



Your skills. Your advantage.

Tosa for Adobe Illustrator*

Exam Blueprint

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Introduction to the Tosa[®] Exam Blueprint

For Tosa[®] Assessment and Certification

Tosa® (Test on Software Applications)

Tosa® assessments and certifications are designed to determine a candidate's proficiency level by evaluating their skills in office software and digital tools commonly used in a professional or educational environment.

These tests are specifically developed to validate the professional competencies of candidates looking to enhance their employability (employees, students, job seekers, and individuals undergoing career transitions).

Tosa® assessments and certifications are adaptive tests, developed using scientific methodologies. The scoring is based on Item Response Theory (IRT). The test algorithm adapts to each candidate's response in real time, adjusting the difficulty level of subsequent questions until it precisely determines the candidate's skill level by calculating the upper limit of their competencies. As a result, the tests provide a detailed and unique diagnosis of each candidate's abilities.

The rigor and reliability of Tosa® tests stem from the combination of a mathematical model for analyzing question difficulty and the relevance of the questions selected for each candidate (IRT).

Tosa® Exam Blueprint Objective

This exam blueprint outlines all the skills assessed within the domains and sub-domains of the Tosa® assessment and certification tests for Illustrator.

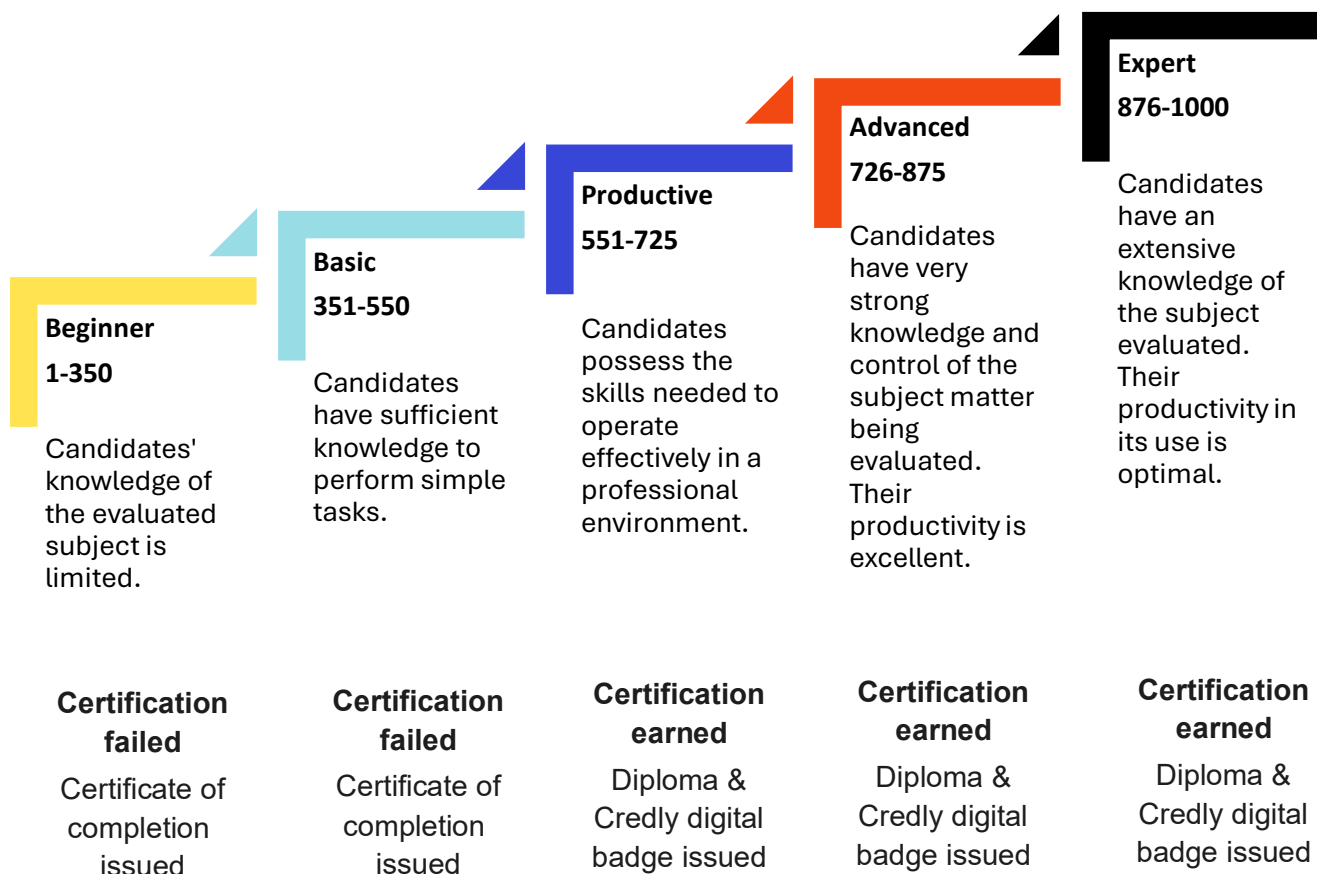
Tosa® assessment and certification solutions are designed to determine learners' proficiency levels using a single scoring scale—ranging from 0 to 1000 for certification—and divided into five levels, from “Beginner” to “Expert,” for the assessment.

The purpose of this blueprint is to specify the technical knowledge expected at each level and within each of the four main skill categories of Illustrator. It is intended to help identify the most appropriate teaching or training programs to match a learner's target score.

Unique Tosa® Scoring

The Tosa® assessments and certifications are based on a unique score, divided into five levels.

- Ranging from 1 to 1000 for the certification.
- Divided into five levels, from Beginner to Expert, for the assessment.



