

Seamless Pattern

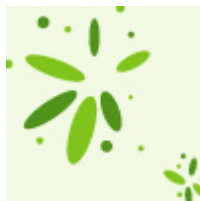
Used from <http://veerle-v2.duoh.com>

Time

In years past CA Design students have finished this Pattern assignment in 20-30min. Do not spend more than 45min on this assignment.

Getting Started

Open a new RGB A4 landscape document in Illustrator. Select the Rectangle tool and draw a 4in x 4in square. With the square still selected, hit command/control + 5 to make a guide from the square (View > Guides > Make Guides). Make sure guides are on so you see the square. Go to View > Guides > Show Guides (or hit command/control + semicolon). This square guide is the placeholder for our pattern swatch.



Draw your pattern

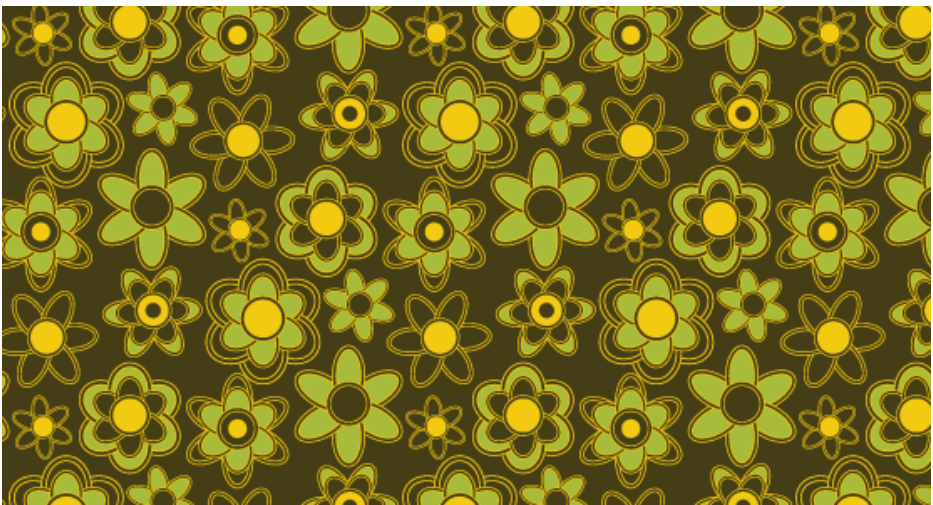
Using either Alternating Rhythm or Progressive Rhythm ([Rhythm Overview](#)), create a floral or shape pattern on your document (see the examples below and above). For your grade, is very important that you clearly show alternating or progressive rhythm in your design.

In making your designs, recommend using the pathfinder tool and warp

tools if needed. Do not use any pre-made images or fancy brushes; make all the designs yourself.

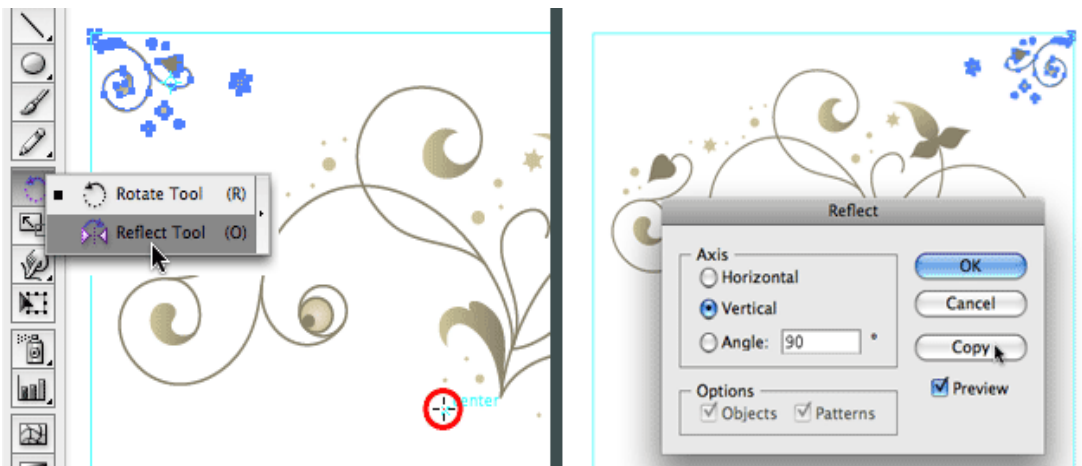
Go to Kuler and create a color scheme according to the number of colors that you want to include (max five, min 2). Use one of the color wheel rules. Take a screenshot of your color scheme and post later to posterous.

