

AINest-Pro

Plug-in for Adobe Illustrator



User's Manual

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Read before use

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System Requirements

This software works on the computer with the following versions of Adobe Illustrator working properly.

Mac : Illustrator 2021 / 2022

Windows : Illustrator 2021 / 2022

[Recommended System]

**The nesting processing time depends on the CPU and RAM specs.*

CPU : 8 cores and above

RAM : 32GB

This software may not work properly with other plug-ins running at the same time.

Install



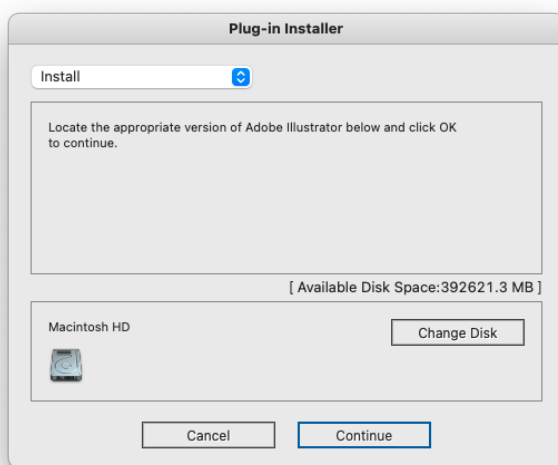
Setup.exe



Installer.app

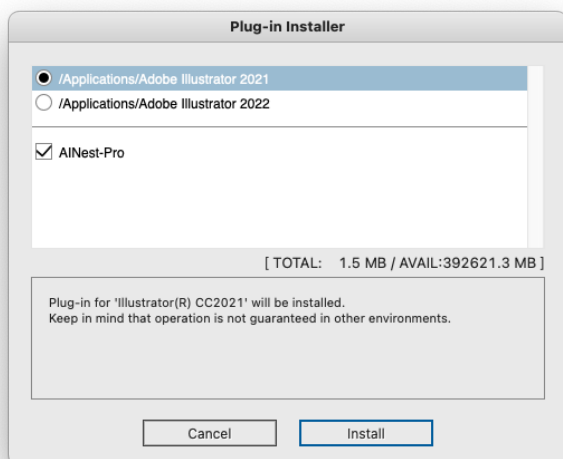
On Windows, double click **setup.exe** in AI Nest-Pro folder.

On Macintosh, double click the **Installer** icon.



Click “Start” as the installer launched (It may take a few minutes to launch).

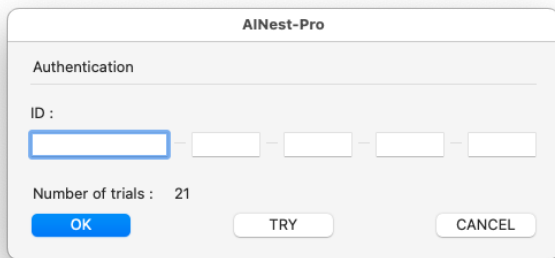
The install program will automatically detect a suitable disk where Adobe Illustrator would be installed in. If the disk is not right, click “Change Disk”. Then click “Continue”.



A list of all Adobe Illustrator versions installed in your disk will be shown. Select the right version to install the plugin and click “Install”.

*Choose “All Yes” when a dialog asked about overwriting of data during install.

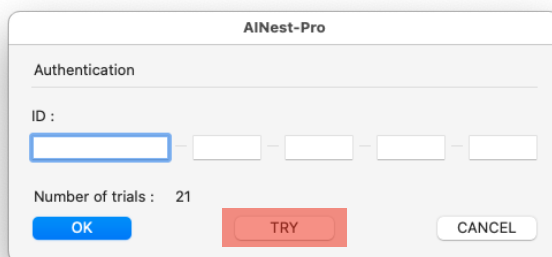
Plug-in Authentication



The image shows a software window titled "AIInest-Pro" with a sub-header "Authentication". Below the header, there is a label "ID :" followed by five empty input boxes separated by hyphens. Underneath the input boxes, it says "Number of trials : 21". At the bottom, there are three buttons: "OK" (blue), "TRY" (light gray), and "CANCEL" (light gray).

When you use the software, a window like in the left picture will appear. Enter your ID which has been sent to you by email and click "OK". Now your license is authenticated and you have one year access to the plug-in.

