Adobe
Illustrator

LISA FRIDSMA

Adobe Illustrator

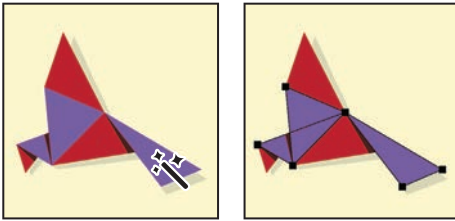LISA FRIDSMA

Peachpit Press

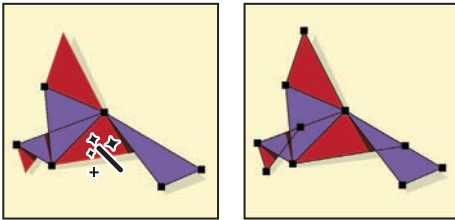**FIGURE 7.11** Selecting objects with the same fill using the Magic Wand tool

FIGURE 7.12 Adding to currently selected objects using the Magic Wand tool
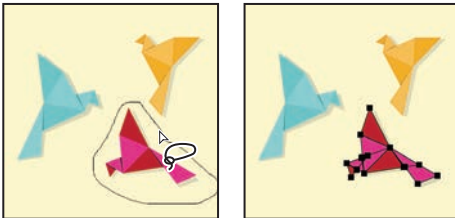

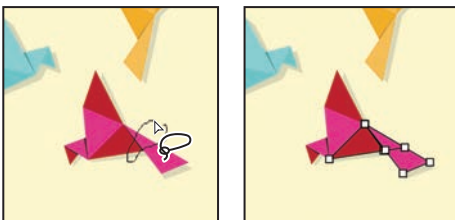**FIGURE 7.13** Selecting an object using the Lasso tool

FIGURE 7.14 Selecting points and paths using the Lasso tool

Select objects assigned similar fill attributes using the Magic Wand tool

Do the following:

- Click the object assigned the fill (**Figure 7.11**).

Add to the current selection using the Magic Wand tool

Do the following:

- Shift+click an unselected object (**Figure 7.12**).

Subtract from the current selection using the Magic Wand tool

Do the following:

- Press **Alt/Option** and click a selected object.

Select objects using the Lasso tool

Do the following:

- Click+draw a freehand shape around the object (**Figure 7.13**).

Select points, paths, and objects using the Lasso tool

Do the following:

- Click+draw a freehand shape over the points and paths (**Figure 7.14**).

> ▶ **VIDEO 7.1**
> **Working with selection tools**

Working with Isolation Mode

Isolation modes lets you easily select and edit elements and layers by isolating them from the rest of the artwork.

While in isolation mode, all other artwork elements are dimmed and unselectable.

TIP **In Illustrator, elements can be paths, groups, raster images, meshes, and so on.**

Isolate an element

Do any of the following:

- Double-click the element using the **Selection** tool.

- With an element or elements selected, click the **Isolate Selected Object** button in the **Control** panel (**Figure 7.15**).

- With an element or elements active in the **Layers** panel, choose **Enter Isolation Mode** from the panel menu.
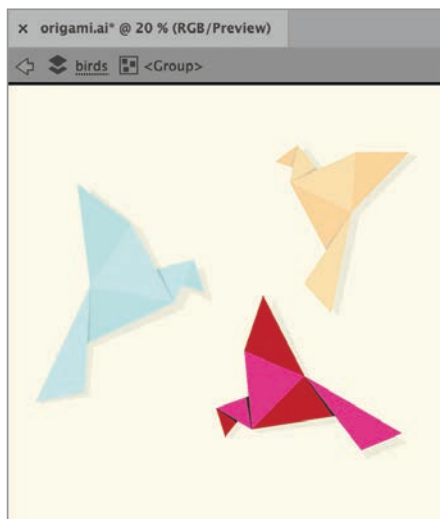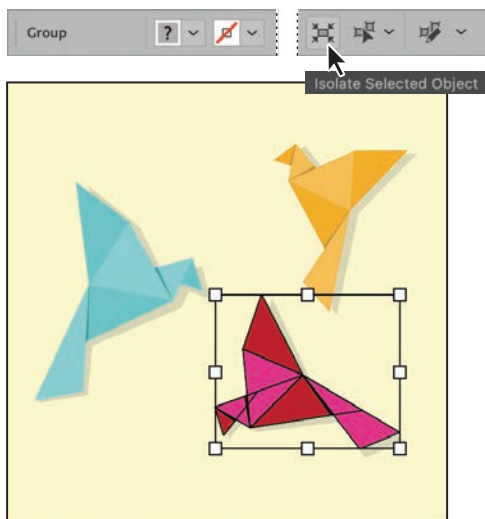