Later when you are finished making it, you will use it as your Macbook's desktop for the rest of the quarter so make something that interests you.



Reflect the corner ornament

You probably don't see this in the picture, but in the very top left corner I've used a quarter of a circle. If I have a quarter of a circle in each corner of the square, I'll get a perfect circle once the pattern is ready and applied. ***When you create yours, make sure you create your pattern so that it also has graphics in the corners like the example.***

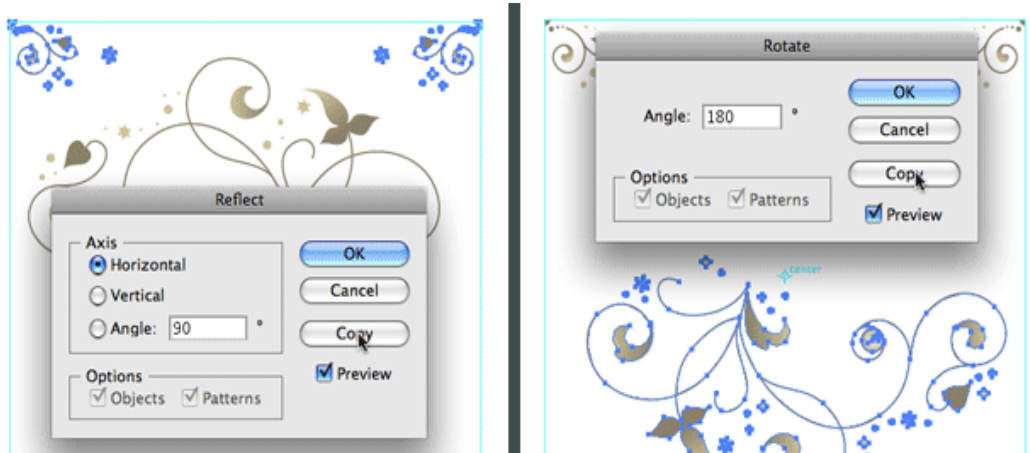


First make sure Smart Guides are turned on. Go to View > Smart Guides and make sure you see the checkmark (use command/control + u to switch Smart Guide on or off). Select the ornament in the corner and select the Reflect tool from the toolbox. Hold down the alt/option key and click precisely in the center of the square. With Smart Guides on you'll see the word 'center' if you are in the right spot. In the Reflect options window, make sure Preview is checked. Select Vertical as Axis and click Copy to duplicate the corner element. Double check if the corner is precisely positioned. Zoom in and correct if needed. With Smart Guides on this should go pretty easy. This double checking is important and needed if you want your pattern to be absolutely perfect. If the corner is not 100% perfectly placed on the guides, the pattern will show a tiny little gap or other imperfections in the circle. So this is absolutely crucial.

Reflect again and rotate the center ornament

Select both corner ornaments and alt/option click in the center of the

square again. Select Horizontal Axis and hit Copy to duplicate and reflect both corners vertically so that the top two corner designs mirror the bottom corner designs.



Now select the central ornament and select the Rotate tool from the toolbox. Alt/option click in the center of the square. Enter 180 degrees in the Angle field and check preview. Hit the copy button to rotate and duplicate the ornament. Again, double check the corners so they are absolutely perfectly placed in each corner.

Create a pattern swatches



Select all corners and central ornaments by dragging a selection around the square. Now drag the selection into the Swatches palette. Now you

have created a pattern swatch.

