

COMPOSITION

Design: Organized Visual Relationships between Elements

(Different people may have different visual comfort levels, but some are generally agreed upon)

Elements:

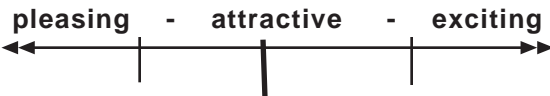
- Line
- Shape / Form
- Value
- Color
- Texture
- Space
- Time

Visual Relationships:

- Counterchange, Pattern
- Shared Edges, Parallel
- Transparency, Tension
- Containment, Rhythm
- Interweaving, Closure
- Overlapping, Gridded
- Progression, Abutting
- Suspension, Proximity
- Interlocking, Grouping
- Partitioning, Continuity
- Transitions, Fracturing
- Sectioning, Alignment
- Alternating



DESIGN
variously
organized
harmonious
relationships



Constancy . . . **Harmony**
Much = repetition, regularity

Similarity

Too much = Boredom

Variety . . . Change
Much = contrast, active, busy

Difference

Too much = Chaos

Balance

- Equilibrium among visual elements:
- Radial Symmetry (more than one axis, very centered)
- Symmetry (one axis)
- Approximate symmetry (almost an axis)
- Asymmetry (no axis, more varied & dynamic)

Visual weight:

The inclination of shapes to 'float' or 'sink' based on their visual solidity and compositional location, or the relative importance of a visual element within a design due to size, number, direction, measure, orientation, placement/location, density, color, texture, value, shape, edge

Emphasis

- By weight : Dominance
- By location or surroundings : Focal Point / Separation
- By difference : Anomaly

Movement

Paths lead eyes through composition by line, edge, shape direction, progression, etc.
Spiral, concentric, centrepital, centrifugal, linear, radiating, flowing

Proportion

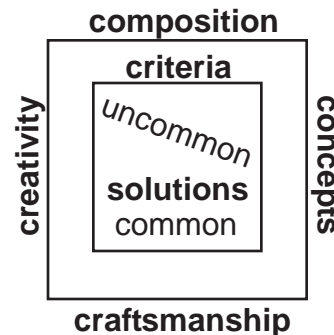
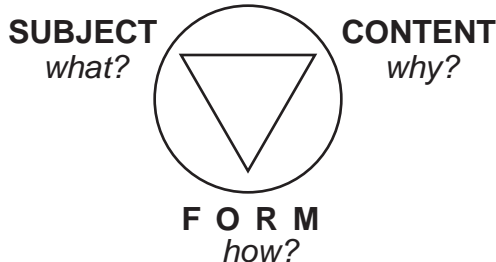
Size ratios comparing itself (parts to whole)
(Scale = size compared to humans: hand-held, life-sized, miniature, monumental)

Economy

Distilled to bare essentials for precision, clarity

- tools
- media
- method
- materials
- technique

- picture plane
- picture frame
- positive/negative



OBJECTIVE > > > > > **ABSTRACTION** > > > > > **SUBJECTIVE**
OBJECT - NATURALISTIC - REALISTIC - SEMI-ABSTRACT - ABSTRACT - NON-OBJECTIVE
PRESENT IN NATURE > REPRESENTATIONAL > NON-REPRESENTATIONAL

Look at pictures throughout text for examples of each.