

New in Artlandia® SymmetryWorks® 3

Professional pattern design software

Artlandia SymmetryWorks is the most powerful, versatile and easy to use pattern design software in the industry.

New in Artlandia SymmetryWorks 3

- Full support for raster images
- The ability to combine raster and vector objects in patterns
- Built-in tools for blending units of repetition
- Enhanced support for transparency
- Support for linked files
- Support for opacity masks for easy blending of arbitrary shapes
- The ability to use mesh objects in patterns
- Full support for Illustrator's advanced type capabilities
- Support for Illustrator's new 3D effects
- Simplified use of layouts

Artlandia SymmetryWorks is an Adobe® Illustrator® plug-in that lets you easily create professional-quality, symmetry-based pattern designs. It is used worldwide by surface designers, textile designers, interior decorators, stationery developers, web designers, illustrators, book designers, sculptors, fine artists, quilt designers, stencil designers, and other creative professionals.

Starting from the original version, released in 2001, the plug-in creates patterns of all seventeen mathematically possible symmetry types with the click of a mouse.

A-SymmetryWorks pattern is hot-linked to the seed (motif), so when you edit the seed, the plug-in automatically updates the entire pattern. This is the feature most appreciated by SymmetryWorks users that makes working with the plug-in so productive and fun.

Since Version 2, which added replicas, layouts, and export capabilities, SymmetryWorks has become a comprehensive pattern design CAD system. With a mouse-click, you can create even the most complicated patterns, whose repeat size and orientation precisely fit your specifications. Also, with a single click, you can export your pattern to a web browser or textile CAD system, where your pattern would seamlessly tile the surface.

SymmetryWorks 3 extends its support of vector art objects to raster, mesh, and type objects, which makes it the most powerful and versatile pattern design software available. The plug-in readily makes patterns from photographs, scanned paintings, Photoshop files, and other raster-based images. Add raster elements to your vector-based design or create a pattern exclusively from a raster image. Use the entire image or pick an interesting part and turn it into a pattern. Easily combine several image files in one pattern, even images with different resolutions. Embed images or just link to the image files. Then edit the linked image files in Photoshop (or your other favorite painting program) and see your SymmetryWorks pattern automatically updated.

SymmetryWorks has always supported transparency in vector art objects. That alone gives you the ability to easily produce interesting effects by letting your design elements overlap with each other. With Version 3, which also supports transparency in raster objects, you have an all-new powerful way to create. Particularly, transparent edges of a raster image let it easily blend with the rest of the pattern. Blending units of repetition is also made simple by the built-in tool that you can interactively adjust for best results. And Illustrator's opacity masks, which SymmetryWorks now supports, give you even more flexibility.

By now you have probably discovered Illustrator's powerful mesh tool, which lets you draw realistic flowers—or intricate geometric elements. With Version 3, meshes can be used in your SymmetryWorks patterns.

Harness Illustrator's advanced typographical capabilities to create type-based designs. SymmetryWorks 3 lets you edit your text right within patterns while interactively adjusting the typographical controls for best results. As an added bonus, the plug-in supports Illustrator's live effects. So, with Illustrator CS, you can add exciting 3D features to your patterns.

Finally, the popular layout feature, introduced in Version 2, is even more convenient as the plug-in now automatically locks the replica handles to get them out of the way so they do not obstruct access to your seed elements. When needed, you simply unlock the replica handles with a single click.

This document provides a brief overview of the new features in SymmetryWorks 3 and outlines the pricing and system requirements. For more information, please visit the Artlandia web site www.artlandia.com/SymmetryWorks.

Raster art

Create patterns with raster objects just as you do vector patterns. Select an image and click the Make button in the SymmetryWorks palette. Many symmetries, such as Simple shift , Half-turn , Double mirror , or Double glide , immediately give you a promising pattern.

Use the Double mirror  symmetry to instantly turn any image into a pattern.



Another easy way to get started is to bring design elements from your painting program to Illustrator. Select the elements in the artwork and click the Make button. You can then interactively reposition the elements, change the symmetry type, layout, and repeat size. As usual, the pattern is updated as soon as you edit or move an element so your change immediately propagates through the pattern. All other features of the plug-in are also at your disposal. You can add a design element or a group of elements (use Edit > Paste Inside In Front or Edit > Paste Inside In Back), create replica copies of the seed (click the New Replica button  and move the new replica around). You will find this a particularly easy way to create spot repeats, all-over designs, or tossed layouts.

Artlandia SymmetryWorks lets you pick up elements from different image files (left) and combine them in a pattern (right). For this collage, we used the Double glide symmetry .

