

COREL Bulletin

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Did you know that there are many Tutorials available on the Corel Website? We have reprinted one here on mesh objects, a very powerful feature in Corel.

Applying a mesh to an object

Using Corel Draw X5. A mesh fill can be applied only to closed objects or a single path. If you want to apply a mesh fill to a complex object, you must first create a mesh-filled object and combine it with the complex object to form a PowerClip object.

Creating our object

Let's start with our object. We are going to draw an ellipse using the **Ellipse Tool (F7)** from the **Toolbox**. Then from the **Arrange** menu, we will select **Convert to Curves (Ctrl+Q)**. Once you have converted the ellipse to a curve, use the **Shape tool (F10)** and move the control handles to create the shape that you want. (Fig 1) Next, we are going to give this shape a fill. I have used the **Interactive Fill tool (G)** to create a linear fountain fill and then I removed the outline on the object. (Fig 2)

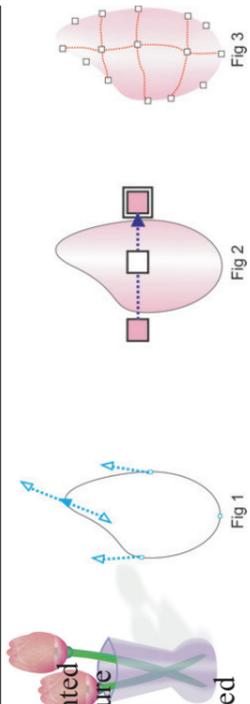


Fig 1

Fig 2

Fig 3

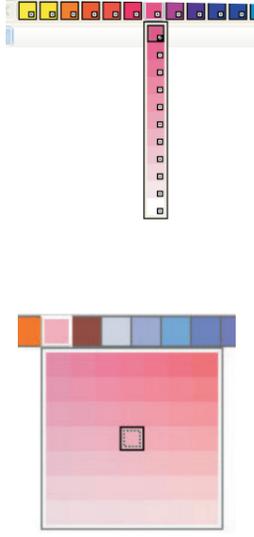
Adding Colors to the Mesh

Now that we have created the object and applied the mesh, it is time to bring it to life and see just how powerful this tool really is. We will start by dragging colors from the color palette onto the points of the mesh.

To fill a mesh with color

1. Select a mesh-filled object.
2. In the toolbox, click the Mesh Fill tool.
3. Drag a color from the color palette to a patch in the object.

To color an intersecting node in a mesh fill, click an intersecting node, and then click a color on the color palette. If you want to add 10% of a specific color to a node, select the node and then hold the Ctrl key while clicking on a color in the color palette.



By holding down the left mouse button on one of the colors in the color palette, you will be given a larger choice of colors to chose from.



You can add intersecting lines by double-clicking in a space, or you can add a single line by double-clicking a line. If you double-click intersecting lines, they will be removed.

Recently Corel exhibited their wares at the Visual Impact Image Expo held on the Gold Coast, where Richard Windeyer gave the following interview to *Australian Printer*, the magazine which caters to printing professionals.

Corel sold out of it's CorelDraw Graphics Suite upgrade on the first day of the show. Richard Windeymer, Corel's representative at Visual Impact told *Australian Printer* the quick sales proved that Corel products were still in high demand amongst signage and print professionals. He says, "our products are easy, quick, no fuss software that enables users to draw anything they need". Corel is one of the world's top software companies with more than 100 million active users in 75 countries. Along with the Draw Graphics Suite, Corel's portfolio also includes Corel Painter-F, Corel Designer Technical Suite and Corel Paint Shop Pro.

Reprinted with permission of *Australian Printer* magazine, www.i-grafx.com.

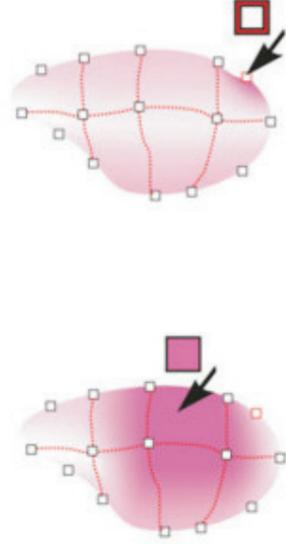
Placing Barcodes into Corel Draw documents!

Corel has the facility to make several different types of barcodes. If you go to edit on your toolbar and then select 'insert barcode', the barcode wizard opens up, allowing you to make any of eighteen different types of barcodes. Just follow the wizard and — presto, you have a readable barcode on your page.

Did you know that you can create a barcode that reads characters as well as numbers? Have a play around with Code 128.



Cont from front page - Applying a mesh to an object



Dragging a color from the color palette and dropping it onto an area bounded by mesh lines will cause the color to completely fill the area and blend into the surrounding areas. When dropping the color on the node, the color will blend from that point outwards.

Fine Tuning the colors

If the mesh object contains color, adjusting the intersection nodes of the mesh affects how the colors blend together. This can be changed or adjusted with the shape tool.

To smooth the appearance of color in a mesh fill, select a mesh-filled object and in the toolbox, click the Mesh Fill tool, next click the Smooth Mesh Color button  on the property bar.

Applying transparencies to a mesh fill

One other feature that has been added is the ability to add transparency to a mesh fill. This is great in that you can now place a texture or other object behind the mesh and with the Transparency tool, adjust the transparency of a node or group of nodes.

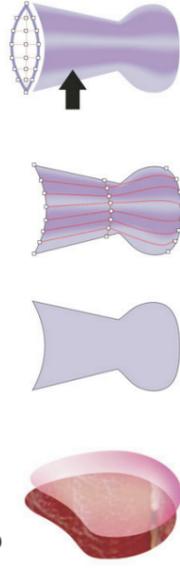
To apply transparency to a mesh fill

1. Select a mesh-filled object.
2. In the toolbox, click the Mesh fill tool.
3. Click a node to select part of the mesh.
4. On the property bar, move the Transparency slider to the right to increase the colour transparency.

To complete our design, I have created a shape for the vase and applied a mesh fill with a grid of 7 x 2 and dropped the colors that I want.

To copy this mesh to another object, select the target object — in this case, the top of the vase — and click on the Copy Mesh Fill icon. 

This will copy the mesh that I have created. Next, I simply add transparency to the vase, as I did to the petals of the flowers and then I put everything together.



With a little practice, you can see how very easy it is to create realistic designs that will convey the thoughts and emotions that you have in mind.

FEE INCREASE

New Membership Fees: It was decided at the Special Committee meeting that the membership fees have a slight increase. This is the first time in many years that membership fees have increased and this has been brought about by general costs going up. Being a member of Corel Down Under is still very economical compared to most other organisations. The new fees are as listed below:

Individual	\$60
Family	\$90
Corporate	\$145
Publication	\$50
Concession	\$45
Concession couple	\$65

The CDU Committee meets 1st Tuesday of each month. 7pm until 9.30pm - 8 Pamela Place, Ringwood North, 3135

Next CDU Meeting will be held on third Tuesday in month - 17 August 2010