A line is a mark between two points. There are various types of lines, from straight to squiggly to curved and more. Lines can be used for a wide range of purposes: stressing a word or phrase, connecting content to one another, creating patterns and much more.

COLOR

Color is used to generate emotions, define importance, create visual interest and more. CMYK (cyan/magenta/yellow) black) is subtractive; RGB (red/green/blue) is additive.

Some colors are warm and active (orange, red); some are cool and passive (blue, purple).

There are various color types (primary to analogous) and relationships (monochromatic to triad) worth learning more about as well.



Texture relates the to surface of an object; the look or feel of it.
Concrete has a rough texture; drywall has a smooth and subtle texture. Using texture in design is a great way to add depth and visual interest. Printed material has actual, textile texture while screen material has implied texture.

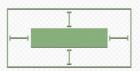


Height + width = shape. We all learned basic shapes in grade school - triangles, squares, circles and rectangles. Odd or lesser seen shapes can be used to attract attention.

There are three basic types of shape: geometric (triangles, squares, circles etc), natural (leaves, animals, trees, people), and abstracted (icons, stylizations, graphic representations etc).



Value is how light or how dark an area looks. A gradient, shown above, is a great way to visualize value – everything from dark to white, all the shades in-between, has a value. Use value to create depth and light; to create a pattern; to lead the eye; or to emphasize.



Space is the area around or between elements in a design. It can be used to separate or group information. Use it effectively to: give the eye a rest; define importance; lead the eye through a design and more.



SIZE

Size is how small or large something is: a small shirt vs. an extra large shirt, for example. Use size to define importance, create visual interest in a design (via contrasting sizes), attract attention and more.



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