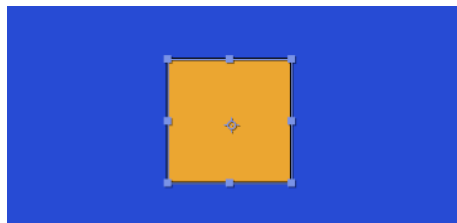


After Effects – Exercise 1

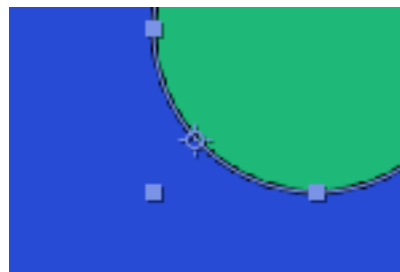
1. In After Effects (AE), Composition > New Composition.
2. In the pop-up window: name the composition “shapes,” choose HDV/HDTV 720 29.97 for the “Preset,” set the duration to 10 seconds and the background color to medium blue. Click OK.
3. In the top-left corner of the AE workspace, choose the rectangle tool, set the fill to a yellowish-orange and the stroke to 3px.



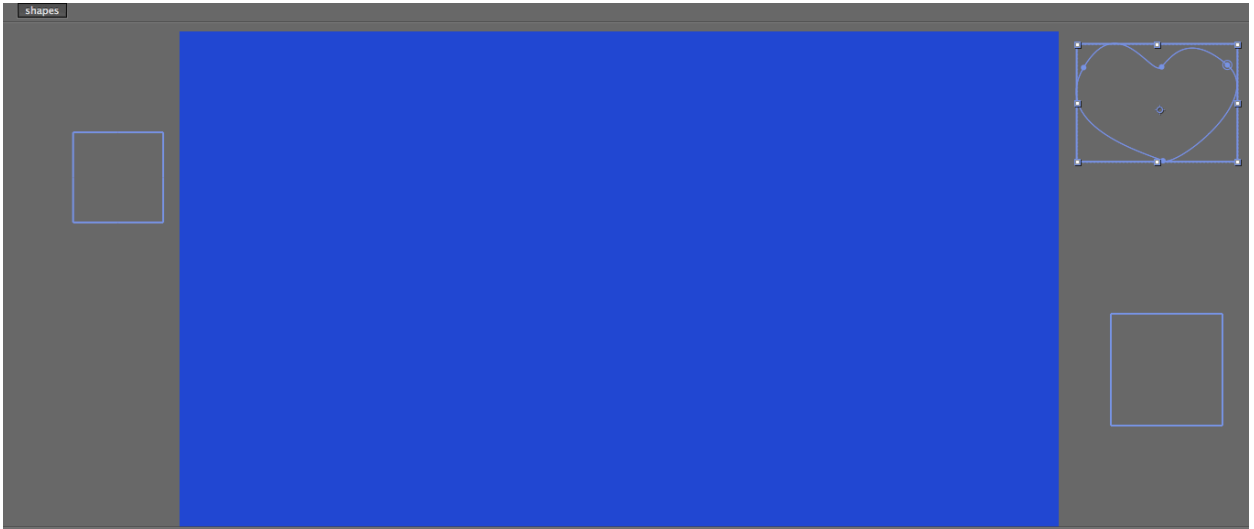
4. In the Composition Window, shift-click-drag a perfect square about 150px wide/tall. Chose the pan-behind tool (just to the left of the rectangle tool), and move the anchor point (the small cross-hair icon) from the center of the comp window to the center of your square.