Trial

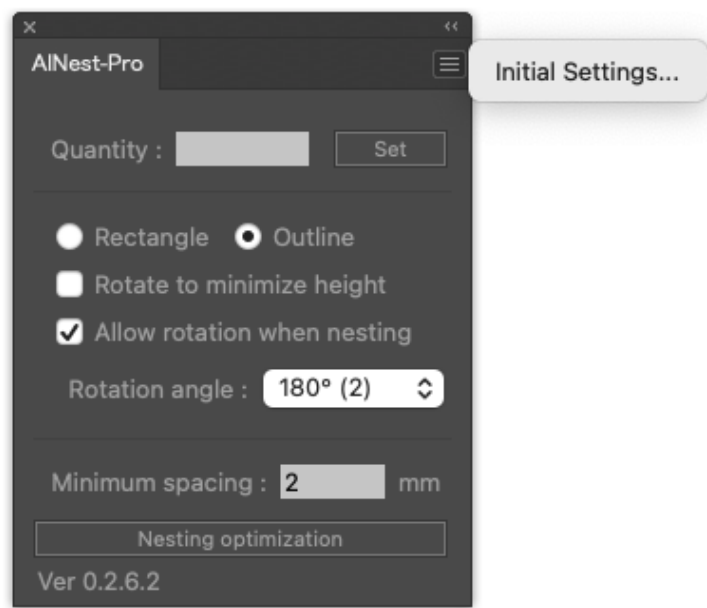


This image is identical to the one above, showing the "AIInest-Pro" authentication window. However, the "TRY" button is highlighted with a red border, indicating it should be clicked to start the trial.

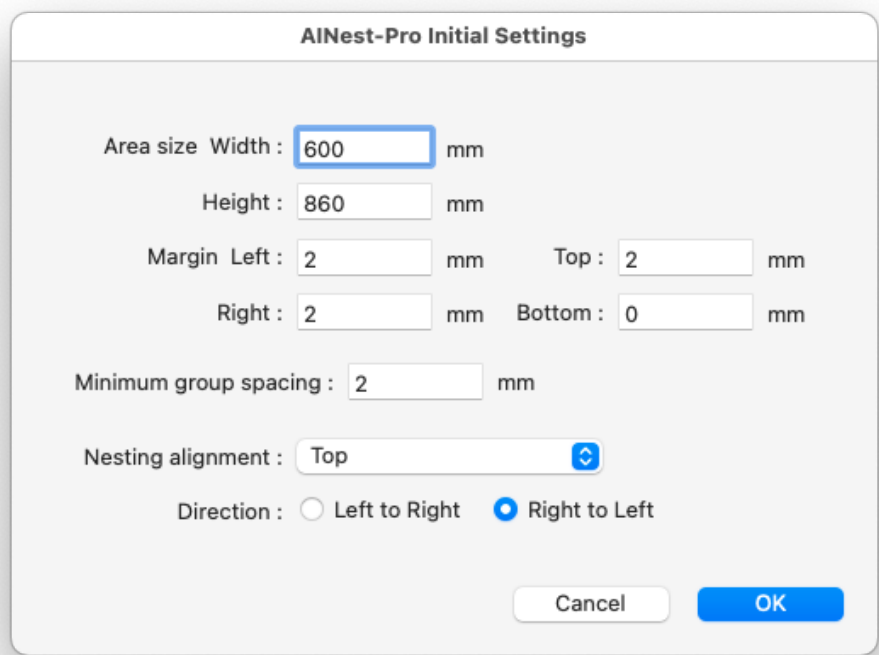
Click "TRY" button to tryout the plug-in. You can use full functions until the number of trial is all used up.

