

Outa the box

What are contour lines?



What Is a Contour Line?

In the world of art, a **contour line** is a line which defines a form or an edge. It is, essentially, the outline or silhouette of a given object or figure. Additionally, contour lines can be used to show any dramatic changes of plane within the object or form (like the inner seams within the structure of a shoe, for example) Lines can be used to draw important details like highlights or decorative numbers on a clock. Etc

In short it is a line drawing where line is used to describe everything!!!!

The term 'contour' finds its origins in French and is derived from the Italian term 'contourno,' 'to round off.' This, in turn, is from 'contournare,' meaning 'to turn around' in Medieval Latin and is traced to Latin as 'com-' + 'tournare,' meaning 'to turn on a lathe.'

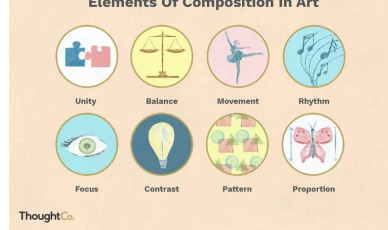
Step one Draw a contour line drawing from one of the still life in the back

Must have at least 4 items in it.

*remember line weight can be used with emphasis ie thicker and darker to unicate value or how close something is ..

Next using a box add a focus area. Consider composition

"Composition is the art of arranging in a decorative manner the diverse elements at the painter's command to express his feelings."



Elements of Composition

The Elements of Composition in art are used to arrange or organize the visual components in a way that is pleasing to the artist and, one hopes, the viewer. They help give structure to the layout of the painting and the way the subject is presented. They can also encourage or lead the viewer's eye to wander around the whole painting, taking in everything and ultimately coming back to rest on the [focal point](#). In Western art the Elements of Composition are generally considered to be:

Unity: Do all the parts of the composition feel as if they belong together, or does something feel stuck on, awkwardly out of place?

Balance: Balance is the sense that the painting "feels right" and not heavier on one side. Having a symmetrical arrangement adds a sense of calm, whereas an asymmetrical arrangement creates a more dynamic feeling. A painting that is not balanced creates a sense of unease.

Movement: There are many ways to give a sense of movement in a painting, such as the arrangement of objects, the position of figures, the flow of a river. You can use leading lines (a photography term applicable to painting) to direct the viewer's eye into and around the painting. Leading lines can be actual lines, such as the lines of a fence or railroad, or they can be implied lines, such as a row of trees or curve of stones or circles.

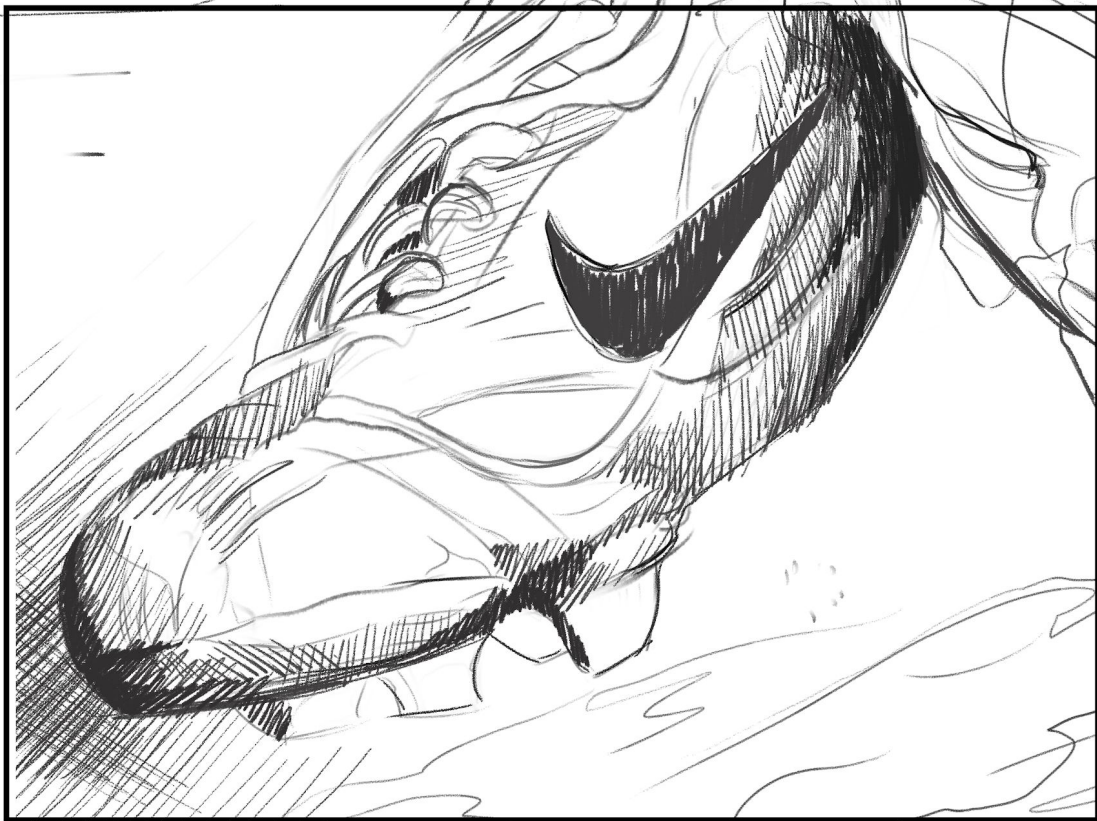
Rhythm: In much the same way music does, a piece of art can have a rhythm or underlying beat that leads your eye to view the artwork at a certain pace. Look for the large underlying shapes (squares, triangles, etc.) and repeated color. (See example)

