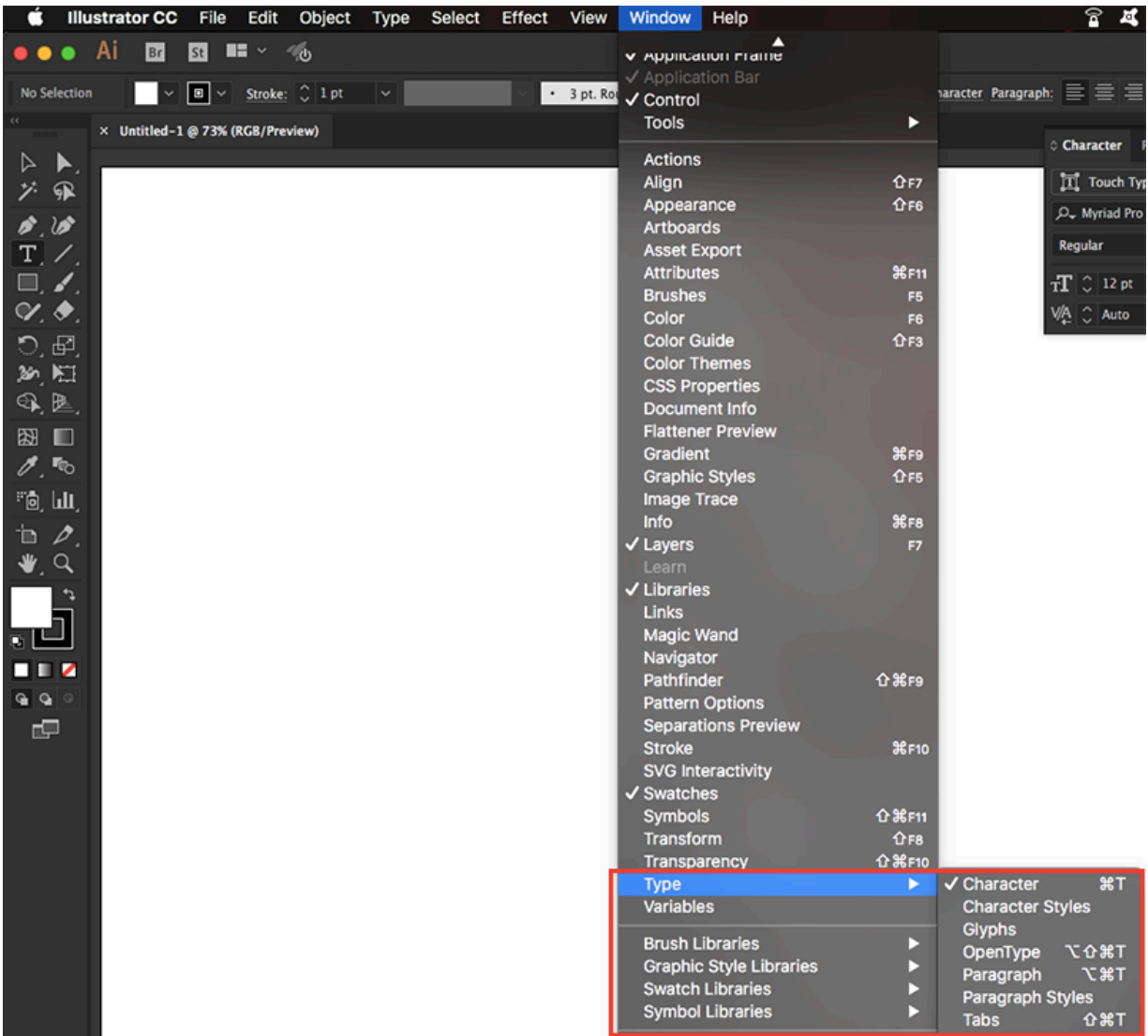


Illustrator - Working With Type

Working with type is an extremely important aspect of Illustrator. Whether you are designing for print or screens you will likely have to work with type. This lesson will cover the ins and outs of type.

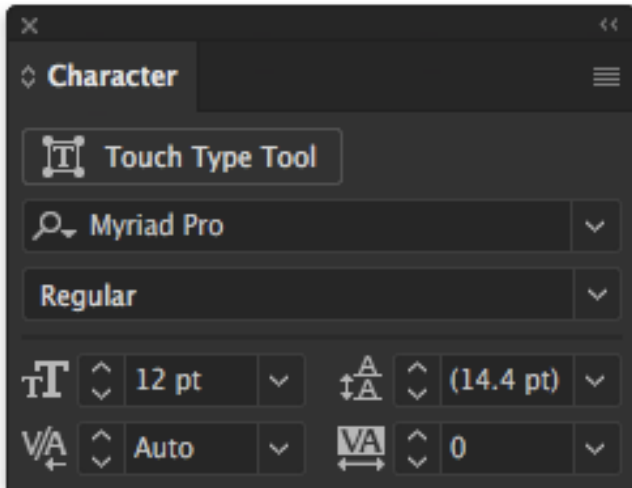
Using Type Tools

Starting off, The type tool will allow you to start adding text to your project. There are various tools we can use to achieve what we want as well. If you click [Window>Type](#) there will be some additional options we can choose from for different tools we can use:



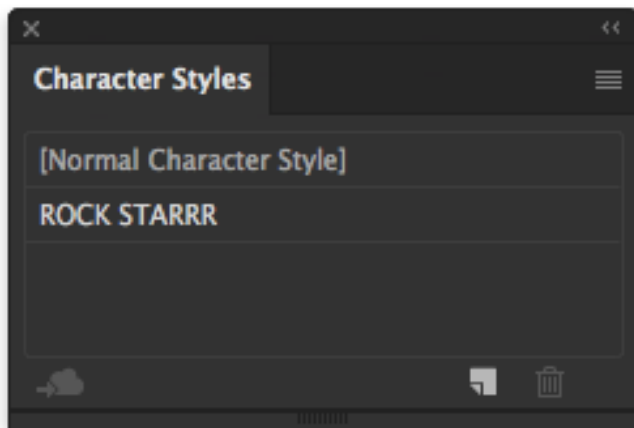
Lets first take a look at these...


Character:



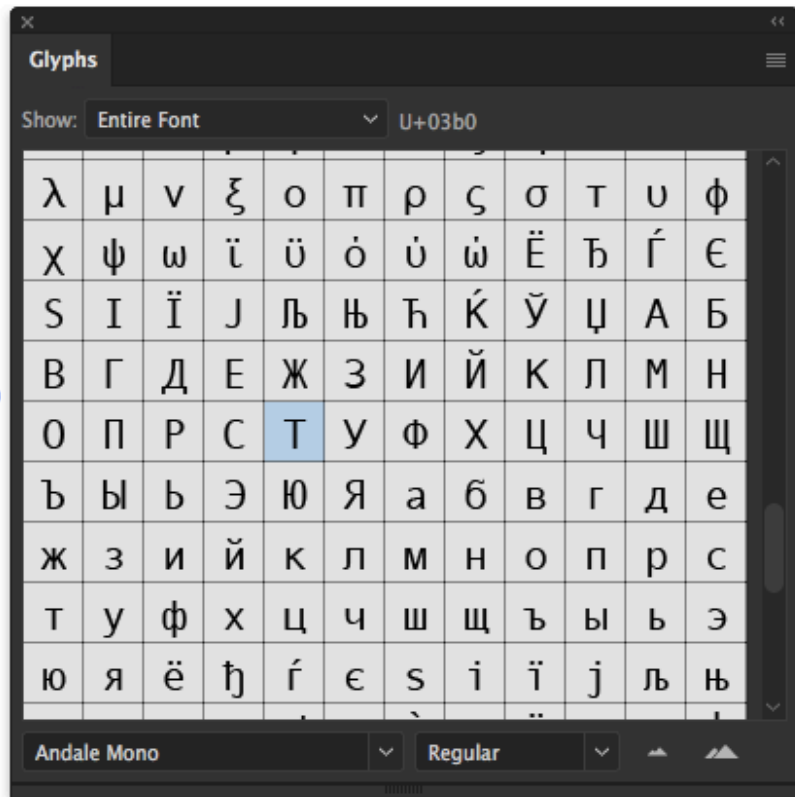
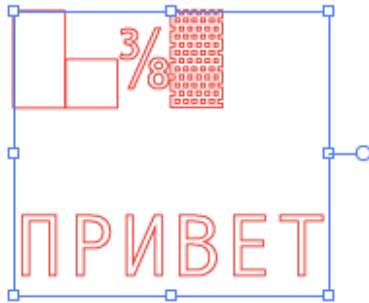
This tool will allow you to change the font, font size, leading, kerning and tracking.

