

Flat & Pictorial Composition

Developing Flat Compositions
by using a repeating motif



Vocabulary

Repetition
Positive Space
Negative Space
Pictorial Composition
Flat Composition
Unity
Variety
Eye Travel
Template
Motif
Pattern
Stencil
Visual Entrance

Media

Xerography
India Ink
Rubber Cement
Exacto Knife
2H Pencil
Plastic Eraser

1. Use 11 x 14 inch bristol board
2. Measure off a 1 inch margin that will remain white
3. Divide the central rectangle in half
4. The project may be oriented vertically or horizontally
5. Select a photograph with an interesting shape that can be used as a motif.
6. Size the photograph using scanning or photocopying so that it is exactly 6 x 9 inches
7. Make an extra copy for insurance purposes
8. Cut out the shape that you will use for your motif. This becomes your template.
10. On the flat side, trace the shape several times so that it repeats. Vary your negative space since the motif cannot be varied
11. Ink the negative or positive space of the flat composition
12. When the ink is completely dry, use the double coat rubber cement method taught in class to adhere the photograph
13. Have fun with it!