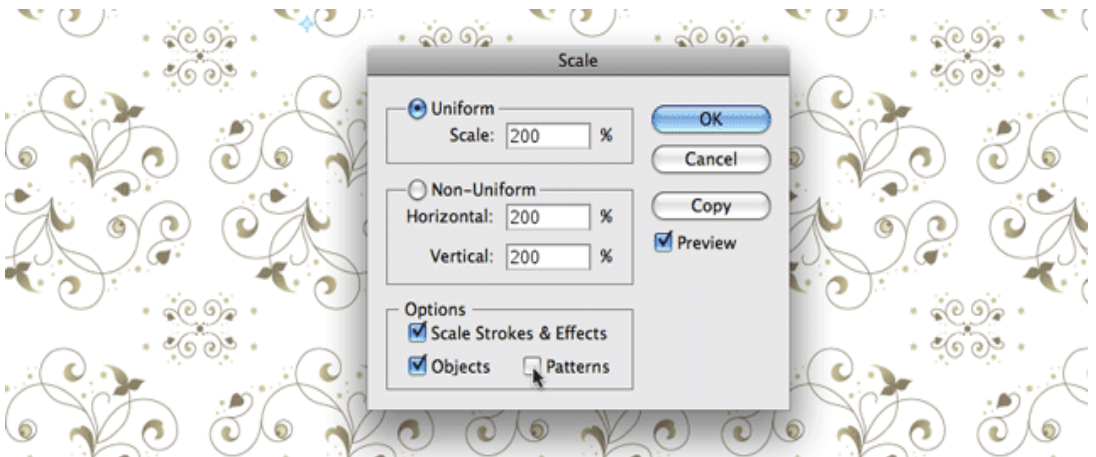
Pattern applied

Draw a **big rectangle** anywhere on the right side and give it the pattern fill you've just created as practice (this is what you will later be doing to fill part of your CD booklet background).



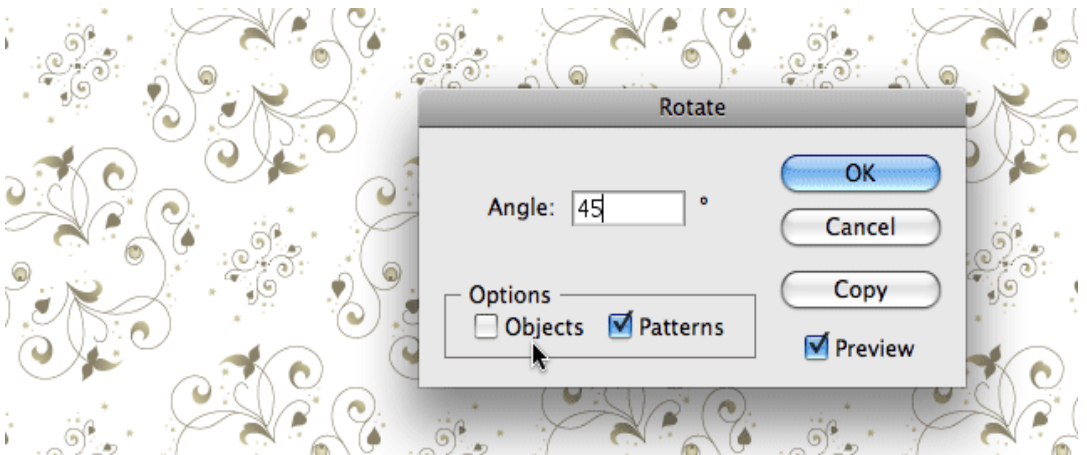
Above you'll see the end result of the 2nd pattern.

Scaling a pattern



You can scale a pattern within an object, or you can scale the object without scaling the pattern if needed.

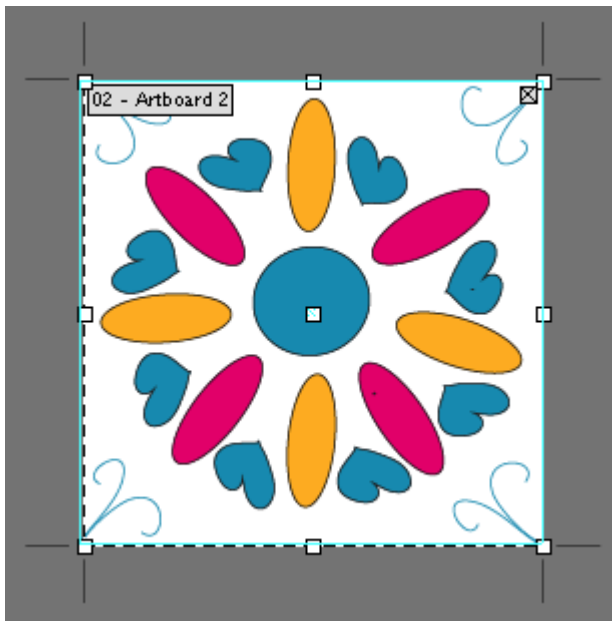
Rotating a pattern



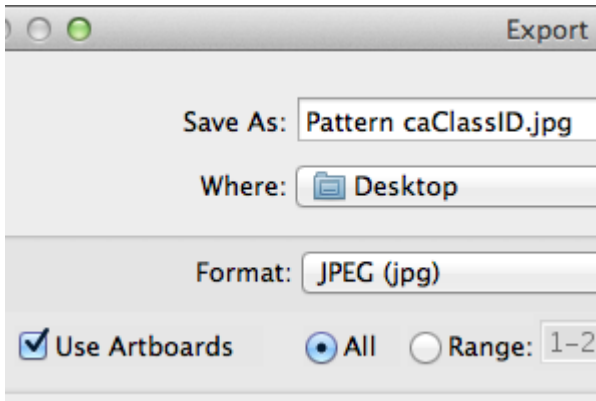
The same goes for rotating. You can rotate a pattern without rotating the object or you can rotate the object without rotating the pattern. Of course you can scale or rotate both pattern and object together as well.