Character Styles:



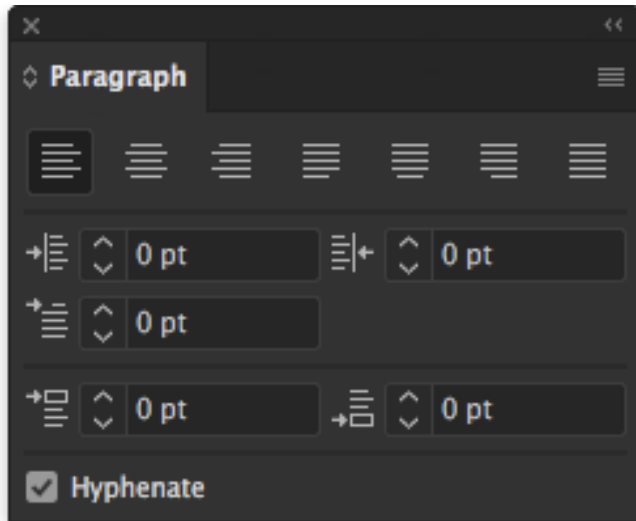
This tool will allow you to save character styles so you can easily access them. To use this tool, simply format the text how you would like it, then click the Create New Style icon  and name it as you wish.

Glyphs:



Glyphs will bring up a window that will allow you to add different character symbols and letters from other languages, depending on the font chosen. Not all fonts will have these.

Paragraph:

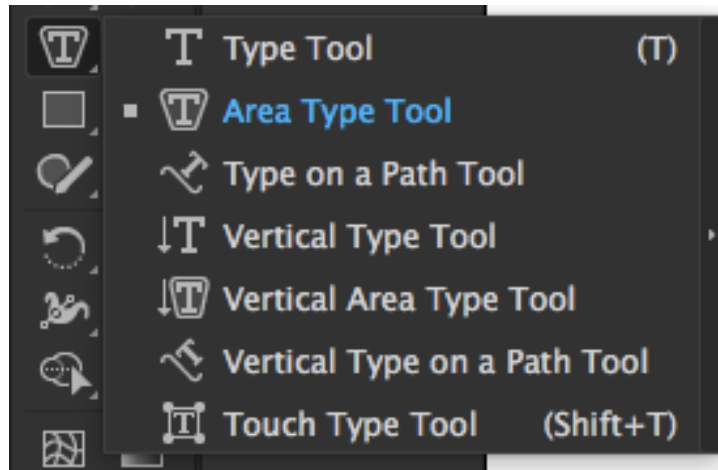


This will bring up a window that will allow you to format your text similar to how you would in any text editor. Here we can do all the standard things such as align paragraph left, right, centre, justify and adjust indents.

Creating Type in a text box

Creating Area Type

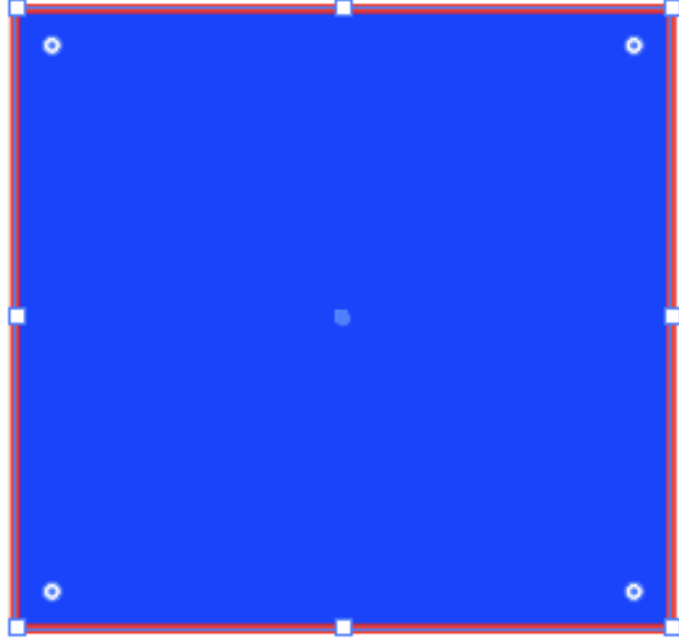
We can also use additional tools to create type. If we click hold the type icon we will get more options.



Select the area type tool (the pointer will change to a cursor with a type icon with a circle around it)

Click on a shape's path

Now you can type text within the confines of that shape. The background colour (if any) of the shape will disappear and the text will instead be within the shape.



>Lorem
ipsum
dolor sit
amet,
consec

The image shows a text layout with a blue bounding box. The text is arranged in five lines: "Lorem", "ipsum", "dolor sit", "amet,", and "consec". The word "dolor" in the third line is highlighted with a black background. A blue bounding box surrounds the text, with a small blue square at the bottom center. A small blue circle is positioned to the right of the word "sit". A small orange 'x' is located on the letter 'o' in "dolor".

HEY!!!!!!

!!!!!!

!!!!!!

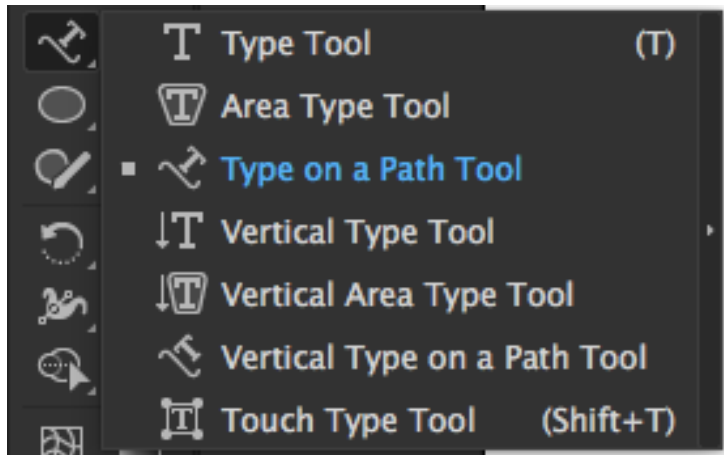
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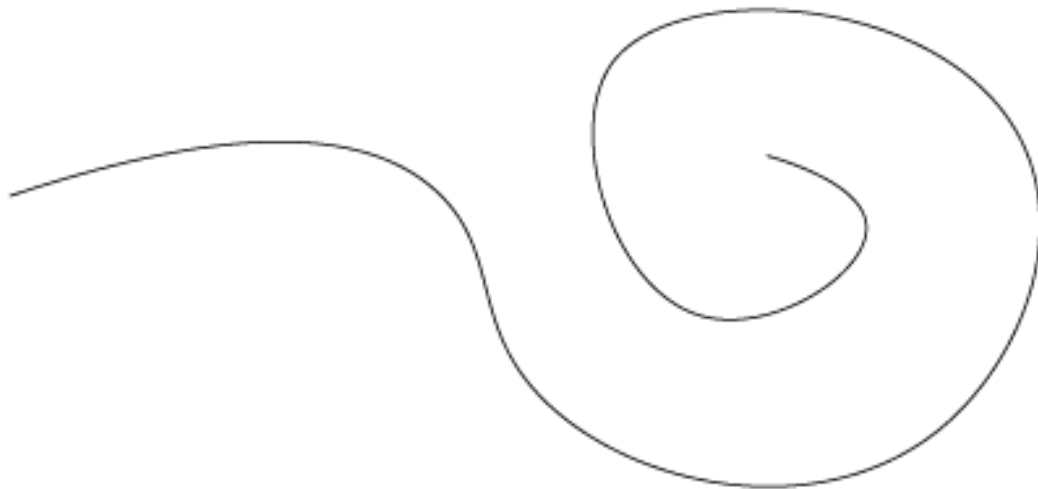
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  ndow.performance)&&a.now&&(google.timers[c].wst
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  </script><!--srt--><
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Creating Path Type

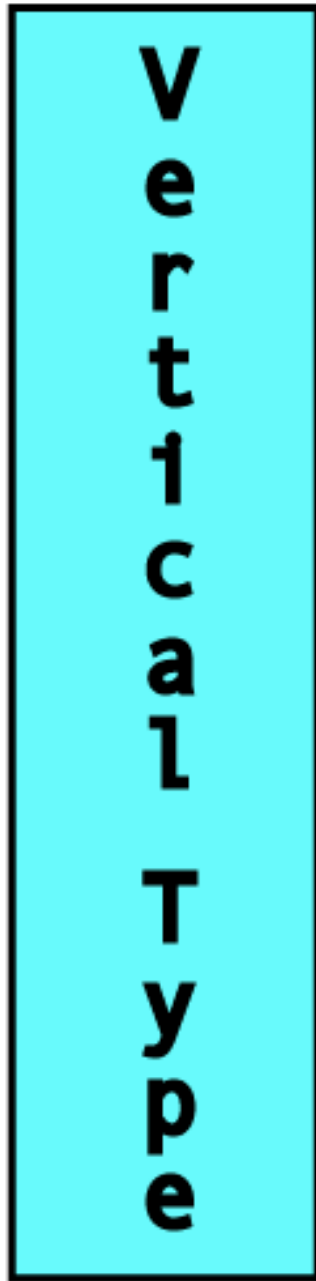
Using the path tool, we can easily create text along any path.



