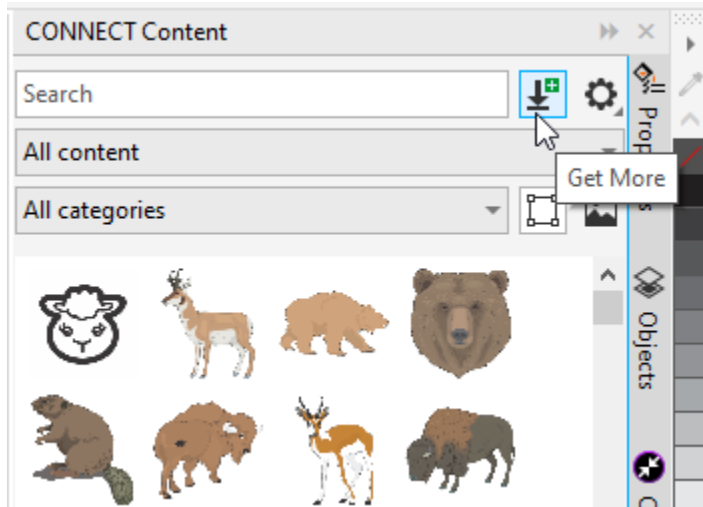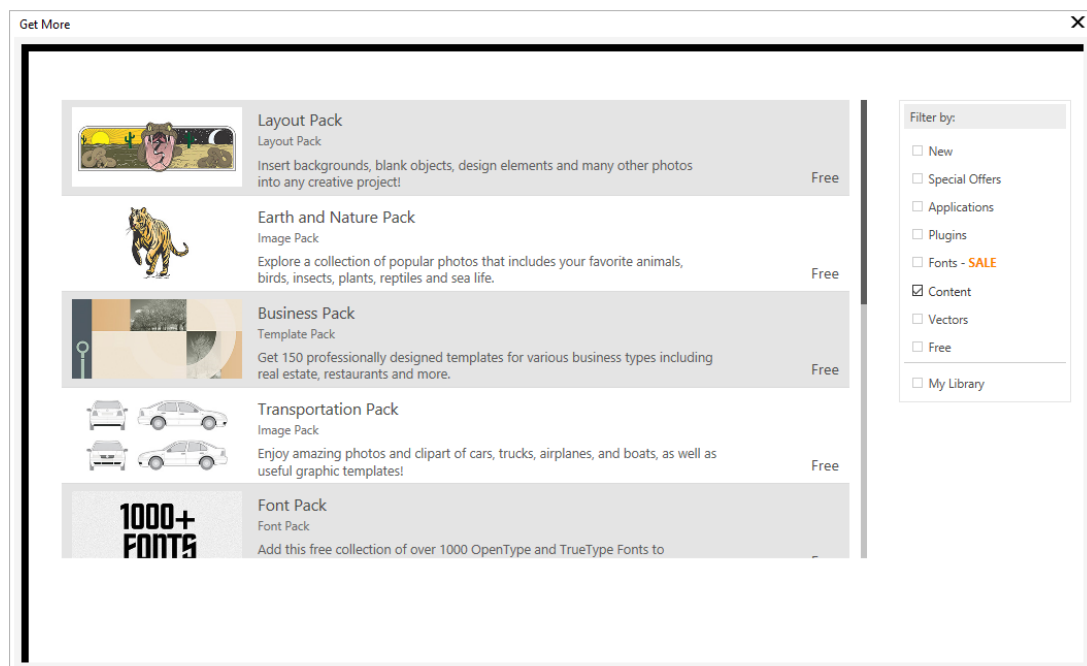# How to Customize Clipart

For a fast way to create graphic elements, you can start with clipart from Corel's vast repository. In this tutorial, we'll see how to customize clipart by changing properties, editing nodes, and adding and removing elements.

To start exploring clipart, open the CONNECT Content docker (**Window** > **Dockers** > **CONNECT Content**). You may just see the few items that came in the Starter Pack, but clicking the **Get More** icon opens a list of Corel's Content packs.
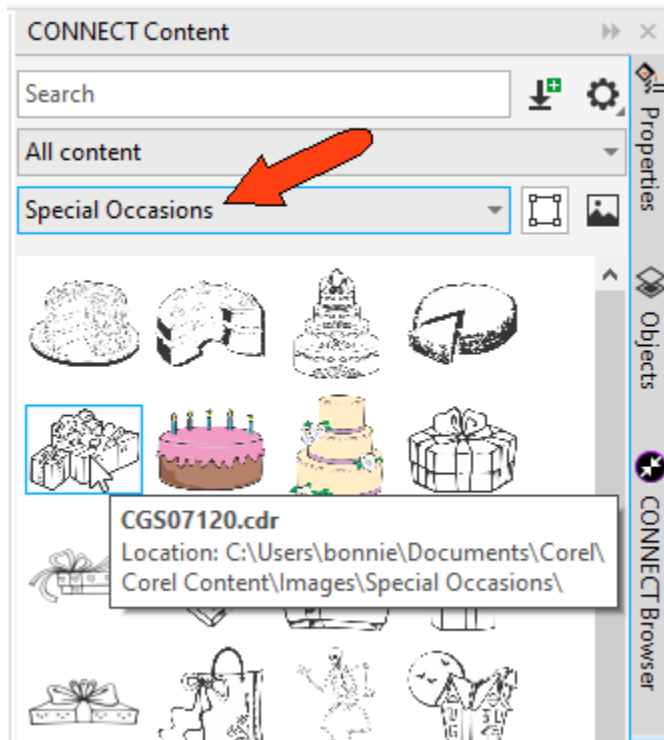

