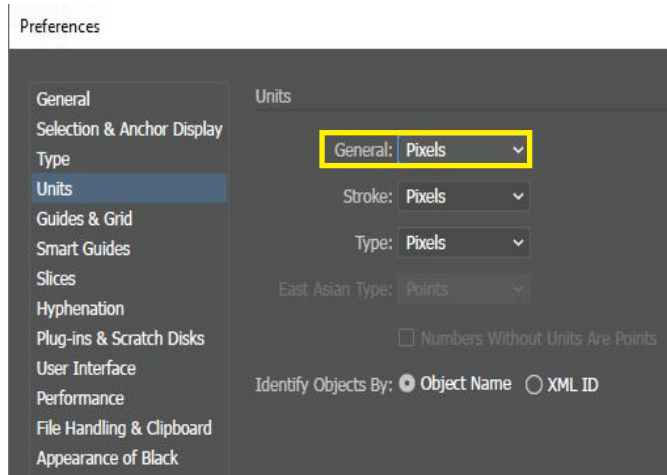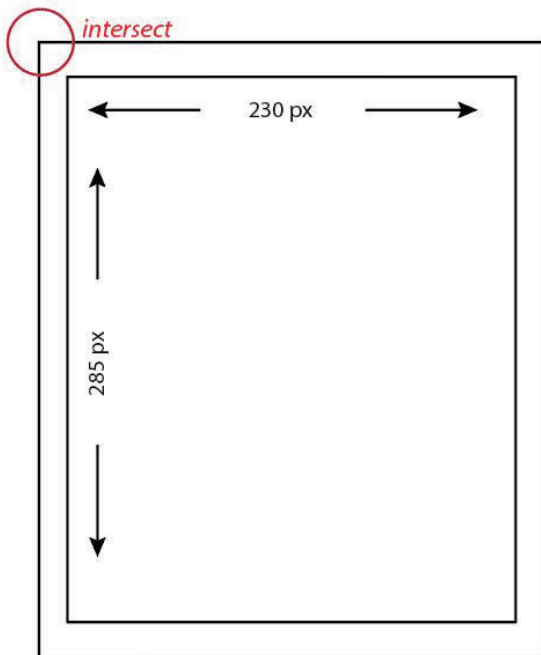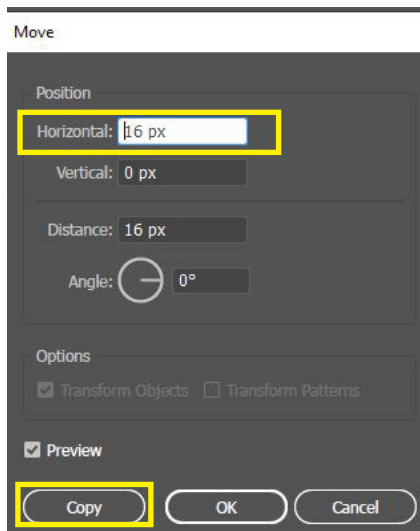**55c**

Create a Faux Postage Stamp with Illustrator

1. Go to the main menu, Edit>Preferences>Units>General and set General to Pixels. Click OK.
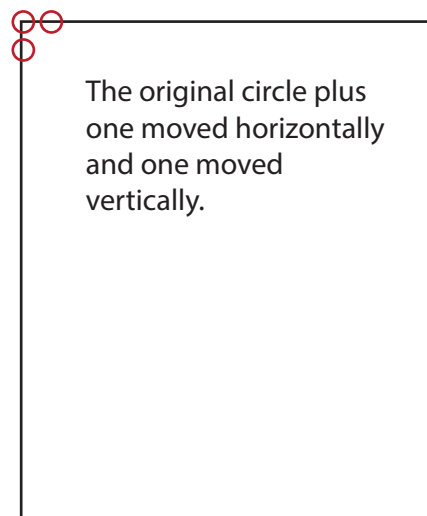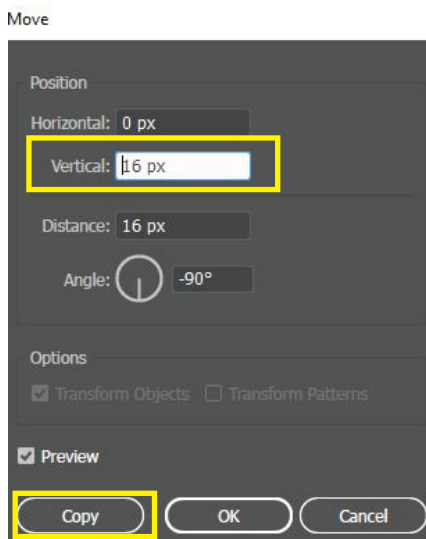