Lets make a path.



With the type on a path tool we can simply select



Vertical Area Type Tool

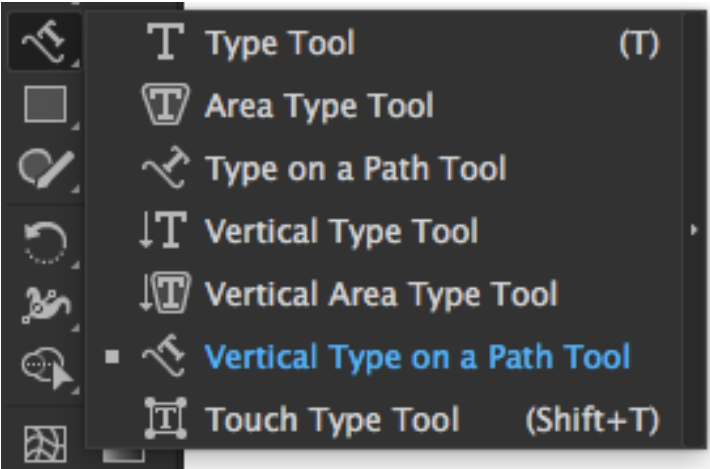
You can use the vertical area type tool the same way we used the regular area type tool...

Make a shape and click on the path, choose the vertical area type tool and type in your text.

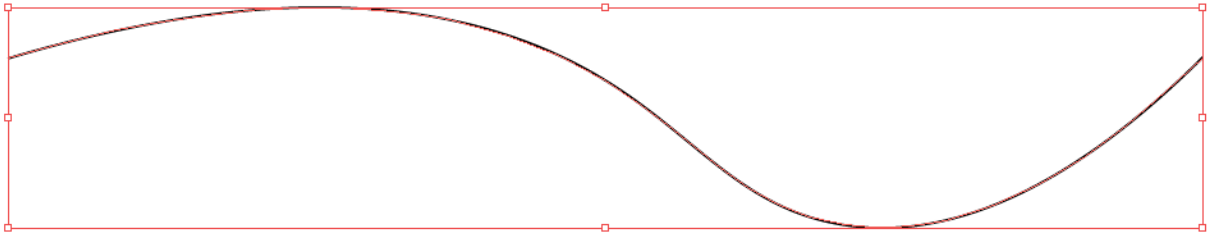


Vertical Type on a line

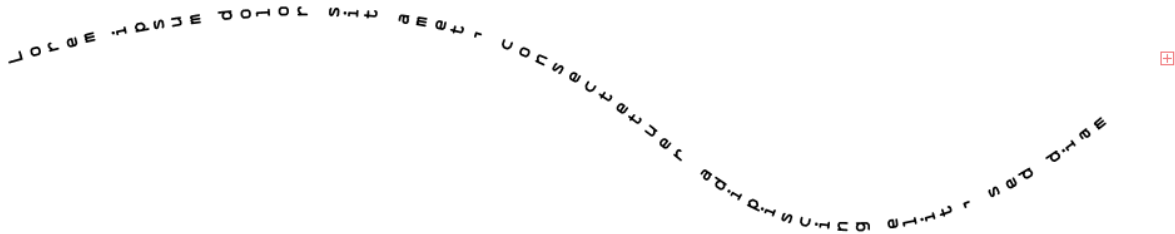
With this tool we can make vertical type on a path.



Lets make a path



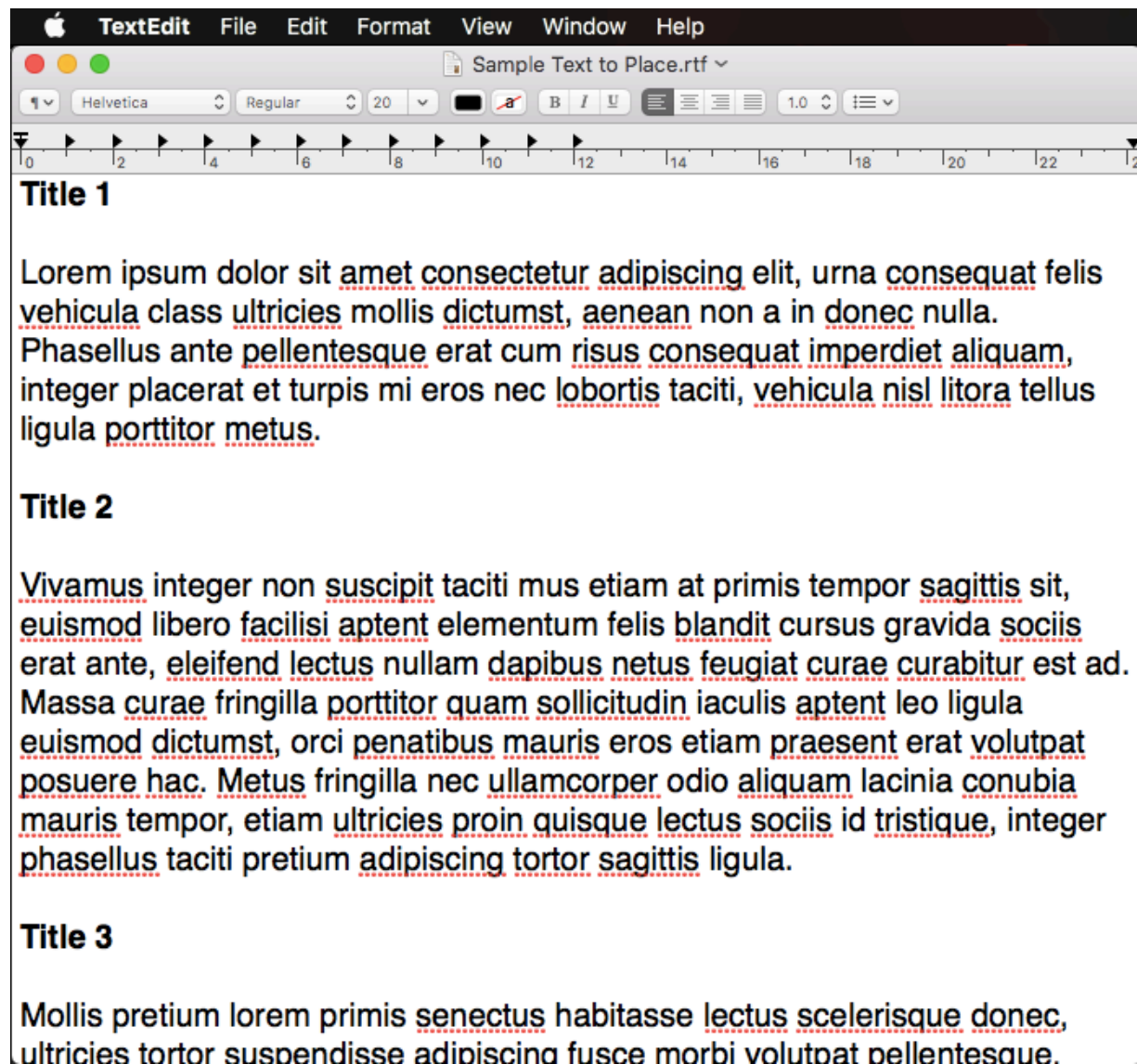
Click on the path with the tool and type in your text.