About the Tosa® for Adobe Illustrator certification

The Tosa for Adobe Illustrator Certification relies on a database of more than 110 questions. It is composed of 35 questions from the question database and lasts for 1 hour. The algorithm adapts to each of the candidate's answers to adjust the difficulty level of the questions until reaching the candidate's skill limit. This ensures a precise and accurate result.

Since the test is adaptive, the series of questions that a candidate gets is unique for each test. This algorithm allows for a more accurate evaluation of the candidate's level. It also limits cheating and the memorization of questions on different passages.

Our platform allows individuals to take the certification in a classroom setting, an approved testing center, or remotely via our integrated asynchronous online proctoring solutions.

Our remote proctoring solutions provide added flexibility for both the administrator and the candidate, allowing the certification exam to be taken anywhere, at any time. The candidate only needs an internet connection and a computer equipped with a working webcam and microphone.

Candidates receive a numeric score out of 1000 points. This score corresponds to one of five proficiency levels. Candidates who score between 1 and 550 points do not earn the certification. They receive a certificate of completion in lieu of a diploma. Candidates who score 551 points or above earn the certification and will receive a diploma by email within five business days. If a candidate scores 551 points or above, they will also be eligible to receive a digital Credly badge.

There are no prerequisites to be eligible to take the exam, but to ensure a candidate is well prepared on exam day, we suggest they:

- Take at least one Tosa for Adobe Illustrator adaptive assessment to estimate their level and get familiar with the test format
- Use the free practice tests on our website for training
- Follow an e-learning or training course (average duration per level is between 10 and 15 hours per certification, so around 150 hours total)

Tosa certification diplomas are valid for three years from the date of issue. This three-year period has been set to ensure that our certifications are consistently accurate and relevant, taking into account software version updates as well as the natural evolution of a candidate's skills over time. Limiting the certification period also reflects the need for life-long learning and continual professional development.

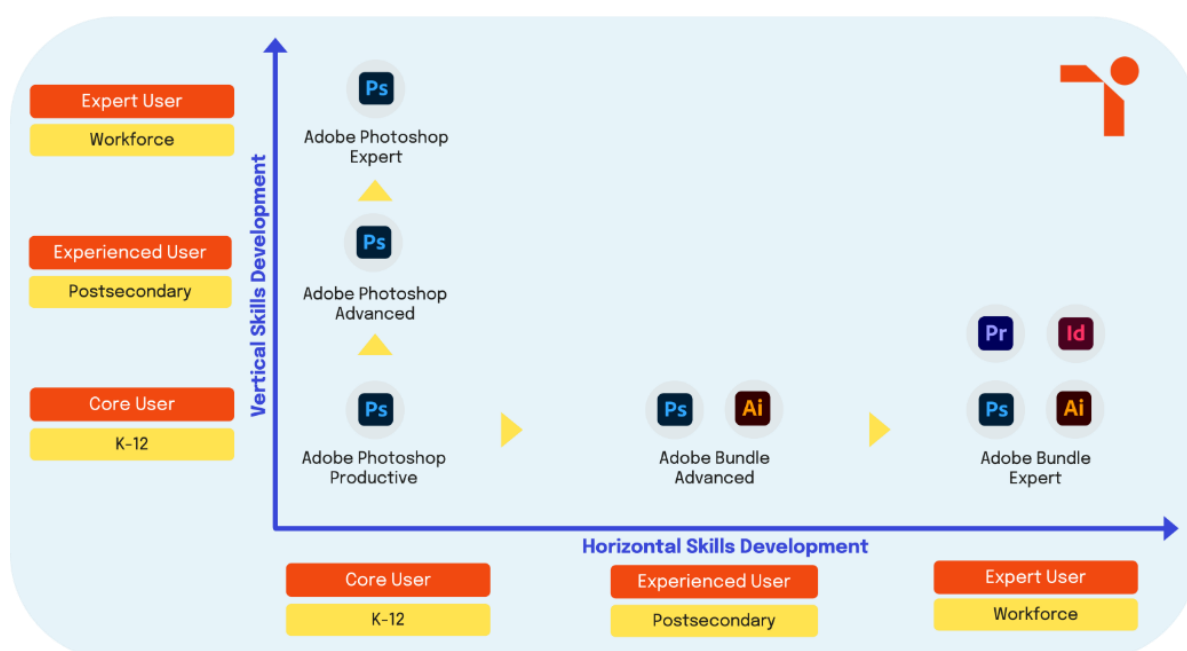
Tosa certifications can be retaken when they expire. Earners willing to improve their score and proficiency level can retake the exam at any time.

Tosa Sequence for Progressive Skills Development

Students and professionals can tailor their certification journey with Tosa, demonstrating their expertise in ways that align with their unique needs and goals.

With the **Tosa for Adobe Illustrator Certification**, starting at a productive level, users can progress vertically, advancing to advanced and expert levels as their skills grow. This clear path encourages continuous improvement and validates each stage of their development. Tosa's structure makes it easy to track progress and showcase evolving expertise.

With the **Tosa for Adobe Bundle Certification**, users can expand their skill set horizontally across Adobe applications, mastering interconnected applications that touch on a broader range of competencies. This flexible approach empowers individuals to develop both depth and breadth in their skillset, enhancing career prospects and workplace versatility.