2. Create a rectangle 230 x 285 px.

3. Create a circle 12 px diameter (12 x 12 px)

4. Switch on Smart Guides (Ctrl+U) and position the circle over the top left corner angle until you see the Smart Guides alert 'intersect'.
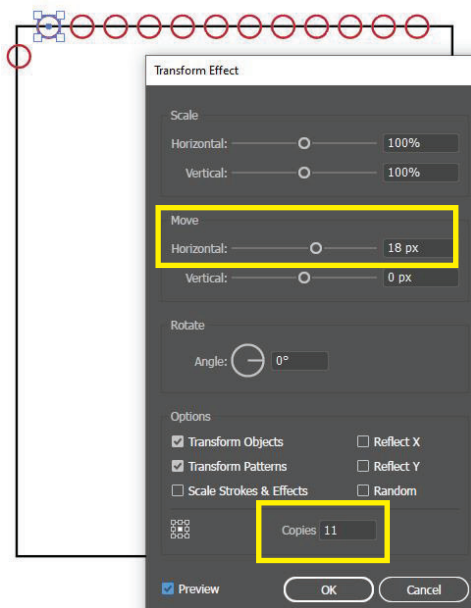
5. Select the circle and go to Object>Transform>Move.
Enter 16px for the Position>Horizontal value & select Copy.

6. With the original circle still selected, go back to Object>Transform>Move and this time enter 16 px for the Position>Vertical value and select Copy. These actions produce three circles.

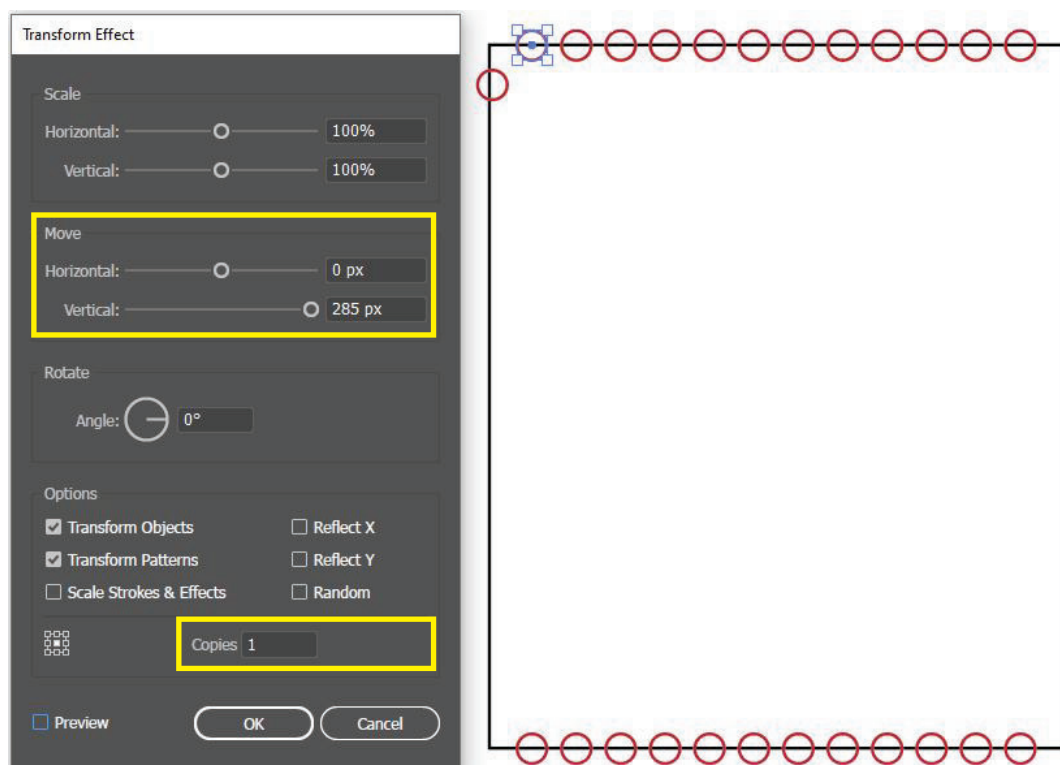The original circle plus one moved horizontally and one moved vertically.

