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
com·po·si·tion
/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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Shape

The Perspective of Shapes:
The angles and curves of shapes appear to change depending on our viewpoint. The effect that describes this change is called perspective.
The Behavior of Shapes: Shapes can be used to control your feelings in the composition of an artwork:

Squares and Rectangles can portray strength and stability.

Circles and Ellipses can represent continuous movement.

Triangles can lead the eye in an upward movement.

Inverted Triangles can create a sense of imbalance and tension.
Shape

Analysis of Shapes
Does the artist use shape to:
create a sense of order, space, rhythm or pattern?
What kind of shapes are used:
flat (edges in the same plane) or profile of a solid (3-dimensional);
geometric or organic;
abstract or representational;
positive or negative;
transparent or opaque?
Shape

Words to Describe Shapes

natural -man-made
regular -irregular
flat -2-dimensional
solid -3-dimensional
representational - abstract
geometric -organic
transparent -reflective
opaque -positive- negative,
decorative -symbolic -
stylized -
perspective-square - rectangular -circular -elliptical
-triangular -interlocking -constructed -balanced
Simple - complex
freeform -twisted

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

• Take six good photographs of any subject where the Visual Element of Shape is featured.

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

• Due, end of day, Tuesday

• Follow The Way