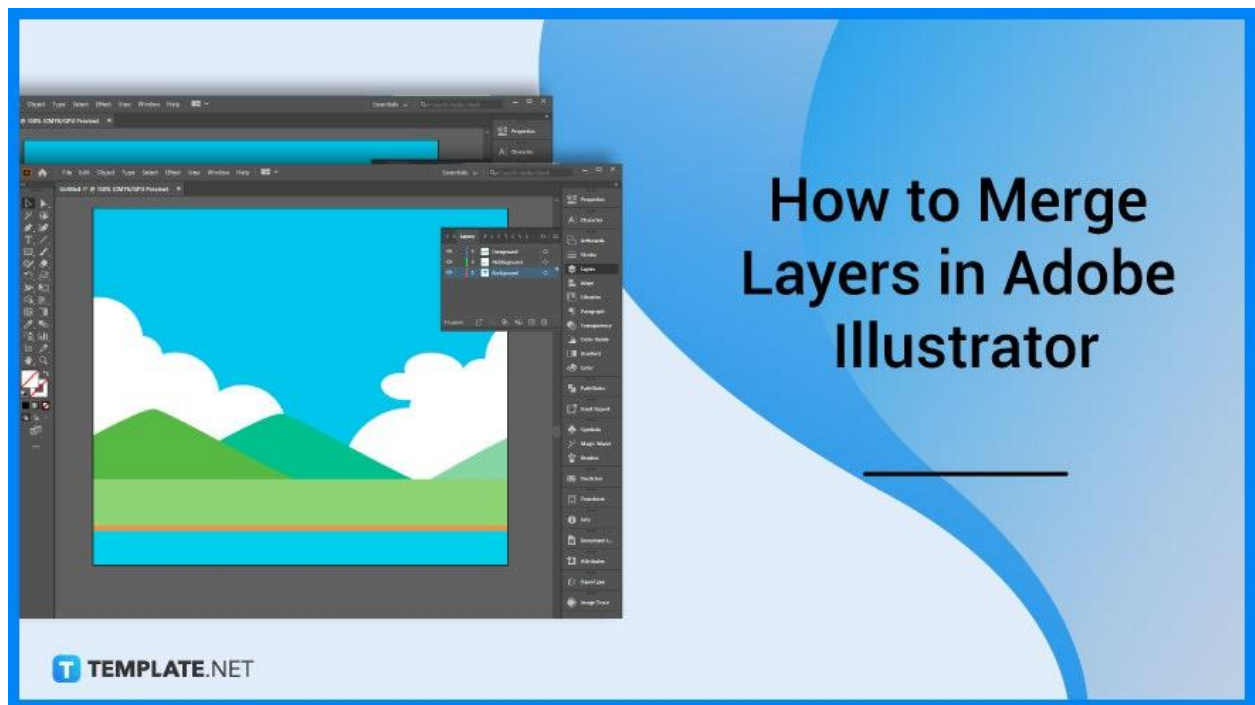


How to Merge Layers in Adobe Illustrator

Organizing the files and layers in your design or illustration work is essential to boost your work efficiency and productivity. One of the things you can do is merge various layers in the Layers Panel as it helps you in centralizing your creative work and cleaning up your files. In this article, learn how to merge layers in your workspace effectively in Adobe Illustrator.