The image packs, such as **Earth and Nature** or **Transportation**, contain either raster images or vector objects, or a combination.
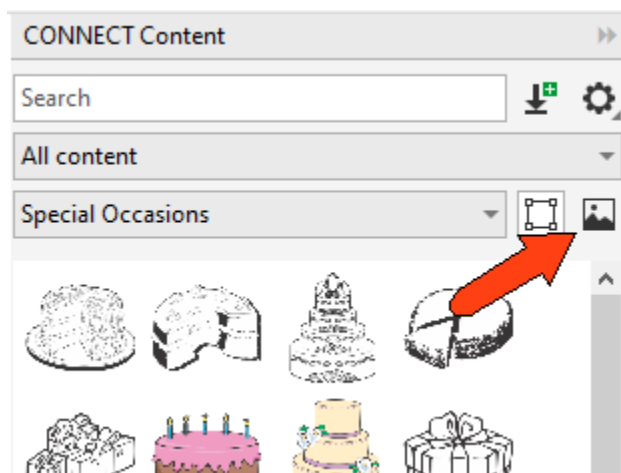
Click one of the free ones and download and install, which will quickly create and populate new categories in the **CONNECT Content** docker.

In this example, after installing the **Modern Life** pack, there is a long list of categories to peruse, such as **Special Occasions**. Each of these objects is a small CDR file, and you can hover over any object to see where the file is stored in your computer.
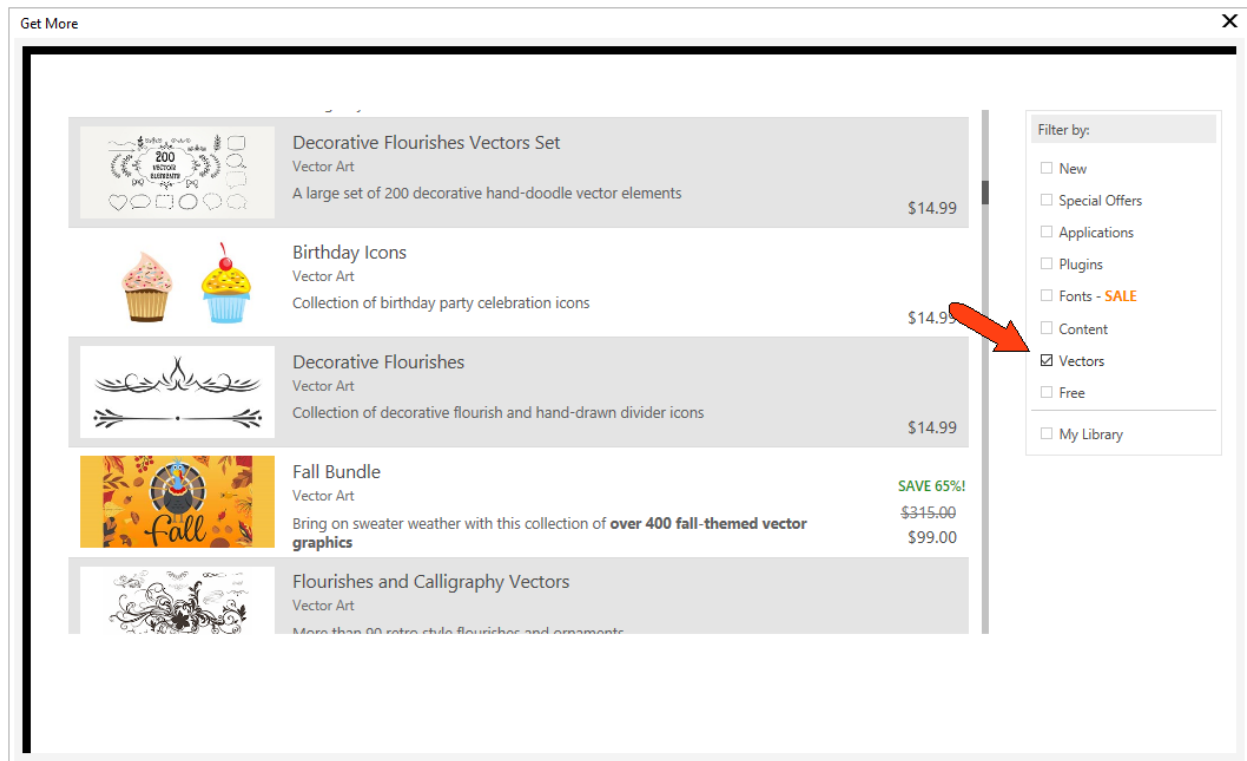

You can display only vector clipart by disabling the **Raster Images** icon.

In addition to CDR format, other vector clipart formats can be imported as well, such as EPS, WMP, or SVG, to name a few.

To expand the **Get More** list to show a huge amount of vector clipart, click the **Vector** filter. This displays all packs listed as Vector Art.

After you purchase a vector art pack, you'll receive an .EXE file. Running this file adds a CorelDRAW file to your computer that contains all the vector objects. Each of these objects is a group of vector curves.

Even in a vast collection of vector clipart, you may not find exactly what you're looking for. However, it's a lot easier to start with clipart that can be customized, rather than build vector art from scratch.