AI Nest-Pro UI

Main Palette



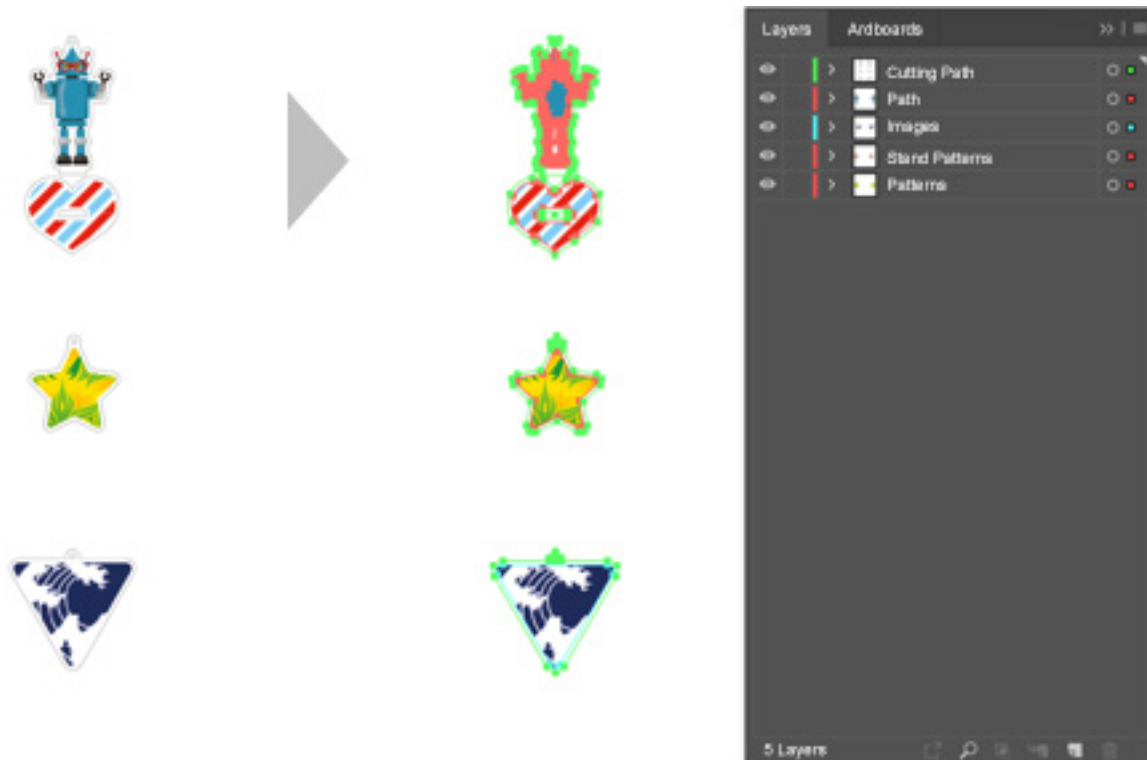
The setting dialog



Nesting Conditions

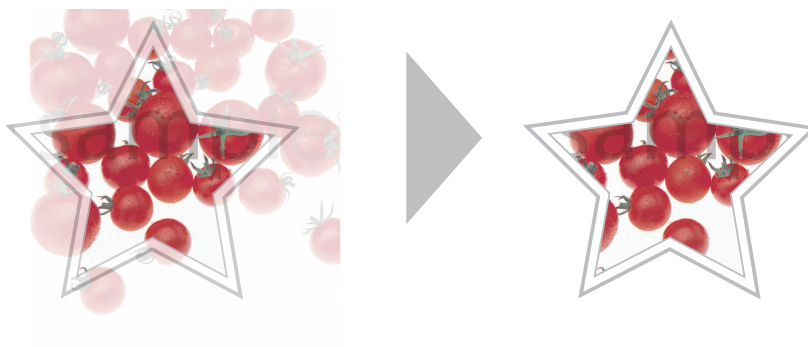
Preserve the objects' layer structures

The layer structure is retained after nesting for the following processes (e.g., cutting process).



Handling of clipping masks

When the clipping mask is applied to show only specific area of the object, the size of the object (or image) placed behind is ignored.



Nesting direction

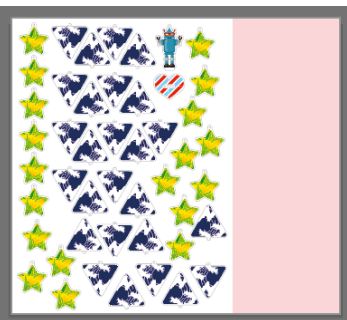
- To increase the bottom margin → Select "Up" in the nesting alignment.



