

Elements

of Art

A "Following Directions" Activity
to explore the elements of art
through basic application
developed by
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Visual Art 101

1. Draw two parallel **lines** that touch the edges of the paper.
2. Draw a pair of perpendicular **lines**. Make one of the lines bold.
3. Draw a curved **line** anywhere on the paper.
4. Use one of your parallel lines to draw a 2-dimensional, geometric **shape**.
5. Draw two more 2-dimensional, geometric **shapes** anywhere on the paper.
6. Draw 3 organic **shapes** anywhere on the paper. Make sure one of your organic shapes touches a straight line.
7. Use shading to create a **form** that is geometric.
8. Draw one more geometric **form**.
9. Add an organic **form**, use shading as needed.
10. Use cool colors to add **color** to one of your biggest shapes.
11. Use warm colors to add **color** to three of your smaller shapes.
12. Use one hue to add **color** anywhere on the paper. Then, use white and/or black to change the value.
13. Use pattern to create an implied **texture** anywhere on the paper.
14. Use dots (stippling) to create an implied texture anywhere on the paper.
15. *You will use watercolors and salt to create an actual **texture** as the last step. (Optional)
16. Draw three shapes that are behind another shape. (**Space**)
17. Draw a shape above one of your forms. (**Space**)
18. Draw a shape below one of your other shapes. (**Space**)
19. Draw a shape beside your curved line. (**Space**)
20. Draw a shape inside another shape. (**Space**)

***Remember: The elements are the parts that make up the whole of the composition. Each is directly related to the others.**

***Note: The elements are bolded in the instructions above.**



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Cheat Sheet

Lists include terminology and vocabulary words that are directly related to each element of art.

Visual Art 101

LINE

parallel, perpendicular, intersecting, curved, wavy, straight, dotted, dashed, actual, implied, thick, thin, horizontal, vertical, zigzag, diagonal, spiral, expressive, bold, short, long, segment

SHAPE

circle, square, rectangle, hexagon, octagon, parallelogram, trapezoid, triangle, organic, inorganic, geometric, free form, heart, symmetrical, asymmetrical, flat, two-dimensional

FORM

Three-dimensional, geometric, organic, formalism (studying only form), biomorphic (abstract but evokes living form), sphere, cube, cylinder, cone

COLOR

warm, cool, neutral, complementary, tertiary, secondary, primary, value, hue, intensity, brilliance, dullness, analogous, light, dark, spectrum, wheel, cyan/magenta/yellow (CMY), harmony, contrast

TEXTURE

two-dimensional, three-dimensional, actual, implied, rough, smooth, soft, fluffy, bumpy, hard, sticky, pattern, simulated, abstract, invented, layered, lumpy, gritty

SPACE

prepositions (of, under, below, within, etc.), depth, distance, balance, proportion, scale, distance, positive, negative, background, middle ground, foreground