Changing Colors and Fills

One way to customize clipart is to change the colors of elements within the clipart image, either to a different solid color or to a fill. In this example, we want to add a gift box to this sale banner.
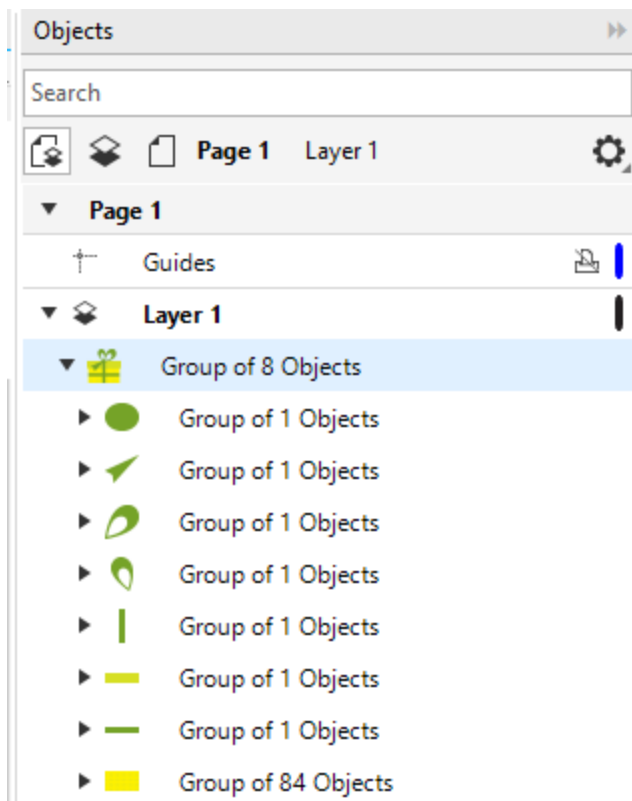
The clipart we'll use comes from a set of birthday vector icons. We'll be using the green and yellow gift box, which we copy with **Ctrl** + **C**.
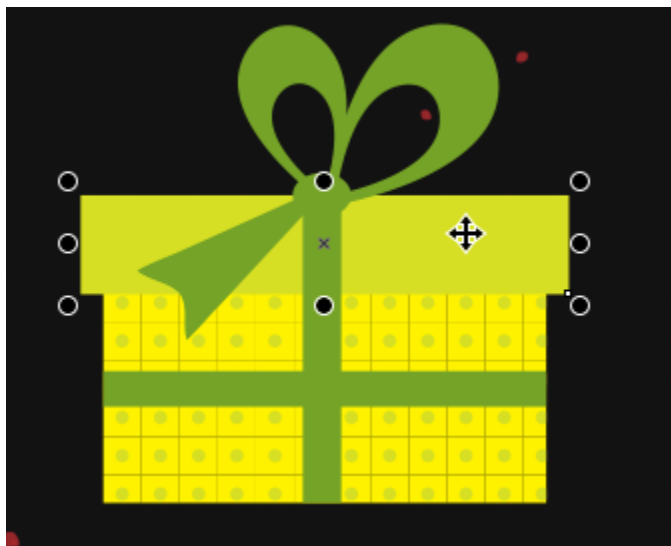
We paste (**Ctrl** + **V**) the gift box onto our banner image, then use the **Pick** tool to resize and move the box into place.
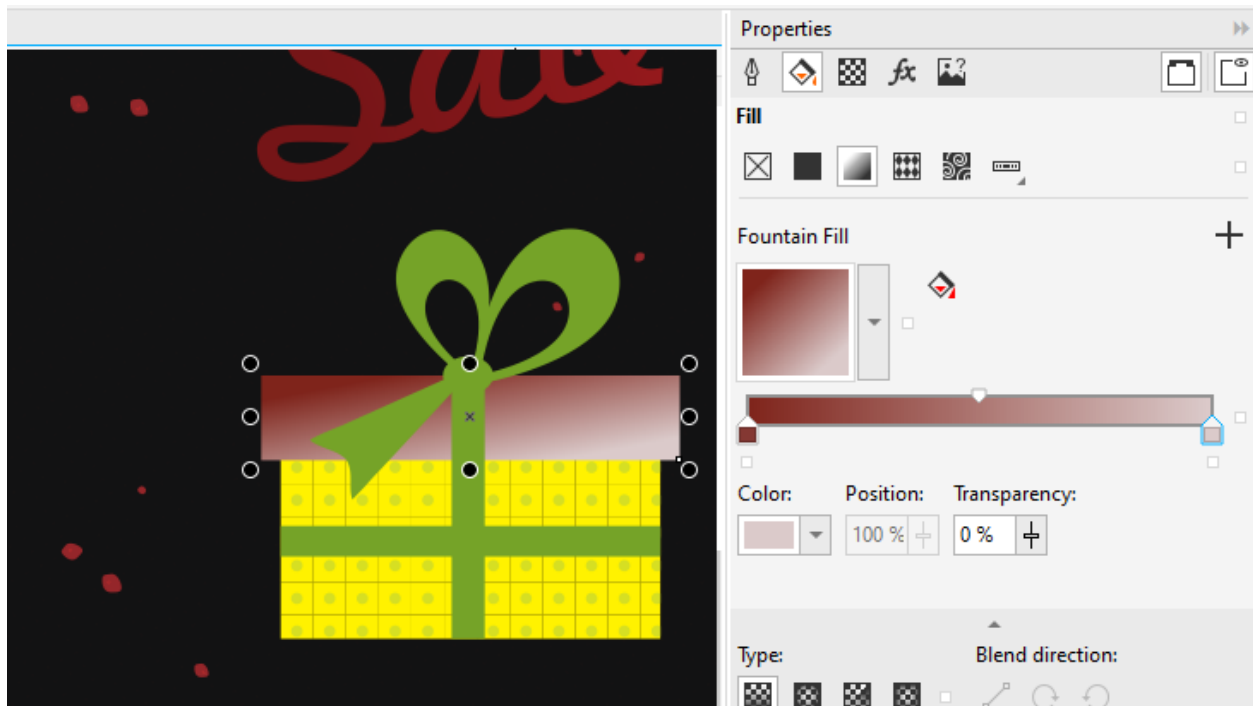
In the **Objects** docker, the gift box is a group, which you can rename by right-clicking on it. Opening the group shows the list of curves it contains. You could ungroup and edit curves, but to stay more organized, it's better to keep the group intact and edit objects within.