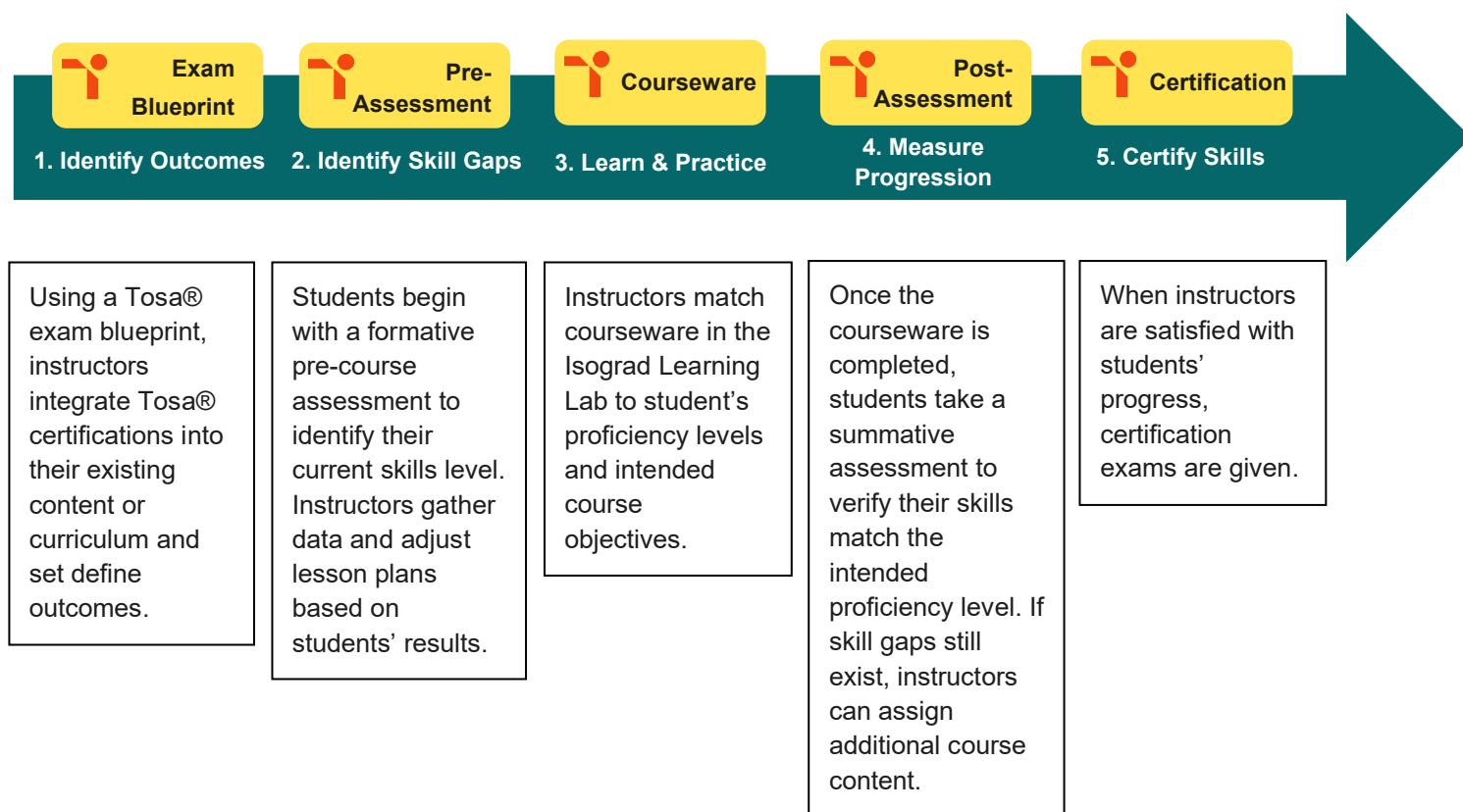


Isograd Learning Lab

The Isograd Learning Lab is a multifaceted and adaptable courseware solution designed to help learners prepare for Tosa certification exams. It offers personalized, self-paced, and fully interactive learning experiences, equipping candidates with the essential digital skills that employers seek. These skills span a wide and varied range, applicable to learners just starting their career journey to those wishing to advance on their path.

The browser-based platform supports all learning styles with a wide array of features, including in-application exercises. These in-application capabilities allow learners to experience real-world examples of specific tasks within a given software environment. The lab includes inclusive learning resources, along with extension activities and project-based learning challenges that foster creativity and critical thinking.

All course content on the Isograd Learning Lab is aligned to a Tosa exam blueprint, which is the foundation of any Tosa certification exam. By aligning course content to an exam blueprint learners will be prepared to take the exam once they complete the courseware.



Tosa® Adobe Illustrator Level Descriptions

At each level, candidates can:

Beginner

- Understand what Adobe Illustrator is, identify its typical users and audiences, and know how to start a project using the application.
- Demonstrate basic understanding of the Illustrator interface and essential tools.
- Use basic Illustrator skills to perform simple tasks such as opening files, navigating the interface, and creating simple geometric shapes.
- Require sometimes assistance to use more complex tools or to solve specific problems related to less common tasks.

Basic

- Understand the purpose of Adobe Illustrator, master key concepts and terminology, and be familiar with project planning and the post-production workflow.
- Apply basic Illustrator skills to create simple illustrations, such as logos or basic graphics, using drawing and color tools.
- Manage documents, adjust layers, and use basic text functions without external assistance, as long as projects remain clearly defined and without advanced technical requirements.

Productive

- Identify the main tools and features of Adobe Illustrator, understand its use cases, and grasp the stages of the post-production process.
- Apply intermediate skills to work independently on most common graphic design projects.
- Use transformation tools with proficiency.
- Employ advanced layer options and use text functions for more complex layouts.
- Begin incorporating effects and manipulating vector images for sophisticated creations.

Advanced

- Understand how to target the right audience, plan the visual structure of a project, and navigate the overall production process in Adobe Illustrator.
- Use advanced practices to manage complex and multifaceted projects, including photomontage, creating intricate patterns, and preparing files for commercial printing.
- Feel comfortable experimenting with advanced techniques such as vector painting, managing complex gradients, and using scripts to automate repetitive tasks.
- Be able to troubleshoot technical issues without assistance.

Expert

- Use advanced and innovative Illustrator techniques for demanding, professional projects.
- Deploy expert skills using Illustrator to create innovative digital artworks that define or push the standards of graphic design.
- Master the technical and creative aspects of the software, developing original solutions to unique design challenges.
- Demonstrate creativity by integrating new technologies and approaches into the work.
- Possess a strong ability to teach Illustrator skills, sharing knowledge with others.