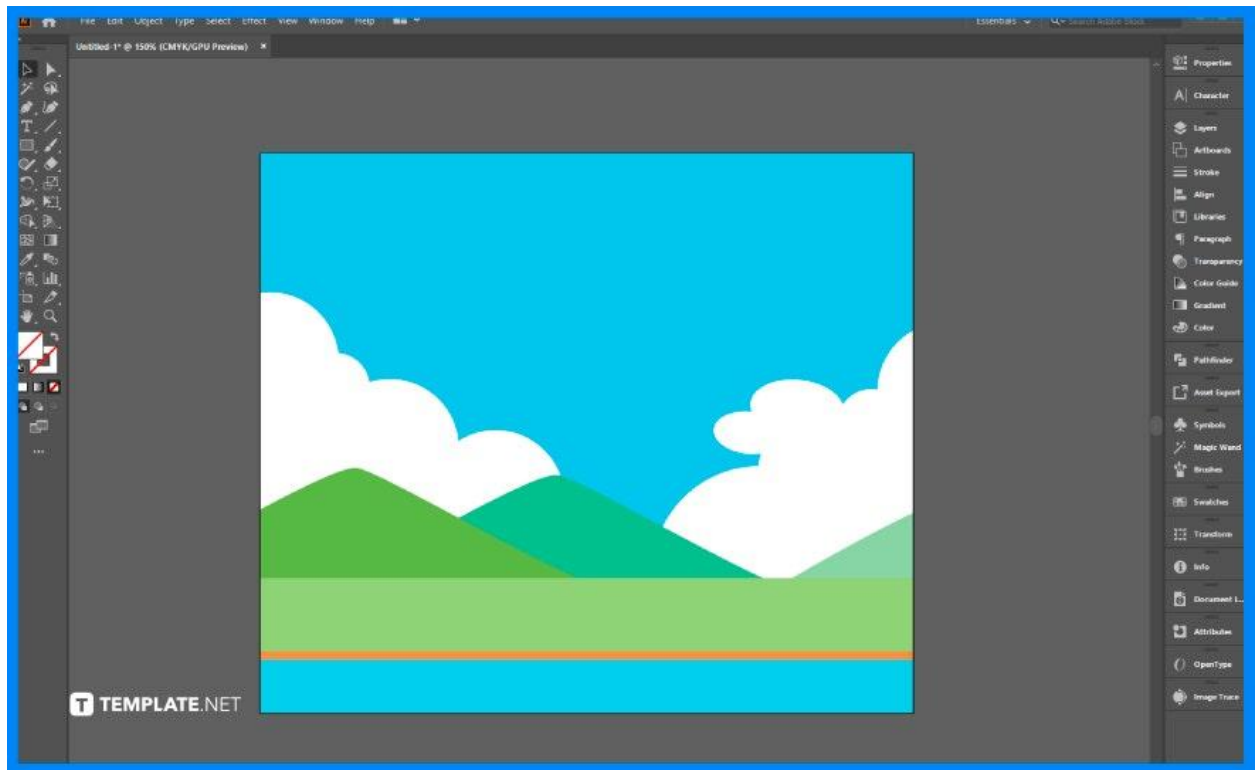


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The layers are used as containers for different components of a design or illustration such as color and other properties. Below are simple steps that you can follow if you want to arrange the layers and merge them in Adobe Illustrator.

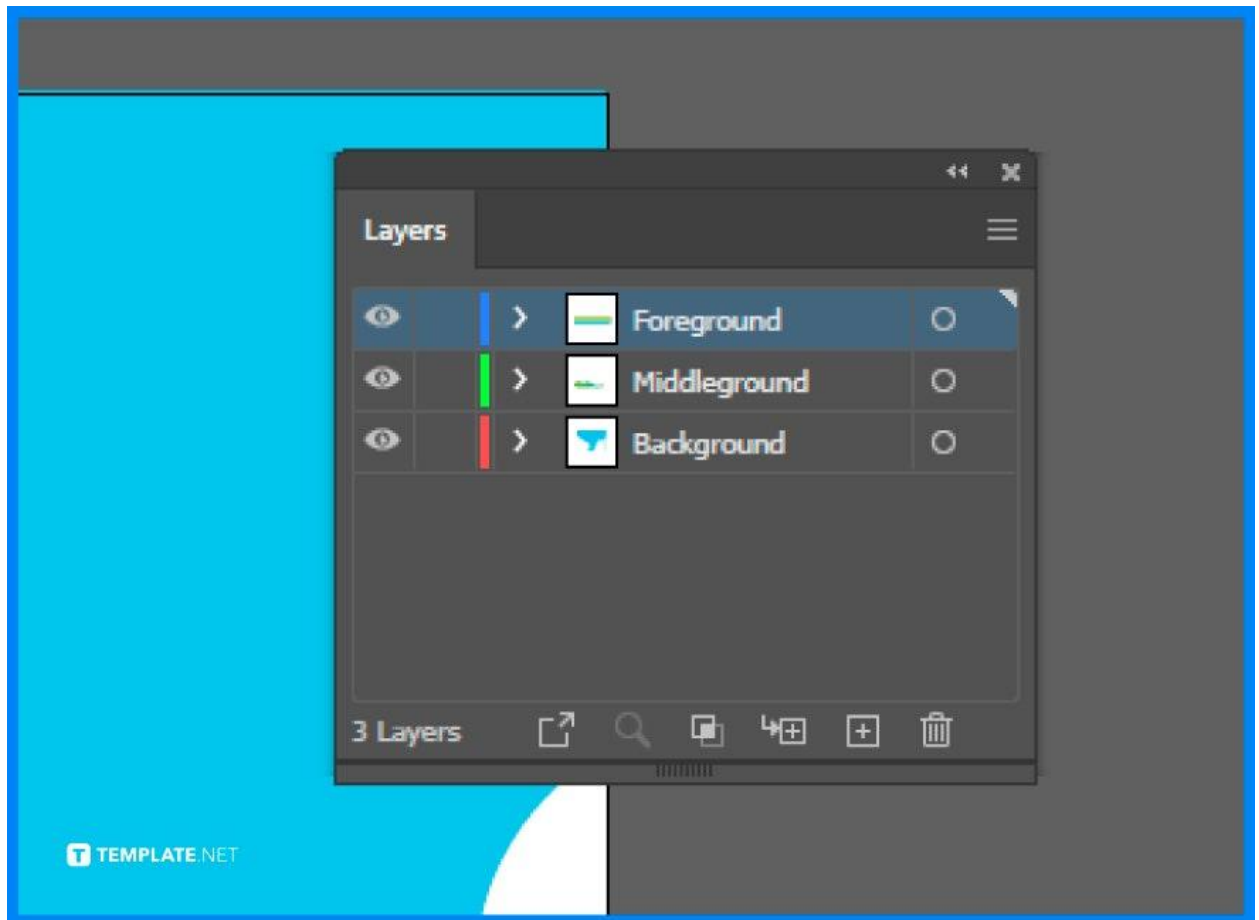
- **Step 1: Open your Document**

Click the Adobe Illustrator on your PC or Mac. Open the document or your work you want to merge layers.