The colors of the box aren't right for this banner, so let's make some changes. First, select the lid of the box, which is inside the overall box group. This can be done with the **Pick** tool, by holding the **Ctrl** key while clicking.

Now open the **Properties** docker, click the **Fill** tab, switch to **Fountain Fill**, and use two shades of red to fit with the red of the text.

The box below the lid is a group comprised of 84 objects, but one simple rectangle is all we need. Select this group.
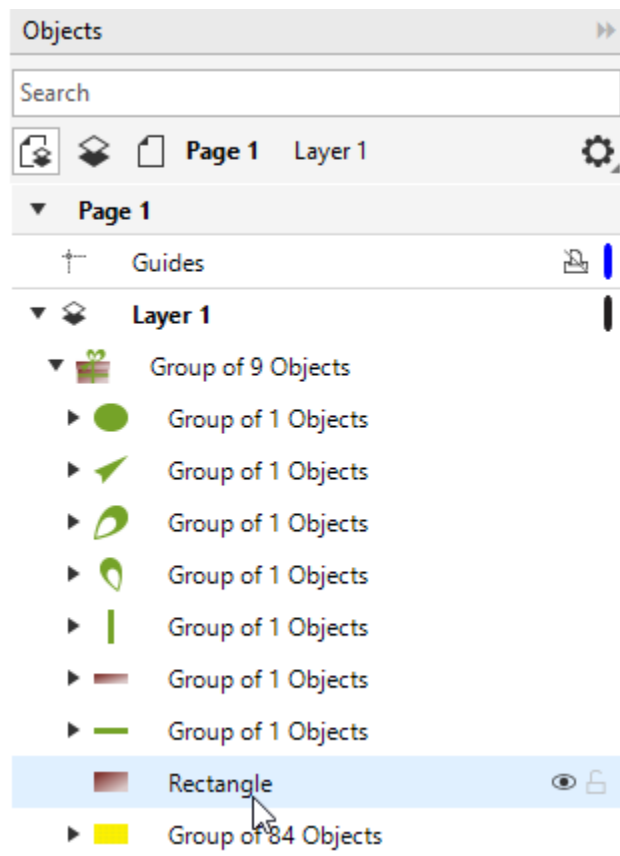

Trace the group by pressing **Shift** and double-clicking the **Rectangle** tool.
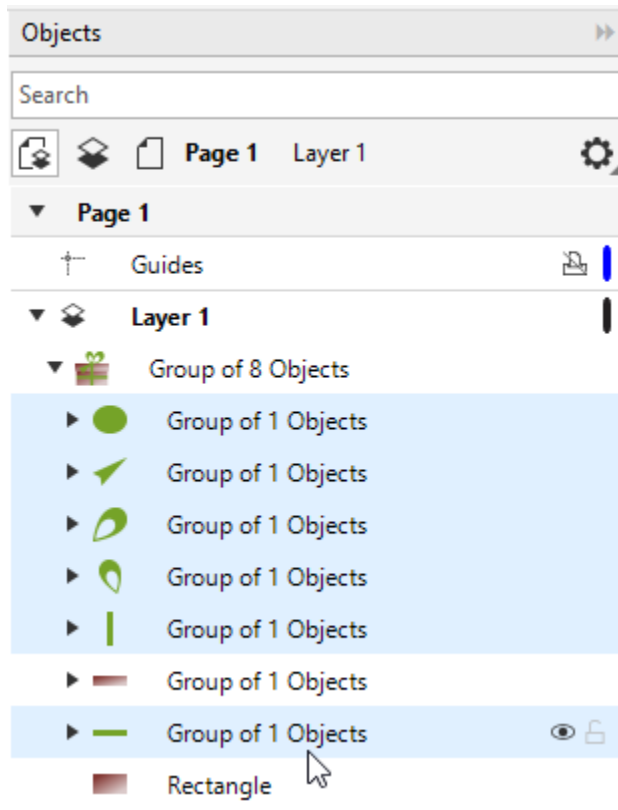
Now you can use the **Attributes Eyedropper** to copy the properties from the lid.