FIGURE 7.15 Activating isolation mode using the Isolate Selected Object button in the Control panel

Isolate a path within a group

Do the following:

1. Select the path with the **Direct Selection** tool or in the **Layers** panel.

2. In the **Control** panel, click the **Isolate Selected Object** button.

TIP **Continuing to double-click objects in Isolation mode drills down further into nested groups.**

Isolate a layer or sublayer

Do the following:

1. Activate the layer in the **Layers** panel.

2. Choose **Enter Isolation Mode** from the panel menu.

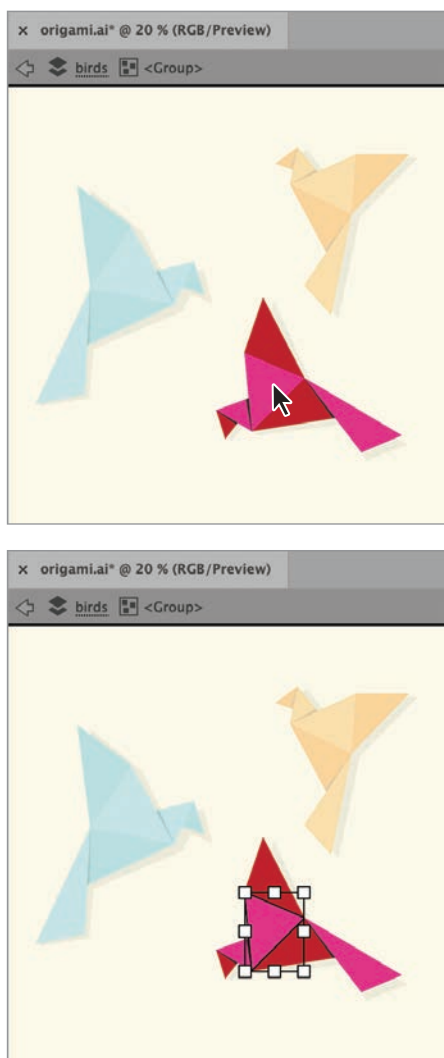**TIP** **To learn more about working with layers and groups, see Chapter 6.**

Select individual elements within an isolated group

With the group of elements in Isolation mode, do any of the following:

- Click the element using the **Selection** tool (**Figure 7.16**).

- Click a path or point using the **Direct Selection** tool.

- In the **Layers** panel, select the element.

Exit Isolation mode

Do any of the following:

- Press **Esc**.

- Click anywhere along the **Isolation Mode** bar.

- Double-click outside of the isolated group with the **Selection** tool.

- With the isolated elements deselected, click the **Back One Level** button in the **Control** panel.

- Click the **Exit Isolation Mode** button on the Isolation mode bar, one or more times.

TIP **If a nested element has been isolated, the first click takes you back a level, and the second click exits Isolation mode.**

FIGURE 7.16 Selecting an element within an isolated group using the Selection tool

Selecting Objects Using Commands

The **Select** menu provides commands to help you efficiently select all objects in your artwork, or specific objects based on their attributes and kind.

Select or deselect objects using the core Select commands

Do any of the following (**Figure 7.17**):

- Choose **Select** > **All** to select all the elements in your document.

- Choose **Select** > **All on Active Artboard** to select all the elements on the current artboard.

- Choose **Select** > **Deselect** to deselect all currently selected elements.

- Choose **Select** > **Reselect** to reactivate the selection of all elements that were deselected in the previous action.

- Choose **Select** > **Inverse** to select all unselected elements and deselect the currently selected ones (**Figure 7.18**).
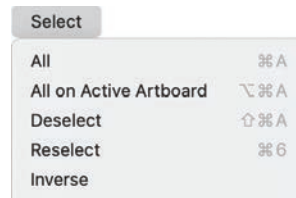
FIGURE 7.17 Core Select menu commands

TIP **Choosing Select > Reselect is particularly useful when you select multiple elements and then accidentally deselect them.**
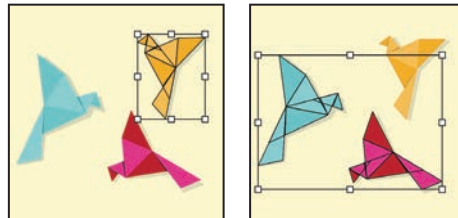
FIGURE 7.18 Choosing the Select > Inverse command to select all unselected elements and deselect the currently selected ones

