# Project Overview

Embellish any graphic design with Illustrator Symbols and Symbol Sprayer.

### Final:



# Part 1 - Create a New Illustrator Document

### Create and Save a New Blank Document

1. Create a new Web document using the RGB defaults
2. Name it **Designing With Symbols.ai** and save it in your project folder
3. Choose View > Show Rulers

# Part 2 – Create the Gradient Background

Open the Sky Swatch Library

1. Swatches > Open Swatch Library > Gradients > Sky

Draw a rectangle approximately 2/3 of the height of the artboard aligned top (the sky)

1. Fill the rectangle with Sky 19
2. Adjust the Gradient angle to -900

Draw a rectangle approximately 1/3 of the height of the artboard aligned bottom (the water)

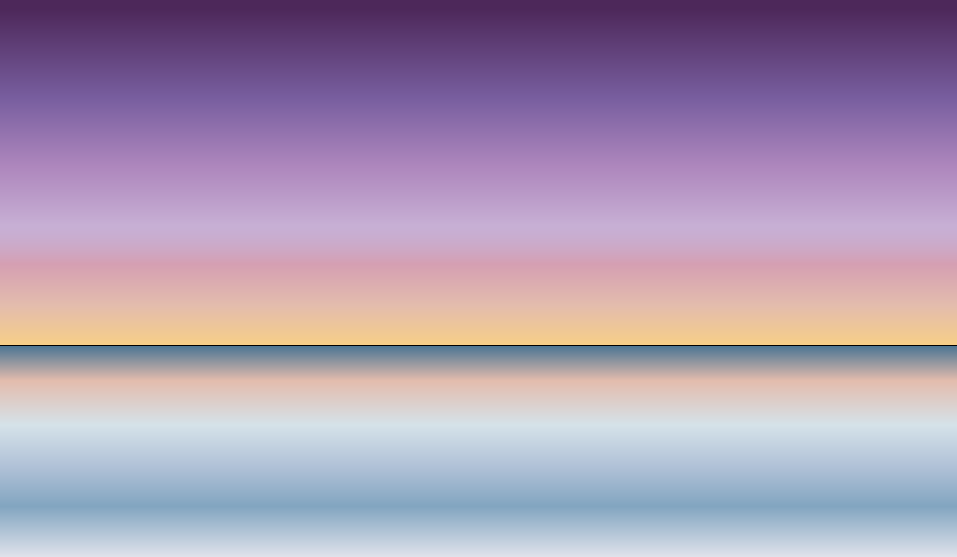
1. Fill the rectangle with Sky 6
2. Adjust the Gradient angle to 900

## Modify the Gradient Stops

Change one or more gradient stops on the bottom rectangle to match a few gradient stops in the top gradient. For example, from the top rectangle I selected the and 2nd stop (E3BCAD) from the right and modified one of the Gradient stops on the bottom rectangle to these colors.

Rename the layer *Background*

* Lock it and create a new layer, name it **Clouds**



# Part 3 - Symbol Spray the Clouds

From the Symbol panel menu, choose:

1. Open Symbol Library > Nature
2. Select Cloud 1

Double-click the Symbol Sprayer tool to see its options

1. I set my diameter to 100 px
2. Spray clouds over the top rectangle

Tear-off the Symbol tool to make all of the Symbol options more easily accessible

1. Experiment all of the other Symbol adjustment tools and the Alt key
2. Spray Cloud 2 and Cloud 3 Symbols
3. Modify them using the Symbol adjustment tools
4. Experiment with multiple Symbol Sets in the Layer

