

# **COLLIDERSCRIBE**

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Introductory Manual  
for  
Version 



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This Introductory Manual describes only what's required to get up-and-running with ColliderScribe—the basic essentials. To get the most out of this Adobe Illustrator plugin, a series of movies has been produced to better illustrate what's possible and how to quickly and easily achieve it.

Visit

[www.astutegraphics.com/products/colliderscribe/movies.html](http://www.astutegraphics.com/products/colliderscribe/movies.html)



## Installation

ColliderScribe is supplied as a single standard Illustrator plugin and is installed using standard Mac OS or Windows installer systems. The license key unlocks the trial version into the full version.

ColliderScribe requires Adobe Illustrator CS4, CS5, CS6 or Illustrator Creative Cloud version 17 — referred to hereon as “CC(17)” — to operate.

### Unified installer

ColliderScribe is available for Illustrator CS4 to CC(17) via a single unified installer. The installer process should automatically locate each version of Illustrator present on your computer and install the correct plug-in version. Note that Illustrator CS4, CS5, CS6 and CC each require a different plug-in version.

### Important!

You may require computer administrator rights to install ColliderScribe.



## Mac OS 10.5 and above

1. Quit Illustrator.
2. Open the “ColliderScribe.dmg” disk image
3. Start the “ColliderScribe” installer package and follow the instructions.  
*Note: the installer will attempt to seek all installations of Illustrator CS4, CS5, CS6 and CC and provide options to install for one or more of these. It is also possible to manually specify the target folder for each installation by clicking on the [...] button to the right of each entry.*
4. Start Illustrator. You can confirm that the software has been successfully installed, running initially in its Trial period, but following Illustrator » About ColliderScribe... (Cancel closes the window).

## Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8

1. Quit Illustrator.
2. Open the .zip archive and extract the “ColliderScribe.exe” program installer file.
3. Start the installer and follow the instructions.  
*Note: the installer will attempt to seek all installations of Illustrator CS4, CS5, CS6 and CC and provide options to install for one or more of these. The appropriate 32 or 64 bit version will be installed automatically. It is also possible to manually specify the target folder for each installation by clicking on the **Browse** button to the right of each entry.*
4. Start Illustrator. You can confirm that the software has been successfully installed, running initially in its Trial period, but following Help » About ColliderScribe...

### Notes

- If you later wish to install ColliderScribe for other versions of Adobe Illustrator on the same computer (not virtual machines), simply re-run the installation process.



## Trial period and licensing

When installed for the first time, ColliderScribe operates in a Trial period for a nominal period. When in this mode, you have access to all tools.

Upon expiry of the Trial period, the tools are no longer active and an information window stating that the Trial has expired will be displayed in the tool's panels or when attempting to switch to one of the tools via the Illustrator toolbar.

To continue using the tools, you will need to purchase a license, which will result in a license key being sent by email. To purchase a license key, please visit [www.astutegraphics.com/buy/](http://www.astutegraphics.com/buy/). Keep this information safe for future reference.

The license key allows you to install on all computers for the number of concurrent users determined by the number of licenses purchased. Confirmation of the number of concurrent users permitted is displayed when a license key is successfully applied.

### Notes

- The Astute Graphics licensing system applies valid license keys for the whole computer, not just individual installations of Adobe Illustrator. It's therefore possible to simultaneously operate licensed copies of the plug-in on more than one installation of Adobe Illustrator simultaneously.
- **It is very important that you store your license key safely for both future reference and to ensure that others do not gain improper access to it. As per the license agreement displayed during the installation process, Astute Graphics retains the right to block the use of any licenses which have found to be misused.**



## Activating with a license key

Once you have installed ColliderScribe and received your license key following purchase, follow:

Illustrator » About ColliderScribe... (Mac OS)

Help » About ColliderScribe... (Windows)

To license ColliderScribe, take the following steps:

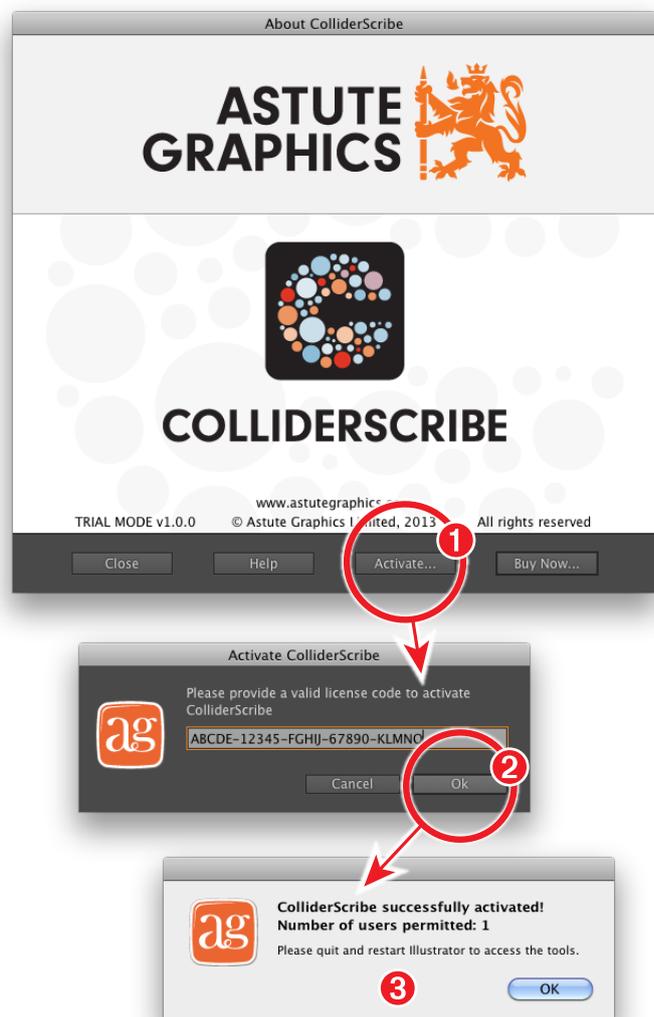
1. Click on the Activate button
2. Copy and paste the license key into the box and click OK

*You may be asked to enter your, or your administrator, password; please do so*

3. If successful, you will be informed that ColliderScribe is activated and confirmation of the number of concurrent users permitted
4. Click OK and further confirmation of the plug-in version/level licensed may be seen in the About window
5. Click on the Close button to close the About window and restart Illustrator to ensure you have access to the plug-in toolset

It is also possible to gain direct access to the Activate / Deactivate window by following Help » Astute Graphics » ColliderScribe » Licensing...

The activation process may be repeated on all computers to be used by the concurrent user(s).





## De-activating your computer

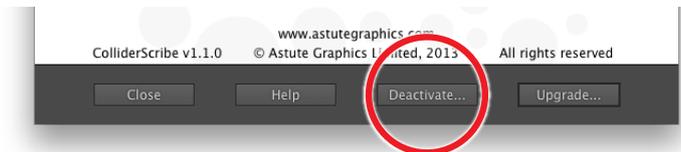
If you intend to change computer, discarding your existing licensed computer, it is essential that you first de-activate your license. Failure to do so may result in abuse of your license key which will result in the key being blocked for future use!

When ready to de-activate your computer, open the About window following:

Illustrator » About ColliderScribe... (Mac OS)

Help » About ColliderScribe... (Windows)

1. Click on the Deactivate button
2. Confirm that you intend to de-activate your computer
3. Following confirmation, close the confirmation and About window
4. Restart Illustrator



It is possible to re-activate the computer at a later date by following the previous activation instructions.

## Other online services

The Help » Astute Graphics » ColliderScribe » menu also contains entries for the following services:

- **Check for Updates:** opens a website page detailing the latest public versions of ColliderScribe ready for download.
- **Buy/Upgrade:** if you are still operating in the Trial period, this will take you to the online purchase web page. If you are already operating a licensed version of ColliderScribe, you will be taken directly to the upgrade page. If your license number is available, you can proceed immediately with the upgrade process without need of the original invoice number.
- **Licensing Help:** for additional information of the licensing system, including automated assistance tools, this will open the [www.astutegraphics.com/licensing/](http://www.astutegraphics.com/licensing/) web page.