The new rectangle was added outside the group, so in the **Objects** docker, drag it just above the original box group.
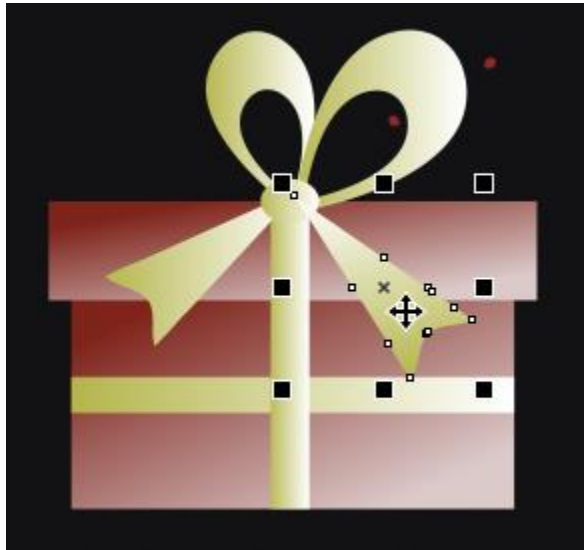
Now you can delete that original group. Next we'll change the bow, and here it's easier to use the **Objects** docker to **Ctrl**-select all of the green objects.
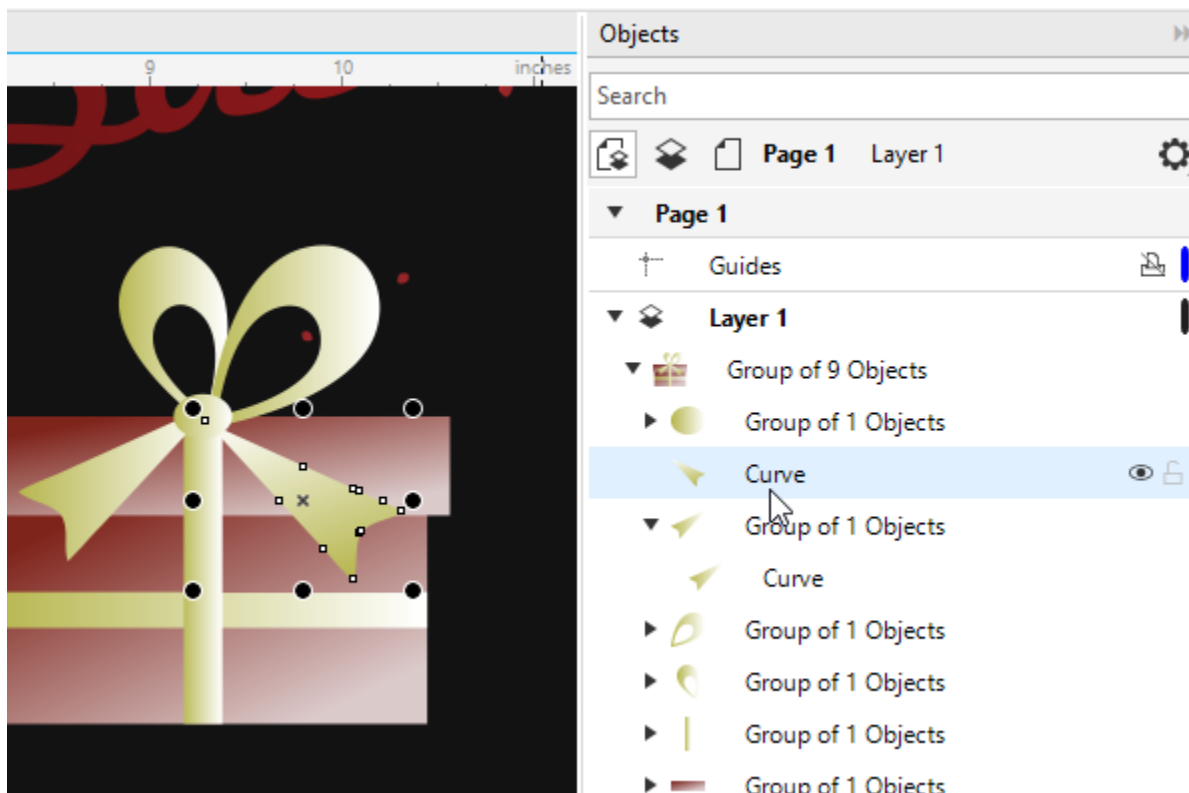

Change the fill to fountain here as well, using a gold gradient.
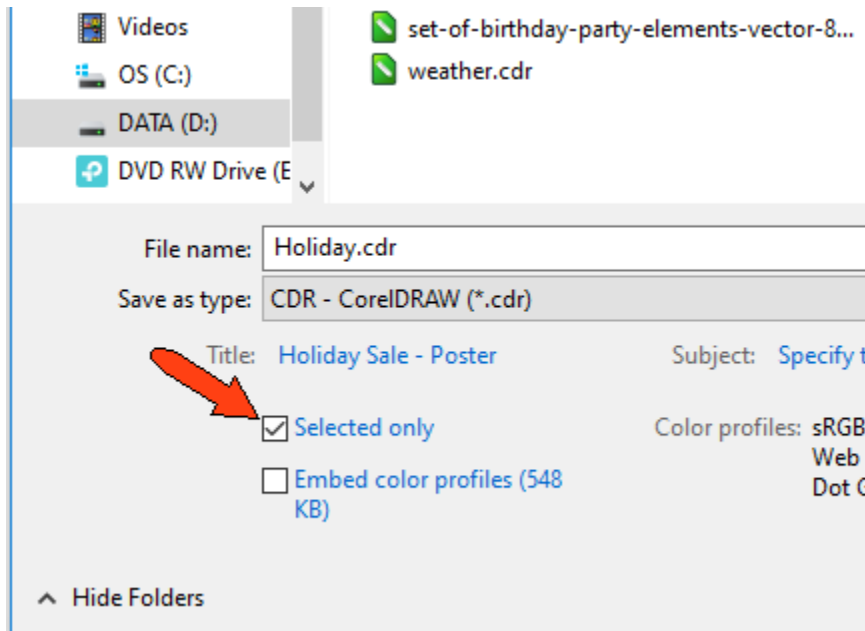
The ribbon could use another end section, so **Ctrl**-select the current end shape, use **Ctrl + C** and **Ctrl + V** to copy and paste, then move and rotate with the **Pick** tool.

