

Working with shapes – creating a leaf

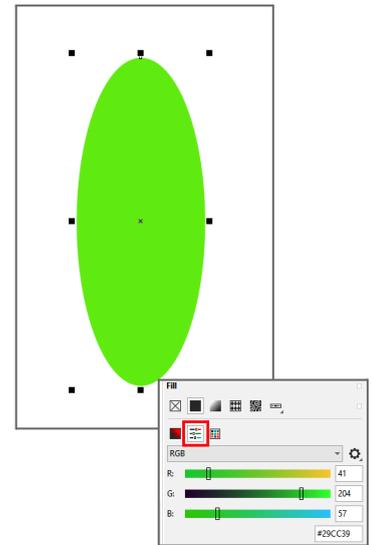
This will show you how to make shapes more complex

1. Open **Corel Draw** and create a **New Document** – primary colour mode RGB, width 200mm, height 200mm, resolution 300dpi

Drawing an oval

2. Draw an **oval** shape that fills most of the canvas
3. Change the **fill colour** to a light green. Make the **outline** transparent

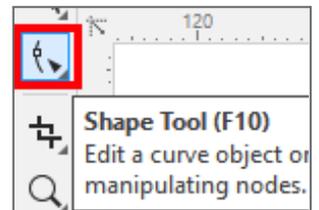
HINT: try using the Sliders option to get your colour right



Distort the shape

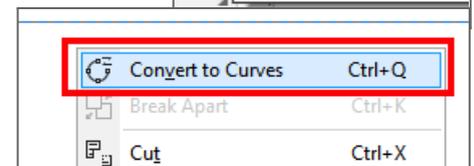
We need to change the shape to make it more like a leaf

4. On the **left toolbar**, switch to the **Shape Tool** (second from top)

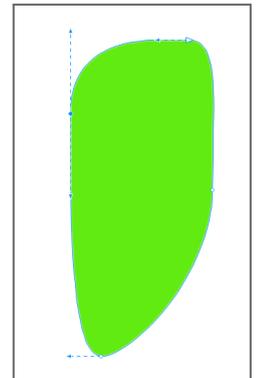


5. **Right click** on the oval > choose **Convert to Curves**

This shows the **four anchor points** for the shape. There are three small white squares and, at the top, a white arrow



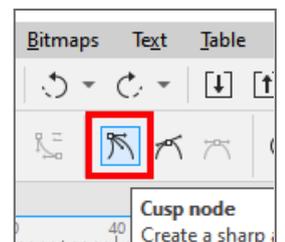
6. **Drag** the small white arrow at the **top** of the shape to the **right**
7. Now try **dragging** the other anchor points to create a shape that looks a bit like mine



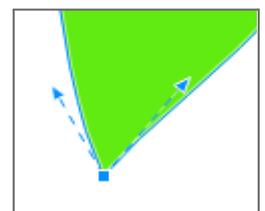
Making the bottom pointy

The bottom anchor point needs not to be curved

8. **Click** on the **bottom anchor point** so that it is selected. It turns blue
9. At the **top**, find the **Cusp Node** button and click it
10. **Next** to the anchor point are **two dotted arrows**. **Drag** them both up. This should create a sharper end to the leaf



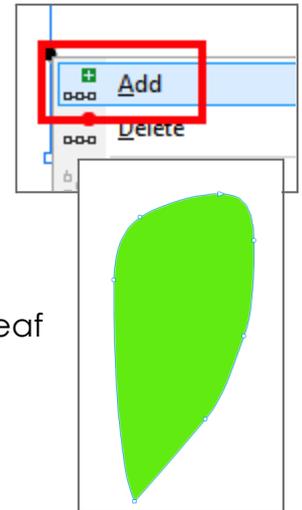
You'll notice that the other nodes also have the dotted arrows. You can drag those as well, but it doesn't work in the same way if you've not converted them to a cusp node



Adding more anchor points

It would be even better to be able to change the shape more freely

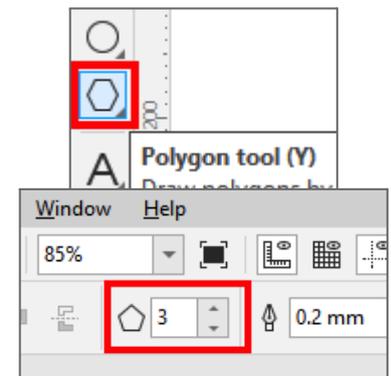
11. **Right click** on the **edge** of the leaf shape> choose **Add**
This adds a new **anchor point** that can be dragged
12. **Drag** the anchor point to create a better shape
13. **Add** as many anchor points as necessary to create a suitable leaf shape. I added two more. You might need more than that



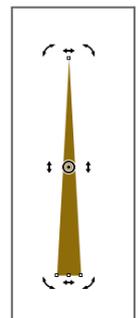
Add the stem

The leaf needs a stem to attach it to the plant

14. On the **left toolbar**, choose the **Polygon Tool**
15. **IMPORTANT:** at the **top**, change the sides to **3**. We want a triangle



16. **Draw** a long, thin triangle on the canvas
17. Change the **fill colour** to a brown and make the **outline** transparent
18. **IMPORTANT:** on the **left toolbar**, change to the **Pick Tool** (the top arrow)
19. Click **inside** the triangle until a set of rotation tools appear
You may have to click twice
20. **Rotate** the triangle so that the stem is running in the right direction
21. Now **drag** the stem into place. You'll probably need to rotate it again and make it longer and thinner



Extension ideas

22. Try a fill colour using a **gradient**
23. Make a more complex leaf. There is a challenge on this

Saving and exporting

24. **Save** your work and **export it** as a **PNG**. Add your work to your gallery of logos

