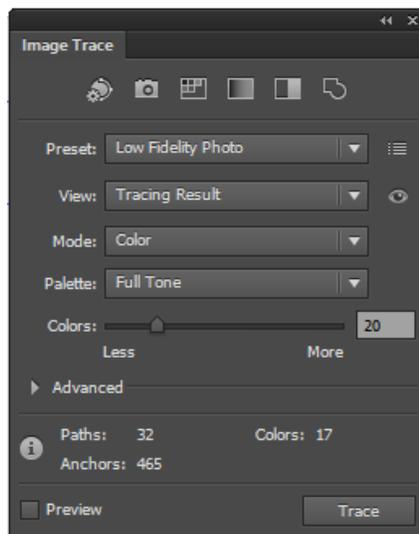


Illustrator #4 Trace and Pattern

Begin by going to File > New. The Profile should be web, but make sure the number of art boards is 2. Locate the file UVU_mascot by going to File > Place, and find it in the Illustrator in class assignment folder. Hit OK. Since Illustrator is vector based, and pictures (in this case a .png) is pixel based, we want to convert it so we can manipulate it without worrying about distortion. Blow up your image bigger to notice the anti-aliasing (where the picture is trying to smooth the edge) to notice the blurry pixels. With your Image selected, go to Window > Image trace to pull up the Image Trace panel. Here, we can decide how we want Illustrator to convert our graphic into a vector.

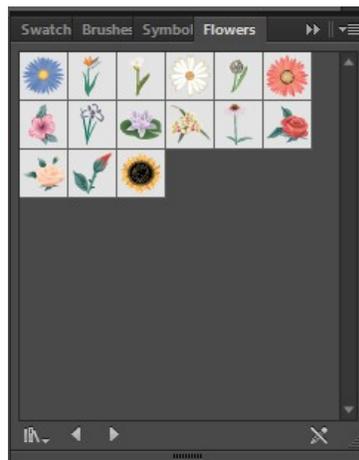


For now, we're only going to be changing the Preset option in the panel to convert it to a vector graphic. As a quick FYI, "View" allows you to see the lines created in the conversion if you want. "Mode" lets you decide if you want it to be color, grayscale, or black and white. There's many options to customize the type of trace for this graphic. For now, select Low Fidelity Photo in the Preset, and let Illustrator render that. You can now scale it as much as you'd like, and it will never lose quality.

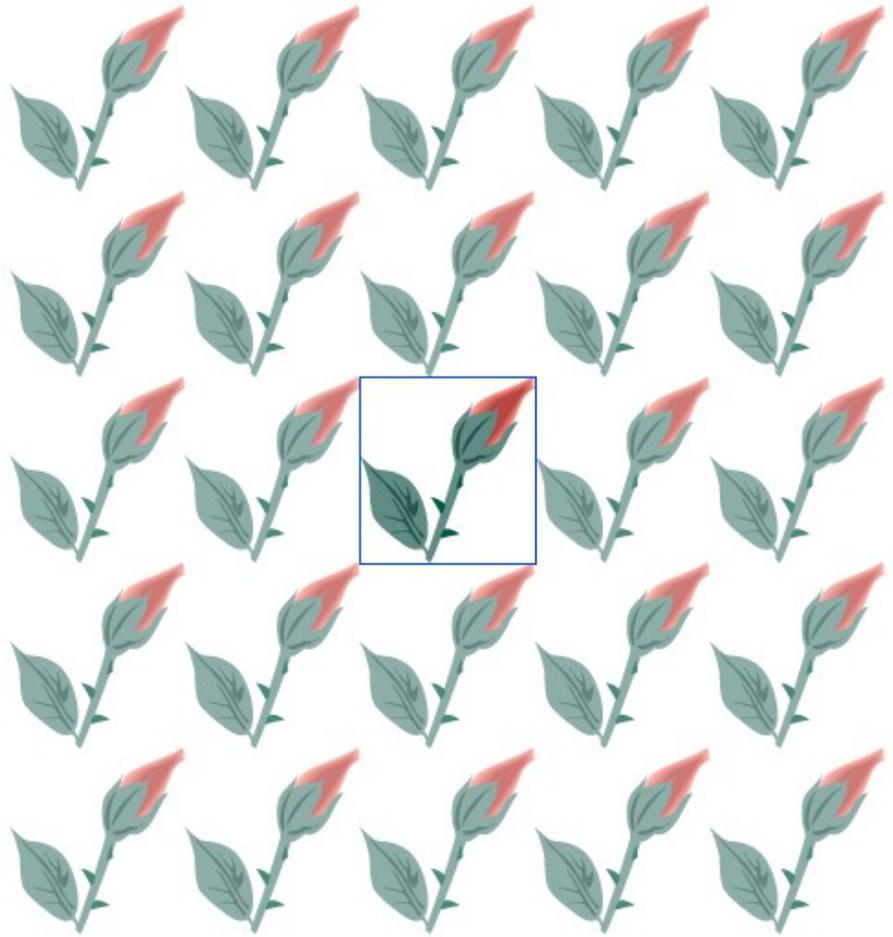
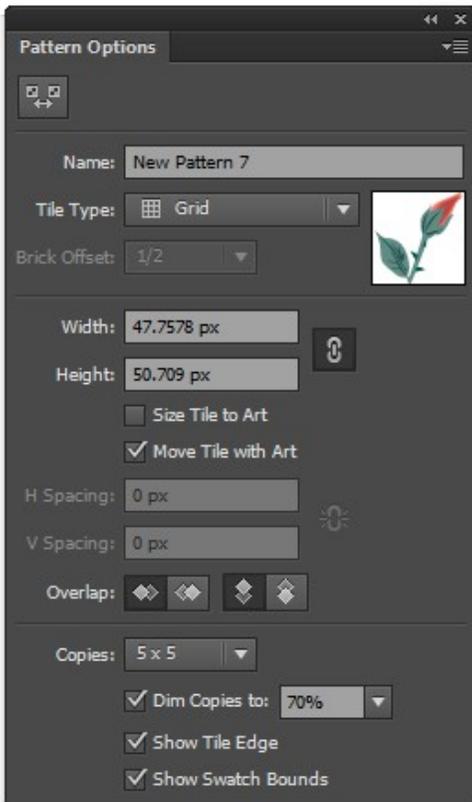