Focus (or Emphasis): The viewer's eye ultimately wants to rest on the "most important" thing or focal point in the painting, otherwise the eye feels lost, wandering around in space.

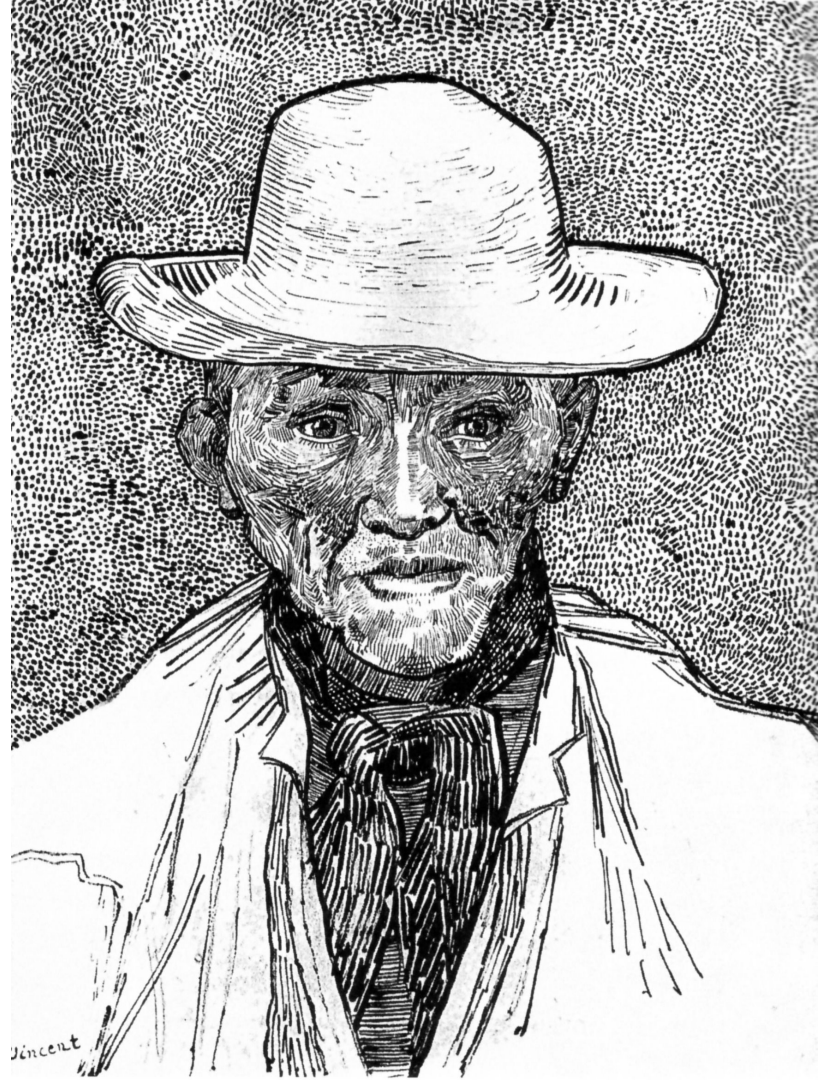
Contrast: Paintings with high contrast - strong differences between light and dark, for example - have a different feel than paintings with minimal contrast in light and dark, such as in Whistler's *Nocturne* series. In addition to light and dark, contrast can be differences in shape, color, size, texture, type of line, etc.