Importing Text

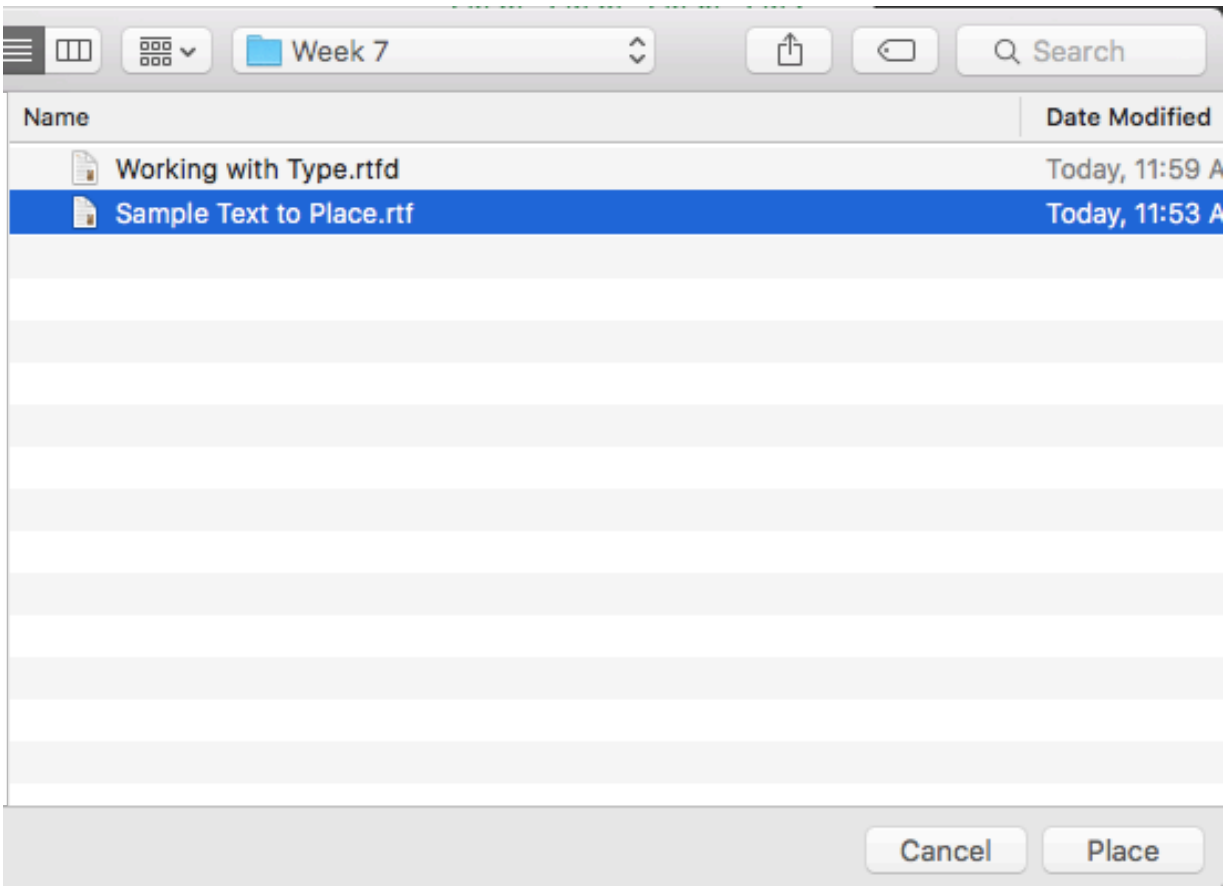
We can easily import text from a text editor, if its we can use this with various formats such as txt, rtf, doc, and so on.

Simply save the text in the word processor of your choice.

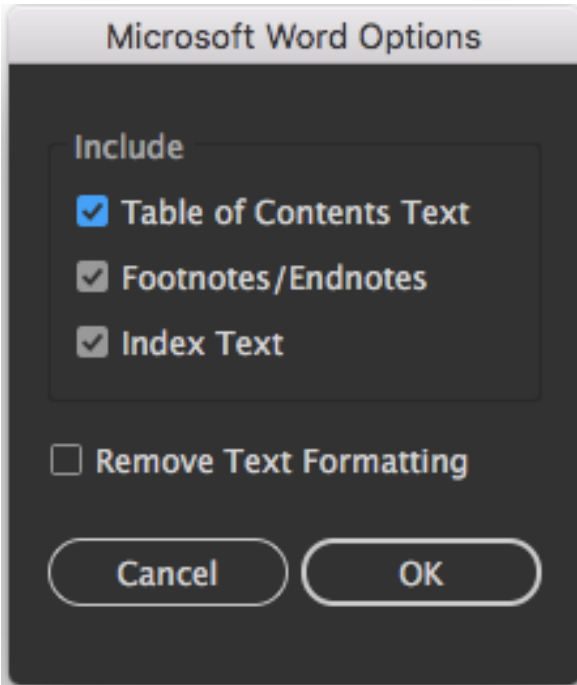


Then in Illustrator click on [File>Place...](#)

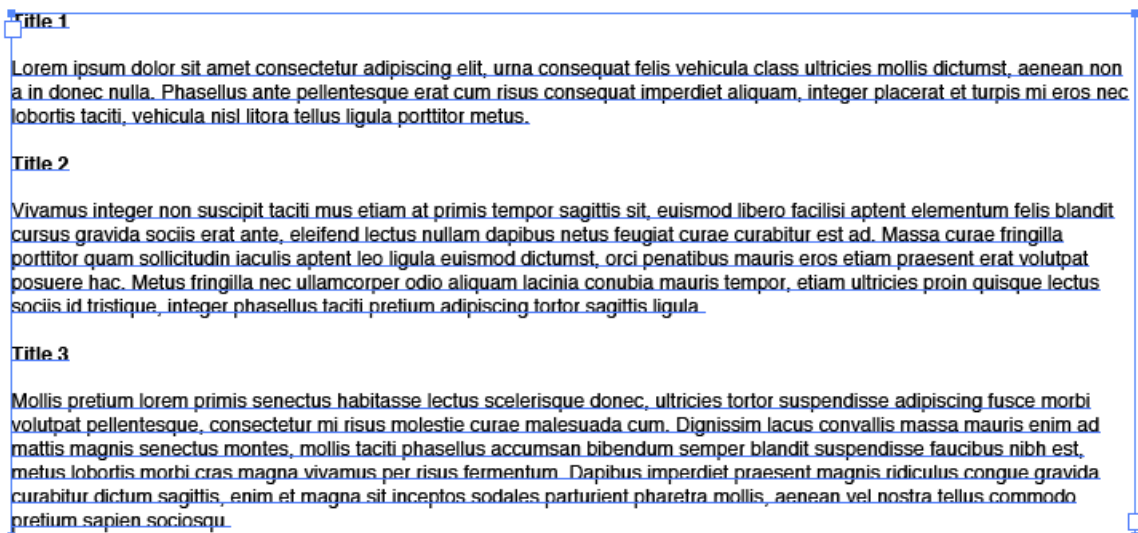
From here you can select the document file you just saved.



Select the file and press Place.