In Illustrator, go to the top toolbar and click View > Outlines and take a screenshot of your pattern design in outline mode which you will attach to your email to Posterous. Then go back to normal view by going to View > Preview.

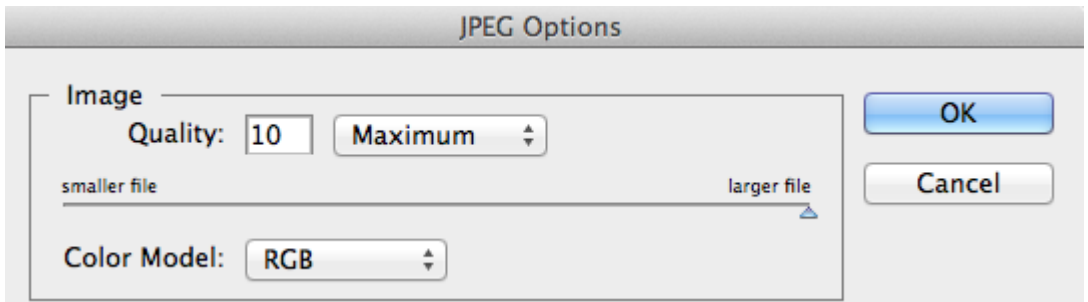
Delete the practice **big rectangle** and when you are done creating your main pattern inside the guides, press shift + o and use the artboards to place around your pattern. Resize the artboard so it borders tightly around the blue guides.



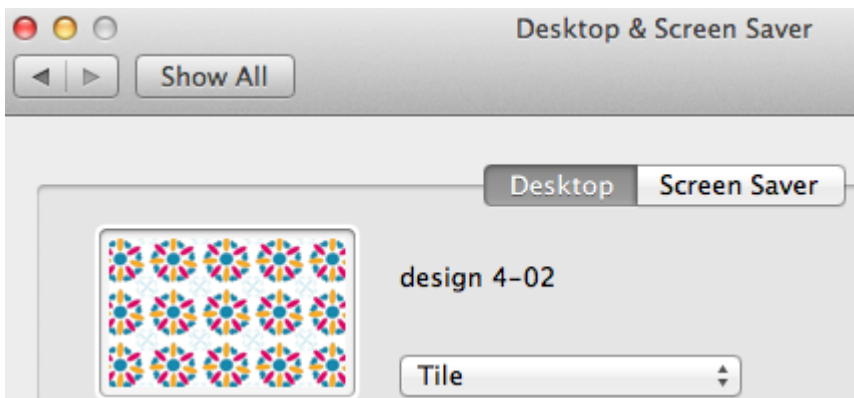
Then go to Export > JPG and click Use Artboards (ALL).



Save as maximum RGB quality.



Now right click on the image file you just made and select use as desktop and go to your Macbook settings and choose the Tile option. Remember, you can go back to your AI file of the pattern and scale it down or make it larger, export it, and set it as your desktop to change the pattern size and intensity.



Now organize your desktop files into folders and take a screenshot of the entire screen cmd + shift + 3. In next class, I may check your desktops for your pattern and to see if they are organized. Remember to keep your pattern as your Macbook desktop for one week. Do not have more than a combination of eight total files/folders on your desktop. Organize it.

