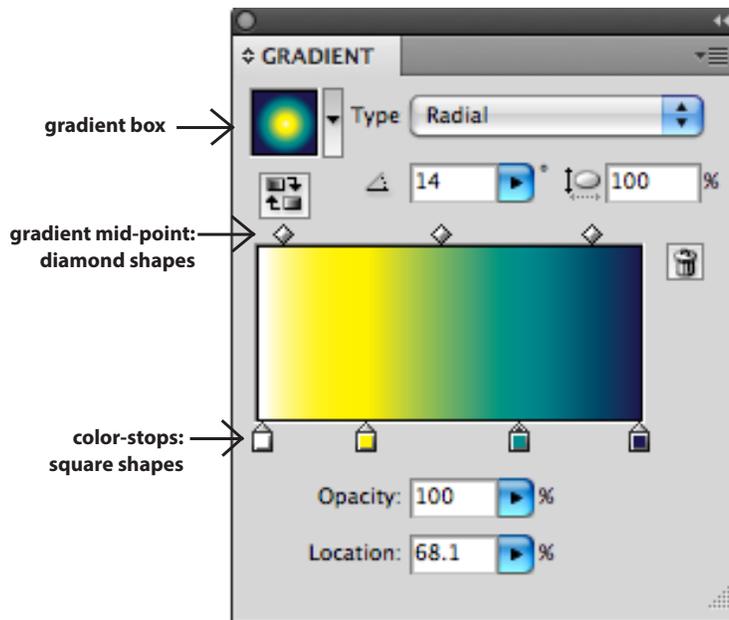


Illustrator Demo: Using Gradients

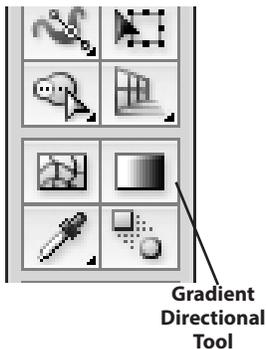


Using Gradients

- Open the **Color Panel**, **Gradient Panel**, and the **Swatch Panel**.
- Select a closed path-shape and click on the **gradient fill box** in the left corner of the panel.
- Change the color of your gradient by **dragging a color** from the **swatch panel** into the **gradient panel gradient bar**.
- Add as many colors as you like by dragging and dropping. **Adjust by moving the sliders**, at top, and **color boxes**, at bottom.

- **Remove colors** (or black or white) by pulling straight down on the little color boxes.

Change the Direction of a Gradient



- Change from **linear to radial** gradient by checking the box in the panel.
- Change the **direction** of the **gradient** by first selecting the **Gradient Tool** from the **Tool Box**, then click and drag over the shape.
- You can **save a gradient** by dragging it into the **swatch panel** from the **gradient panel**.
- Resist using the ready-made gradients that come with Illustrator. (Everyone recognizes them, and you can make better ones yourself.)
- The Gradient can be opaque or partly **transparent**. Choose the **transparent gradient** icon from the ready-mades, in the gradient panel of **swatches**, and then change the color or colors.

Some Useful Keyboard Commands

You can instantly access tools through keyboard commands:

Select Tool (black arrow) = press the **"V" key**.

Direct Select Tool (white arrow) = press the **"A" key**.

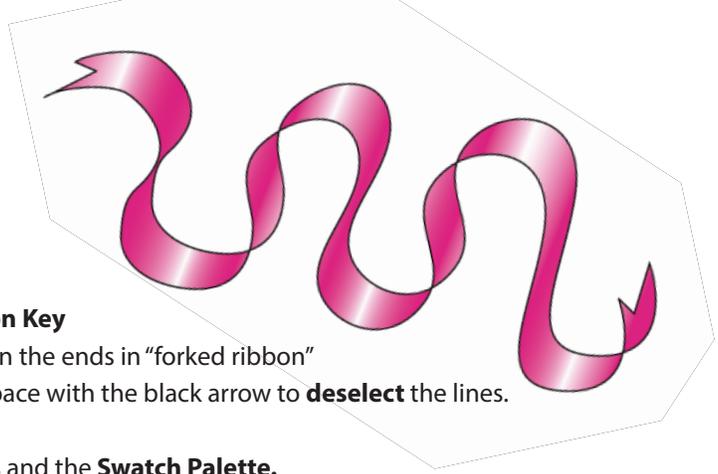
Pen Tool = press the **"P" key**.

Brush Tool = press the **"B" key**.

Type Tool = press the **"T" key**.

Gradient Exercise

Create the Satin Ribbon with Highlights and Shadows.



- Draw a wavy line with the Pen Tool. Duplicate it by pressing down on the **Option Key** while you **click** on your line **and drag** it. Join the ends in “forked ribbon” style with the pen tool. Click in any blank space with the black arrow to **deselect** the lines.
- Open the **Color Palette**, **Gradient Palette**, and the **Swatch Palette**.
- Give your ribbon a **gradient fill** by clicking on the **gradient square** in the panel while the ribbon is **selected**.
- Choose two colors for your ribbon by mixing them and dragging from the **color panel** into the **swatch panel**. Or use colors already in the **swatch panel**. You need one light, and one dark.
- **Drag your colors** from the **swatch panel** into the **gradient panel’s gradient bar** (where the black and white “color-stops” already are).
- Add as many colors light color-stops as you have bends in your ribbon. Add your dark color as color-stops between them. **Adjust by moving the sliders**, at top, which are the mid-points, and **slide the color-stops**, below.
- **Remove colors** by **pulling straight down** on the **color-stops**.
- Make sure you have a **linear, not radial** gradient by checking the box in the panel.
- Change the **direction** of the **gradient** by first selecting the **Gradient Tool** from the **Tool Box**, then click and drag over the shape.
- You can also **save a gradient** by dragging it into the **swatch palette** from the **gradient palette**.
- Resist using the ready-made gradients that come with Illustrator. (Everyone recognizes them, and you can make better ones yourself.)

