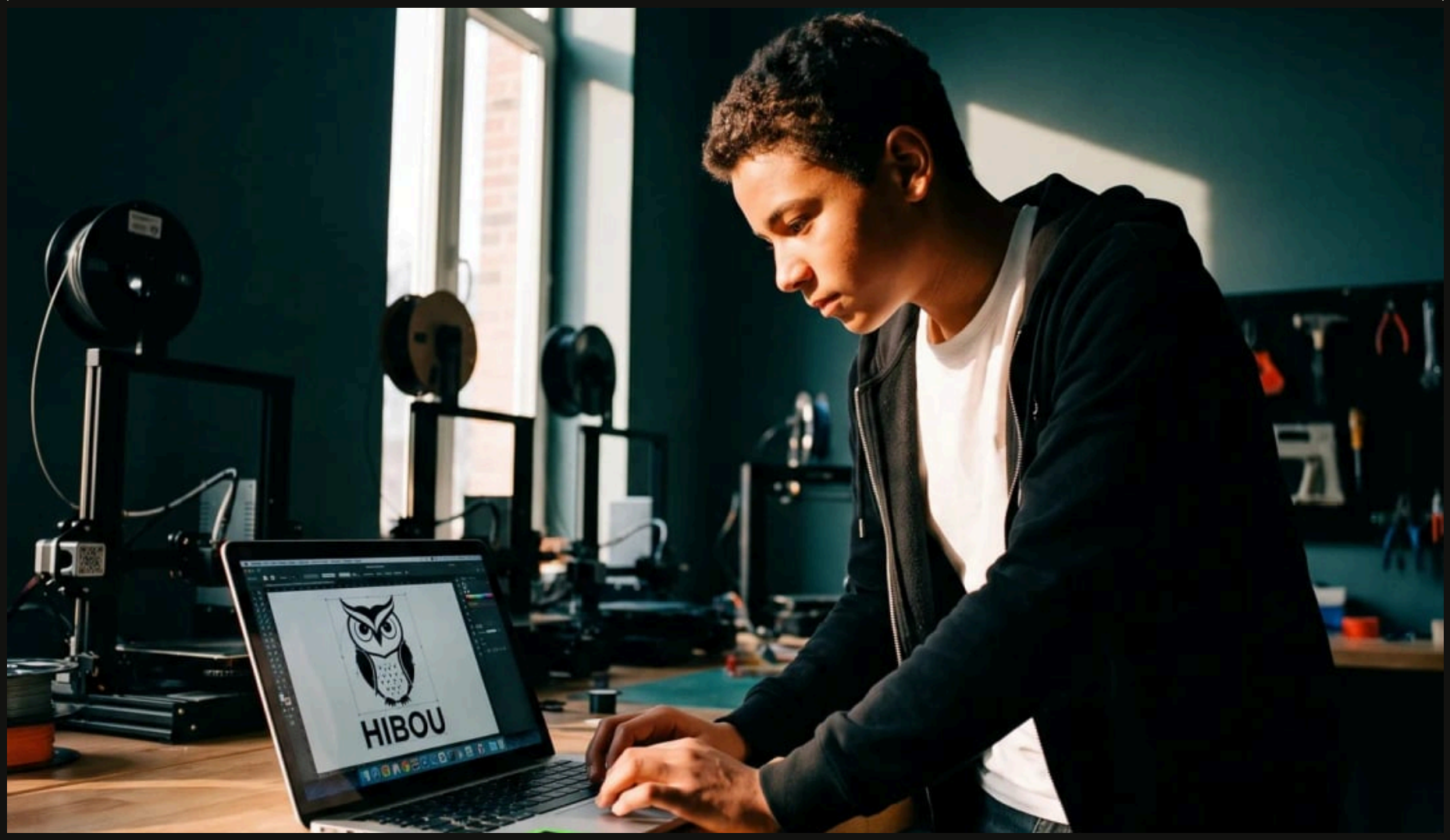
OFF-REGISTER

THE WORKSHOP · THE GUIDE



IN A COMMUNITY FABLAB, A TEENAGER EDITS THE BLACK HIBOU OWL LOGO IN…

FREE ILLUSTRATOR ALTERNATIVE FOR LOGOS

4 Tools Compared

The Workshop

Swipe →

THE SHORT ANSWER.

A free Illustrator alternative can handle most logo jobs. Pick Inkscape to edit a logo and export a print file, Affinity if your printer wants CMYK and Pantone, Vectorpea if you can't install anything, and Figma's free plan for a simple logo used on screens.

HOW MUCH DOES A FREE ILLUSTRATOR ALTERNATIVE COST?

Inkscape, Affinity, Vectorpea and Figma's Starter plan all cost nothing to start; Affinity and Figma keep some features for paying users.

DO YOU NEED AN ACCOUNT OR AN INSTALLATION?

Inkscape and Vectorpea need no account; Affinity and Figma need a free one. Inkscape installs from its download page.

WHICH FREE VECTOR SOFTWARE OPENS OR SAVES AN ILLUSTRATOR .AI FILE?

Inkscape and Affinity open an .ai file saved with PDF compatibility, and neither can save one. That option makes Illustrator embed a full copy of its own data inside a PDF, Wikipedia explains, and that PDF part is what these programs read.

WHICH ONES EXPORT THE SVG, PDF OR EPS YOUR PRINTER ASKS FOR?

Inkscape and Affinity both save SVG, PDF, EPS and DXF; Vectorpea saves SVG, PDF and DXF; Figma saves SVG and PDF.

CAN A FREE ALTERNATIVE MAKE A CMYK FILE WITH PANTONE COLORS?

Affinity prepares a CMYK print file on its own (CMYK stands for the four process inks used in printing): a new document can use a CMYK color model, and its Pantone colors become spot colors, kept in the PDF when you tick Honor spot colors.

REMEMBER.

Inkscape, Affinity, Vectorpea and Figma, checked in November 2026: which open .ai files, which make CMYK print files, which need an account.

The full article:

depixelise.com/or/free-alternative