7. Select the circle on the top and go to Effect>Distort & Transform>Transform.
Enter 18 px for the Move>Horizontal value and 11 in the Copies field (giving you 12 circles across the top).
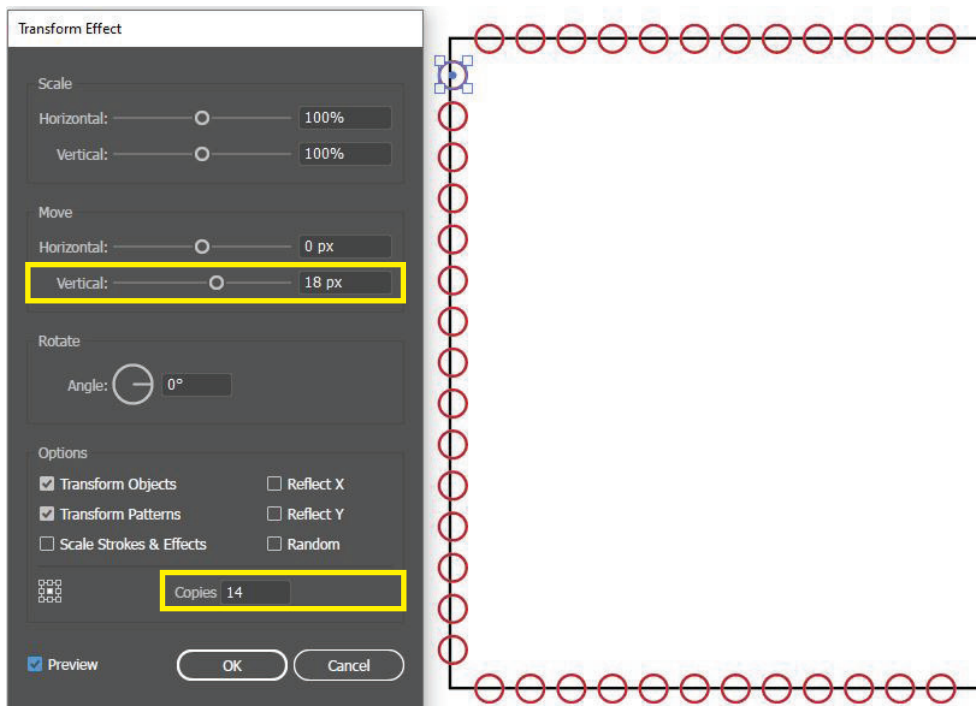

8. With the first circle still selected, go back to Effect>Distort & Transform>Transform. You will get a 'Apply New Effect' alert - click OK.

