

Elements of Art

Line



Line is a mark on a surface that describes a shape or outline. It can create texture and can be thick and thin. Types of line can include actual, implied, vertical, horizontal, diagonal and contour lines.

Shape



Shape is a 2-dimensional line with no form or thickness. Shapes are flat and can be grouped into two categories, geometric and organic.

Form



Form is a 3-dimensional object having volume and thickness. It is the illusion of a 3-D effect that can be implied with the use of light.

Value



Value is the degree of light and dark in a design. It is the contrast between black and white and all the tones in between. Value can be used with color as well as black and white.

Color



Color is made up of three properties: hue, value, and intensity. Hue is the name's color. Value is the hue's lightness and darkness (black and white added). Intensity is the quality of brightness and purity.

Space



Space is the area around, within, or between images or elements.

Texture



The surface quality of an object that we sense through touch. All objects have a physical texture. Artists can also convey texture visually in two dimensions.