

USING BITMAP FILLS

Learn how to use bitmap images to fill the the vectors you create in Affinity Designer. This is an extremely short and simple tutorial but you're sure to find it useful.



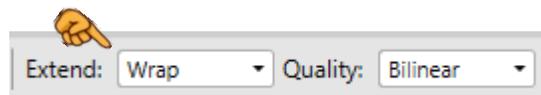
LET'S GET STARTED

When you have a bitmap file (tile, photo, pattern, etc,) you can easily use it in Affinity Designer as a fill pattern regardless of the size of the image or if it's seamless or not.

1. Download the **bitmaps.zip** file and unzip to where you can find them. It has two example files in it. We will be using both in this tutorial.
2. Create a new document in a size of your choice. 800 x 800 px and 96 DPI works well.
3. Using the **Ellipse** tool , draw out an ellipse that's about 225 x 255 px. Being exact here is not necessary.
4. Select the **Fill** tool  from the left tool bar. Change the **Type** to **Bitmap** on the **Context** toolbar drop-down menu.



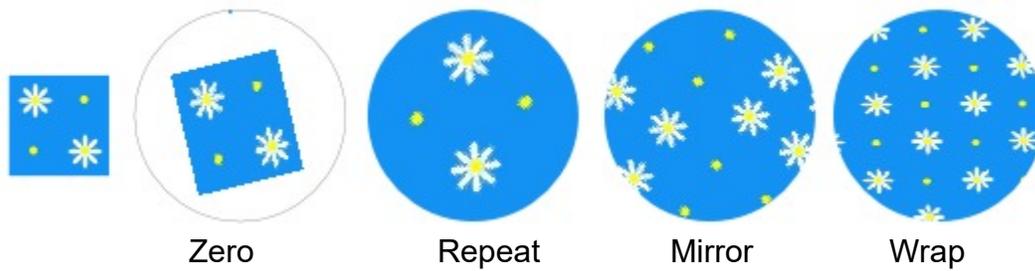
5. A window showing your files area will open immediately. Navigate to where you saved the downloaded files and select **example1.jpg**, then **Open**. Now there will be more options on the **Context** toolbar.



6. This is a very small bitmap so you'll get the best results by setting the **Extend** value to **Wrap**. The arms on the image are what give you the real power. As you rotate them, the pattern will change. Pulling the handles inward makes the pattern smaller and outward makes the pattern larger.
 - When using **Wrap**, AD automatically creates a seamless tile.
 - Change Wrap to **Zero** and watch what happens. The tile is now being displayed in its original size.
 - Change to **Mirror** and the pattern will mirror itself over and over. You can usually see exactly where depending on the bitmap.
 - Lastly, change to **Repeat** and see the results.



Look at the image below. First is the original bitmap in the original size. You can see the difference in each of the **Extend** modes.



Much depends on the image you use but you can get the results you want once you understand the difference in each of the above.

SECOND TRY

Let's try this again with a different pattern.

Draw out an ellipse 225 x 225 or so. Use example2 and do the same steps that were used above and create an ellipse using each **Extend** mode.



With Affinity Designer, you no longer have to worry about tiles being too big or too small, or not being seamless. You can have it your way. Enjoy!

Many thanks to Teejay who allowed me to copy portions of this from her original post on the PIRCForum..

PIRCnet invites you to join the **PIRCForum**. This is an active forum for Affinity Designer and Affinity Photo for Windows users. You'll find a wonderful group of warm, friendly, talented, and knowledgeable people who are ready and willing to share their expertise with you. There are creative activities for all skill levels. This forum is "family friendly", 100% free, and everyone is welcome.