

SELECTING AND ALIGNING PRACTICE

Lesson overview

In this lesson, you'll learn how to do the following:


- Differentiate between the various selection tools and employ different selection techniques.

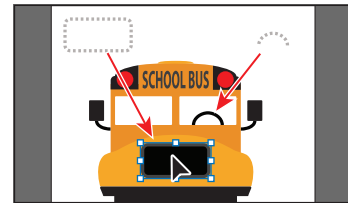


Selection techniques practice

As stated earlier, selecting objects is an important part of working with Illustrator. In this part of the lesson, you will use most of the techniques discussed previously in this lesson to get more practice and to learn a few new ones.

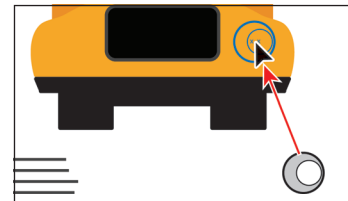
- 1 Choose File > Open, and open the L2start_2.ai file in the Lesson_extras folder, located in the Lessons folder on your hard disk.
 - 2 Choose View > Fit All In Window.
- Artboard #2 (the artboard on the right) shows the final artwork. Artboard #1 (the artboard on the left) shows the artwork in progress that you need to finish.
- 3 Choose View > Fit Artboard In Window to fit artboard #1 in the Document window.
 - 4 Choose View > Smart Guides to temporarily deselect the Smart Guides.

- 5 With the Selection tool () , drag the steering wheel shape in the upper-right corner into place. Drag the black rounded rectangle in the upper-left corner of the artboard on the front of the bus, as shown in the figure.

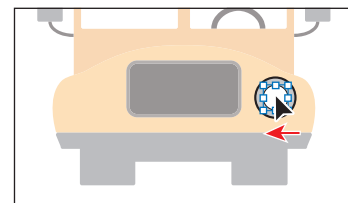


- 6 With the Selection tool, select the headlight shapes (the circles) in the lower-right corner of the artboard by dragging a marquee across them. Choose Object > Group.

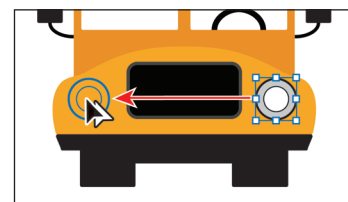
- 7 Drag the center of the headlight group to slide it to its new location to the right of the newly aligned rounded rectangle.



- 8 Double-click the center of the headlight group to enter Isolation mode. Click to select the white shape and drag it so that it's visually centered on the other shapes. Choose Select > Deselect. Press the Escape key to exit Isolation mode.



- 9 With the Selection tool, press the Alt+Shift (Windows) or Option+Shift (Mac OS) keys and drag the headlight group to the left to duplicate it. Release the mouse button, and then the modifier keys.

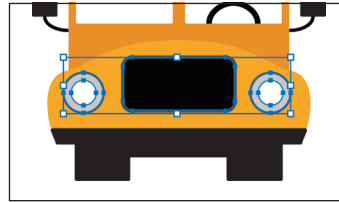


● **Note:** You drag from the center to avoid grabbing a bounding box handle and accidentally resizing the shapes.

► **Tip:** You could align the shapes using the Align options in the Control panel.

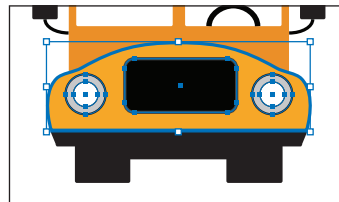
- 10** Shift-click the rounded rectangle and the headlight group to the right to select all three objects.

- 11** In the Control panel, choose Align To Selection from the Align To Selection button (📏) menu, and then click the Horizontal Distribute Center (📏) button. Choose Object > Group.



Note: If you don't see the Align panel options in the Control panel, either click the word Align in the Control panel or choose Window > Align.

- 12** Shift-click the orange shape behind the selected group. Click the orange shape again to make it the key object. Click the Horizontal Align Center (📏) button and then the Vertical Align Center (📏) button to align the rounded rectangle group to the orange shape.

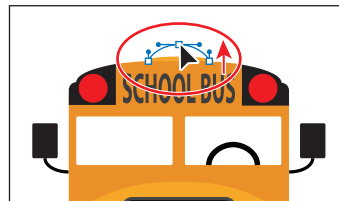


- 13** With the Selection tool, Shift-click the orange shape to deselect it. With the group of objects that contains the headlights selected, choose Object > Lock > Selection to keep them in position. You cannot select the shapes until you choose Object > Unlock All. Leave them locked.

Tip: Locking objects is a great way to keep from selecting or editing content and can be used in conjunction with hiding objects.

- 14** Select the Zoom tool (🔍) in the Tools panel, and click three times, slowly, on the dome at the top of the bus, above the text, "SCHOOL BUS."

- 15** Select the Direct Selection tool (📐), select the top anchor point in the dome, and then begin dragging up to make the dome taller. As you drag, press the Shift key to constrain the movement. Release the mouse button and then the key.



- 16** Double-click the Hand tool (🖱️) to fit the artboard in the Document window.

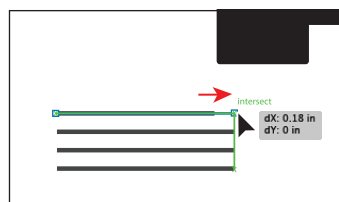
- 17** Select the Zoom tool (🔍), and click three times on the four lines in the lower-left corner to zoom in.

- 18** With the Selection tool (📐), drag a marquee across the four lines to select them.

- 19** In the Control panel, click the Horizontal Align Left (📏) button.


- 20** Choose View > Smart Guides to turn them back on.

- 21** With the Direct Selection tool (📐), click the right end of the top, shorter line to select the anchor point (the word "anchor" appears). Click and drag that point to the right until the anchor point aligns with the other lines.



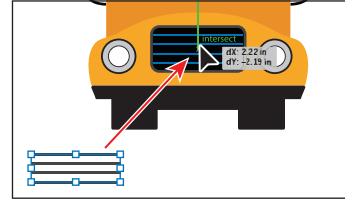
● **Note:** You may want to turn the Smart Guides off (View > Smart Guides) so that you can more easily drag the group of lines onto the bus. You can then align the group of lines with the other content, if you want.

22 With the Selection tool, drag a marquee around the lines to select them. Choose Object > Group to group them.

23 Double-click the Hand tool () to fit the artboard in the Document window.

24 With the Selection tool, drag the line group to position it on the rounded rectangle between the headlights.

Notice that you need to drag one of the lines, not between the lines, to move the group. You could also align the lines group to the black rounded rectangle using the Align options in the Control panel.



25 Choose Select > Deselect.

26 Choose File > Save and then File > Close.