Business Applications

Attaining the Beginner score defines little or limited knowledge of the Illustrator application, including the application's basic functions and features, highlighting the inability to use the application in a professional environment.

For a junior graphic designer or marketing assistant, skills at this level enable a candidate to work with vector graphics: create Illustrator files, use basic shapes and lines, and arrange simple graphic elements to design logos, icons, or promotional assets.

For a graphic designer, marketing coordinator, or production artist, these skills enable a candidate to create and refine vector-based visual content; adjust layouts and incorporate typography and graphic elements such as icons, shapes, or logos before exporting assets for print, web, or digital publication.

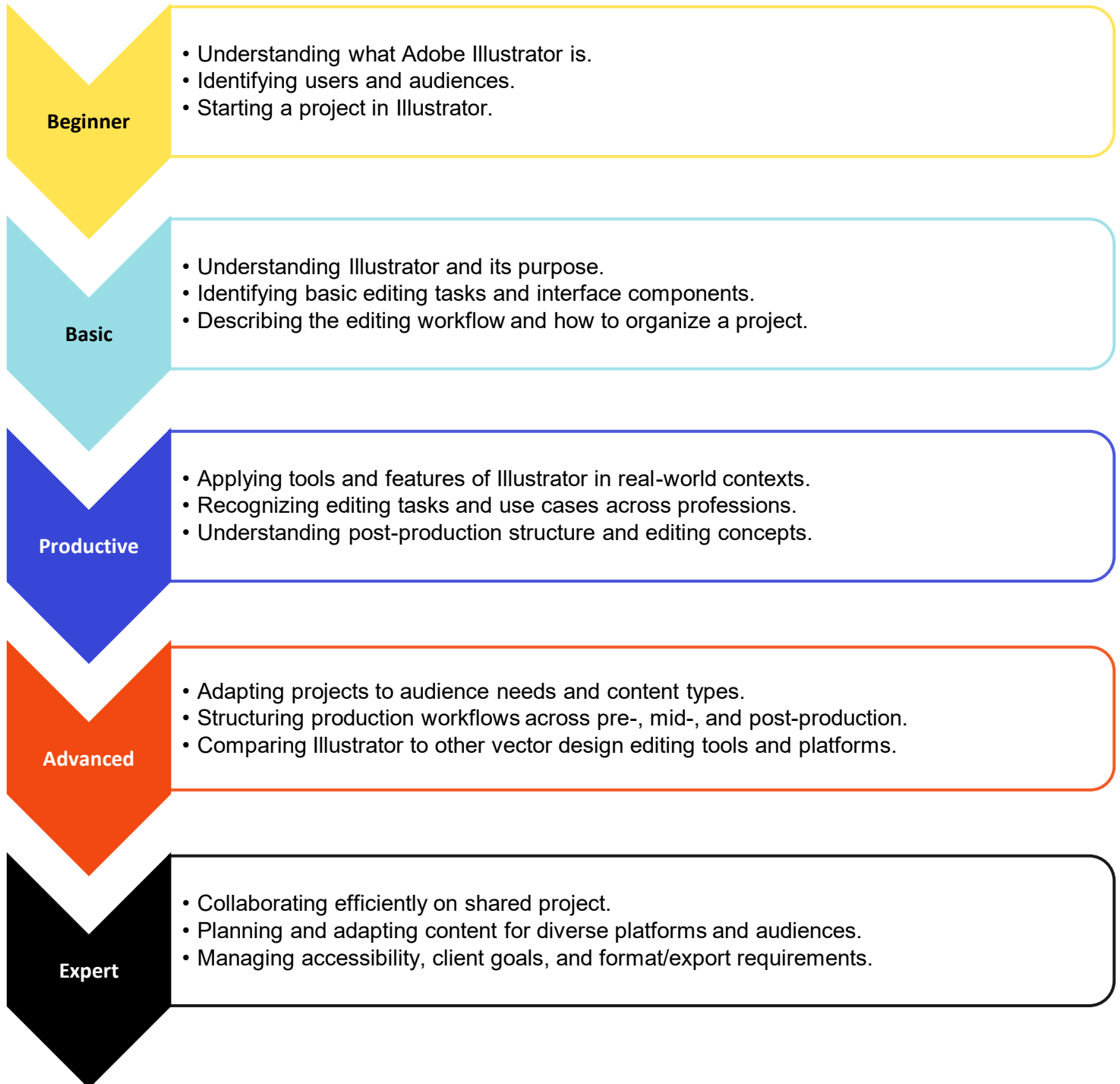
For a brand designer, digital marketing specialist, illustrator, or visual content producer, these skills enable a candidate to build and structure complex vector projects, manage layered graphic elements, apply consistent branding, and export assets in the proper format for print or digital use.

For a senior graphic designer, brand manager, digital content strategist, or creative lead, these skills enable a candidate to customize the workspace, manage complex vector hierarchies, produce fully tailored design assets, and execute advanced graphic manipulation and integration across diverse media platforms.