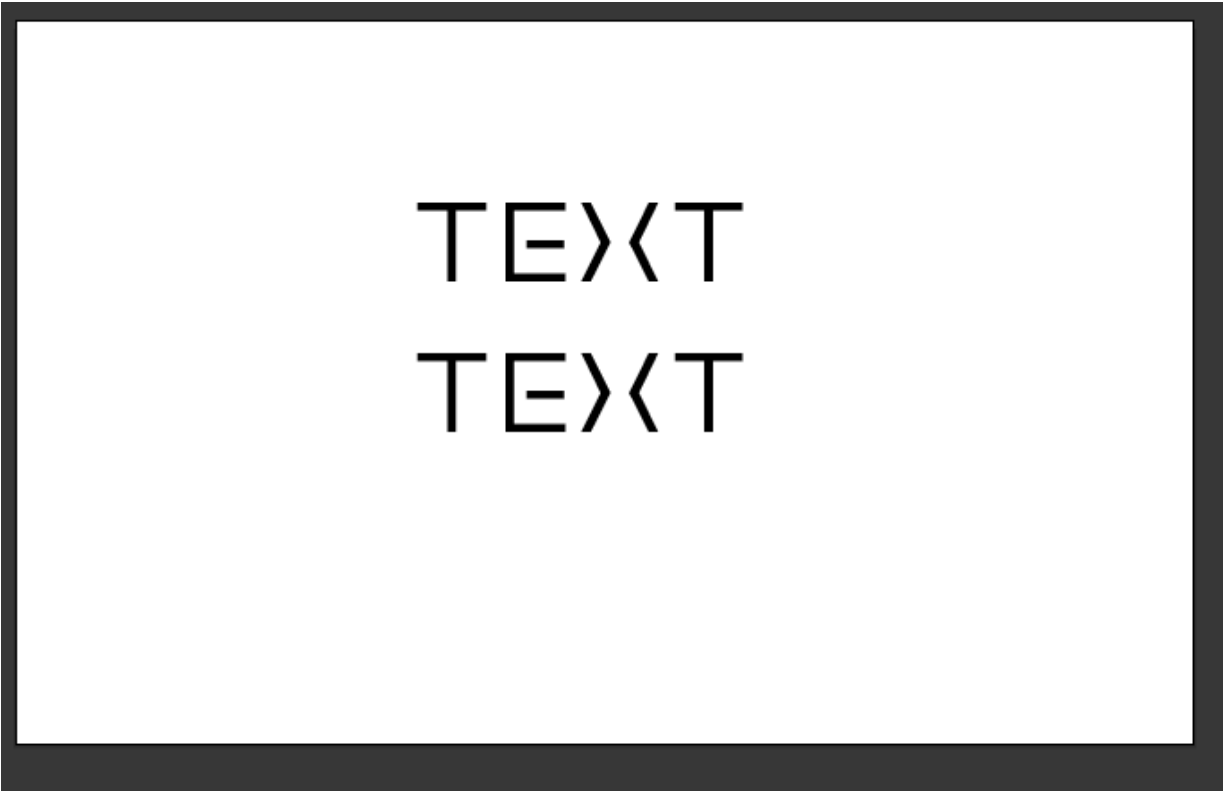


This window will popup. Select or deselect the things you will need or not need and press OK.
We now have our text imported into Illustrator.

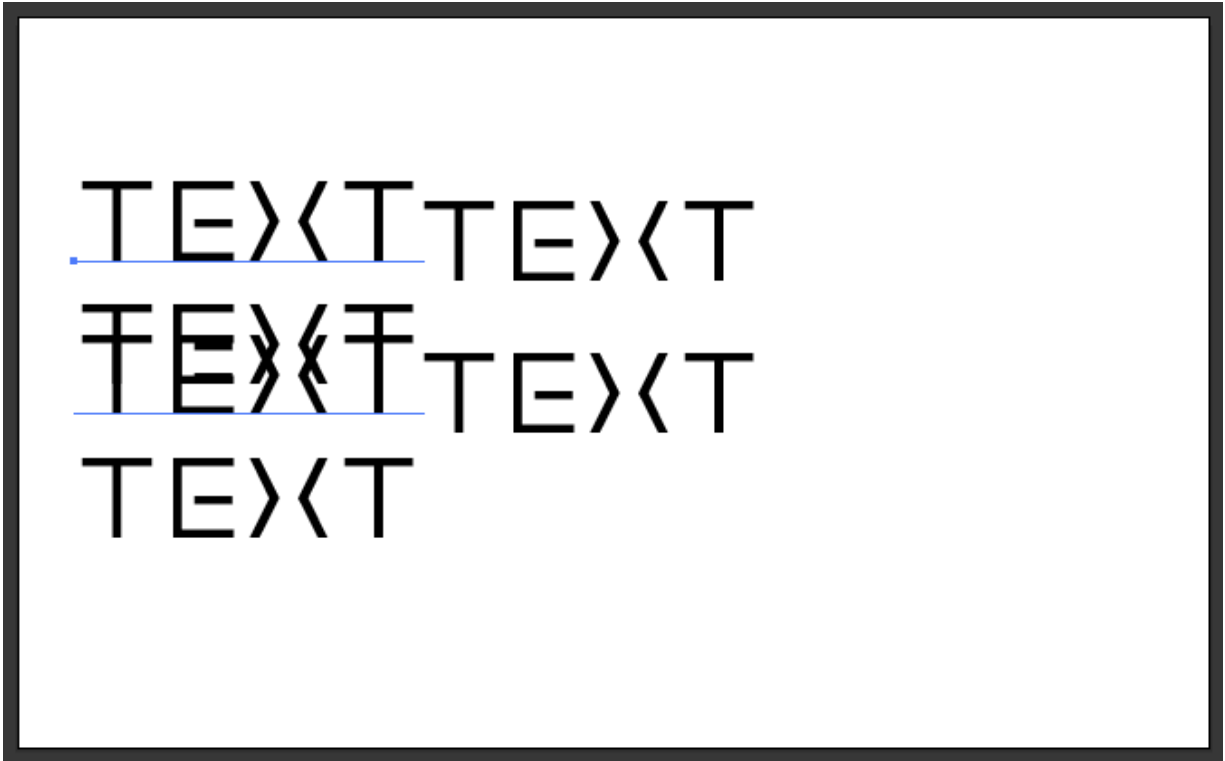


Copying and moving type

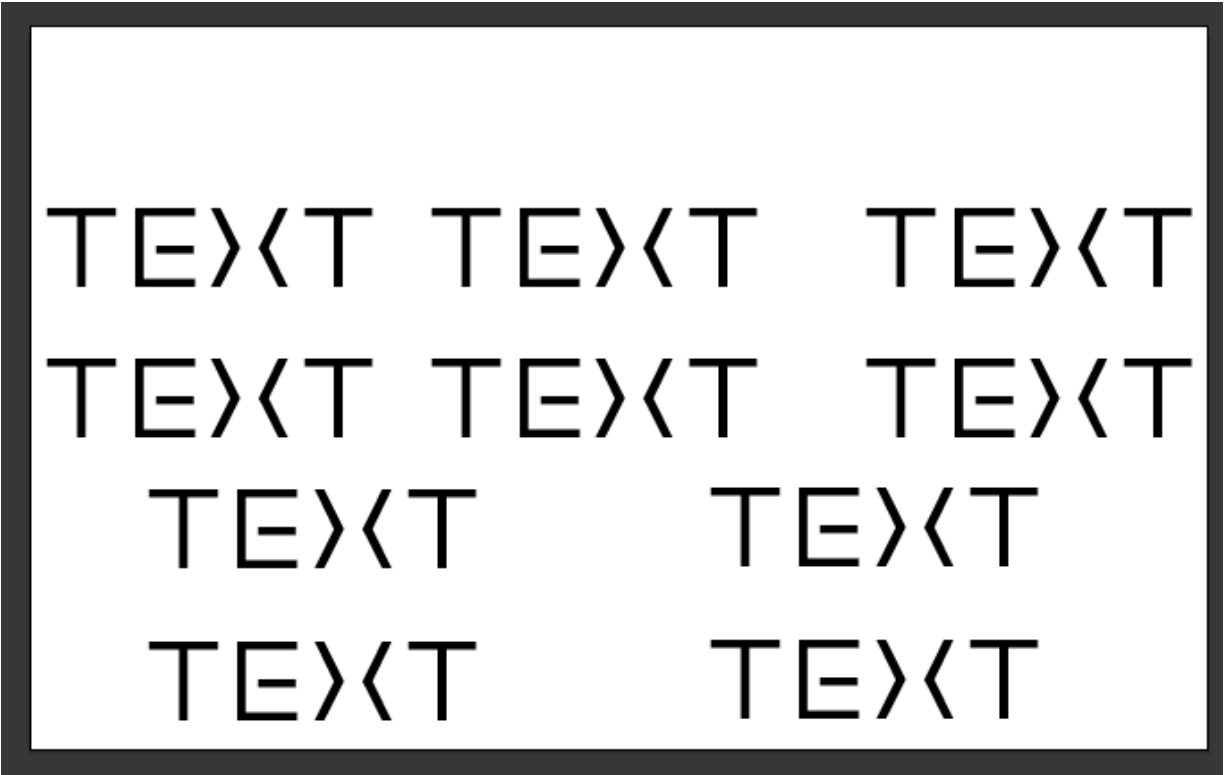
We can copy and move type in Illustrator and use a couple methods to do it how we want to.



If we have some text on our art board, we can hold down the "option/alt" key (the cursor will change to show us that we are going to copy the text). Once we click on the text we can freely move the text and when we place it it will be a copy.



