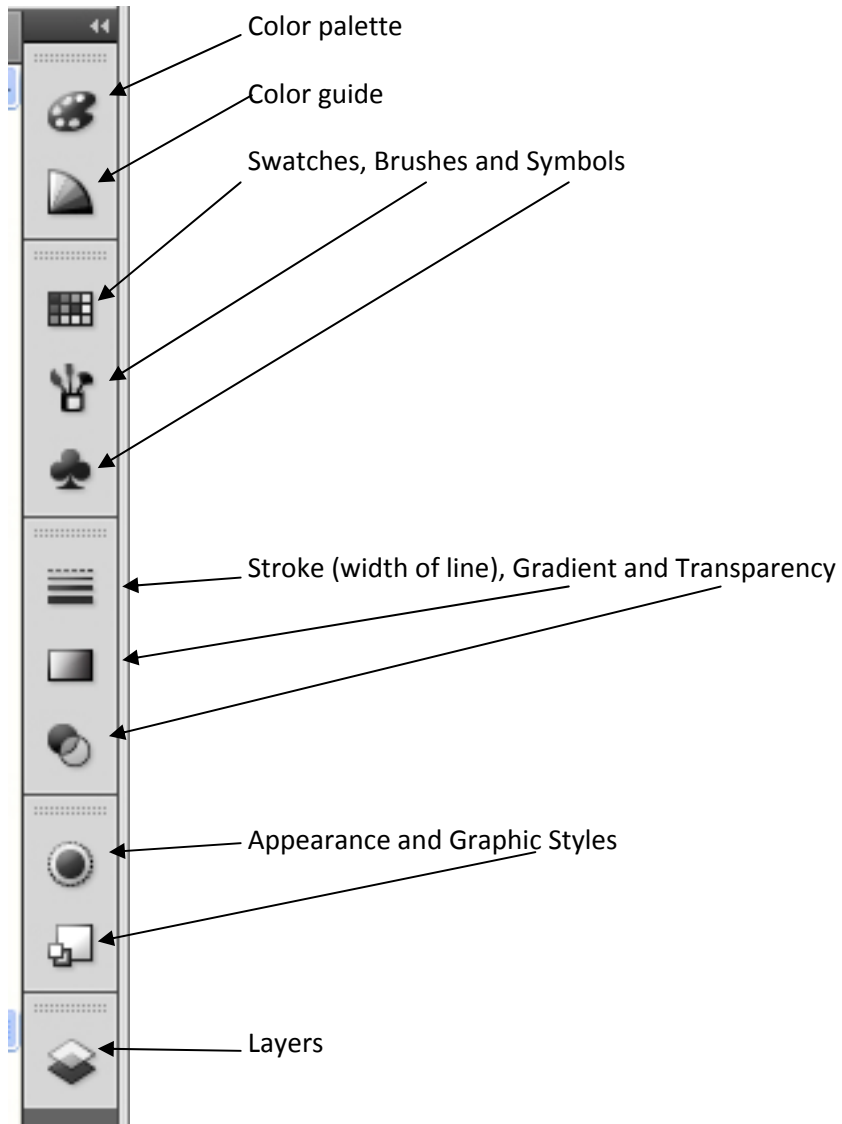
Vector images are different though. Instead of having a set number of pixels there are a number of mathematical equations that tell the image exactly what shape and color a part of an image is and tells the software how to draw an image. You can use these equations to change the size of the image from smaller than a postage stamp to larger than a football field and you won't lose any image quality at all since there are no pixels involved.



A quick over view of basic tools we will be using in Illustrator: Most will be familiar to you.



Illustrator also has a number of other tools that we will be using such as:



Alright, a whirlwind tour of the interface of Adobe Illustrator. Play around with it and test out some of the tools to see what they do and how they work.