Pattern: A regular repetition of lines, shapes, colors, or values in a composition.

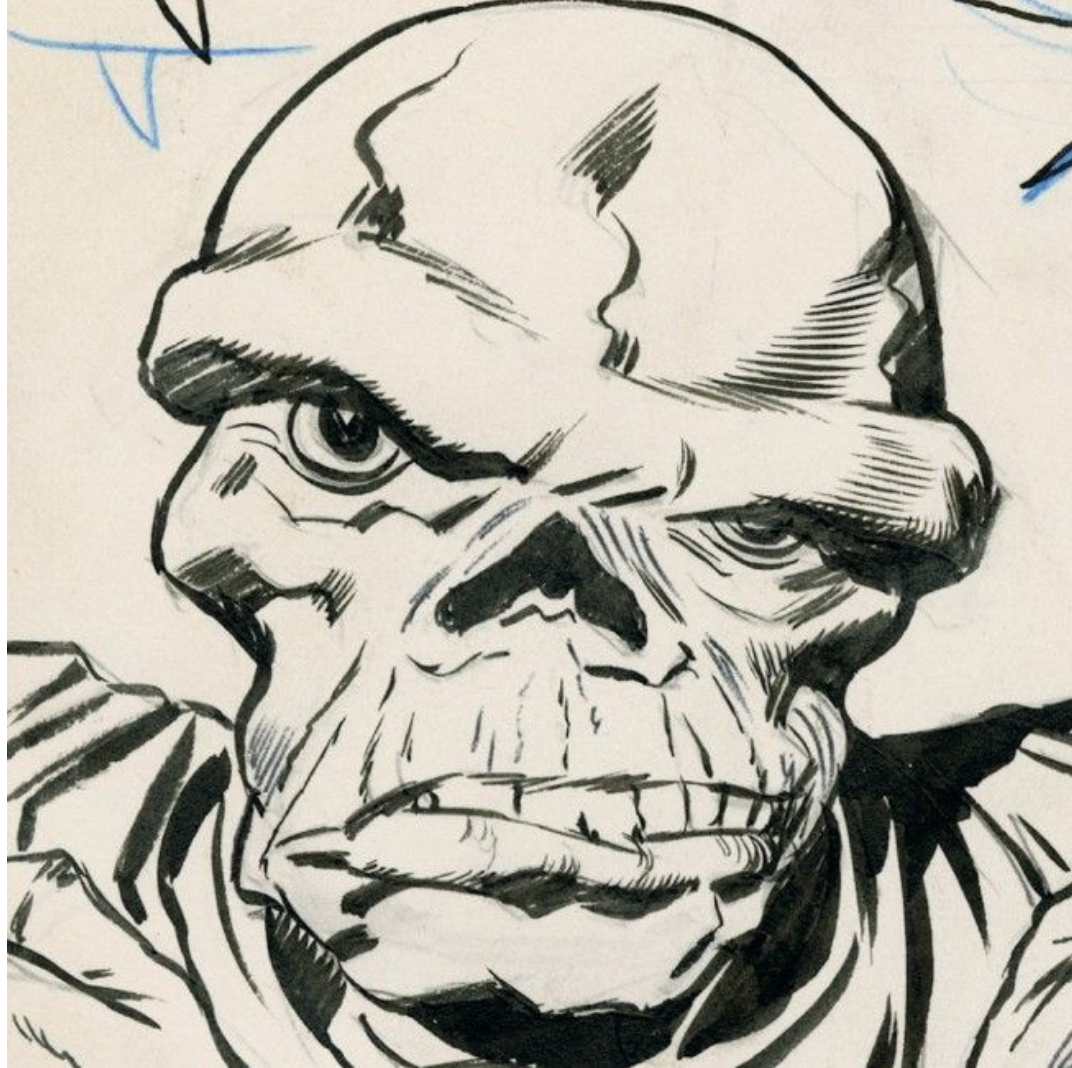
Proportion: How things fit together and relate to each other in terms of size and scale; whether big or small, nearby or distant.