Domain 1: Fundamentals and Applications

Sub-domain 1: Getting started with Adobe Illustrator

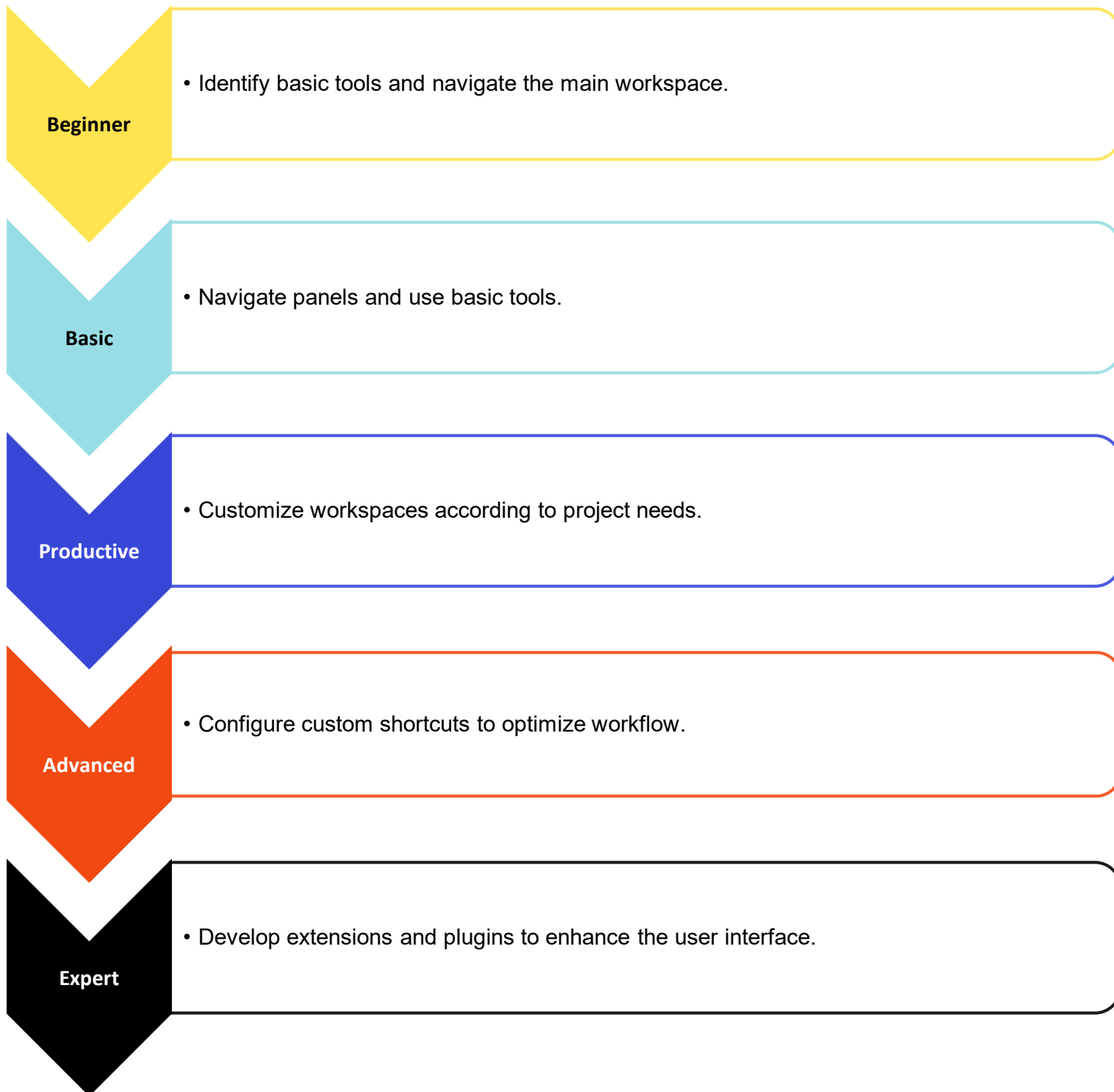
Includes identifying when and for whom to use the Adobe Illustrator application, and matching Illustrator to real-world use



Domain 2: Interface, Workspace, and Fundamentals

Sub-domain 1: Understanding and optimizing the user interface

Covers: Navigating the interface, customizing workspaces, and using fundamental tools and panels within Illustrator.



Sub-domain 2: Managing documents and configuring spaces

Covers: Techniques for creating, managing, and saving documents, including using templates, configuring workspaces, and managing views.

Beginner

- Create and save basic documents, using simple views.

Basic

- Create and save documents with predefined parameters.
- Manage workspaces and use templates for different types of projects.

Productive

- Use templates for standard projects and configure multiple workspaces.
- Adjust document parameters and manage custom views.

Advanced

- Manage multiple documents with complex views and arrangements.
- Create custom templates, configure advanced workspaces, and optimize views for complex projects.

Expert

- Automate aspects of document configuration and management for large-scale projects.
- Integrate sophisticated work plan configurations.

Sub-domain 3: Applying the fundamentals of vector graphics

Covers: Applying the basic principles of vector drawing, including the difference between vector and bitmap graphics, and the use of paths, anchor points, and handles.

Beginner

- Understand the difference between vector and bitmap graphics.

Basic

- Use paths and anchor points to create simple illustrations.

Productive

- Manipulate anchor points and handles to adjust vectors precisely.

Advanced

- Create complex illustrations using advanced vector drawing techniques.

Expert

- Integrate vector graphics into multimedia environments and cross-platform applications.

Domain 3: Work on Objects

Sub-domain 1: Manipulating objects

Covers: Selection, alignment, distribution, and organization of objects in a document.
Transformation techniques such as scaling, rotation, and distortion.

Beginner

- Select and position simple objects in a document.

Basic

- Select, align, and distribute simple objects.

Productive

- Apply complex transformations such as scaling, rotating, and deforming multiple objects simultaneously.

Advanced

- Use advanced object manipulation techniques, such as alignment with key objects and non-destructive transformations.

Expert

- Automate object manipulation with scripts, use advanced transformations such as the Puppet Warp tool, and create complex compositions.

Sub-domain 2: Creating and modifying shapes

Covers: Using shape tools to create simple and complex geometric shapes and modifying these shapes with tools such as Pathfinder and brushes.

Beginner

- Create simple geometric shapes.

Basic

- Use shape tools to create standard graphic elements.
- Modify shapes with basic tools such as Pathfinder and simple brushes.