This new curve is outside the gift box group, so drag it inside the group, just below the oval at the center of the bow.
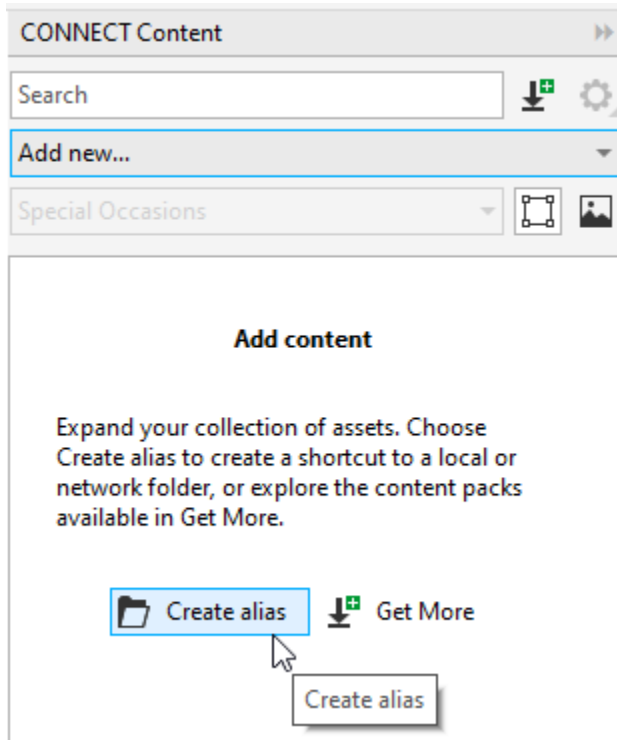
In order to save this gift box as clipart to use in future files, you can save it alone as a CDR file. Select the box, choose **File** > **Save As**, and check **Selected only**.

You could save the file to one of the folders that came with your content download. Or you can save it to a folder you've set up for customized clipart.

To make any folder searchable in the **CONNECT Content** browser, open the list of categories, and choose **Add new** at the bottom. Then click **Create Alias** and browse to and select the desired folder.

Now that folder appears in the list of categories, and you can drag in what's inside. The clipart is imported as a group with the same name as the file name you used when saving.

For a second example, we'll add one more object to complete a set of sticker graphics that will be used to create stationery for a baby shower.

The duck clipart is from the Baby and Kids category from the Modern Life pack.
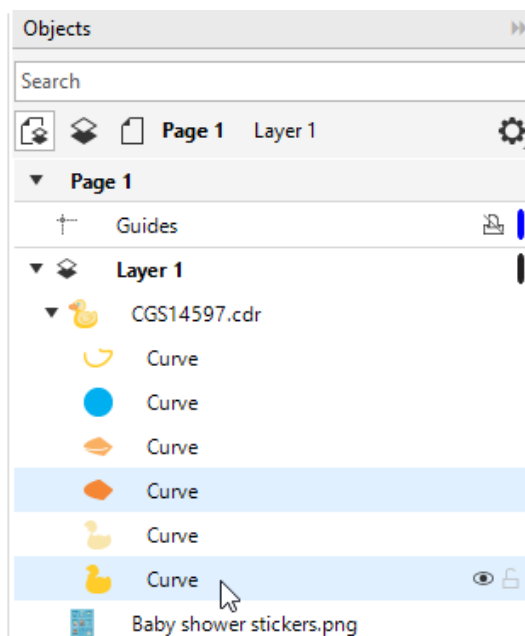

Unlike with the gift box in the previous example, this clipart has a white background. So **Ctrl**-click this rectangle and press **Delete**.

You can also **Shift-Ctrl** click all of the bubble inner circles and delete them, then do the same for the larger bubble circles.

We need to make some changes to this duck so that it has the same shadowed white outlines found in the other images. In the **Objects** docker, open the group and select the base curves for the body and beak.