Using only line
how does these
artist convey
things like value
and form?



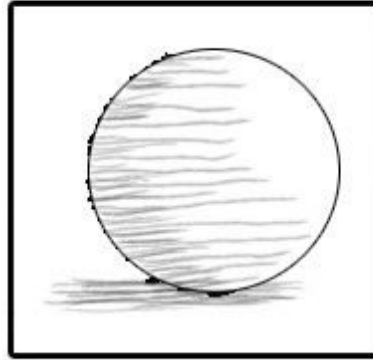




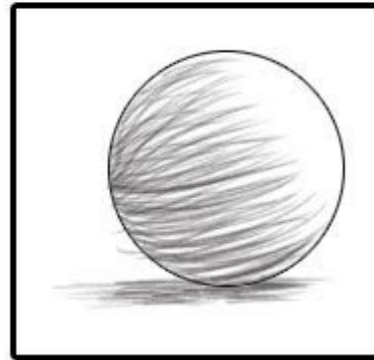
Line can be used to show
shape,
contour,
texture
& tone.

A Few Pen and Ink Techniques

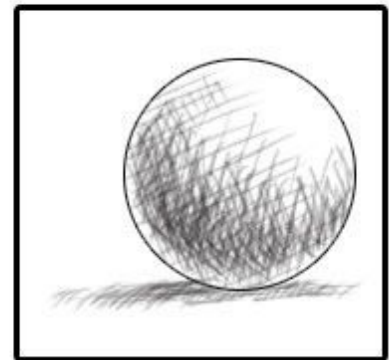
Types of ways
for creating
value and
emphasis



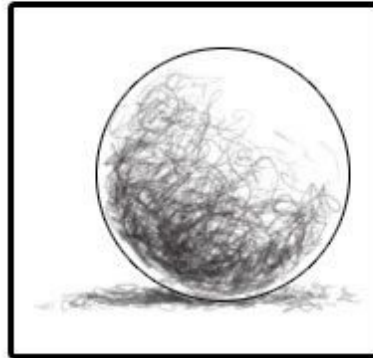
Hatching



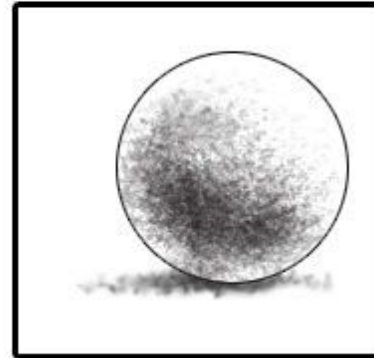
Cross Contour



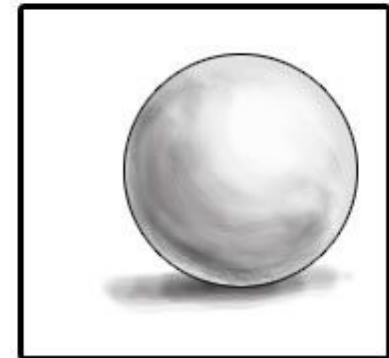
Cross Hatching



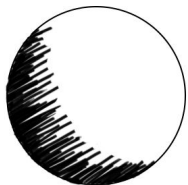
Random Lines



Stippling

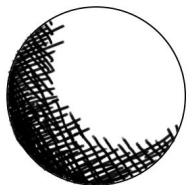


Ink Wash



Hatching

Straight lines that face the same direction and lines get closer where you want the image to get darker



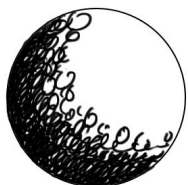
Cross-Hatching

Just like Hatching, except with lines from differing directions



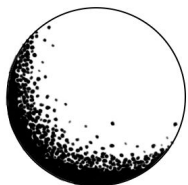
Contour-Hatching

Similar to other Hatching techniques, but this type curves to the shape of the object your shading



Scumbling

Free-form quiggles or scribbles that get closer together where you want the shading to get darker



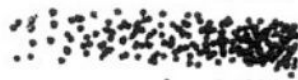
Stippling

My personal favorite! Place tiny dots all over the place. Place more dots where you want the object's shading to be darker

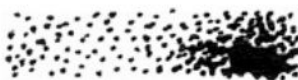
Stippling



Stippling uses tiny dots to create value.