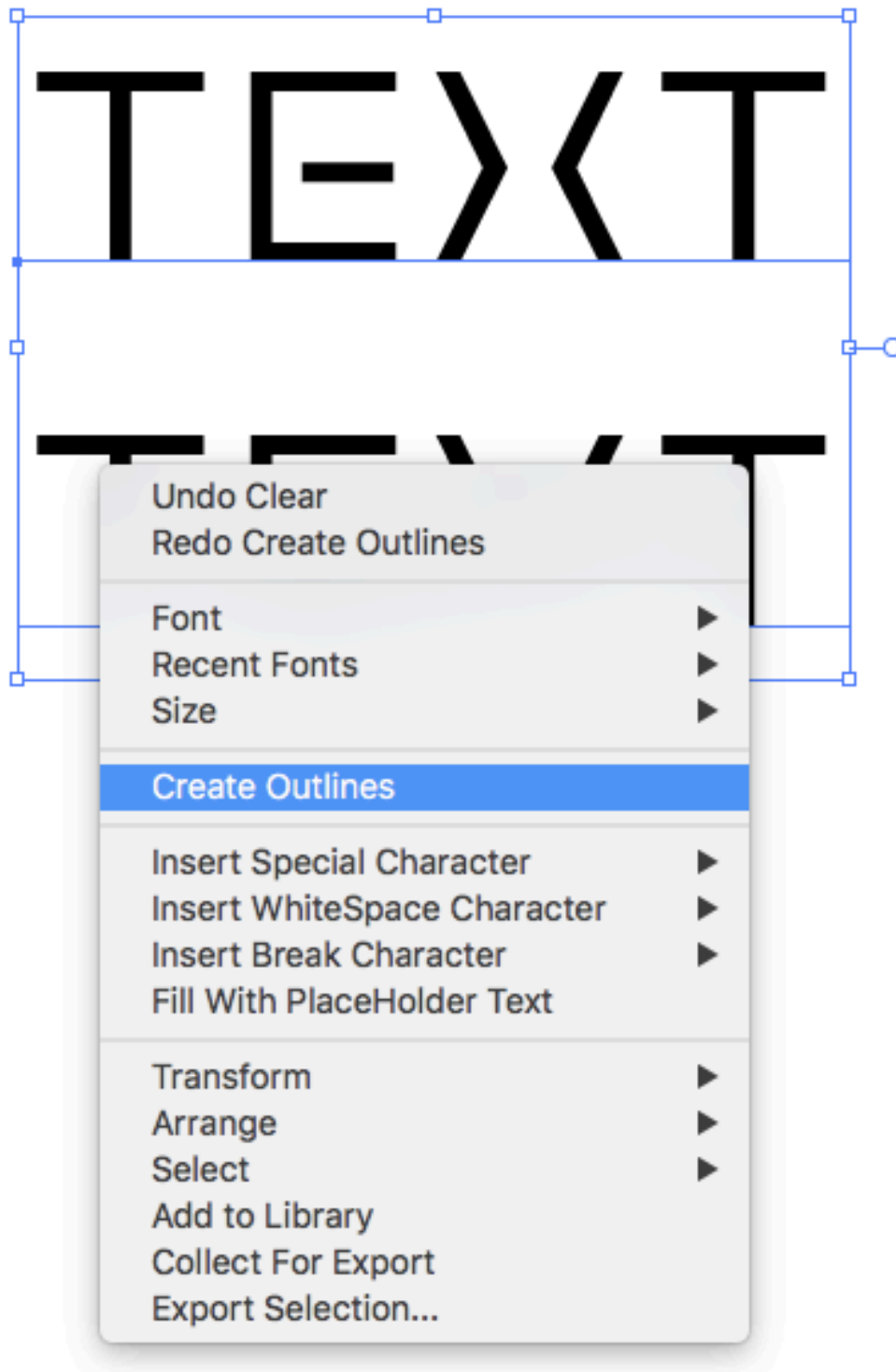
If we hold down the shift key while holding the option/alt key the text will move to perfect angle of itself.



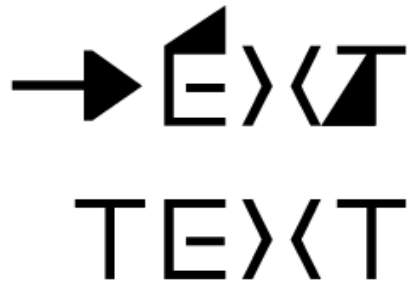
Text to object

Finally, we can take our text and convert it to a shape, doing this will allow us to alter the text as we would be able to with any other shape.

Select your text, once selected, right click it and within the menu, select "create Outlines".



At this point, the text is now a shape and can be edited as such.



→ E } < T
T E } < T

Diving Deeper

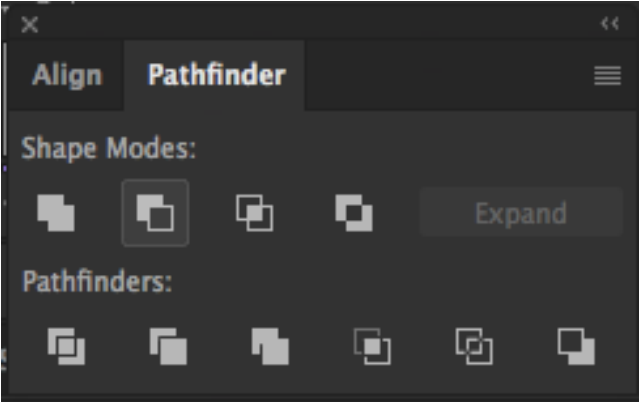
Lets take a deeper look at some of the things we can do...

We can for example take an image and work with it to create something better.



Lets open the [Window>Pathfinder](#) Lets also convert the text to outlines as we learned earlier...

Now, with the pathfinder open, lets hit the minus front option in the pathfinder.



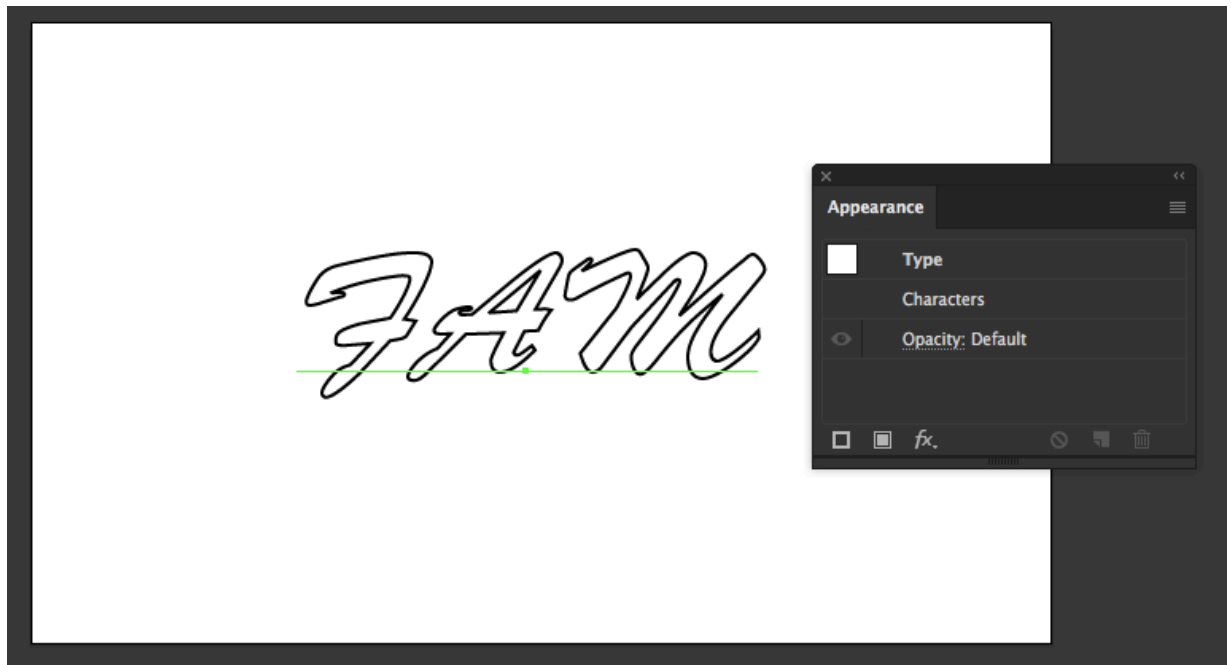


We can play with the style a bit and add a frame...