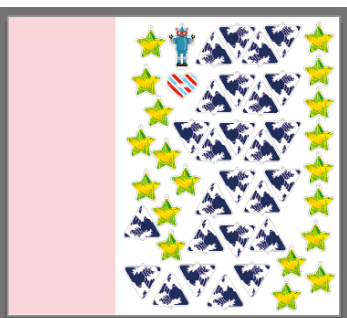
- To increase the top margin → Select "Bottom" in the nesting alignment.



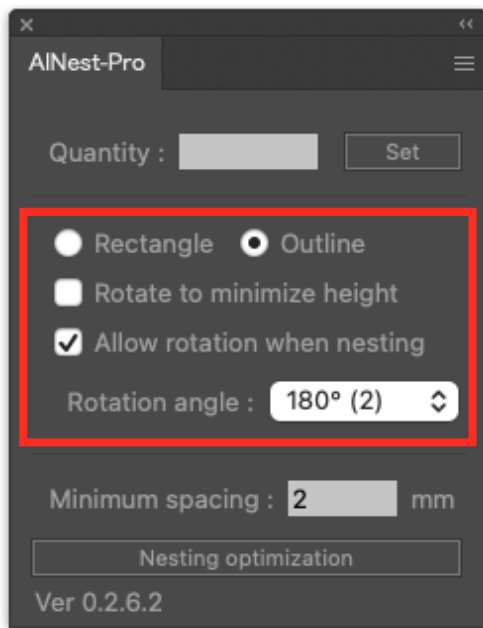
- To increase the right margin → Select "Left" in the nesting alignment.



- To increase the left margin → Select "Right" in the nesting alignment.

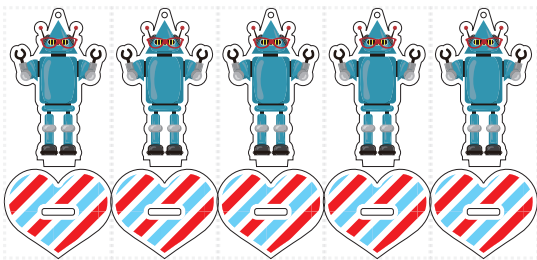


Parameters

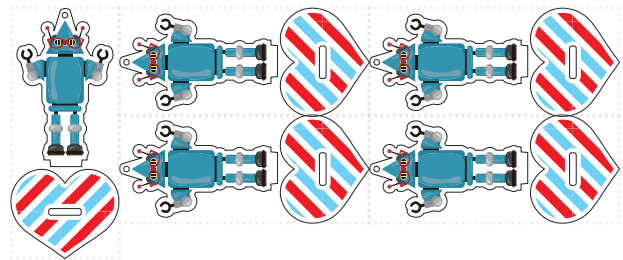


- Rectangle : Nesting with rectangular boundaries.
To enable rotation, select 90°(4) in the rotation angle.

[Rectangle without rotation]

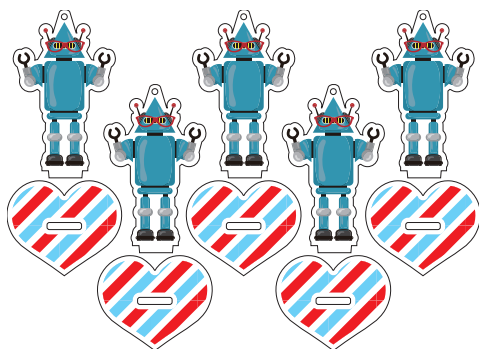


[Rectangle with 90° rotation]

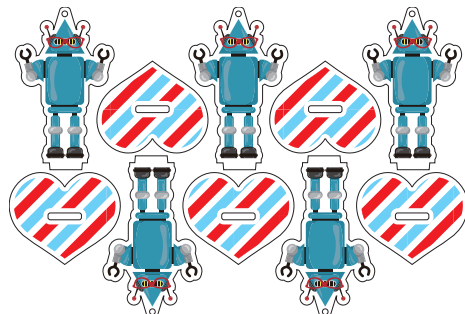


- Outline : Nesting with outline

[Outline without rotation]