This time enter 285 px in the Position>Move Vertical field and enter 1 for the number of copies:
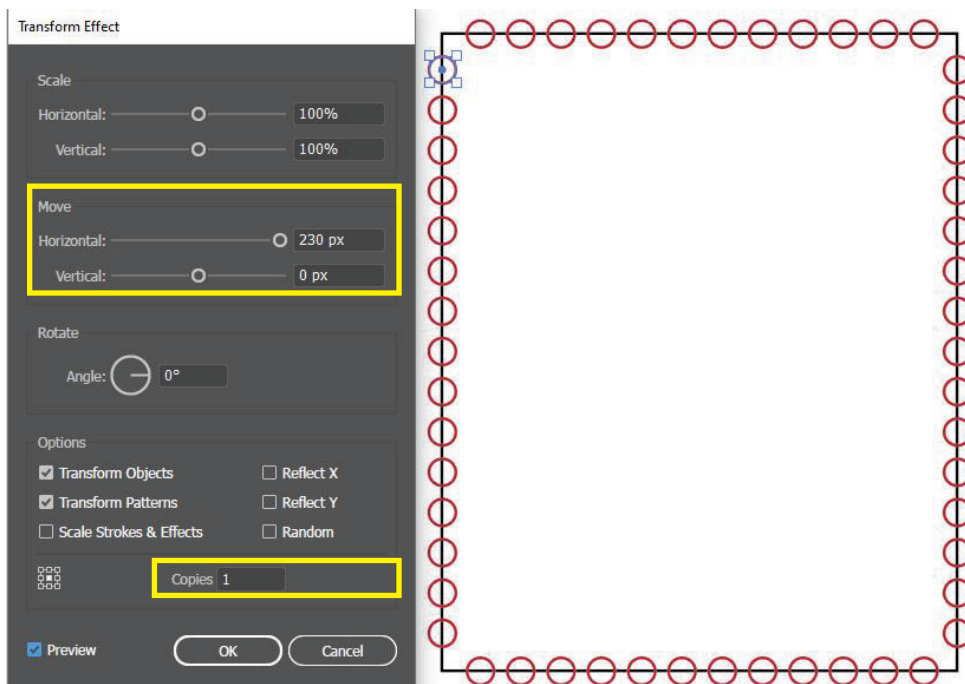
9. Select the circle on the left and go to Effect>Distort & Transform>Transform. Enter 18 px for the Move>Vertical value and enter 14 in the copies field (giving you 15 vertical circles):
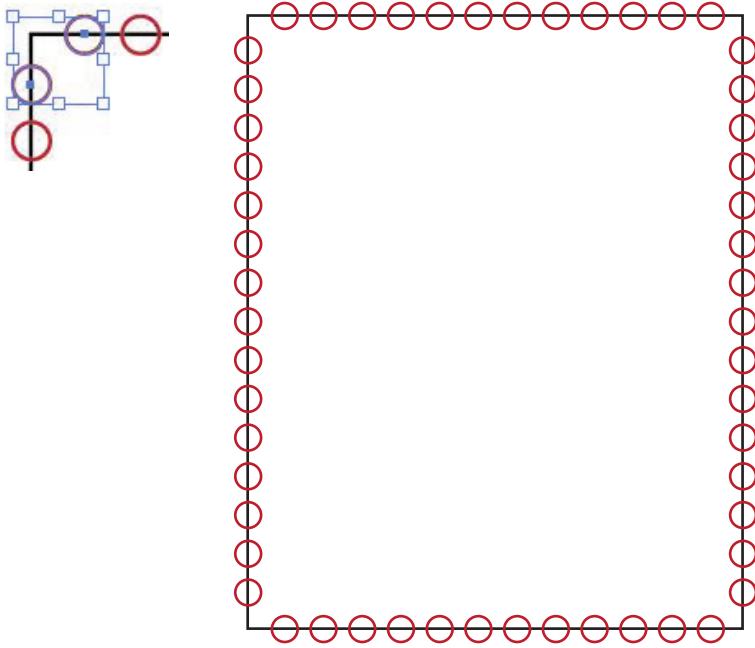

