How to Make A Symmetric Design Using Live Mirror in Illustrator

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVt782RyvnQ&t=228s

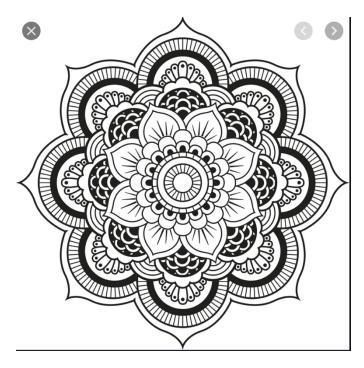
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQxkccf4Oac&t=94s

- 1. Create a new document I'll make it 800 by 600 pixels.
- 2. Go to Window > Workspace > Essentials Classic then go to Menu > View > Smart Guides.
- 3. With the Pen Tool (no fill and a black stroke), **create a vertical line** in the center of the document holding the Shift Key. Align it to the Pasteboard vertically and horizontally.
- 4. Open the Layers Palette and rename this layer 1 "Guide" and lock it.
- 5. Create a new layer then with the pen tool create a horizontal line across the document. (hold Shift Key)
- 6. Select the line by **clicking on little circle on the Layer** to select the whole layer. Choose align objects to the artboard. Then, click on Vertical Align Center and then click on the Horizontal Align Center option from the Align Panel.
- 7. Go to Menu > Effect > Distort and Transform > Transform.
- 8. Check the **Reflect X** box and set the **copies value to 1**, and then press ok.
- 9. Then Click on the arrow (downward) in the layers panel and **make the line layer invisible** by clicking on its eyeball.
- 10. You have your symmetry template so anything that you draw on the right side of the canvas will be reflected on the left side. Name the layer "Symmetery."
- 11. You can use this method to illustrate one of your sketches by pasting your drawing on a new layer. (Cmd + C, Cmd + V)
- 12. Bring the layer to the bottom of the stacking order with the sketch image selected .(Below guides)
- 13. Click on horizontal align Center now decrease the opacity to the level you want so you can see when drawing on top of it.
- 14. Lock the layer to make everything clear.
- 15. Name the layer. Everything you draw on the right side will be reflected on the left side
- 16. With the pen tool I start to illustrate only the right half of your sketch and automatically the left side of the canvas will be updated.

- 17. After you have the final illustration you will discover you can't select anything from the left side.
- 18. Select the symmetry layer then go to object (on menu) and click on expand appearance. Now you need to join the two sides
- 19. Control click (on a Mac) and ungroup the illustration then repeat it for each side to join this two lines you need to make overlap two anchor points.
- 20. Select two points together then press Cmd + J to join them. This is the process of joining the two sides of the design.

A more advanced way you can easily make complex mandalas using this method check out this video on Youtube.

To create a mandella see this: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHQi0I6dwmg&t=14s



What is a Mandella?

A **mandala**, which is Sanskrit for "circle" or "discoid object," is a geometric design that holds a great deal of symbolism in Hindu and Buddhist cultures. ... In their most basic form, **mandalas** are circles contained within a square and arranged into sections that are all organized around a single, central point.