## Introduction

ColliderScribe is a simple tool that enables you to position shapes accurately, placing any object precisely next to another when it touches.

### Get more from ColliderScribe - Movies

This Introductory Manual describes only what's required to get up-and-running with ColliderScribe—the basic essentials. To get the most out of this Adobe Illustrator plugin, a series of movies has been produced to better illustrate what's possible and how to quickly and easily achieve it.

Visit [www.astutegraphics.com/products/colliderscribe/movies.html](http://www.astutegraphics.com/products/colliderscribe/movies.html)

### Get more from ColliderScribe - Example files

Some great examples files are supplied with ColliderScribe, including:

#### **Gothic Window**

Demonstrating how the placement of objects can be achieved very quickly and effectively using the Snap to Collisions Tool. Artwork by Iaroslav Lazunov.

#### **Naturally Filtered**

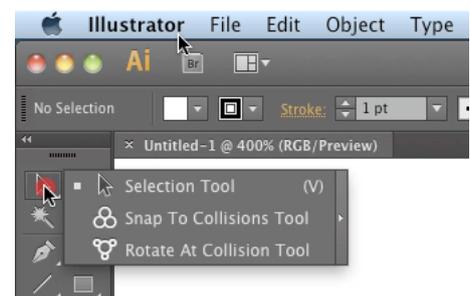
Mimicking the logo's style, this example demonstrates the power of the offset option in the Snap to Collisions Tool where each dot is separated by a minimum distance. Artwork by Nicholas van der Walle.



## Accessing ColliderScribe's Tools

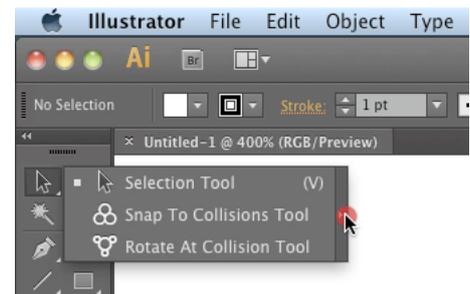
Once the ColliderScribe plugin is installed, ColliderScribe places two additional tools under the main Selection Tool. (They are placed as such to help ensure the vertical size of the Illustrator Toolbox doesn't exceed what laptop screens are able to display.)

To access the tools in Illustrator CS4 and above, click and hold down on the Selection Tool icon to reveal the Snap To Collisions and Rotate At Collision Tools.



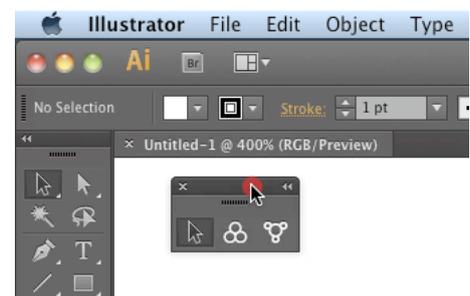
## Permanently displaying the ColliderScribe Tools

If you wish to quickly access the ColliderScribe tools, it is possible to “rip off” the Selection and ColliderScribe Toolbox icons into a separate dockable panel by releasing the mouse over the right-hand vertical bar as shown right.



It is possible to position the resultant panel by dragging its top bar, including docking to Illustrator's panel system.

In Illustrator CS6 and above, it is also possible to make this panel vertical by clicking on the top bar's double-arrow on the right.



## Keyboard Shortcuts to ColliderScribe Tools

Illustrator also provides the ability to quickly access any tool, including the Snap To Collisions and Rotate At Collision Tools via Edit » Keyboard Shortcuts...



For the latest information, please visit the Astute Graphics website: [www.astutegraphics.com](http://www.astutegraphics.com)

## With thanks to...

We wish to thank all those who helped in the development and success of this product with special mentions to:

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