An Introduction To Flash

Lesson 1

Getting Started
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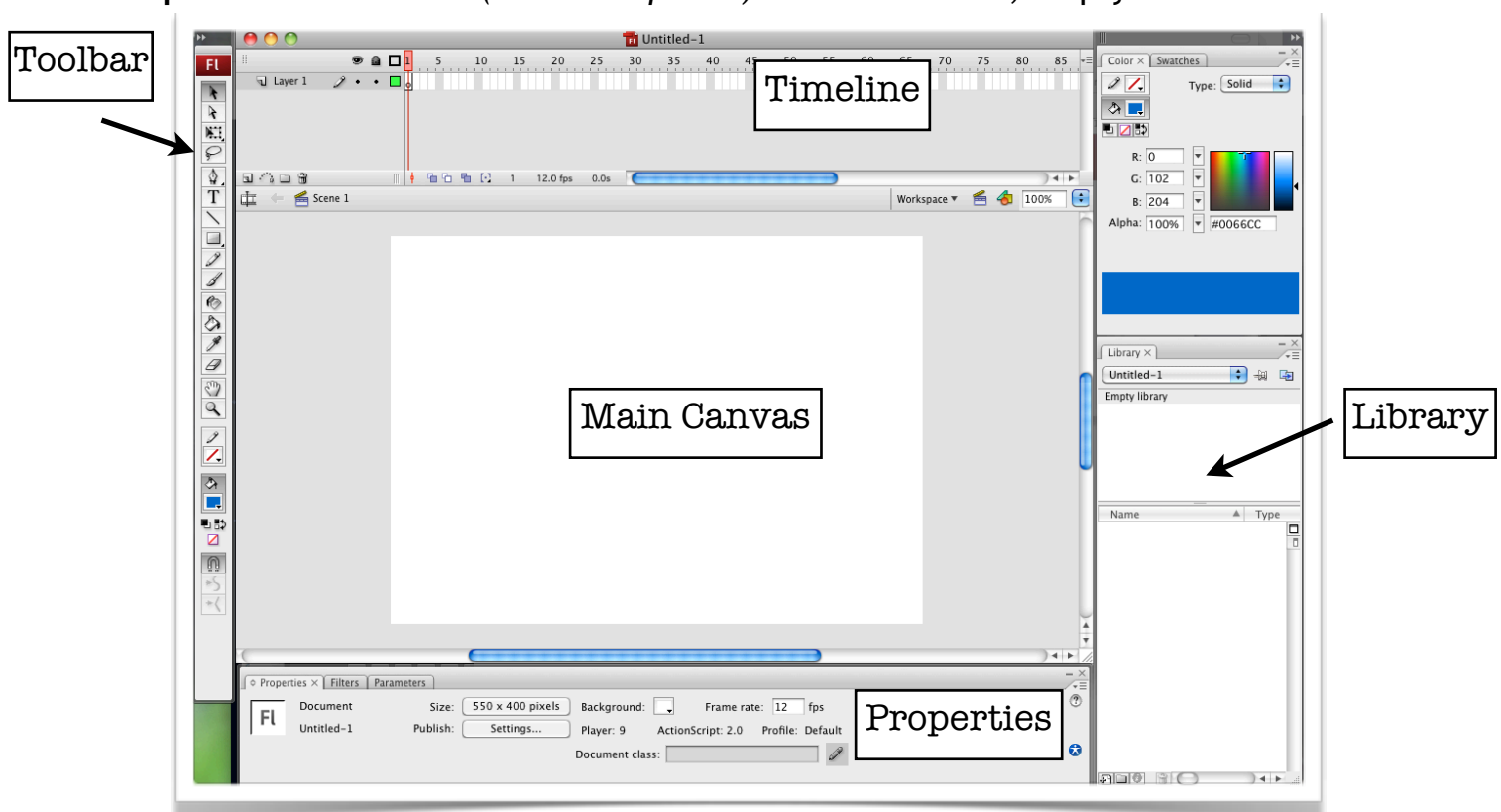Shape Tweens

Getting Started

Step 1: To load Flash, click:
- *Start*
- *Programs*
- *Adobe Master Collection CS3*
- *Adobe Flash CS3 Professional*