VIDEO 7.2
Working with Isolation mode and selection commands

Select objects with the same attributes

Do the following:

1. Select an object with the assigned attribute.
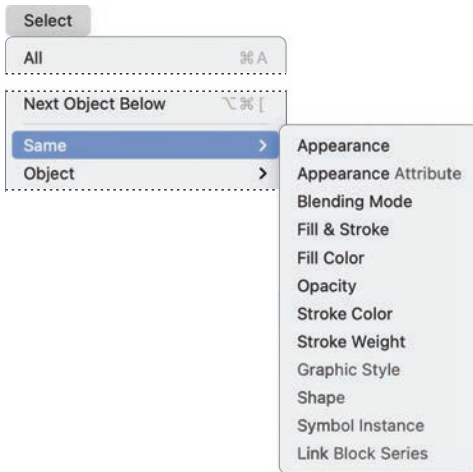
2. Choose **Select** > **Same** > [*command*] (**Figure 7.19**).

FIGURE 7.19 Choosing Select > Same menu commands

TIP **To learn more about working with text and type, see Chapter 11.**

Save selections

With the elements you want to save selected, do the following (**Figure 7.21**):

1. Choose **Select** > **Save Selection**.

2. Assign a name to the selection and click **Save**.

Select a saved selections

Do the following:

- Choose **Select** > [*saved selection name*] from the bottom of the menu.

Select all objects of the same kind

Do the following:

1. Deselect all elements.

2. Choose **Select** > **Object** > [*command*] (**Figure 7:20**).

TIP **Elements need to be selected for the All on Same Layers command and Direction Handles command.**
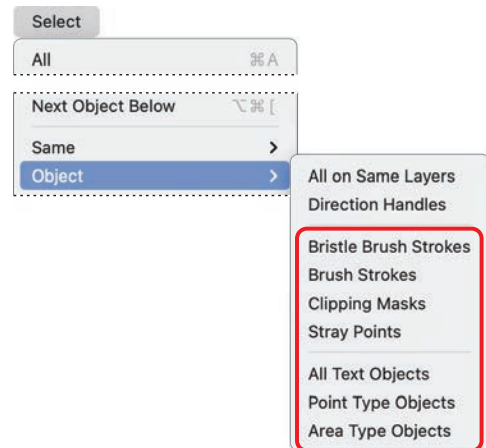

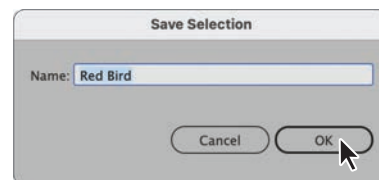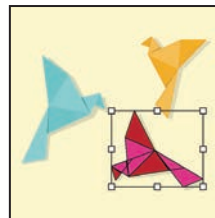
FIGURE 7.20 Menu commands for objects of the same kind

FIGURE 7.21 Saving a selection by choosing the Select > Save Selection command

Setting Selection Preferences

Selection & Anchor Display preferences let you adjust the tolerance for pixel selection and other options to suit your needs, especially when dealing with paths and points for complex elements.

Do the following (**Figure 7:22**):

1. Choose either:

   Illustrator > **Preferences** > **Selection & Anchor Display** (macOS)

   Edit > **Preferences** > **Selection & Anchor Display** (Windows)

2. Modify any of the following selection options:

   Tolerance to specify the pixel range for selecting anchor points. (Higher values increase the clickable area around an anchor point.)

   Snap to Point to snap objects to anchor points and guides. Specify the distance between the object and anchor point or guide when the snap occurs.

   Object Selection by Path Only to specify if filled objects are selectable by clicking anywhere within them.

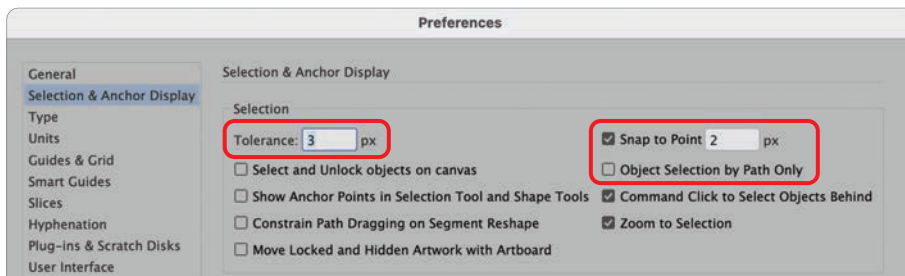   **TIP** **Snap to Point also needs to be selected in the View menu to be active.**

FIGURE 7.22 The Selection section of the Preferences panel