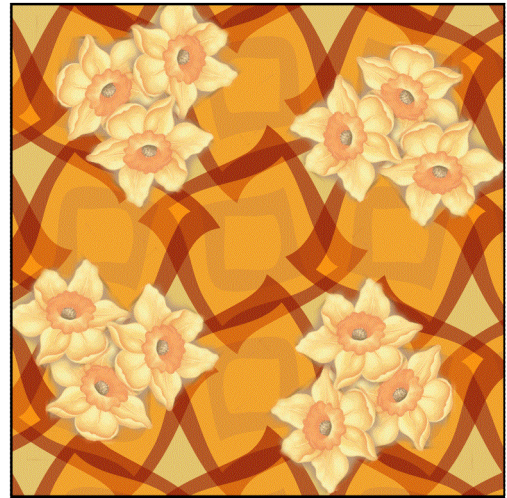


Experience the full creative freedom as SymmetryWorks lets you combine raster and vector elements in patterns. Add vector elements to glue raster pieces together, or liven up a vector design with a raster centerpiece. Your raster elements can have definite edges to stand out from a background or smooth transparent transitions for organic blending with the rest of the pattern. In fact, you can combine transparency in vector and raster elements to quickly create interesting designs.

Easily combine raster and vector elements with Artlandia SymmetryWorks by complementing your raster floral arrangements with vector geometric art. Use clear-cut edges for your raster image to stand out from the background (left) or soft, transparent transitions for a more organic blending (right).



This pattern uses the Half-turn  symmetry.

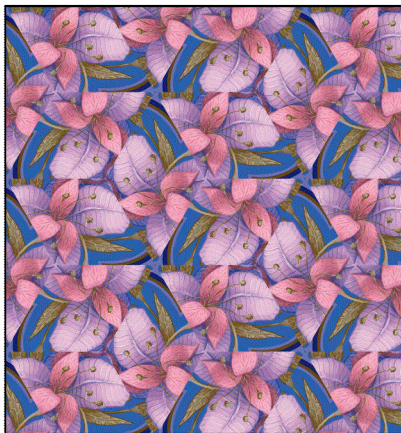


Semitransparent geometric elements in a Double glide  pattern and a Pinwheel  floral arrangement of a single flower, repeated by two replicas.

Very often you will want to take a part of the image as your basic repeating element. Click the Clip/Release button in the palette  and SymmetryWorks applies a mask to hide the overlapping parts of neighboring units and trims the visible part of your image to the size of one unit of repetition. The control path lets you change the visible part. You will be amazed by the stream of creative solutions unleashed simply by changing the size of the control path or moving it around the area of your image. Select any part of a SymmetryWorks pattern, click the Select Control Path button , choose the free-transform tool in the Illustrator toolbox (this places the free transform handles around your control path)—and experiment away!



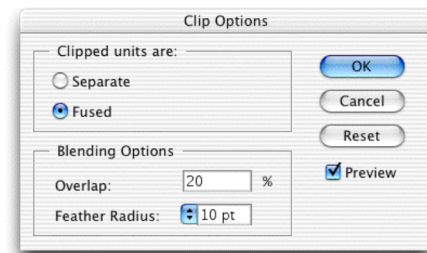
Artlandia SymmetryWorks lets you interactively select which part of a raster image you use as a design element.



Your selected area is repeated to form a pattern with the symmetry of your choice (in this case, Three rotations ). The image is continually updated while you experiment with the size and position of the control path.

When your design warrants it, you can quickly blend clipped units, ensuring a smooth transition at the boundaries. To switch between separate and fused units, or to adjust the blending options, use the Clip Options dialog. Open the dialog by double-clicking the Clip/Release button or choosing Clip Options... in the SymmetryWorks palette menu. The plug-in fuses units by letting them overlap while automatically applying the feather effect.

This creates semitransparent boundary regions that contain pixels from all neighboring units. Both the amount of overlap and the feather radius are under your control. The same clipping options are available to fuse vector art units or a mix of vector and raster elements.

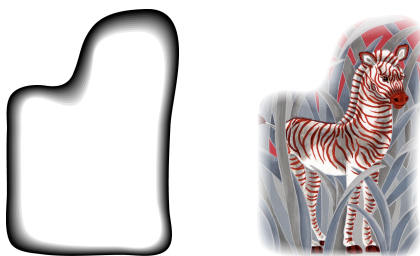


Use the Clip Options palette to interactively adjust the width of the fused region.

For this pattern we chose the Glide reflection  symmetry and fused units of repetition.