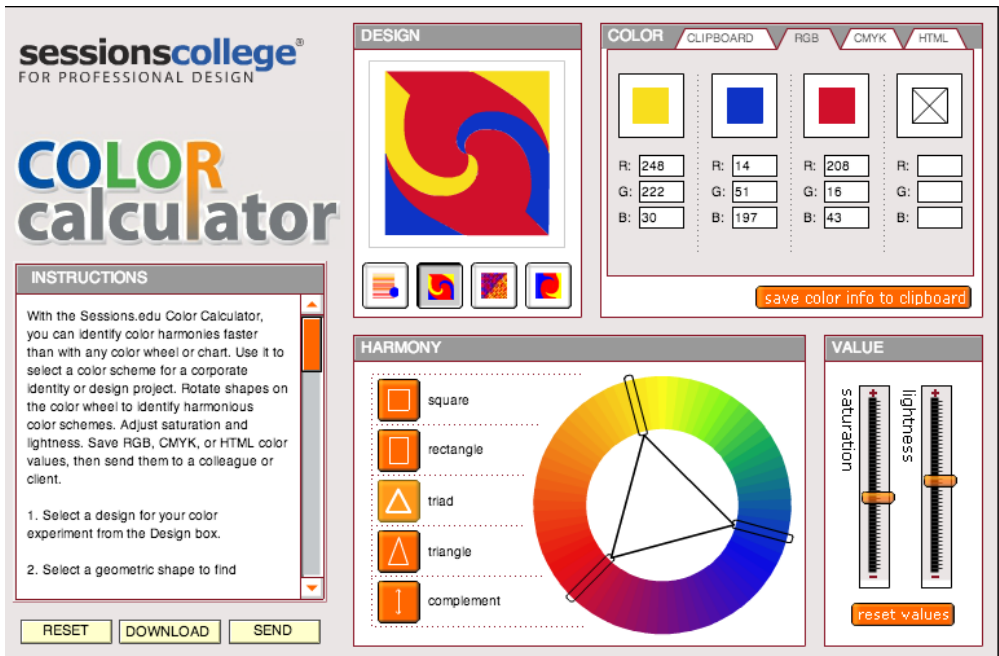
Make sure you do not see white lines like the image below:



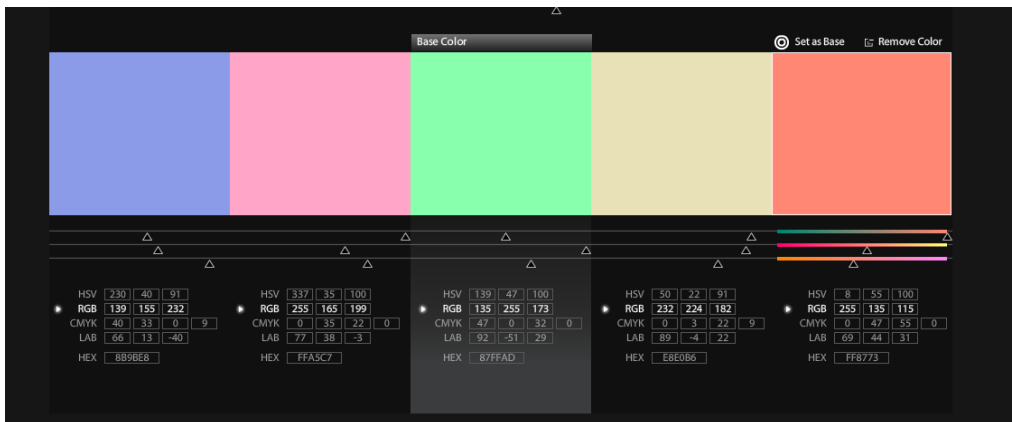
Upload the screenshots to your Posterous. In the Posterous article comment, write and explain how your pattern is either alternating or progressive rhythm (this is important) and how you used contrast.

Then upload the screenshot of your desktop to the MF Picasa album [Pattern Background](#) and upload it. In the caption use the following example:

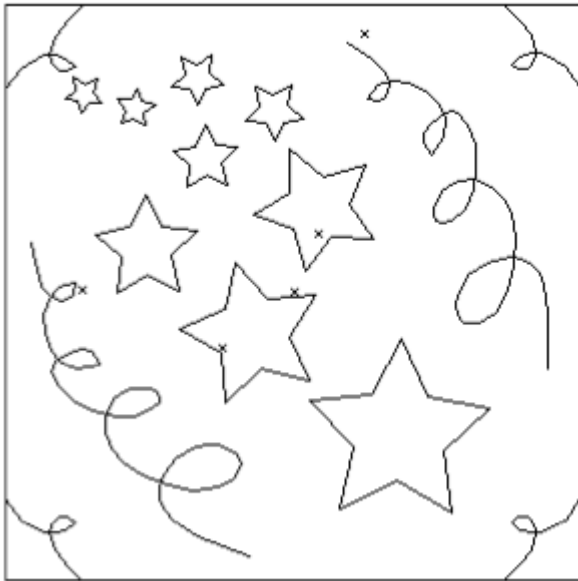
ca6chaen15 Alternating Rhythm (either alternating or progressive)



Upload either the color calculator color or kuler color scheme



Outline Preview (In AI, View > Preview > Outline)



JPG

Version of Your Pattern



Screenshot of your desktop with your pattern