10. With the left circle still selected, go to Effect>Distort & Transform>Transform. You will get an 'Apply New Effect' alert. Click OK.
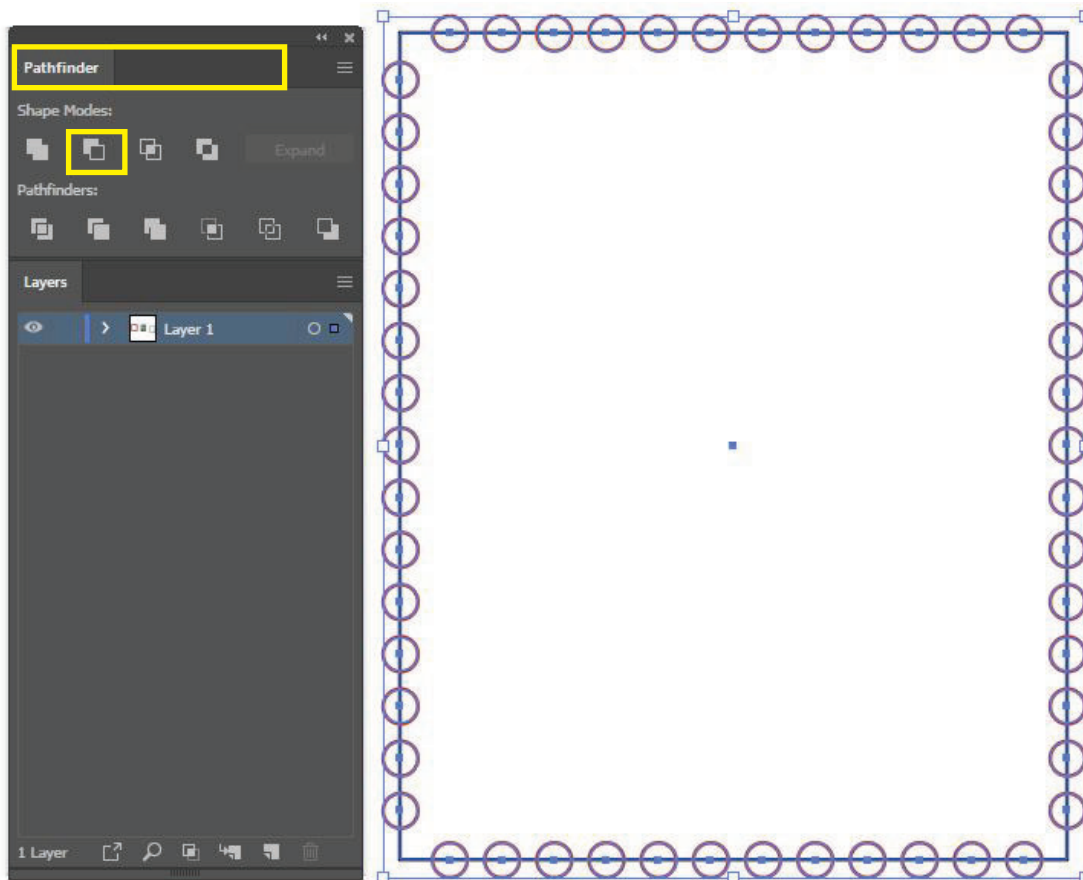
This time enter 230 px in the Position>Move Vertical field and enter 1 for the number of copies:
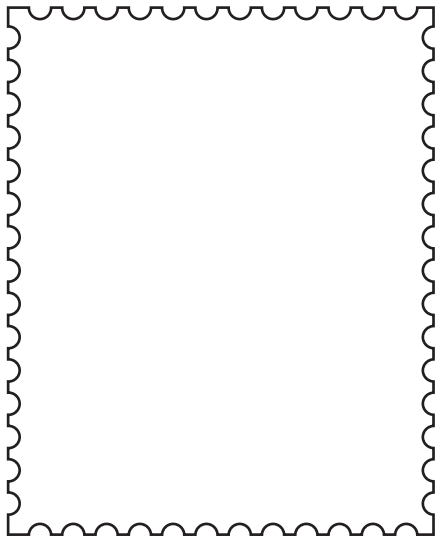
11. Select the first two circles and go to Object>Expand Appearance:

12. Select all (drag a marquee around the rectangle and all of the circles or Ctrl+A) and go to Pathfinder and select Minus Front:

The result is a clipped frame:

13. Place an image behind your stamp frame (if you find yours is in front, go to Object>Arrange>Send to Back):

14. Select the image and frame then go to Object>Clipping Path>Make (Ctrl+7):

15. You can use the text tool to add details like '55c' to make it look more authentic.

All Done :)

Other Size Stamps:

302 x 392

     Circle = 12 px

     First move circle 16 px   (H then V)

     Multiple horizontal copies = 18 px Horizontal, 15 copies

     Multiple vertical copies = 18 px Horizontal, 20 copies

302 x 518

     Circle = 12 px

     First move circle 16 px (H then V)

     Multiple horizontal copies = 18 px Horizontal, 15 copies

     Multiple vertical copies = 18 px Horizontal, 27 copies

302 x 464

     Circle = 12 px

     First move circle 16 px (H then V)

     Multiple horizontal copies = 18 px Horizontal, 16 copies

     Multiple vertical copies = 18 px Horizontal, 24 copies