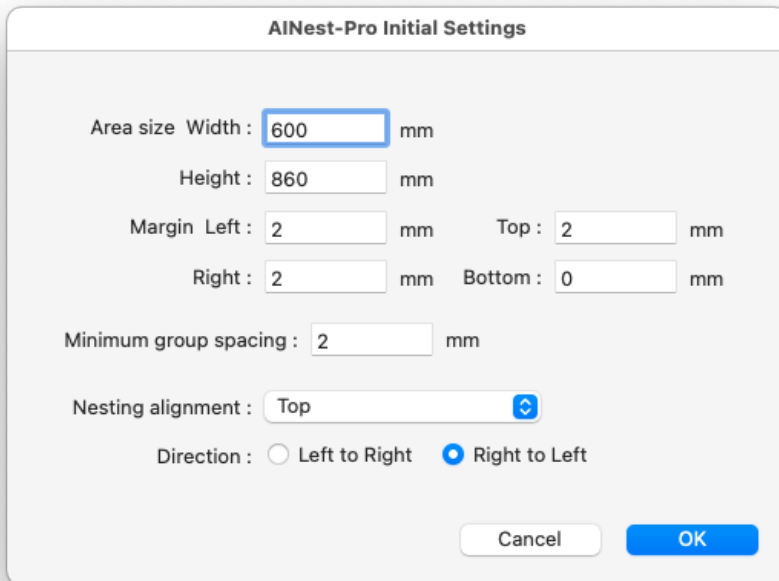
[Outline with 180° rotation]



Note : The results shown above are examples.
The result of nesting depends on conditions.

AI Nest-Pro Operation flow

Preparation : AI Nest-Pro Initial Settings



The dialog box titled "AINest-Pro Initial Settings" contains the following fields and options:

- Area size Width : 600 mm
- Height : 860 mm
- Margin Left : 2 mm
- Top : 2 mm
- Right : 2 mm
- Bottom : 0 mm
- Minimum group spacing : 2 mm
- Nesting alignment : Top (dropdown menu)
- Direction : ☐ Left to Right ☒ Right to Left
- Buttons: Cancel, OK

- Area size (Width)
- Area size (Height)
- Margin (Left, Right, Up, Bottom)
- Minimum group spacing

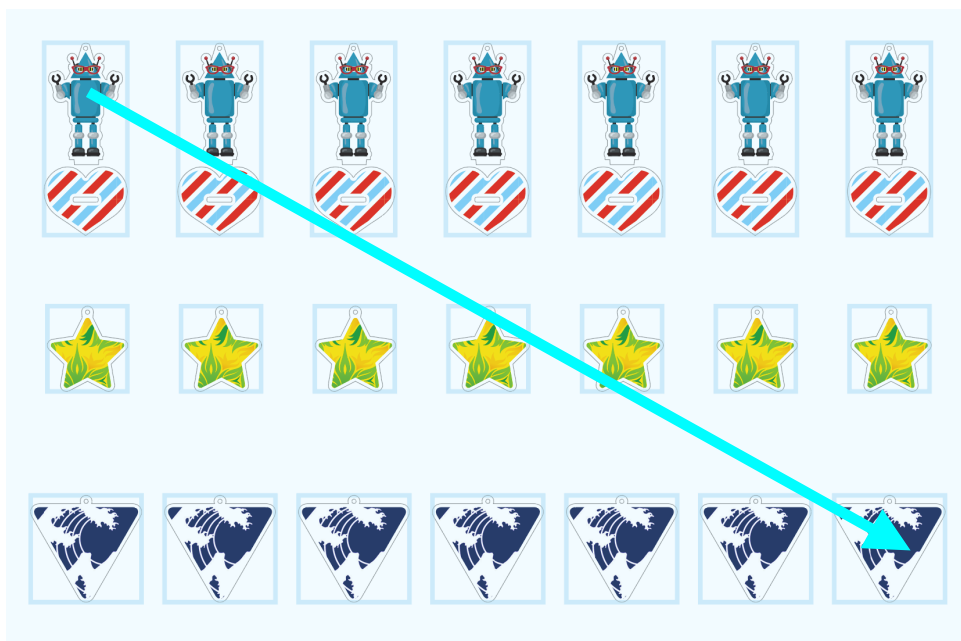
Enter the above and select the nesting alignment and direction.

1. Open the Illustrator file and select the objects to be nested.

Only the objects selected with Illustrator's selection tool will be nested.