Lock the **Clouds** layer, create a new layer, name it **Land**

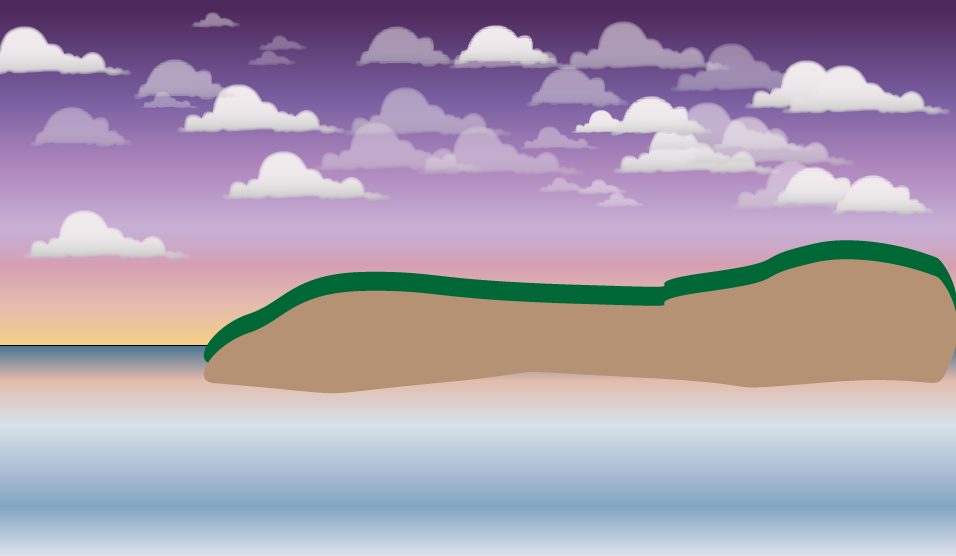


# Part 4 - Create the Land Mass and Sandy Beach

1. Select the Pen tool
2. Choose a dark green color
3. Create a shape that looks like the smooth curves at the edge of a land mass over about  
   75% at the horizon



1. Duplicate the shape and change to color to a light tan color for a shoreline/sand



1. Position the sand behind the land and adjust points using the direct select tool to extend part of the sand beyond the land



Lock the **Land** layer, create a new layer, name it **Trees**

# Part 5 - Add Trees and Re-Size Them

From the Symbol panel menu, choose:

1. Open Symbol Library > Nature
2. Select Trees 1

Double-click the Symbol Sprayer tool to see its options

1. I set my diameter to 50 px
2. Spray Trees over the Land
3. Use the Symbol Sizer and Scruncher tools to re-size and adjust the spacing

Lock the **Trees** layer, create a new layer, name it **Shrubs**



# Part 6 – Create a New Symbol (Shrub) and Spray It

Using the Pen tool

1. Draw a shape that looks like a shrub using a complimentary green color



1. Select Shrub and add it as a new Symbol
2. Select the Symbol Sprayer tool
3. Spray the Shrub covering the bottom of the trees
4. Use the Symbol Sizer and Scruncher tools to re-size and adjust the spacing



# Part 7 – Adjust the Shrub Symbol

1. Drag the Shrub Symbol to the artboard
2. Break Link to the Symbol in the Symbol Panel (this enables you to change the color)
3. Change the color to a lighter shade of green
4. Alt-Drag the Shrub Symbol from the artboard over the existing Shrub Symbol in the panel (this changes all instances of the Symbol on the artboard)
5. Delete the extra Shrub Symbol from the artboard

Lock the **Shrubs** layer, create a new layer, name it **Water Ripples**



# Part 8– Spray Water Ripples with Texture

1. Open the Symbol Library > Artistic Textures
2. Spray the Ripples texture over the water
3. Use the Symbol Screener tool to add transparency
4. Select the Symbol Stainer tool
5. Select a dark blue color
6. Apply the Symbol Stainer

Define a new Symbol Set in this layer

1. Repeat the process and spray with the Ripples texture
2. Apply a white or light color with the Symbol Stainer

Lock the **Water Ripples** layer, create a new layer, name it **Moon**



# Part 9 – Add a Moon

1. Using the Ellipse Shape and Pathfinder, create a Moon
2. Soften the Moon with an Effect > Stylize > Feather
3. Move the Moon layer below the Clouds layer
4. Reduce the Opacity to 90% in the Appearance panel



# Part 10 – Crop using a Clipping Mask

1. Add a new layer on top
2. Draw a rectangle over the artboard
3. Unlock all layers
4. Object > Clipping Mask > Make