

The Art Elements 1

Line | project brief

Materials + Equipment (when working at home)

Compressed charcoal, pencil, graphite, earth coloured conte or chalk pastel, white chalk pastel.

Paper (A3 or A2)

Still-life objects that emphasize line (have a strong linear quality).

Project Brief

Step 1

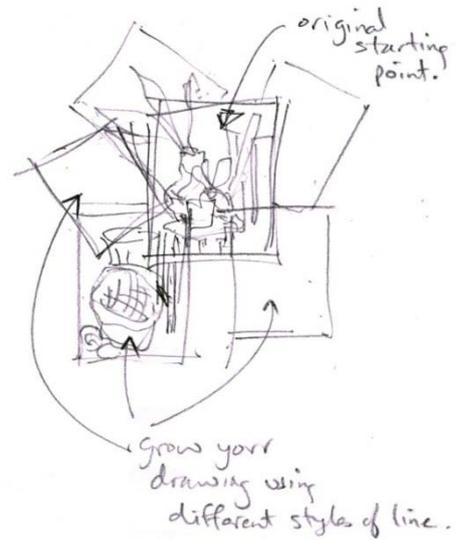
Aim: Focus on developing a variety of line qualities

1. Tear up some A5 sheets of paper from your sketchbook. Ready a fresh sketchbook page for working on.
2. Draw a fairly central section of the still life using line only (your natural style) on A5 paper depending how large you want your finished drawing to be. (use masking tape to stick sections down and make sure you draw over them during the project).
3. Grow your drawing in A5 size steps

- a. Select a number of artist's styles from the resources I have available on Pinterest and expand your drawing adding on still-life sections in different materials and styles of line.
- b. Look for different line qualities and types of line by the following artists on my [Pinterest](#) board: Henry Moore, David Hockney, Van Gogh, Heather Spears, William Kentridge, Frank Auerbach, and Paula Rego.
- c. After drawing a few sections in different styles you may want to mix 'n match to link or extend the different drawing styles together across the drawing as a whole. Pay attention to how the drawing comes together and different styles of line begin to contrast or work well together.

4. Focus on being guided by

- a. the kind of line the artist uses
- b. the kind of marks the materials want you to make
- c. How do the different styles begin to work together, overlapping lines, emphasizing sections, etc.



Step 2

Aim: Increasing the effectiveness of line quality by introducing tonal variation.

Inspiration: See Cameron McEwan's drawings on [Pinterest](#) for visual guidance.

1. Bring the drawing to a conclusion.
 - a. Introduce white chalk pastel to lighten up some sections
 - b. Introduce more shading and tone especially in the background around the objects with compressed charcoal.
 - c. Create focus by developing dark areas towards the focal point of the drawing.

Most importantly make sure you retain the different kinds of lines/marks in your drawing and that they all work together harmoniously or in contrast.

Step 3

Aim: Increasing the effectiveness of line quality by introducing colour and layering to create a richly worked surface.

Inspiration: See Cameron McEwan's drawings on [Pinterest](#) for visual guidance.

- Let's introduce a new element – colour. Use a piece of earth coloured Conte or chalk pastel to introduce a warm earthy brown colour.
- Use the side of the stick to simply overlay blocks of warm red/brown in selected areas across the drawing.
- Re-draw the lines and marks that have got smudged by the overlaying of the red/brown colour.

This process enables you to start developing a richly worked surface by layering and overlaying line, marks and shading by slowly emphasising certain lines or marks, de-emphasising others, adjusting tones and creating an rich network of lines and marks all interacting together.

It's very experimental – give it a go.

Notes

- If you are working on this project after attending the Art Elements course remember to refer to your notes and remember all that you learnt about types of line that you can create.
- Remember you need to be thinking and applying all that you have learnt about the [Principles of Art](#) to help you create a coherent and visually strong 'finished' drawing.
- Use the 'Leave a reply' form on my website to ask me any questions if you are working on this project at home, or sign up to attend the **Art Elements** course if you haven't already.