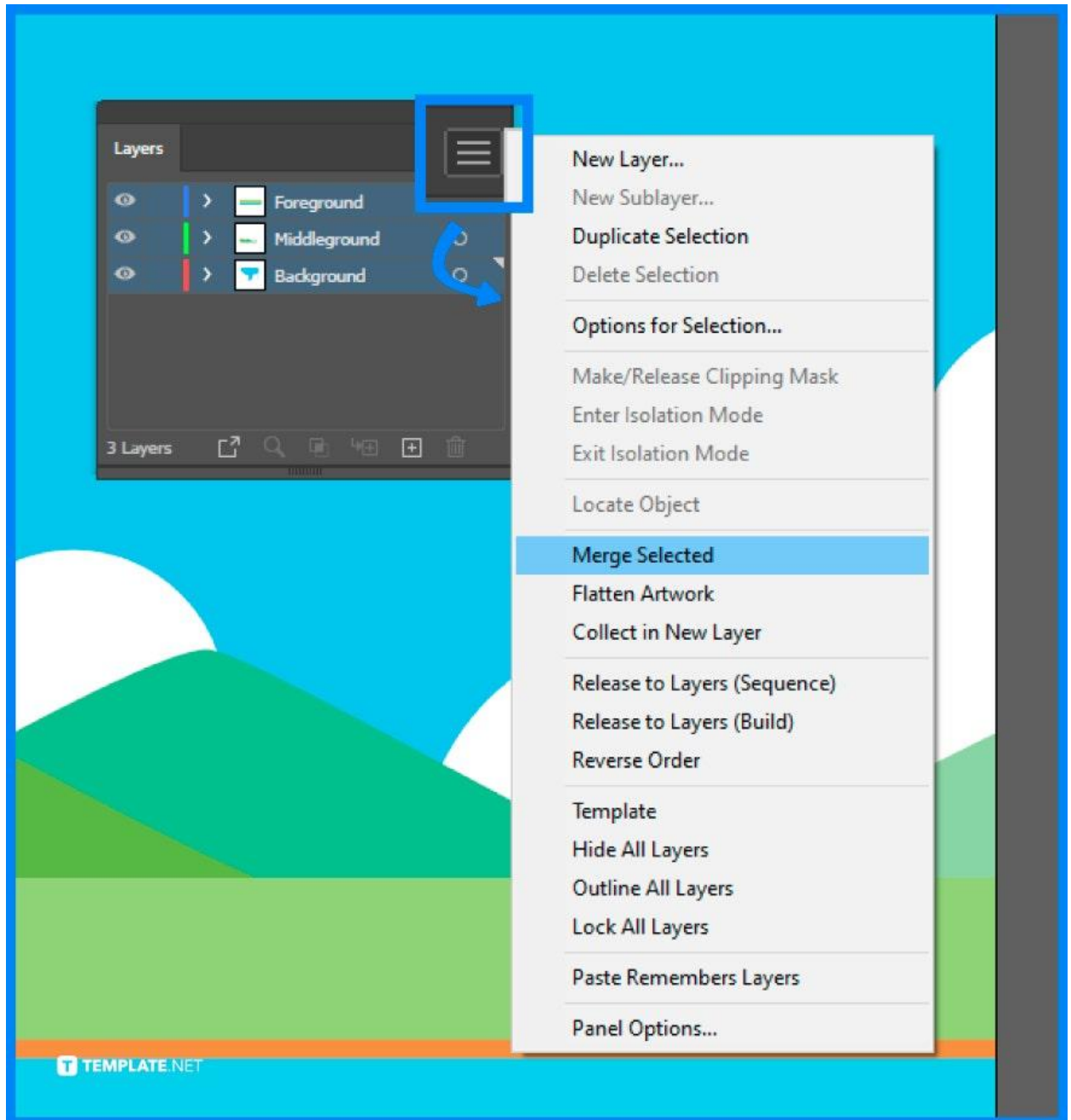
- **Step 2: Open the Layers Panel**

Go to the Layers Panel. Open it and you will see the different components of your work arranged in each layer.



- **Step 3: Flatten Artwork or Design to Merge Layers**

Select the layers you want to merge. For example, you want to merge all the layers, so select all of them, click on the menu in the top right corner of the panel, choose Merge Selected, and after that, all of the layers are merged into one layer.



FAQs

How to merge layers in Illustrator?

Use the keyboard shortcuts: Ctrl+E to merge selected layers, and Shift+Ctrl+E to merge all the layers.

Where is the Merge option in Illustrator?

Use the Shape mode, Unite or the Pathfinder mode or look at the options in the panel.

Why are some layers can't be merged?

Layers can be merged as long as there is a pixel-based layer underneath the layers in the Layers panel.

How to group layers in Illustrator?

Hold the Ctrl/Command and click on the layers to select them or click on a layer, hold Shift, click on another layer to select all of the layers in between them, and press Ctrl+G or Command+G on MAC.