

Elements and Principles of Art

STUDY GUIDE

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|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Line | Balance | Shape | Form | Pattern |
| Texture | Contrast | Unity | Space | Value |
| Color | Emphasis | Movement | Rhythm | |

Elements

1. **Line:** Defines shape, contours, and outlines; also to suggest mass and volume. Has width, length, and direction. Examples include outline, contour, implied, gesture.
2. **Shape:** Space enclosed by a closed or intersecting lines. Two-dimensional, has height and width, but not depth.
3. **Form:** Three-dimensionality of an object. Defined by line and value. Has height, width, and depth.
4. **Space:** The area around, above, and within an object. There is positive (the object) and negative (the surrounding area).
5. **Texture:** The surface quality of an object. Can be real (as in sculpture) or implied (as in 2-D).
6. **Color:** The result of light, at a certain wavelength, reflected of an object back to the eye.
7. **Value:** Range of lightness and darkness.

Principles

8. **Balance:** A feeling of equality of weight, attention, or attraction of the various elements within the composition as a means of accomplishing unity.
9. **Contrast:** The difference between elements or the opposition to various elements.
10. **Emphasis:** The stress placed on a single area of a work or unifying visual theme.
11. **Unity:** The relationship between the individual parts and the whole of a composition.
12. **Movement:** The suggestion of action or direction, the path our eyes follow when we look at a work of art.
13. **Rhythm:** The act of repeating an element either regularly or irregularly resulting in a rhythm of the repeating elements, similar to Pattern, but can be irregular.
14. **Pattern:** Combination of elements or shapes repeated.