

Elements of Design

CHOICES ARTISTS MAKE TO EXPRESS MOOD AND IDEAS VISUALLY.

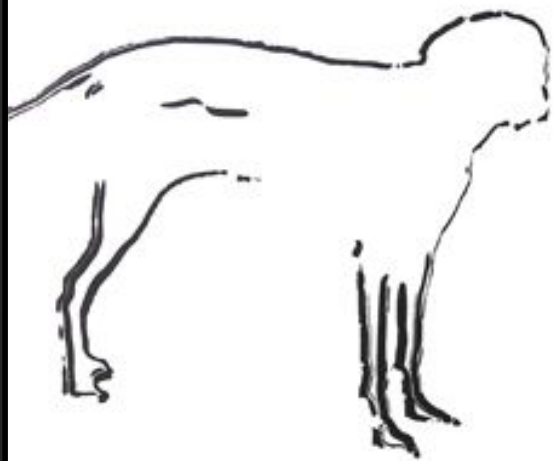


Value

refers to variations of light and dark in the same color or in black. Values using a black pencil can go from pale grey to medium grey and finally to dark black, depending on how hard you press.

Texture

refers to the surface quality of something, the way things look or feel. The dog looks bumpy or furry. Rough and smooth are textures you can see and feel.



Line

is really the edge we see between a shape and a space. In art, lines can be marks we draw or paint having qualities such as long, short, thick, thin, curved, jagged or straight.

Shape

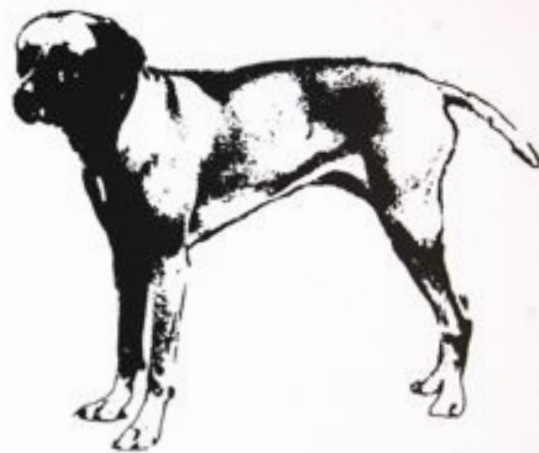
is a two dimensional area or plane people create or we find in nature. Shapes can be geometric such as circle, rectangle, square and triangle, or have names such as "dog." There are also free form shapes with or without names like the paper cutting we do for our murals inspired by Matisse.

Dog shape



Form

refers to something which is or looks three dimensional. The artist uses light and shadow to show roundness and volume.



Space

is the area in, around, above and below something.