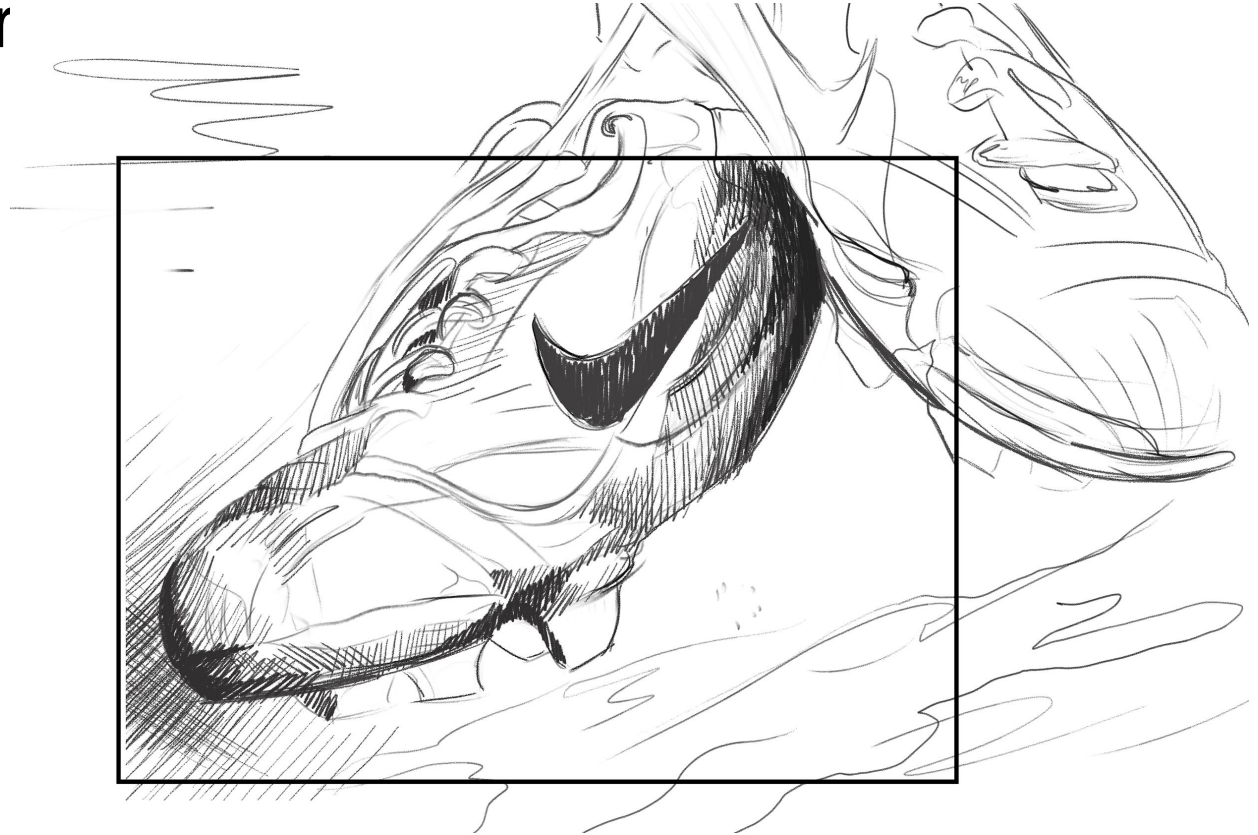


The closer together the dots, the darker the tone.



Larger dots create a denser tonal value more quickly but can look coarse.

Inside the box add your chosen method/ technique
for value and for



OPTIONAL: Add color

In your box using color
pencils or watercolor or
digital color in your box