

The elements of art are the basic parts used by an artist when creating works of art. The elements are:

**Color** - (Hue) The visual quality of an object created by the reflection and/or absorption of light. White light is all of the colors mixed together. If an object absorbs all of the white light wavelengths then the object will appear black. If it reflects all the wavelengths then it will look white. If an object absorbs all wavelengths except blue, then the object will be blue.

**Value** - The darkness or lightness of a color.

**Shades** are dark values of a color when a little black is added.

**Tints** are light values of a color when white is added.

**Line** - A thin mark on a surface created by a pencil, pen, brush, or other tools. There are many types of lines. Lines can be joined together to create shapes (see: [Lines and Shapes](#)).

**Shape** - When lines meet to make flat, two-dimensional areas with height and width.

**Geometric shapes** are squares, triangles, circles, etc.

**Organic shapes** are odd shapes usually found in nature, such as a leaf or a raindrop(see: [Lines and Shapes](#)).

**Form** - A three-dimensional object, such as a box or ball, that has height, width, and thickness. Shapes are flat; forms are not.

**Geometric forms** are spheres (balls), cones, cubes, cylinders, etc.

**Organic forms** are found in nature like clouds, peanuts or a rain drop.

**Texture** - The way something feels when touched or how it may look.

**Space** - The open, or empty, area around, above, below, between, or within an object. Forms and shapes are defined by the empty space around them. Space can also be the shape of a surface in a work of art. Space can be two-dimensional, three-dimensional, positive and/or negative.

**Positive space** is the shape of a surface.

**Negative space** is the empty area between positive space. Artists create positive and negative space in drawing and painting.