

GUIDE TO ART ELEMENTS

LINE

LINE HAS 1 DIMENSION: Length.

LINE HAS MOVEMENT AND DIRECTION

- Up or Down (Vertical)
- Across (Horizontal)
- Slant (Diagonal)
- Curves In (Concave)
- Curves Out (Convex)



LINE HAS EMOTION:

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| • Verticals | Solid Strength | Graceful Dignity |
| • Horizontals | Calm | Speed |
| • Diagonals | Power | Action |

LINE HAS WEIGHT:

- Thick
- Thin

Lines can show 4 things: MOVEMENT, DIRECTION, SHAPE, and TONE.

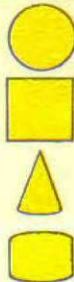
SHAPE

SHAPE HAS 2 DIMENSIONS:

- Height plus
- Width

4 BASIC SHAPES ARE:

- Round
- Square
- Triangle
- Rectangle



SHAPE LOOKS FLAT (No depth).

SHAPE GIVES SIZE, OUTLINE, SILHOUETTE:

- Shapes can be separate.
- Shapes can overlap.
- Shapes can unite, form new designs.

EVERYTHING HAS SHAPE:

- Objects (Round bushes)
- Big Areas (Square skies)
- Small Spaces (Triangle branches)

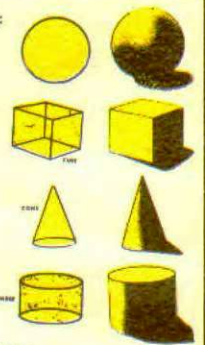
FORM

FORM HAS 3 DIMENSIONS:

- Height
- Width plus
- Depth (Thickness)

4 BASIC FORMS ARE:

- Sphere (round)
- Cube (square)
- Cone (triangle)
- Cylinder (rectangle)



FORMS APPEAR SOLID (Not flat)

FORMS HAVE 3 ELEMENTS:

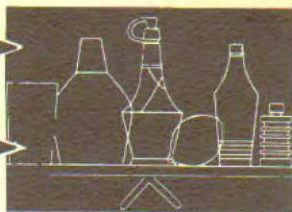
- Depth
- Weight
- Structure

FORMS MAY BE COMBINED.



SPACE

Negative Space



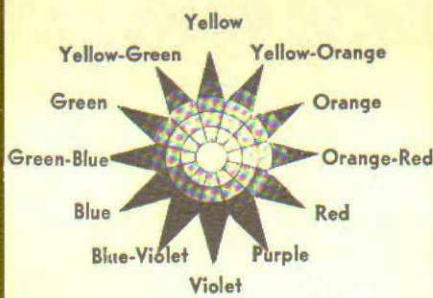
Positive Shape

Everything is either Form or Space — Solid or Void.

Artists can paint or draw space to appear:

- Flat
- Deep
- Separated
- Overlapping
- Equival
- Interpenetrating

COLOR



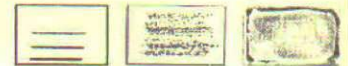
Compare color 4 ways:

- HUE (Name of Color)
- VALUE (Light or Dark)
- INTENSITY (Pure or Gray)
- TONE (Warm or Cool)

VALUE

- Compare VALUES, lightness or darkness contrast.

LIGHT



MEDIUM



DARK



DRAWN with Line DRAWN with Tone PAINTED with Color

SHADING



4 THINGS DETERMINE SHADING:

- Type of Lighting
- Distance from Lightsource
- Direction of Lightsource
- Direction of Planes

SHADING DEFINES THICKNESS, DEPTH.

SOURCE OF LIGHT:

- If close, use greater contrasts.
- If far, use less contrast.

TEXTURE



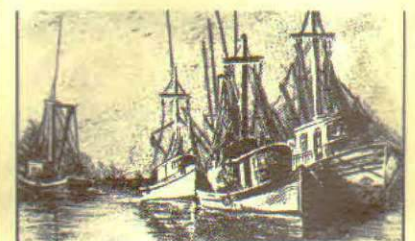
TEXTURE IS CLEAR IN LIGHT, SIMPLIFIED IN SHADE, AND LOST IN SHADOW.

TEXTURE IS SURFACE APPEARANCE.

TEXTURES CAN HAVE INFINITE VARIETY:

- Smooth or Rough
- Dull or Shiny
- Calm or Busy
- Decorative or Functional
- Flat or Shaded
- Transparent or Opaque

TONE



Gray tone picture with light and dark accents. TONE IS OVERALL LIGHT, GRAY OR DARKNESS. TONE CAN REFER TO DIFFERENT THINGS:

- Mood of Entire Picture, or
- Color of Individual Object

CONTRAST CREATES TONE



Light-tone picture

Dark-tone object