Productive

- Create complex shapes and use advanced editing tools such as artistic brushes and custom shape outlines.

Advanced

- Design complex patterns and graphics incorporating multiple shapes and effects.
- Combine geometric shapes to create detailed illustrations and apply complex transformations with advanced Pathfinder tools.

Expert

- Create custom shapes for specific applications in professional environments.
- Develop sophisticated geometric illustrations, use scripts for automated shape creation, and integrate custom brushes for advanced artistic effects.

Sub-domain 3: Using colors and patterns

Covers: Applying and modifying colors, creating gradients and patterns, and managing color palettes.

Beginner

- Apply solid colors to shapes.

Basic

- Apply colors and create simple gradients.
- Manage basic color palettes.

Productive

- Use advanced gradients and create complex patterns.
- Manage thematic color palettes.

Advanced

- Use sophisticated techniques for color applications in illustration and graphic design projects.
- Create custom patterns and use mesh gradients.

Expert

- Integrate color management into cross-media production workflows.

Domain 4: Specific Functions

Sub-domain 1: Drawing and tracing

Covers: Freehand drawing techniques using pencil, brush, and other drawing tools. Using pen tools to create precise lines.

Beginner

- Freehand draw with basic tools like pencil.

Basic

- Draw straight lines and simple curves with the Pen tool.

Productive

- Use advanced tracing techniques for precise drawing and the creation of complex contours.

Advanced

- Master dynamic strokes and custom brushes for artistic effects.

Expert

- Develop innovative drawing techniques for professional applications.

Sub-domain 2: Working with text

Covers: Implementing text in illustrations, modifying typographic properties, and creating on-track text and text shapes.

Beginner

- Add simple text to illustrations.

Basic

- Add and format simple text.
- Apply basic typographic modifications.

Productive

- Create complex typographic compositions; use text on a path.

Advanced

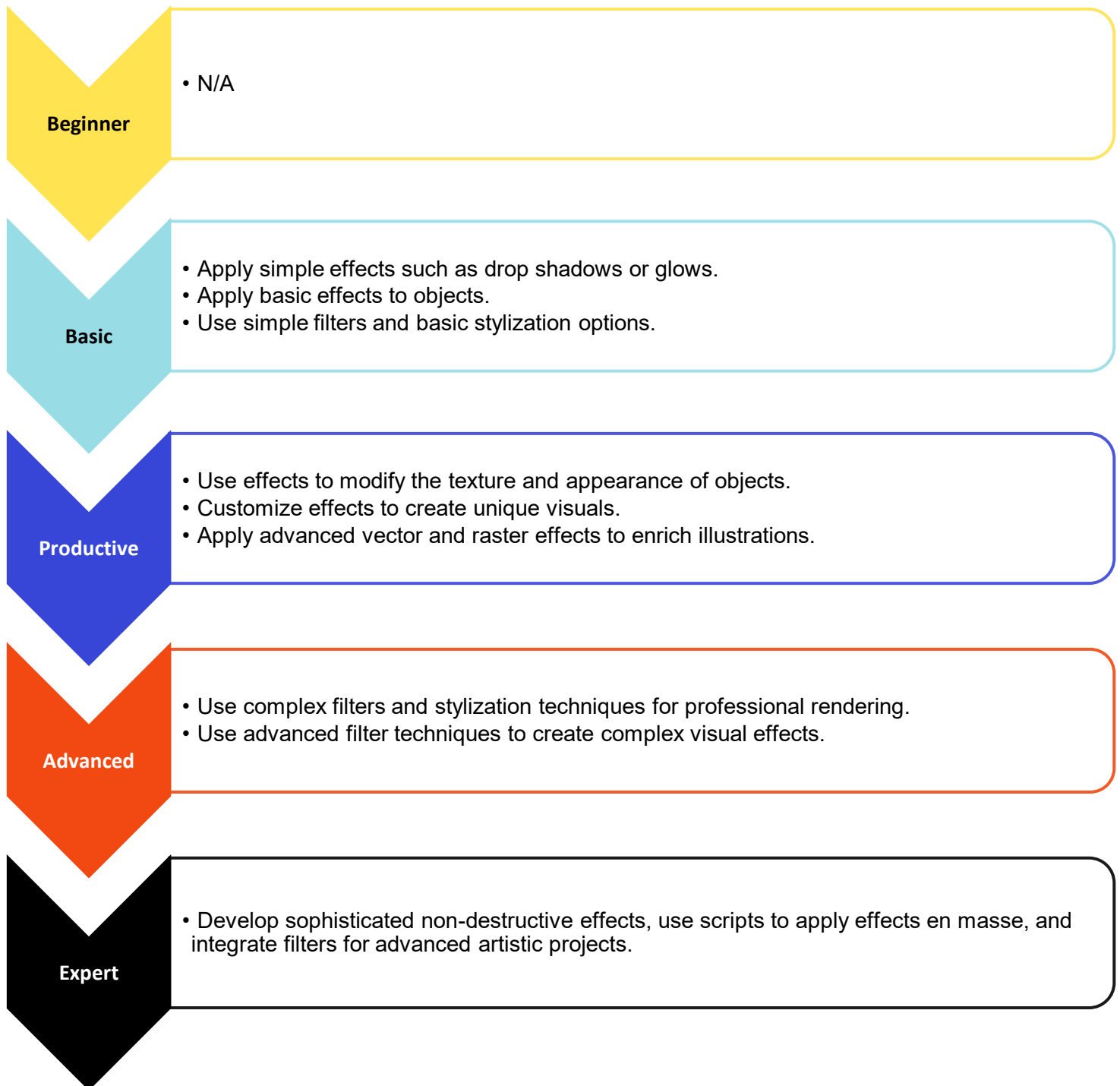
- Experiment with typography for branding and advertising designs.

Expert

- Integrate typography into multimedia projects.
- Develop custom fonts.