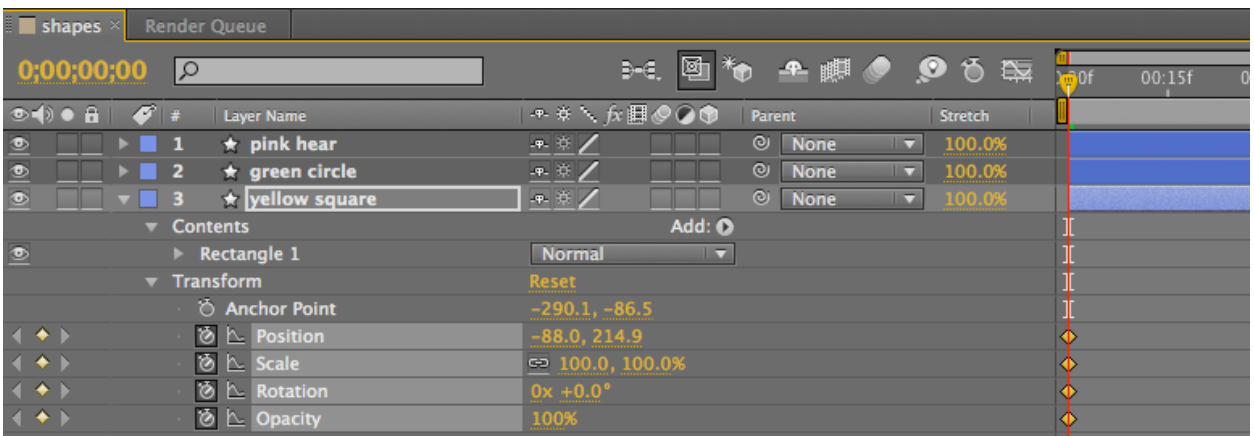
5. In the timeline, right click on “Shape Layer 1,” and rename it “yellow square.”
6. Click on the square in the comp window and move it off the stage to the left. Then click off the square to deselect it.
7. Using steps 3-6 as a guide, create a medium green circle (using the ellipse tool hiding under the rectangle tool). This time, however, using the pan behind tool, movie the anchor point to the edge of the circle and move the circle off the stage at the *right*.



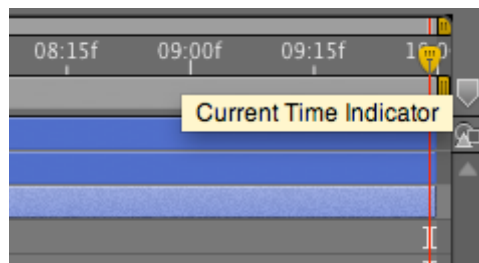
- This time you will create a pink heart shape using the pen tool (to the right of the rectangle tool) and follow steps 3-6. Move the heart off to the right of the stage, above the square. They should all be situated more or less as such.



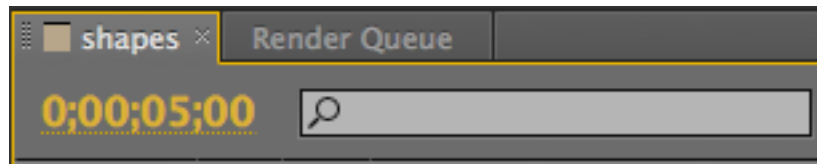
- In the timeline, click the arrow to the left of the layer name, “yellow square” to reveal the “transform” options. Click on the arrow next to “transform” to reveal all the transform options. Create keyframes for the Position, Scale, Rotation and Opacity options by clicking once on the stop-watch icon to the left of the option name. You should see diamond-shaped keyframes corresponding to each option in the timeline.



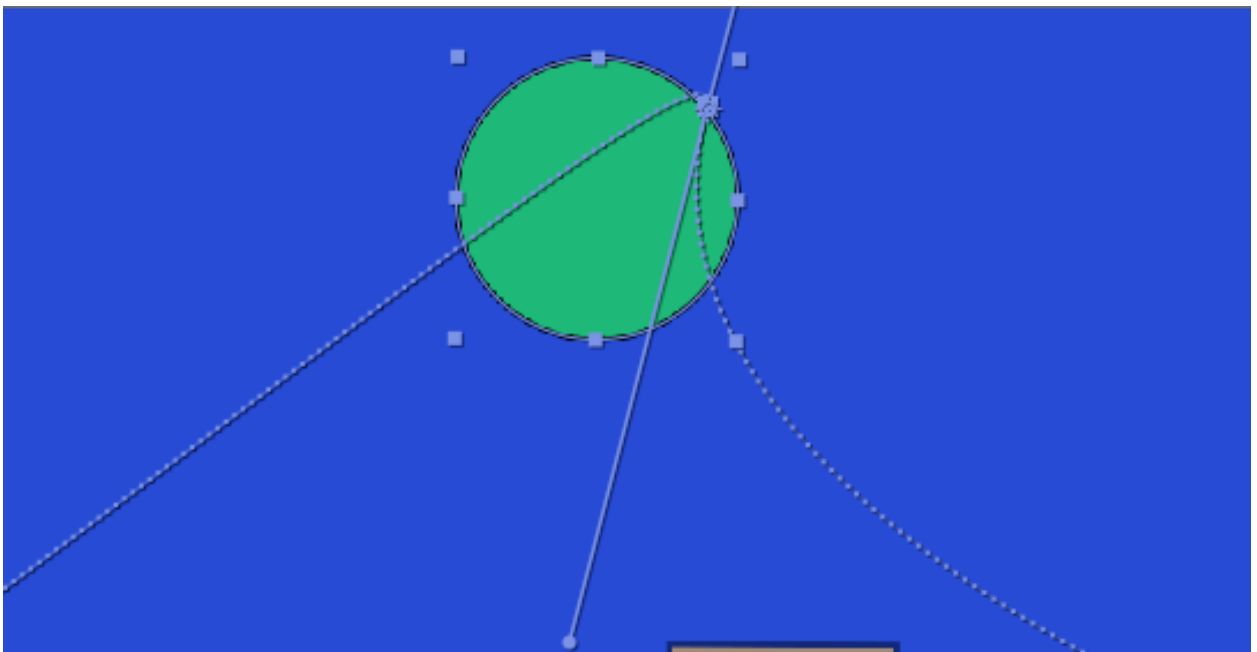
- Move the Current Time Indicator in the timeline to end of the timeline (10 seconds).



