Key Guide: Adobe Illustrator CC for Mac

Text alignment

Left align paragraph	shift & command + l (L)
Right align paragraph	shift & command + r
Centre align paragraph	shift & command + c

Type size [Preferences (command+k)>Units & Increments]

Bigger size in set increment	shift & command + >
Smaller size in set increment	shift & command + <
Bigger size in 5 x increment	option & shift & command + >
Smaller size in 5 x increment	option & shift & command + <

Leading [Preferences (command+k)>Units & Increments]

Increase leading in set increment	option + ▲
Reduce leading in set increment	option + ▼
Increase leading in 5 x increment	command & option + ▲
Reduce leading in 5 x increment	command & option + ▼

Tracking/Kerning [Preferences (command+k)>Units & Increments]

Increase kerning in set increment	option + ▶
Reduce kerning in set increment	option + ◀
Increase kerning in 5 x increment	command & option + ▶
Reduce kerning in 5 x increment	command & option + ◀

Shift baseline of type [Preferences (command+k)>Units & Increments]

Move characters up	shift & option + ▲
Move characters down	shift & option + ▼

Activate Type-related Panels

Character Panel	command + t
Paragraph Panel	option & command + t
Tabs Panel	shift & command + t

Miscellaneous Type-related keys

Show/Hide invisible characters	option & command + i
Create Outlines	shift & command + o
Check Spelling	command + i
Show Text Threads	shift & command + y
Paste text without formatting	option & command + v

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File management

Create New Blank Document	option & command + n
Save a Copy of the document	option & command + s
Place an image	shift & command + p
Package the file, fonts and linked images	shift & option & command + p

Edit Menu options

Undo	command + z
Redo	shift & command + z
Copy	command + c
Cut	command + x
Paste	command + v
Paste in front of the selected object(s)	command + f
Paste behind the selected object(s)	command + b
Paste in place (across documents)	shift & command + v
Paste in place (across all artboards)	shift & option & command + v
Paste text without formatting	option & command + v

Lock/Hide object(s)

Lock selected object(s)	command + 2
Unlock all locked objects	option & command + 2
Hide selected object(s)	command + 3
Show all hidden objects	option & command + 3

Join/Align points

Connect 2 selected points or close an open path	command + j
Activate Average points dialogue	option & command + j
Average and join 2 selected points	shift & option & command + j

Group/Mask/Compound

Group selected objects	command + g
Release from Group state	shift & command + g
Mask selected objects with top shape	command + 7
Release from Masked state	option & command + 7
Create a compound shape using selected paths	command + 8
Release back to separate objects	shift & option & command + 8

Transformation

Apply last Transformation again	command + d
Transform Each…	shift & option & command + d
Display Transformation Options related to tool	return/enter

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Selecting options

Select All	command + a
Deselect All	shift & command + a
Select All on the current Artboard	option & command + a
Select next object above (in strict order)	option & command +]
Select next object below (in strict order)	option & command + [

Re-applying Effects

Apply last Effect to selected objects	shift & command + e
Display last Effect's dialogue	shift & option & command + e

Arrange order/Transform selected objects

Send to Back	shift & command + [
Bring to Front	shift & command +]
Shift behind previous object in document's order	shift & option & command + [
Shift in front of next object in document's order	shift & option & command +]

View options

Fit current artboard to window	command + 0 (zero)
Fit all artboards to window	option & command + 0 (zero)
Hide all tools and panels	tab
Hide panels but keep tools	shift + tab
Artwork view (construction)	command + e
Preview view (output)	command + y
Pixel preview	option & command + y
Overprint preview	shift & option & command + y
Hide/Show bounding box	shift & command + b
Hide/Show edges (selection)	command + h
Hide/Show smart guides	command + u

Useful Tool Keys

Selection Tool	v
Direct selection tool	a
Type tool	t
Pencil tool	n
Live Paint bucket	k
Shape Builder tool	shift + m
Magic Wand tool (selections)	y
Artboard Tool	shift + o
Swap Fill and Stroke colours	shift + x