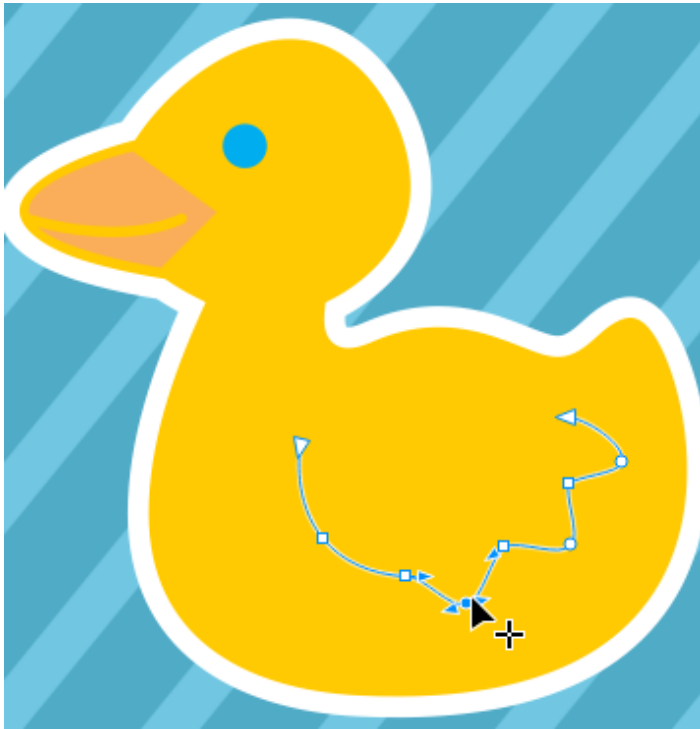Use **Weld** command on the property bar to make them into one filled curve.

Now use the **Properties** docker, and the **Outline** tab, to give this new curve a 4 pt white outline.

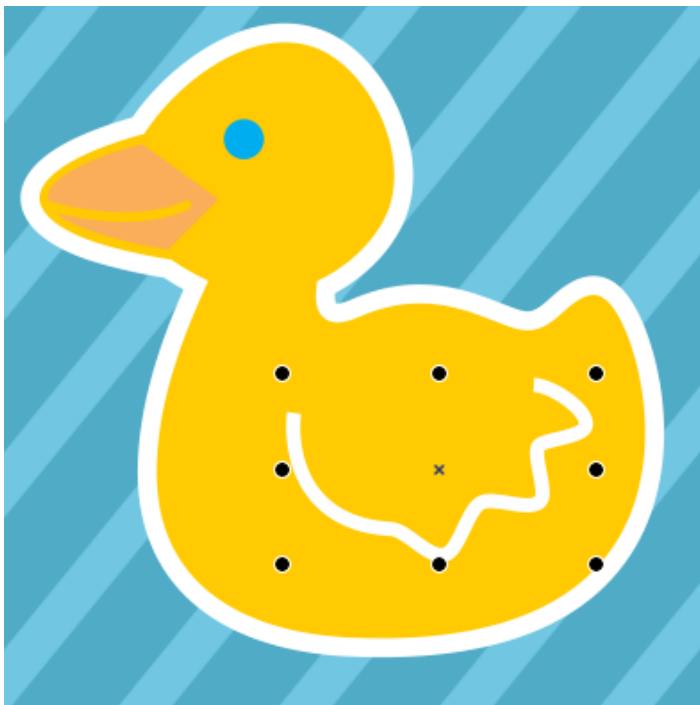Remove the light-yellow curve inside the duck as well. And for the curve of the wing, select it and give it a white outline.

Instead of a closed, filled curve for the wing, let's make it a thick, open curve. Switch to the **Shape** tool, select and delete segments, then double-click to add some new nodes, which can be moved around to get a wavier curve.