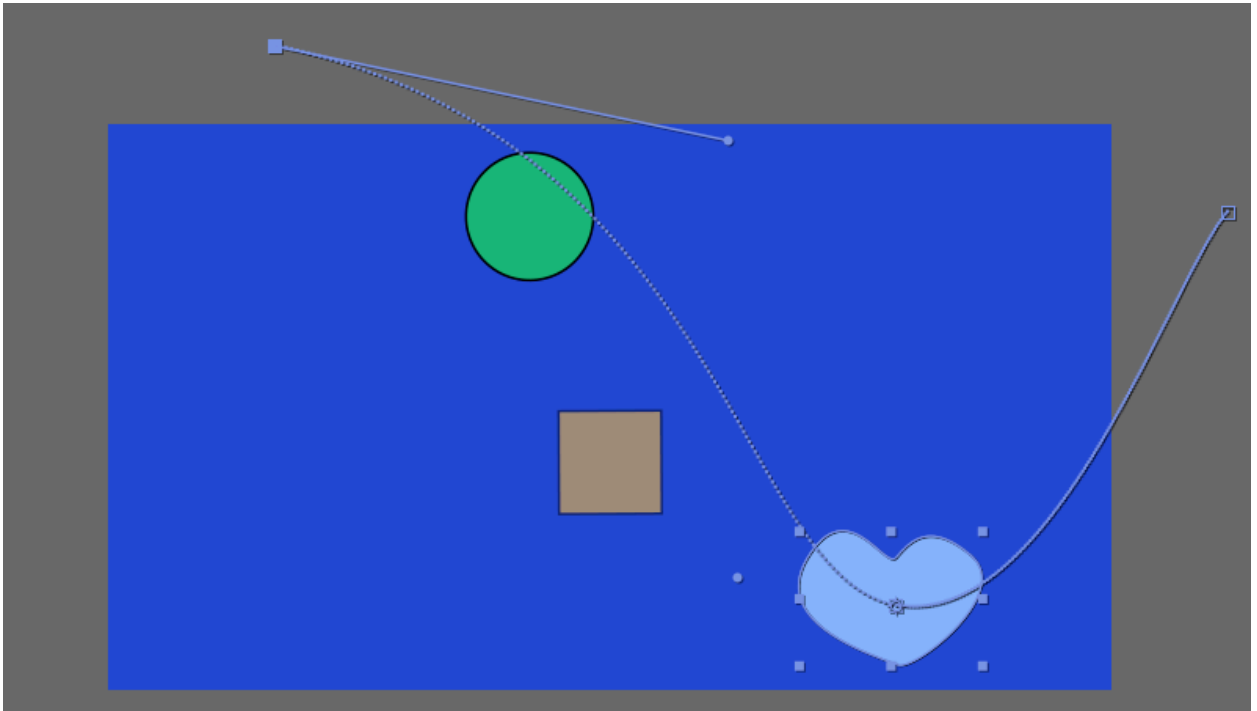
11. Change the square's Scale to 200%, the Rotation to 180 degrees and Opacity to 0%. DO NOT click the stopwatch icon. Move the square all the way across the stage so that it is off the stage at the right and lower than its starting place. Lock the yellow square layer.
12. Move the current timeline indicator back to the beginning of the timeline. Your green circle should be off-stage right and toward the bottom. In the "green circle" layer, click keyframes for the Position and Rotation options. Then drag the Current Time Indicator to the end of the timeline.
13. Click, then press shift and drag the green circle across the stage and off stage left. The circle should travel a perfectly horizontal path with no slope. Change the rotation to 1x.
14. Notice the Current Time window, which displays where your Current Time Indicator is on the timeline in terms of timecode. Click on the timecode and enter "500" for 5 seconds.