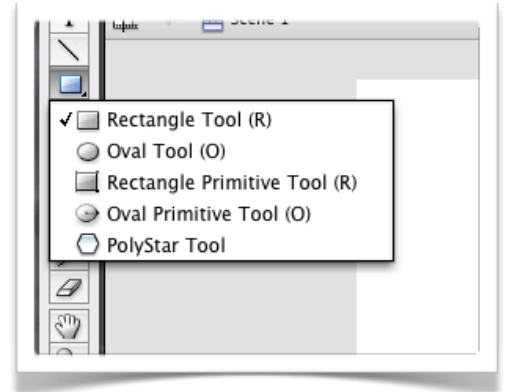**Step 2:** Click *Flash File (ActionScript 2.0)* to create a new, empty Flash file.
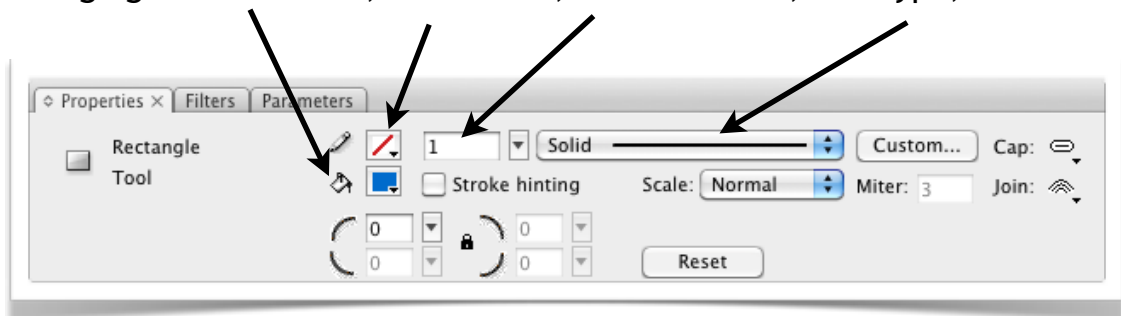
Drawing Tools

Step 1: Try using the drawing tools to draw simple shapes and words

Step 2: Where there is a triangle in the corner, click and hold the left mouse button to view the other options.

Step 3: Once you have drawn a shape, double click to select it and use the *Properties Window* (at the bottom) to try changing the fill colour, line colour, line thickness, line type, etc.

Shape Tween

Step 1: Flash creates animations using a special tool called 'tweening'. You set the start of the animation and the end of the animation. Flash works out what to do **in between** (hence - *tweening*).

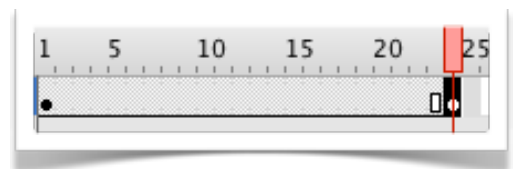**Step 2**: Close your flash file, don't save, and then start a new, empty flash file.

Step 3: Draw a simple shape rectangle in the top left corner.

Step 4: In the *Timeline* (just above the stage), click into Frame 24.
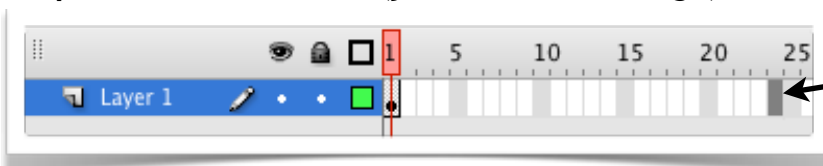
Click HERE

Step 5: Press **F6** to create a new **Keyframe**. (Keyframes are for the start or the end of an animation)

Step 6: Delete your rectangle (you are now working in Frame 24, so don't worry about losing your original shape).

Step 7: Draw a new rectangle in the bottom right corner. We now have:
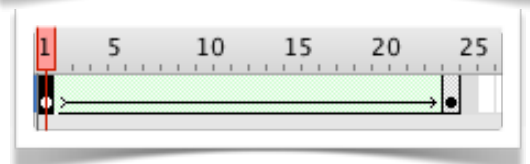- A keyframe at Frame 1 - with a rectangle in the top left
- A keyframe at Frame 24 - with a rectangle in the bottom right

Step 8: Click back into Frame 1 in the *Timeline*.

Step 9: In the *Properties Window* (at the bottom of the screen), choose a **Shape Tween**.
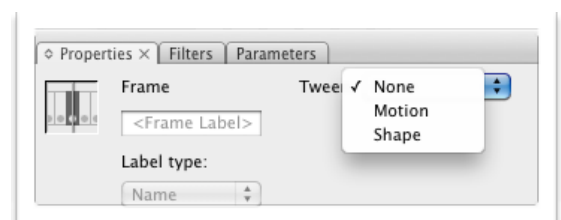
Notice that the timeline turns green and has an arrow in it.

Step 10: Press the *Return* key on your keyboard to view your animation.

More Shape Tweens

Step 1: Remember the golden rule - 1 frame at the start, 1 frame at the end! Let Flash do the hard work in the middle.

Step 2: Try to make the following tweens:
- A rectangle turning into a circle
- A blue shape turning into a red shape
- A circle turning into a word
- Two circles turning into a rectangle
- Come up with your own ideas...

Multiple Shape Tweens

Step 1: Again - Remember 1 frame at the start, 1 frame at the end!

Step 2: Try having two animations, one after another:

| Animation 1 - Start Shape | Animation 1 - End Shape | Animation 2 - Start Shape | Animation 2 - End Shape |

The Same Shape!!!

| Square | Circle | Square |