#### Abstract - Elements and Principles Mural - Learning Activity



Theo Van Doesburg The Cow. 1916. Gouache, oil, and charcoal on paper. Moma. New York, NY.

# Abstraction is a simplification and rearrangement of visual information.

Abstract art is not intended to represent recognizable objects.

LINE, COLOR, TEXTURE, and SHAPES are able to express emotion, or an experience of the recognizable world.

Observer how, Theo Van Doesburg slowly simplified and rearranged the lines, colors, texture and shapes, to go from a drawing of a cow to an abstraction painting made up of colored squares and rectangles.



Rearrange/move the shapes to a new location. Now the shapes may not be overlapping now. The size of the shapes ow

may change.

 Simplify the main shapes that make up the bird. Use organic and geometric shapes. The shapes should still be overlapping.

Simplify and rearrange the shapes one more time. Add your own choice of colors. Add color to the background.

## You are free to express yourself



#### **Line Abstractions -**

**Line Abstractions -** simplification and/or rearrangement of the image.

Line has a beginning and an end.

Lines can represent the edge of an object.
Lines quality can be thick, thin, broken, scratchy, etc.

High Quality - The example fills the 100% of the box. There are a variety of different types of line qualities. The lines show evidence that they were inspired by the image, but are not a copy or drawing of the image. There is colored lines to represent the water.

Medium Quality - The lines are quickly drawn and only fill 40%- 70% of the box. There is only one type of line quality.

**Low Quality -** The example is made of shapes.

You may use Colored pencils, oil pastels, crayons, pencils, markers, etc.

Name Per. Date

# Give yourself permission to make art your way!



# Shapes and Color Abstractions

**Shapes and color abstraction -** simplification and/or rearrangement of the image.

Shapes can be organic or geometric. Shapes are closed areas of space.

Colors are defined by their hue (color), value (how light or dark) and their intensity (the strength or how pure or saturation)

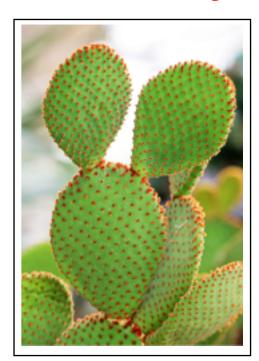
High Quality - The example fills the 100% of the box. There are a variety of different types of shapes and colors. The shapes and colors show evidence that they were inspired by the image, but are not a copy or drawing of the image. The colored shapes have been rearranged and simplified. There are patterns within the abstraction. There are colors on-top-of colors.

Medium Quality - The shapes are quickly drawn and only fill 40%- 70% of the box. There are a few different colors.

**Low Quality -** The example is sloppy and lacks effort.

You may use Colored pencils, oil pastels, crayons, pencils, markers, etc.

## The best way to be creative is to try it!



High Quality - The example shows evidence of the use of the elements and principle to create a simplified and/or rearranges version of the image. The solution is created with craftsmanship and an attention to detail. The solutions has a "wow" factor. There is evidence that the artist understands abstraction.

Medium Quality - The solution was quickly created and only fill 40%- 50% of the box. The use of the elements and principles are not obvious. The artist tried to represent the image too closely.

**Low Quality -** The example is sloppy and lacks effort.

### **Abstract it your way**

Look at the last page of this learning activity to see the elements and principles. Choose one or two elements and/or principles to combine to **simplify and rearrange this image.** 

You may use Colored pencils, oil pastels, crayons, pencils, markers, etc.

Which element or principle do you think you used most?

Name	Per.

# No one else will ever make the same art as you will. Please share your ideas with the world.



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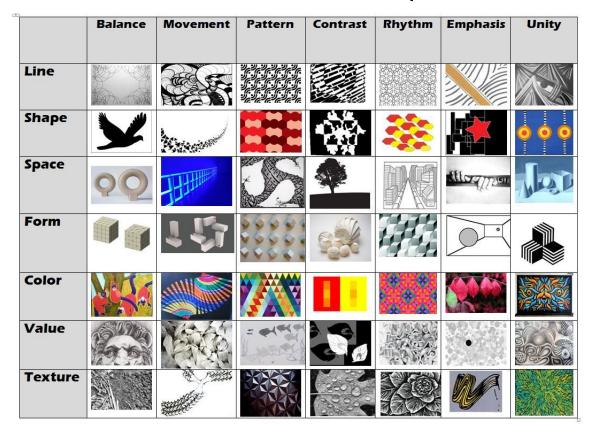
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Which element or principle do you think you used most?

#### **Abstract - Elements and Principles Mural**



Directions - For this assignment you will create 6 abstract squares, each = 4.25" x 4.25". The squares will be placed on to a large mural board with art from other students.

I will provide you images as inspiration for you to use, to create your abstractions.

Your abstract solutions can be created using any technique or material that you find will best serve your purpose.

Simplify and rearrange the provided images (inspiration) to create your abstract images.

# This assignment is designed to give you an opportunity to give yourself permission to express your own unique creative ideas.

Abstraction is a simplification, or rearrangement of visual information. It is helpful to focus on one, or two elements/principles for a design. It is not possible to include all the elements or principles with each 4.25" squares. 100% of the square should be filled with your technique.

For example, maybe your abstractions is going to focus on lines and color. Or, Maybe your abstraction is going to focus on texture and pattern.

"If you are trying your BEST to express your idea, you are doing it right."

Your work will be seen by your peers.

Show the world how wonderful your ideas are.