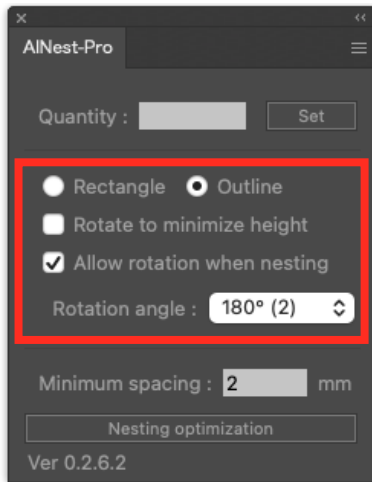
Units for nesting

Basically, grouped objects, clipping groups, and compound paths are the units for nesting. The plug-in also automatically determines the group of objects surrounded by these objects as a single unit.



2. Nesting Execution

Set the nesting conditions and click on the "Optimize" button to execute nesting.



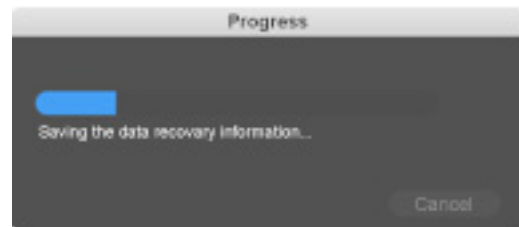
[Parameter]

- Choose from rectangle or outline and specify the rotation conditions.

“Rotate to minimum height”

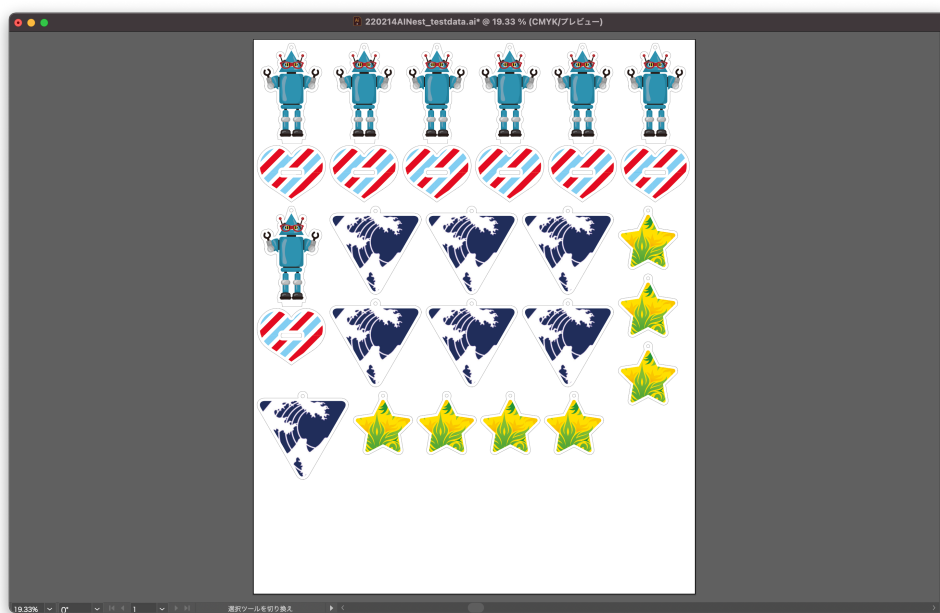
When this option is on, the nesting process will initially rotate the boundary (rectangle) of the object to be nested to the minimum height. This option should only be used for nesting that does not require rotation control.

Depending on the objects and the nesting settings, the processing time may be longer. Please stop the process and try with different settings.



3. Result

An art board with the area size specified in the AI Nest-Pro initial settings is generated and the nesting is done on that art board.