Sub-domain 3: Applying effects and filters

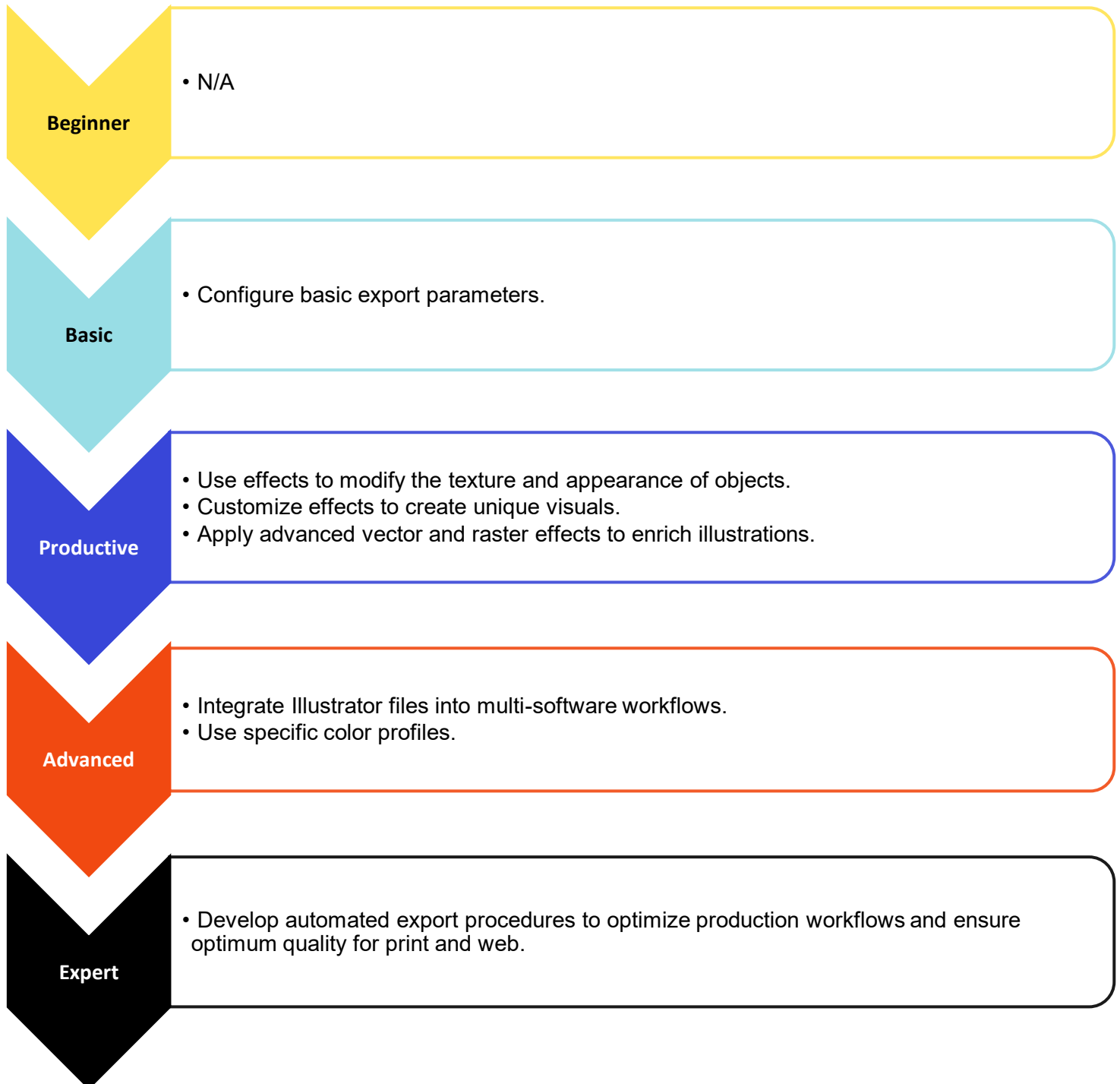
Covers: Applying vector and raster effects to enrich illustrations and using filters and stylization options for advanced effects.



Domain 5: Production

Sub-domain 1: Preparing documents for printing and the web

Covers: Configuration of documents for export and adjustments for different media, including specific printing requirements such as crop marks and bleeds.



Sub-domain 2: Exporting and integrating files

Covers: Techniques for exporting illustrations in different formats, optimizing files for use in other software or web platforms.

Beginner

- Export files in basic formats such as JPEG and PDF.

Basic

- Optimize files for use in other software or web platforms.

Productive

- Use advanced export techniques for different formats and optimize files for professional use.