With the graphic still selected, hit the expand button at the top of your options panel to show the lanes and individual points that can be manipulated as you see fit (if you ever wanted to).

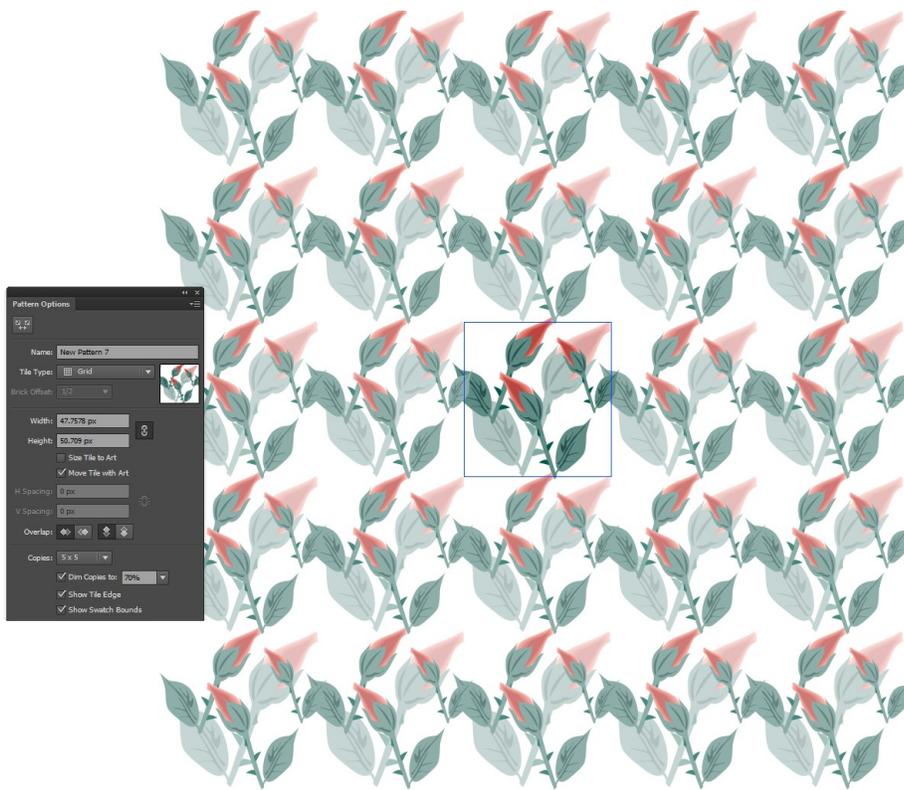
Head over to the second art board by scroll over to the right if you currently don't see it. Here, we're going to learn how to create a pattern that will become an individual swatch that we can use later to fill any shape we want. Start by going to your Symbols Panel that should be on the right side (if it's not there, go to Window > Symbols to open it). Click on the options drop down menu on the upper right corner, mouse over Open Symbols Library, and select flowers.



Go ahead and drag out a flower of your choice somewhere onto the empty art board. With the selection tool (black arrow) select your new flower, and go to Object > Pattern > Make. You'll be presented with a new panel and the flower you selected duplicated according to the options in that panel.



From here, you can edit, copy, and manipulate the object to fit the desired pattern you may be looking for. Go ahead and make a copy or two, resize a few, and rotate them to create a new pattern. It'll update in real time as you're doing it. When you like what you see, hit done near the top left to complete your pattern. It will then add it to your swatches panel where you can select it as a fill.



Go back to our first panel with our first graphic, and choose the Direct Selection Tool (white arrow) to select individual pieces. Since we have a left over white background from the conversion, select the outside pieces and fill them with your new swatch that was created using the pattern tool. You can do this to any part of Willy, and although that might be silly, it's possible to change anything you'd like.