Then with the **Pick** tool active, increase the outline thickness.
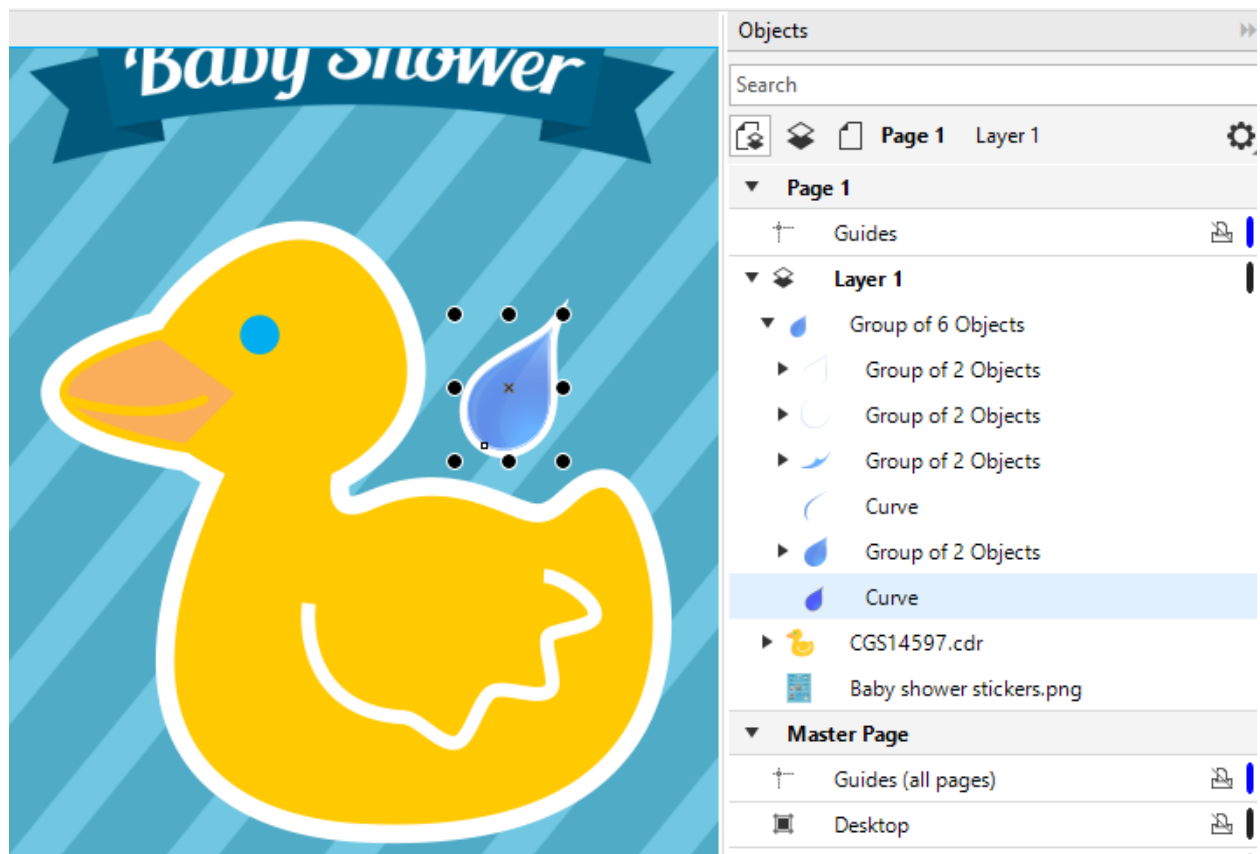
This duck can use some raindrops, and there is a nice set of raindrops in one of vector packs available to purchase. **Ctrl**-click to select the group of drops, and **Ctrl**-click once more to select just one drop.
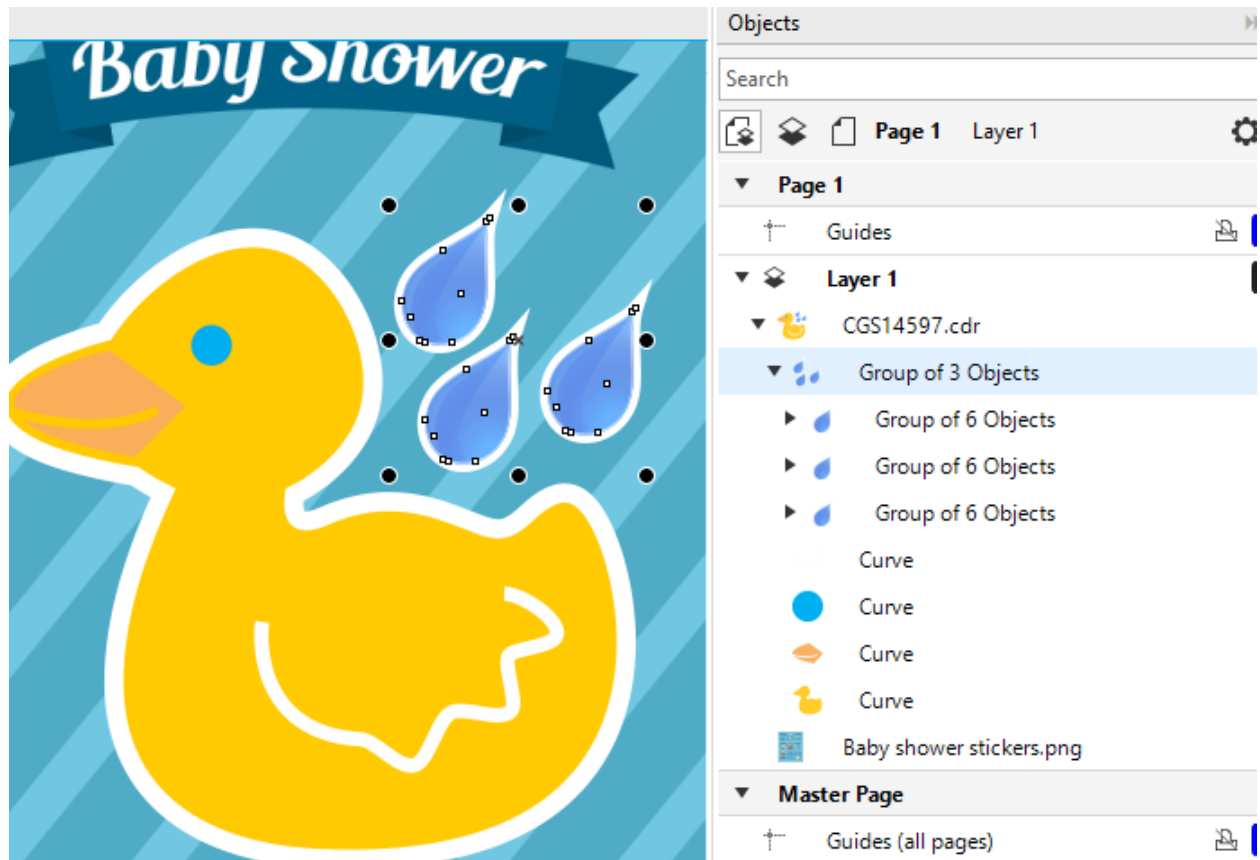

Copy and paste, and move the drop over to the duck.

Open the group that comprises the drop, selects its base curve, and give it a thick, white outline to match.

Then make two more copies of the entire raindrop group, make a group of the three drops, and move the group inside the duck group.

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To add a drop shadow to match that of the other objects, activate the **Shadow** tool, click and drag to shadow the entire group, remove any feathering, and reduce the shadow opacity. Now the duck sticker looks rather consistent with the other stickers.