Advanced

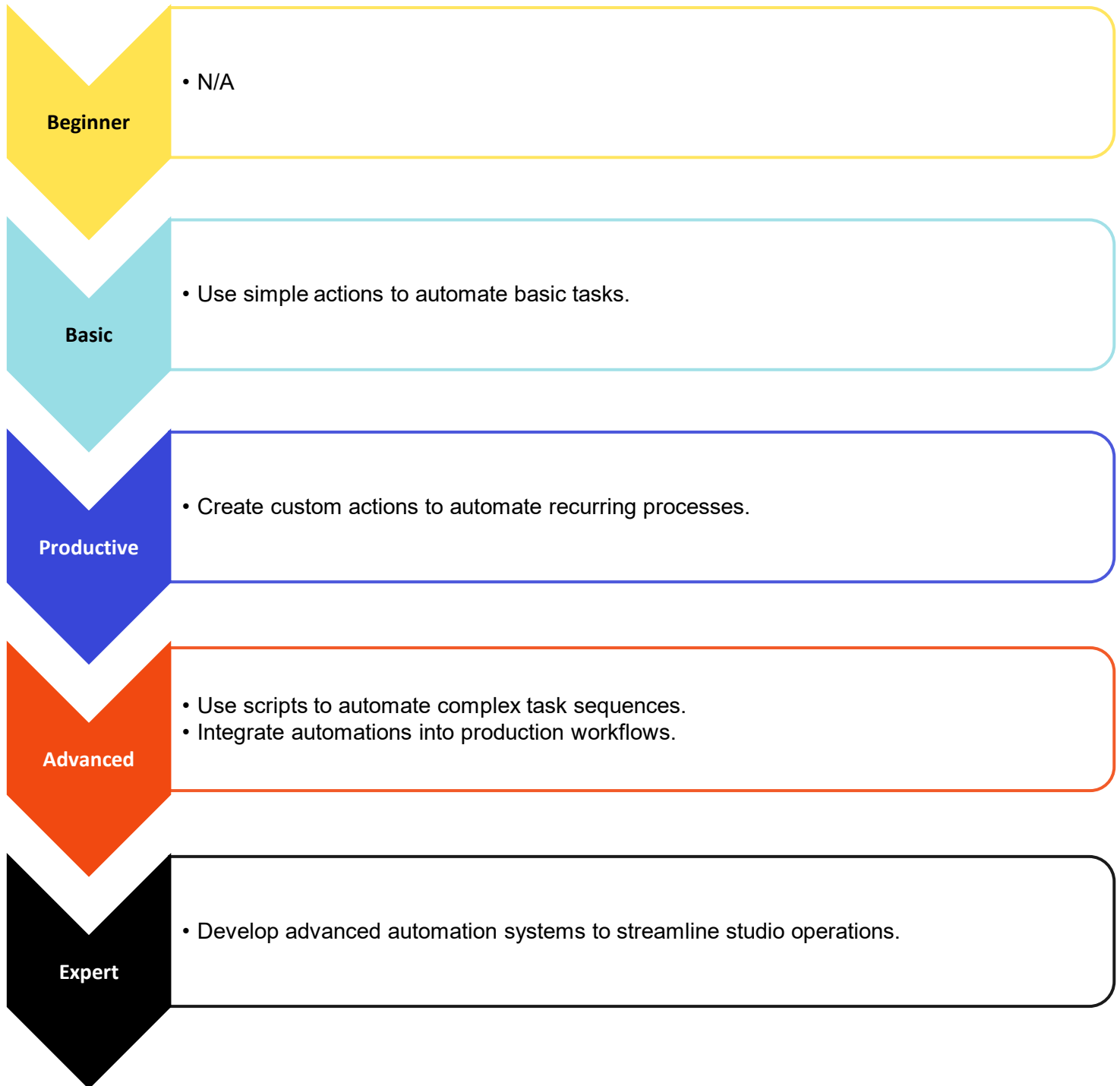
- Integrate files into complex workflows, use scripts to automate export, and optimize files for specific uses.

Expert

- Use advanced techniques for integrating files into multidisciplinary projects and optimize files for specific media.

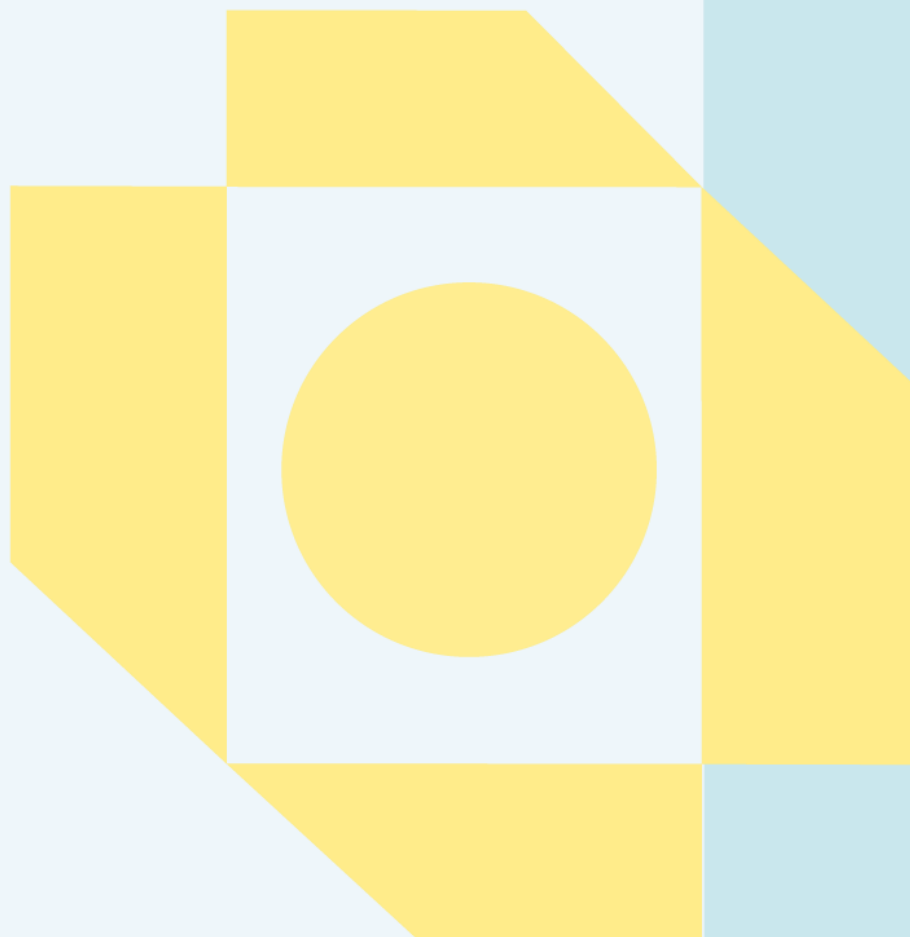
Sub-domain 3: Automating tasks

Covers: Using actions, scripts, and other tools to automate repetitive tasks and improve workflow efficiency.





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