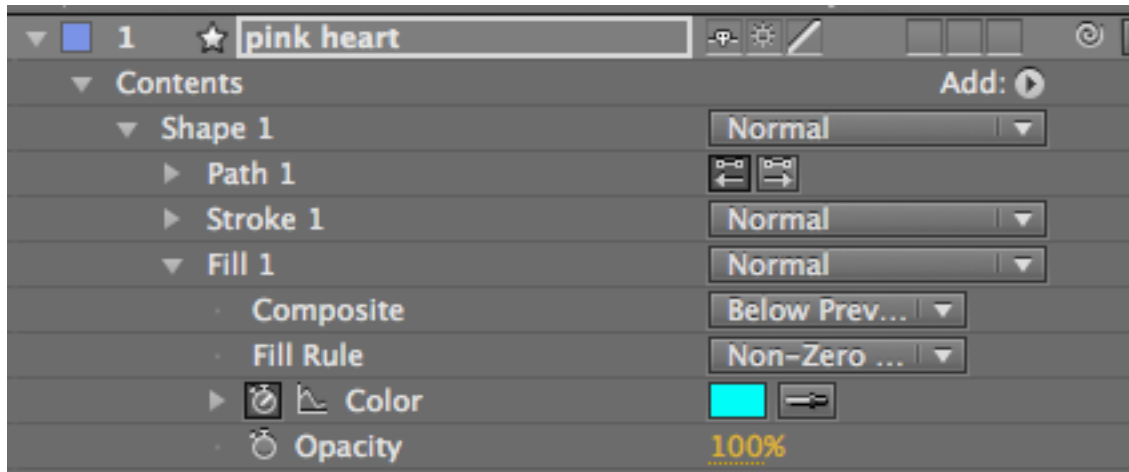
15. Still in the "green circle" layer, move the green circle toward the top of the stage. You should notice that your circle's path is shaped like a bell curve. Grab one of the Bezier handles and reshape the path so that it has a wave-like appearance (see below). Lock the green circle layer.



16. Select the “pink heart” layer on the timeline. Your pink heart shape should be off stage at the top-right. Create the following path for the heart. As with the green circle, there are keyframes at 0, 5 and 10 seconds.

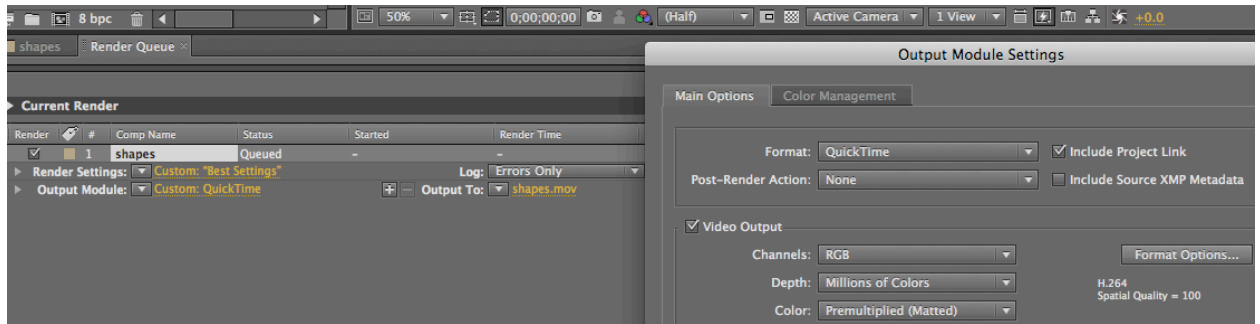


Additionally, the color of your heart should gradually shift from pink to light blue. Notice the color option in the below image. As with any parameter that changes in a layer you will need to have your color shift keyframed.



17. Now arrange your layers so that the pink heart passes under the yellow square and the yellow square passes over the green circle. You will need to click and drag on layer names in the timeline to move them.
18. You are now ready to render your movie out. In the top menu-bar choose Composition > Make Movie. You will notice that your Render Queue overlays the timeline. Click on the yellow text next to “Render Settings” and in the pop-up window that appears, choose a frame rate of 12 fps. Click on the yellow text next

to “Output Module,” click “Format Options” in the pop-up window and choose h.264 from the options.



19. Click on the yellow text next to the “Output To” option. Give your .mov the name “[yourname]AE1” and save.

20. Finally, click the “Render” button to the far right of the Render Queue panel.