LESSON GUIDE

Drawing basic shapes

Use the shape tools and a few keyboard modifiers to create your own editable tag.

Start with a blank drawing

No starter or native answer project is needed. Keep the laser disconnected while practicing these drawing tools.



One possible layout. This is an illustration, not an app screenshot or a dimension target.

1. Open the shape list with the small arrow on the shape button in the left toolbar. Choose **Rectangle** and drag on the canvas.

2. Hold **Shift** while dragging to make a square. Hold **Cmd** on Mac or **Ctrl** on Windows/Linux to draw from the center.

3. Choose **Ellipse**. Drag for an oval, or hold **Shift** to draw a circle.

4. Try **Triangle** or **Star**. For a polygon, edit **Sides** in Properties; for a star, change the number of points.

5. Press **Escape** to return to Select. Click a shape to select it, then drag to move it.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

Independent practice

Draw a rectangle for a name tag and a small circle near one end for a hanging hole. Choose your own dimensions. This exercise is about using the tools, not entering exact sizes.

☐ Use Rectangle for the outer shape and Ellipse with Shift for the round hole.

☐ Return to Select with Escape. Move the circle until it sits fully inside the tag outline, away from the edge.

☐ Select each shape separately. Confirm that you created two editable shapes.

Which modifier helped you make the circle round?

Which modifier would draw a shape outward from its center?

Keep your attempt

Use Save As to keep your own project if you want to reuse it in later lessons. There is no supplied native answer to copy.

CHECK YOUR WORK

Check your work

Two separate shapes
The rectangle is the tag outline. The circle marks the intended hole. You should be able to select either one without selecting the other.

A round circle
Width and height look equal. If you drew an oval, Undo and draw again while holding Shift.

A useful position
The circle sits inside the rectangle. This lesson does not require one exact hole location or size.

Try another shape

Open the same shape list and try Triangle, Pentagon or Octagon. For a polygon with another side count, select it and edit **Sides** in Properties. Use Star for a pointed shape, then change its point count.

Drawing and layer operations

These are closed vectors. Layer operations determine whether Beam Bench follows an outline with Line or fills an area for engraving. This lesson creates geometry; it does not select material settings.

Shift constrains the proportions while drawing. Cmd on Mac or Ctrl on Windows/Linux draws from the center. Escape returns to Select.

Matches the demonstrated Beam Bench 0.2.37 interface. Panel layout may differ in later versions.