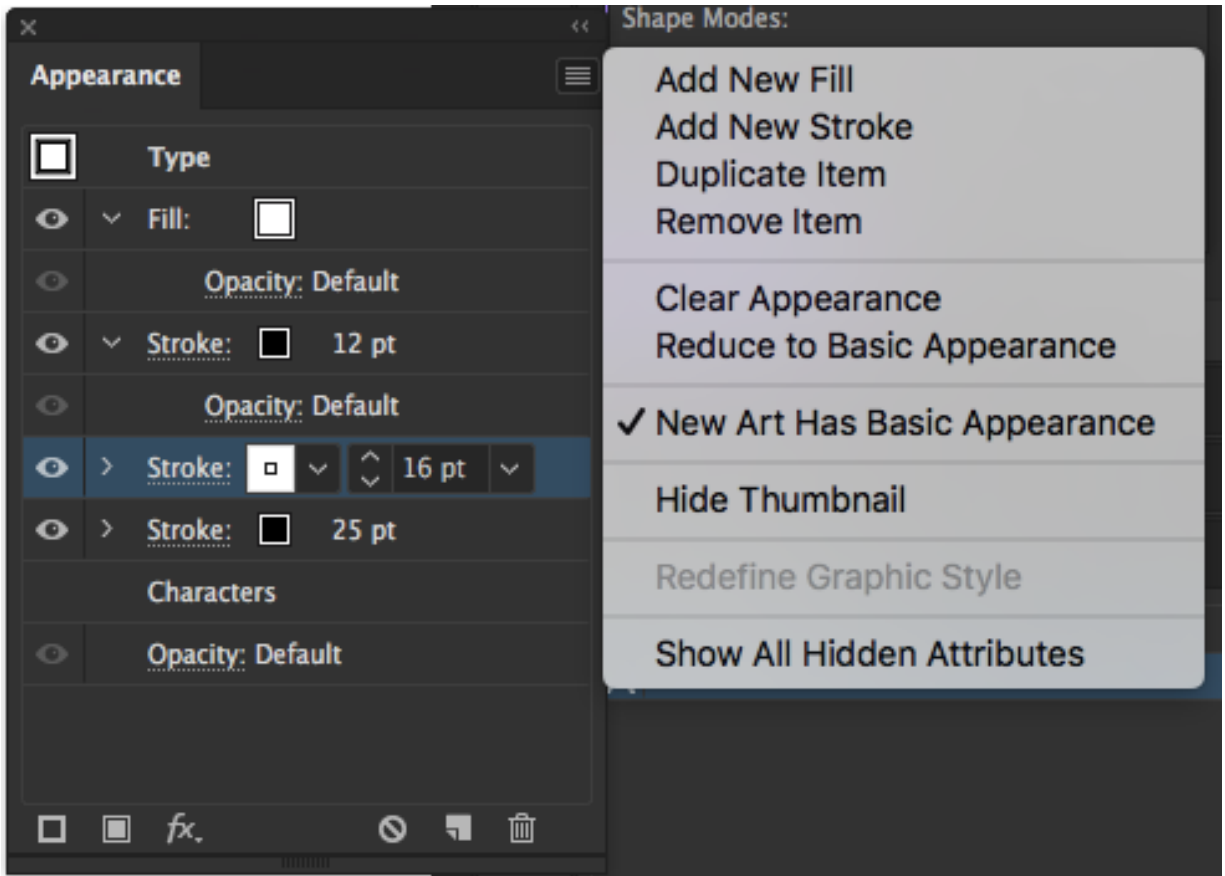


Double Stroke

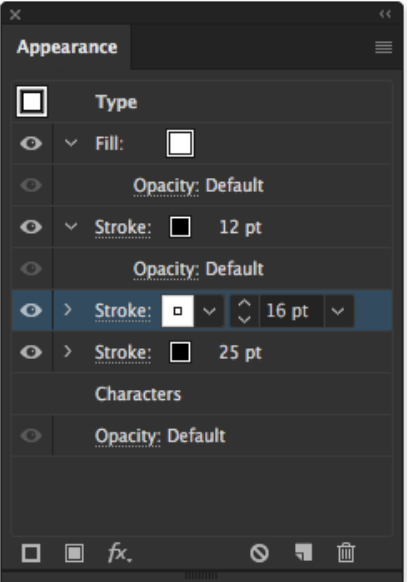
We can create text that has a stroke, we all already know how to do that. But we can easily add a double stroke by going to [Window>Appearance](#)



In the appearance window click the [hamburger menu](#) and than [new fill](#)



From here we can add as many strokes as we want to achieve new looks...



Highlights and shadows

We can manually add in highlights and shadows.

Lets write some text...



From here, lets create outlines and duplicate the text like we learned earlier...

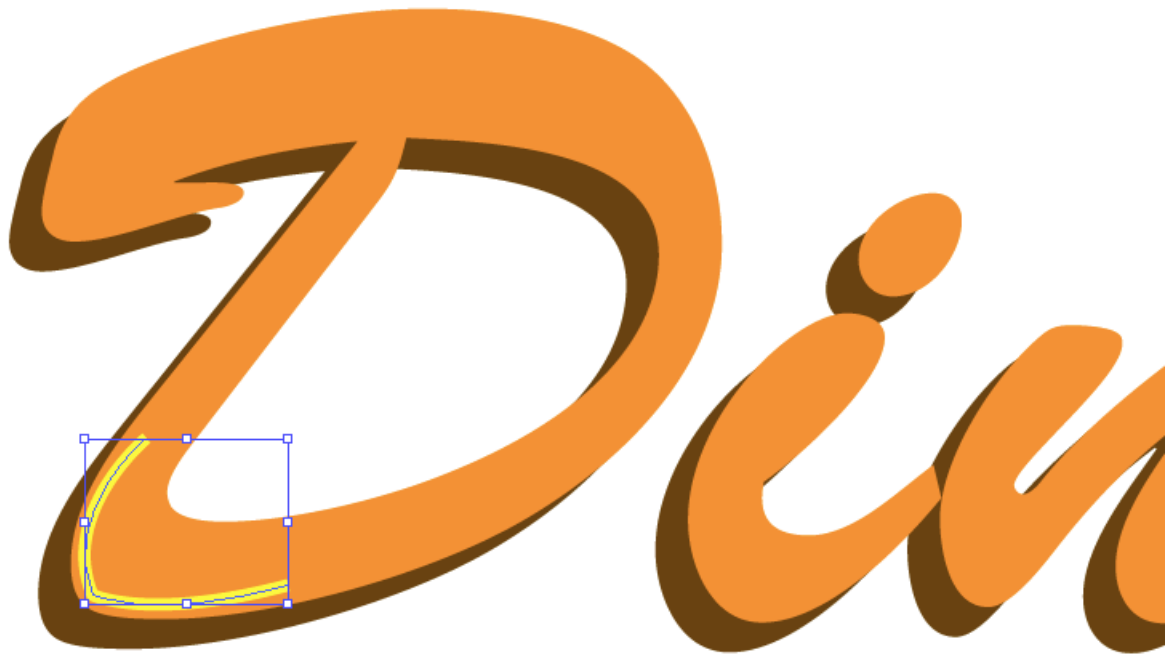
Once its duplicated make sure to paste it behind and make the colour darker than the top text.



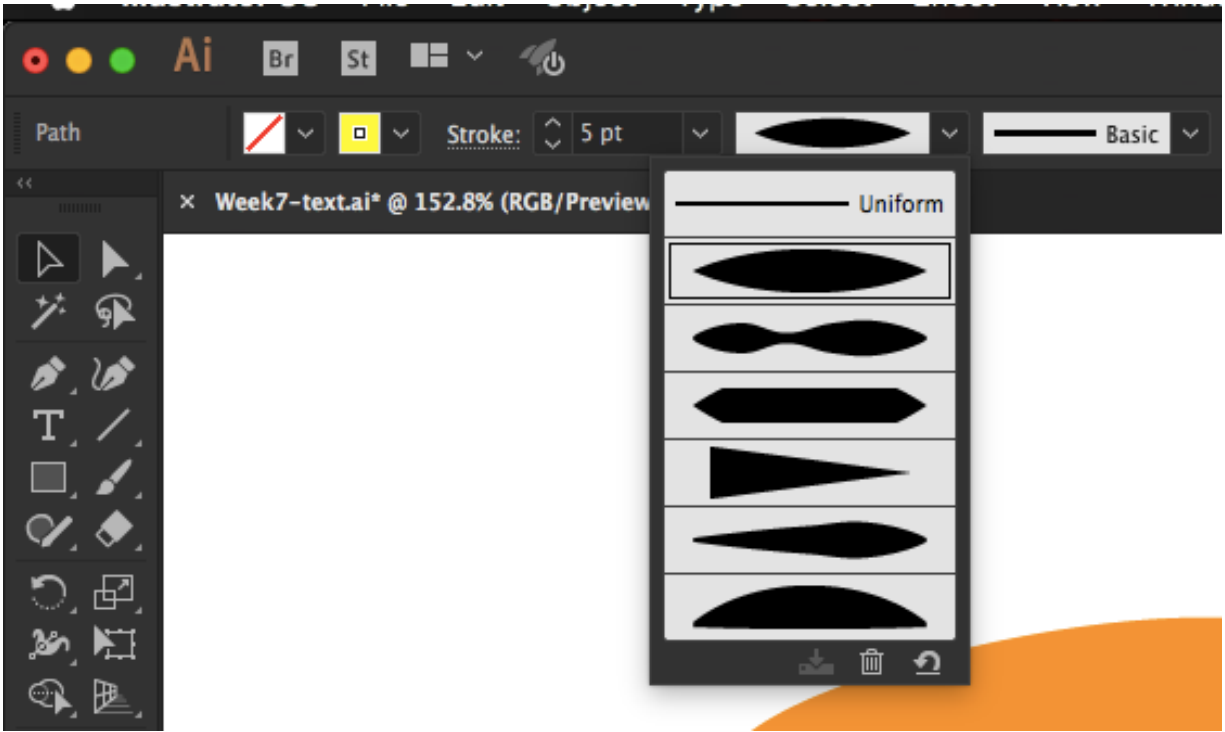
Diner

Now we can add some highlights...

