Discover
Better
Composition

For Better Photographs
Better Composition

Dennis the Geek

• Susan the Granny
• Dan the Flower
• Marty the Weirdo
• Howard the Jogger
• Janet the Artist
• Kathy the Newbie

• Michael the Landscaper
• Marianne The Birder
• Peter the Traveler
• Ron the Smiler
• Judy the Jaguar
• Jim the Fireman
composition
/ˌkämpə'ziSH(ə)n/

noun

1. the **nature** of something's **ingredients** or constituents; the **way** in which a **whole** or mixture is **made up**.

In the case of photography ... 

A photograph (whole) is a combination (made up) of visual elements (ingredients) arranged (way) to attract and hold the attention of a viewer and sometimes to **evoke an emotion** or communicate a message from the photographer.
Visual Elements

These are the visual elements that apply across almost all types of artistic work.
Line

Line is the foundation of all drawing. It is the first and most versatile of the visual elements of art. Line in an artwork can be used in many different ways. It can be used to suggest shape, pattern, form, structure, growth, depth, distance, rhythm, movement and a range of emotions.

* If you use Shape link, uncheck unnecessary cookies on ArtyFactory web site.
Shape

*Shape* can be natural or man-made, regular or irregular, flat (edges joined in one plane) or 3-d (edges of a solid, joined across multiple planes), representational or abstract, geometric or organic, transparent or opaque, positive or negative, decorative or symbolic, colored, patterned or textured.

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Pattern

The Visual Element of Pattern

- is constructed by repeating or echoing the elements of an artwork to communicate a sense of balance, harmony, contrast, rhythm or movement.
Pattern

There are two basic types of pattern in art:

**Natural Pattern** and **Man-Made Pattern**.

Both natural and man-made patterns can be regular or irregular, organic or geometric, structural or decorative, positive or negative and repeating or random.
Pattern

Natural Pattern:

Pattern in art is often based on the inspiration we get from observing the natural patterns that occur in nature.

We can see these in the shape of a leaf and the branches of a tree, the structure of a crystal, the spiral of a shell, the symmetry of a snowflake and the camouflage and signaling patterns on animals, fish and insects.
Pattern

**Man-Made Pattern:**

Pattern in art is used for both structural and decorative purposes. For example, an artist may plan the basic structure of an artwork by creating a compositional pattern of lines and shapes. Within that composition he/she may develop its visual elements to create a more decorative pattern of color, tone and texture across the work.
Pattern

Analysis of Patterns

Does the artist create pattern by repeating lines, shapes, tones, colors, etc. across the work?

What kind of patterns are used:

natural or man-made;

regular or irregular;

symmetrical or asymmetrical;

functional or decorative?
Pattern

Words to Describe Patterns

natural - organic - abstract - geometric - man-made
regular - irregular
functional - structural
decorative - ornamental
symmetrical - asymmetrical
repeating - rich - varied - random
positive - negative

https://artyfactory.com/art_appreciation/visual-elements/pattern.html
Assignment

• Take six good photographs of any two subjects where the Visual Element of Pattern is featured.

• Use a different point of view for each of the three images of each subject. Go up/down, in/out, straight on/angled. Conventional/creative/weird.

• Email the photos to me at dlf424@gmail.com

• Due, end of day, Tuesday

• Follow The Way