Opacity masks

With SymmetryWorks, you are not restricted to units of repetition bounded by the control path. Just as your vector elements can freely go beyond these boundaries to create intricate interlocking patterns, so do your raster elements. Illustrator's opacity masks let you achieve a perfect blending of arbitrary units.



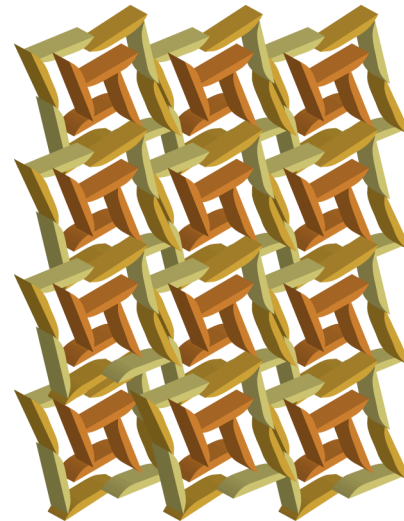
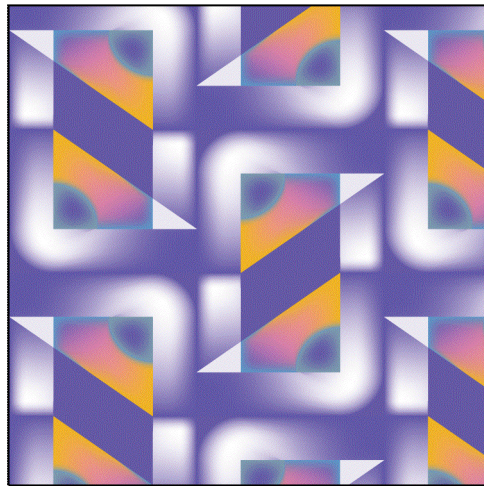
To create this half-drop pattern (Simple shift  right), we started from the zebra design (top), made a blend that went from black to white in 12 steps (left), and used the blend as an opacity mask (above right).

Use the blend tool from the toolbox to create opacity masks that go from fully opaque to fully transparent in the desired number of steps or at the specified distance between contours. Just be sure to expand the mask so the plug-in can handle it properly. You can expand a blend by choosing Object > Expand... and checking the Object box in the resulting dialog. Remember, too, that you can edit an opacity mask live on your object if you click the mask thumbnail in the Transparency palette. With SymmetryWorks, your edits are automatically applied to all repeated units so you can adjust the blending of units easily and interactively.

Mesh objects and 3D effects

Illustrator's mesh objects give you another way to go from white to black or, when applied as opacity masks, from opaque to transparent, in a controllable fashion. SymmetryWorks 3 fully supports mesh objects and allows you to edit them interactively in patterns. Besides using meshes in opacity masks, have fun adding them to flat geometric shapes. This instantly enlivens patterns and creates natural color transitions or illusions of volume.

You can also freely use the Illustrator CS' 3D effects in patterns because SymmetryWorks supports them—and all other live effects. Once you create effects to your satisfaction, you can expand them right in your SymmetryWorks pattern for faster performance (choose Object > Expand Appearance).



Breathe life into your artwork with mesh objects (left), or creatively apply any of the Illustrator live effects, such as 3D effects (right). These patterns use the Double glide and Pinwheel symmetry, respectively.

Type

Illustrator's advanced typographical capabilities are at your fingertips for creating patterns from type. Use the regular type, area-type, or type-on-a-path tools, adjust character and paragraph controls, apply styles and effects—to produce a great-looking type and transform it into a pattern. Then interactively edit and fine-tune from within your SymmetryWorks pattern, without ever creating outlines.



Artlandia SymmetryWorks lets you edit text within patterns and apply Illustrator's advanced typographical features. We created this half-drop pattern with the Simple shift symmetry.

System requirements

Artlandia SymmetryWorks 3 for Macintosh and Windows runs on all major operating systems and requires Adobe Illustrator 8 or later. Illustrator 10 or Illustrator CS is recommended. Not all features are available in earlier versions of Illustrator.

For an interactive tour of Artlandia SymmetryWorks, please visit www.artlandia.com/SymmetryWorks.

Availability and pricing

Artlandia SymmetryWorks 3 is expected to be shipped in the second quarter of 2004. The estimated price for the downloadable version is \$215 (US) or \$345 (US) for the combined purchase with the Artlandia Collection. The estimated price for upgrades to SymmetryWorks 3 from earlier versions is \$75 (US).

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Artlandia on the web: www.artlandia.com Email: info@artlandia.com