



# QUEST

# ART

SCHOOL  
+GALLERY

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*Education Series*



## *This Series*

- The goal of this series is to introduce beginners to the basic elements of art and encourage them to experiment with new processes
- Each lesson will outline one of the elements of art or principles of design
- Following the lesson there will be instructions for an activity designed to allow you to practice what you have learned
- This series has been designed to be a no pressure way to engage with creating art for beginners of all ages



**QUEST**

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*Elements of*

*Art:*

*Introduction*



# *What are the seven elements of art?*

- The seven elements of art are the essential components of any artwork
  - + Think of them as the visual tools an artist uses to make up an image
- The 7 elements are:
  - + Line
  - + Shape
  - + Form
  - + Space
  - + Value
  - + Colour
  - + Texture



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*Elements*

*of Art:*

*Line*



# What is Line?

- A line is a path traced by a moving point – for example, a pencil, pen, or paintbrush
- We see lines all around us – they are a vital element of any work of art



Horizontal  
Line



Diagonal  
Line



Dotted  
Line



Dashed Line



Vertical  
Line



Curved Line



Wavy Line



# ***Actual or Contour Lines***

- Actual lines are marks that exist physically such as words, signs, highway lines  
- to name a few
- Contour lines work to define the edges of the object and the negative space between them - think of the rungs of a ladder
- These lines create a border or path around the edge of a shape



# **Implied Lines**

- Implied lines are the lines that we see in our minds eye to fill in the spaces between objects
  - + For example, implied lines are seen in the gaze between two people
- Implied lines occur when the viewer's eye connects elements of an artwork to create a line leading to a focal point
- Implied lines are not drawn, rather they are created with colours, shapes, textures, and spaces between objects



# ***Geometric Lines***

- Mathematically determined
- Regular or sharp edges
- Rarely found in nature – they are most often found in man-made constructions
- They convey a sense of order, conformity, and reliability



# ***Organic Lines***

- Organic lines are lines often found in nature
- These lines are irregular, curved and often fluid
- Organic lines convey a sense of gracefulness, dynamism, and spontaneity



# ***Lines and Expression***

- Lines can be rendered in a variety of ways, they can be short, long, thick, thin, smooth, textured, broken, flowing, erratic, dark, light, heavy, soft, hard, playful, ordered, even, variable, calligraphic, irregular, smudged, uneven, straight, crooked, choppy, graceful, etc.
- Each rendering of a line evokes a different response
- Expressive lines impart emotional qualities to lines
  - + Sharply angled lines suggest excitement, anger, and chaos
  - + Flat or soft lines suggest calmness, and pleasure



# Elements of Art: *Line Activities*

- Line drawing - simple activity to get started - fill a page with lines
  - + Experiment with the different types of lines highlighted in this lesson - use different mediums to see how the lines change i.e.- a line with pencil compared to a line using watercolours or acrylic paint
- Contour drawing - choose an object to copy. Place your pen, (or pencil) on a piece of paper in front of you and determine where that point is on the object. Allow your eye to move slowly along the contours of the object and as your eyes trace the object, allow your pencil to follow, moving at the same speed.
  - + Do this three times:
    - Draw from the top of the object down to its base
    - Draw from the bottom of the object upwards
    - Draw from one corner of the object to the opposite

