The Elements of Design

(the tools to make art)

Line	Horizontal, vertical, diagonal Straight, curved, dotted, broken Thick, thin
Shape	2D (two dimensional)/ flat Geometric (square, circle, oval, triangle) Organic (all other shapes)
Form	3D (three dimensional) Geometric (cube, sphere, cone) Organic (all other forms such as: people, animals, tables, chairs, etc)
Colour	Refers to the wavelengths of light Refers to hue (name), value (lightness/darkness), intensity(saturation, or amount of pigment), and temperature (warm and cool) Relates to tint, tone and shade
Texture	The feel, appearance, thickness, or stickiness of a surface (for example: smooth, rough, silky, furry)
Space	The area around, within, or between images or parts of an image Relates to perspective Positive and negative space

The Principles of Design

(how to use the tools to make art)

Pattern	****	A regular arrangement of alternated or repeated elements (shapes, lines, colours) or motifs.
Contrast		The juxtaposition of different elements of design (for example: rough and smooth textures, dark and light values) in order to highlight their differences and/or create visual interest, or a focal point.
Emphasis	****** *******	Special attention/importance given to one part of a work of art (for example, a dark shape in a light composition). Emphasis can be acheived through placement, contrast, colour, size, repetition Relates to focal point.
Balance	1 ***	A feeling of balance results when the elements of design are arranged symmetrically or asymmetrically to create the impression of equality in weight or importance.
Proportion/ Scale	+	The relationship between objects with respect to size, number, and so on, including the relation between parts of a whole.
Harmony	***	The arrangement of elements to give the viewer the feeling that all the parts of the piece form a coherent whole.
Rhythm/ Movement		The use of recurring elements to direct the movement of the eye through the artwork. There are five kinds of rhythm: random, regular, alternating, progressive, and flowing. The way the elements are organized to lead the eye to the focal area. Movement can be directed for example, along edges and by means of shape and colour.

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