POSITIVE SHAPE

NEGATIVE SPACE



color

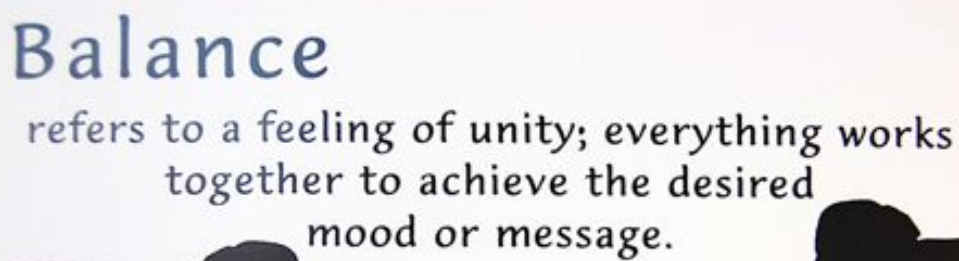
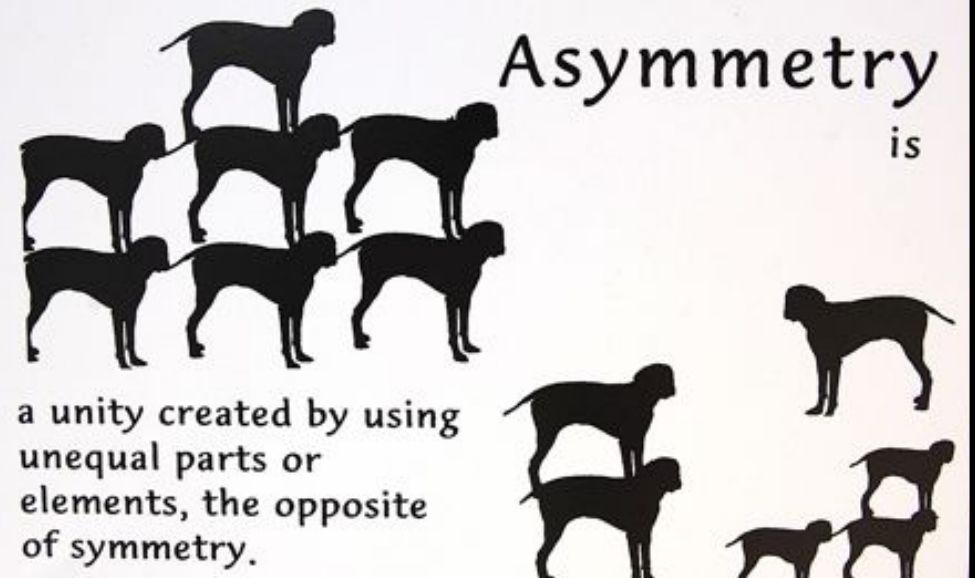
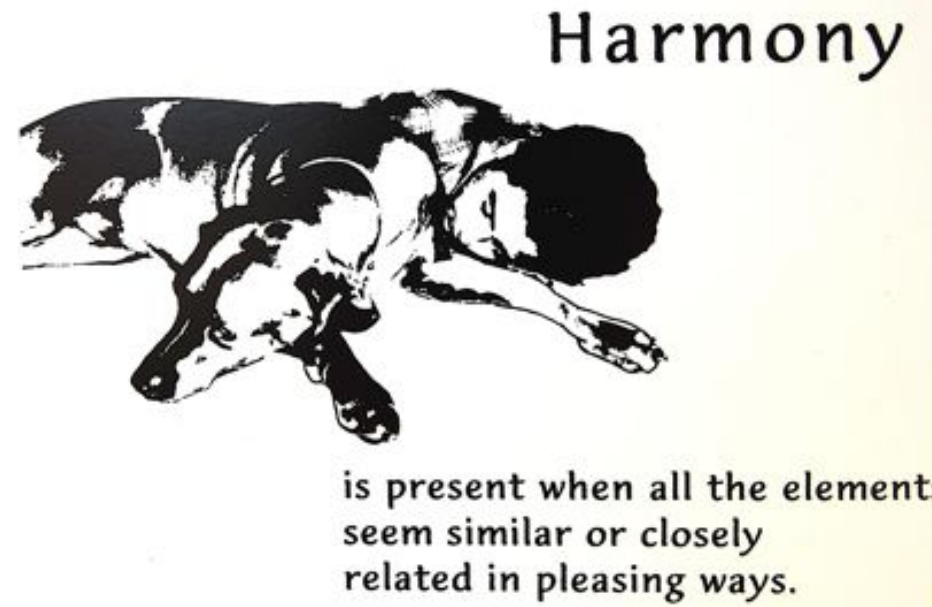
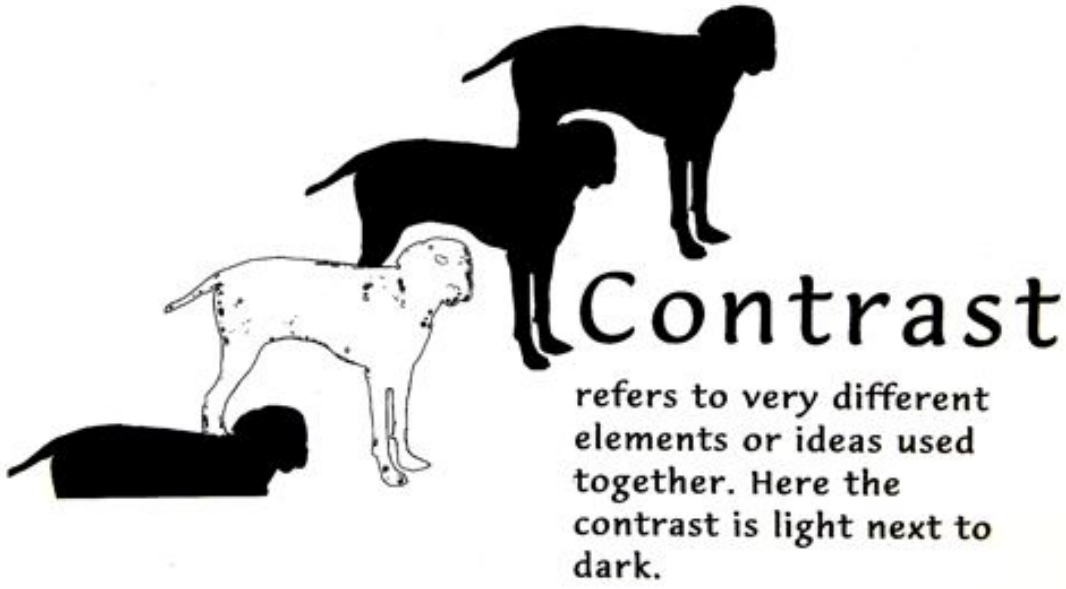


COLOR IS MADE IN THE BRAIN. IN A COMPLEX PROCESS WE SEE COLOR WHEN LIGHT ENERGY FALLS ON OBJECTS. SOME ENERGY IS ABSORBED AND SOME RETURNS TO OUR EYE, SENDING COLOR MESSAGES TO OUR BRAIN. ARTISTS CREATE COLOR EFFECTS WE SEE AND MOODS WE CAN FEEL WHEN THEY MIX PAINTS AND CREATE IMAGES TO EXPRESS IDEAS IN ART.

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principles of design

*WAYS ARTISTS ORGANIZE THE VISUAL ELEMENTS OF ART.



Also consider:

Radial symmetry—symmetry around a central axis such as in a starfish or sunflower.

Unity—an organization of elements that appears complete and balanced.

Proportion—A principle of art concerned with the relationships in size, one part to another or to the whole.

Emphasis, scale, pattern and variety are also included in the Oregon visual art vocabulary list.

*Sources: California and Oregon Art Frameworks/Standards and...

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Rhythm

Rhythm is a feeling of movement created when elements are repeated.

