

# The Elements of Art and Principles of Design



## Elements of Art

The elements of art are the building blocks of an artistic creation.

1. Color      What is perceived when light hits and reflects off an object. Three properties of color are Hue (name of a color), Intensity (strength of a color) and Value (lightness or darkness of a color)
2. Line      A continuous mark made on a surface
3. Form      three-dimensional objects that encloses and takes up space
4. Space      The illusion of space is created through light and shadow including ***white space***.
5. Shape      Two-dimensional objects (circle, square, rectangle, triangle) that enclose space.
6. Texture      The surface quality or feel of an object: Smooth, bumpy, etc.

## Principles of Design

The ways in which the Elements of Art are organized are referred to as the Principles of Design.

1. Balance      Symmetry and asymmetry
2. Emphasis      Used to make something stand out, like dark next to light
3. Proportion      The size of objects; large next to small
4. Movement      The visual flow that creates a sense of motion and guides the viewers' eyes and includes repetitive elements.
5. Variety      The use of different or contrasting elements to add interest
6. Unity      How all the aspects of a work of art work together