AI Nest-Pro Useful Feature

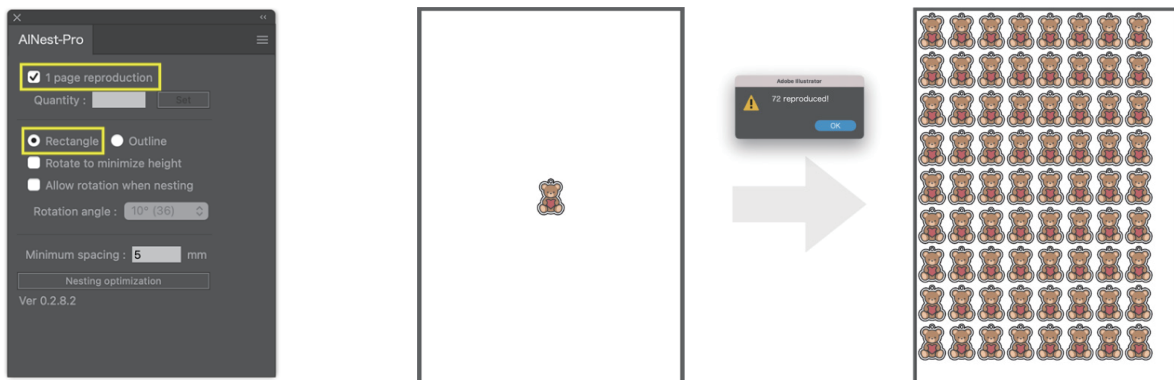
Reproduce as many objects as possible within the area

To use the function, check the “One Page Reproduction” checkbox and run the plug-in with the following three panel settings :

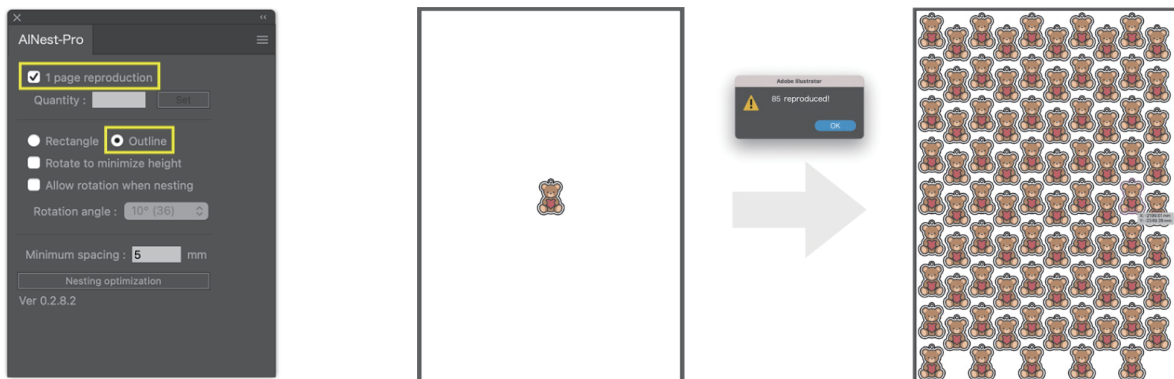
- Only “Rectangle” checked
- Only “Outline” checked
- “Outline” and “Allow Rotation (with the angle set to 180°)” checked

Please use the function with these three settings depending on your purpose.

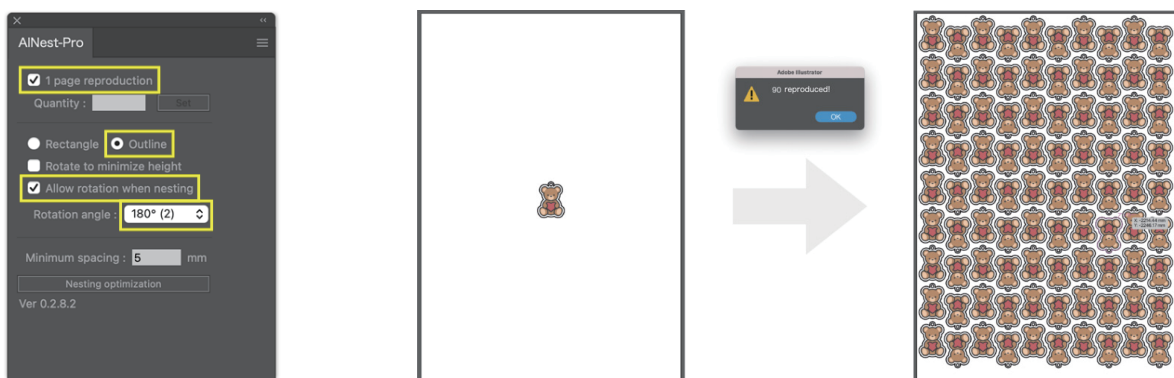
Only “Rectangle” checked



Only “Outline” checked



“Outline” and “Allow Rotation (with the angle set to 180°)” checked



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