Lets select the pen tool and using that, we can make contour lines along the letters where we want the highlight...



We add in our lines, make sure to have no fill and a stroke that is a different colour than the text itself. Add more stroke to your liking. Then we can select a more appropriate stroke style.



Repeat this throughout the text where applicable...

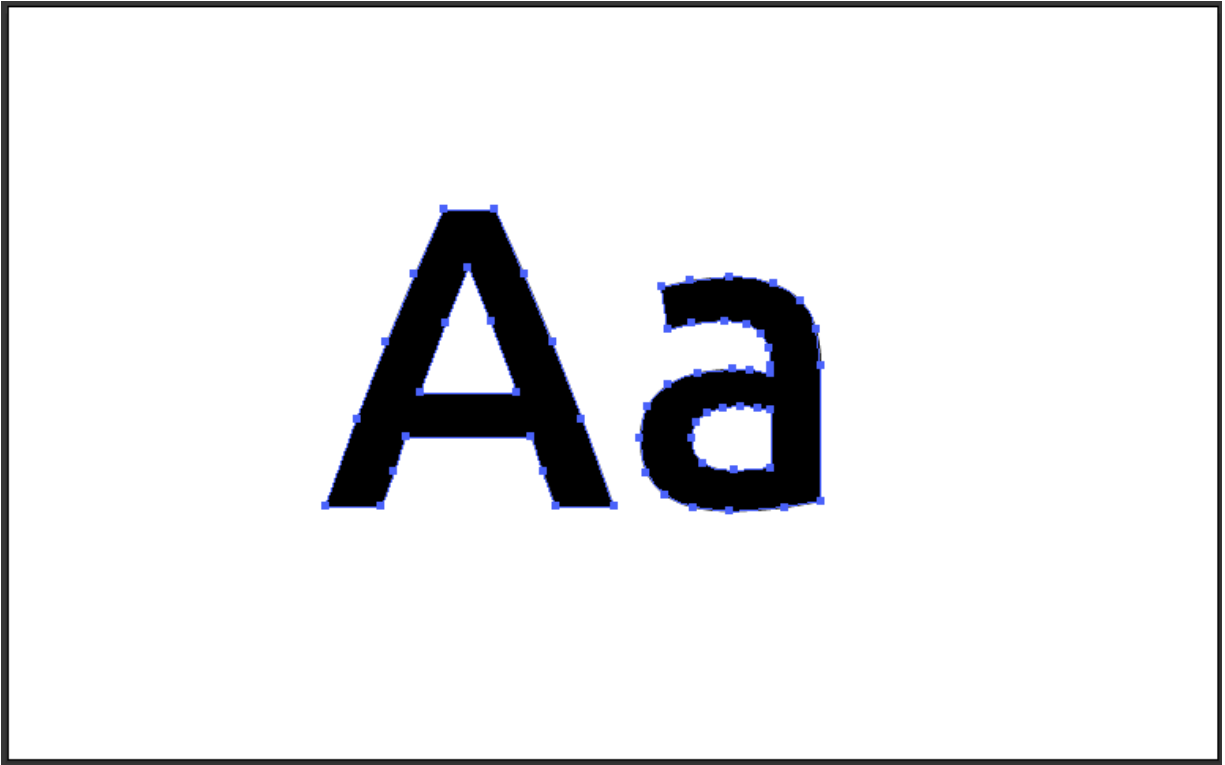


We can finish it off with a background if needed...

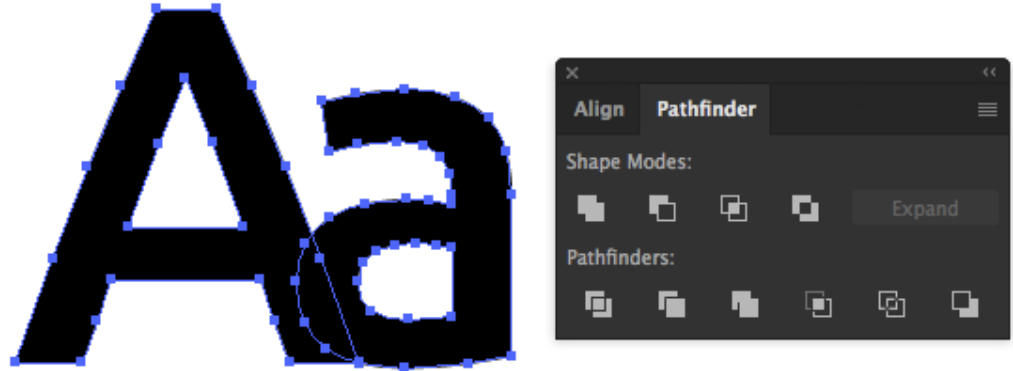


Offsetting Text

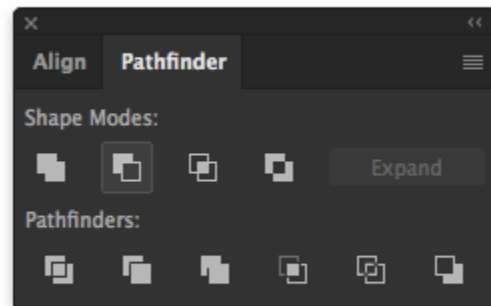
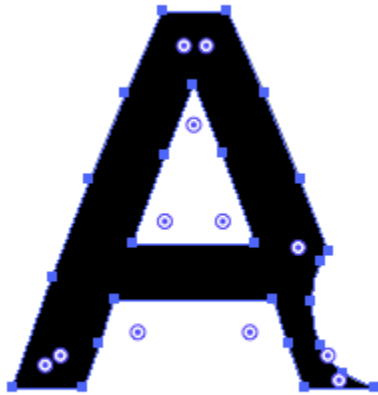
We can also offset text using methods we learned in earlier lessons. Lets start with 2 letters, than cover them to shapes like we did earlier by selecting the text, right clicking on it and selecting create outlines...



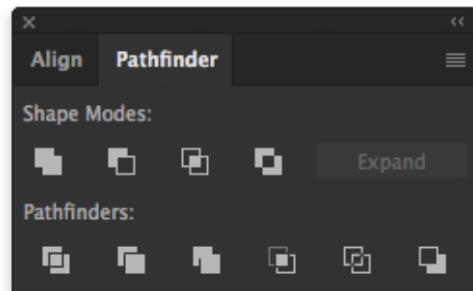
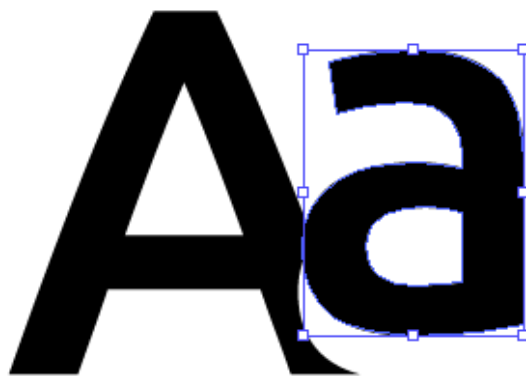
Now lets overlap the small a over the big A just a bit. Once we do this lets copy the small a to the clipboard by pressing **Command+C** or "Copy".



In the **Pathfinder** we can use the "Minus Front" option.



Remember how er copied that small letter "a" to the clipboard? Lets paste it back by pressing **Command +V**



And we can now place it back in place and stylize it...

Aa

Aa

As you can see, we can do many things. The scope of what we can do is as far as our minds can imagine it and apply it. There are still more things we can do with this program and you can never stop learning new methods to implement different things. Now that you know a lot of the basics, it is important to keep creating, exploring illustrator and exploring your mind for new ideas.