



Elements and Principles of Design contribute to good composition in any piece of artwork.

The Elements of Design	
Line	Line varies in direction, defines contour or the edge of an object, creates the illusion of space and form, and creates a pattern when repeated. Line has varying characteristics, e.g., thick and thin, long and short, and curved and straight.
Shape	Shape creates pattern when repeated, can be organic or geometric, can be positive or negative, creates rhythm when repeated, creates emphasis when varied in size, creates balance when varied in placement, can be objective or non-objective, can be distorted or extended.
Form	Form is shape with dimension, can be balanced symmetrically or asymmetrically, can be open or closed, when repeated creates pattern, can be organic and/or geometric, can be studied for its historical and cultural significance.
Color	Color can be mixed from red, yellow, and blue, can be combined to make new colors, can be mixed for intensity and value, can express moods and feelings, can be warm or cool, can give the illusion of distance.
Space	Shape can be displayed by overlapping spaces, can be displayed by color, can be two or three-dimensional, can be distorted, can be positive and negative, can be shown by proposition.
Texture	Texture can be real or simulated, can form a surface, can be natural or man-made, can achieve emphasis, can be affected by lighting conditions.
Value	Value can be created by the manipulation of media, can be expressed through a variety of media, can create movement, can separate a surface, can create an illusion of depth, can be the lightness or darkness of media.

Principals of Design	
Balance	Balance is the weighted relationship between the visual elements.
Composition	Composition is the organization of the elements of design into a unified whole.
Emphasis	Emphasis is the focus of attention in a composition.
Harmony	Harmony is the unity of all the visual elements in a composition.
Proportion	Proportion is the ratio of one part of the composition to another.
Repetition	Repetition is the use of an element or elements more than one time in a single composition.
Rhythm	Rhythm is the repetition of an element to achieve movement in a composition.
Unity	Unity is the organization of elements and principles into a whole.
Variety	Variety is the differences among and between elements in a composition.