

# MOVEMENT

one of the seven Principles of Art

**Movement creates the impression of action in an artwork.**

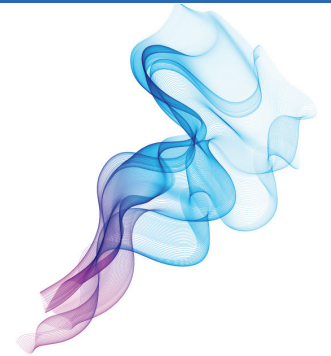
Rhythm, line, color, balance and space play a major role in creating the feeling of movement.

Movement adds excitement, drama, and overall compositional interest to an artwork. An artist can direct how a viewer's eye moves around an image by arranging its elements in a certain way. Rhythm, line, color, balance and space also play a major role in creating the feeling of movement. For example, the eye will naturally travel along the path of a solid or dotted line, from large to smaller elements, from dark to lighter elements, from color to non color, from organic shapes to geometric shapes, etc. By using these movement techniques, the viewer's attention can be directed from the main focal point to other elements around the composition.

**Let's explore 5 techniques to create movement.**

## Color

The dynamic use of color can enhance the feeling of movement. In this image, the low-key purple, which is both darker and duller, rises and blends into the high-key blue, which is both lighter in value and stronger in intensity.



## Lines



Lines are either static or dynamic.

**Static**, straight lines that are vertical and horizontal feel solid and stable. Most buildings utilize vertical and horizontal edges because of the real-world stability these lines provide when they meet at right angles.



**Dynamic** lines, on the contrary, do a much better job at implying movement. Dynamic lines are often diagonal to the edges of the picture plane and may zig-zag or become sweeping curves. Lines can also communicate movement in another way. A drawn line is really the path. The locations where a line begins and ends reveal the movement of the artist's hand. Artists apply this unique concept of a line to "trace" the path something is taking through a picture.

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## Rhythm

Visual rhythm is created by repeating shapes (a pattern), lines, colors, or any other visual component. To create movement through rhythm, an artwork must have a guide through the composition; this is called a **motif**. The amount of space between each motif (repeating shape) sets the speed at which the viewer's eyes move around the composition.

If the motif is identical in size and spacing it is said to be **regular**. Lamp posts along a city street have a **regular** rhythm—each one is the same as the next.

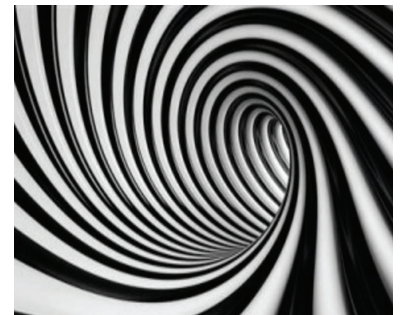


If a motif is variable in size and spacing, then the rhythm is said to be **irregular**. Trees growing in a forest have an **irregular** rhythm. Each tree is unique.



## Illusion

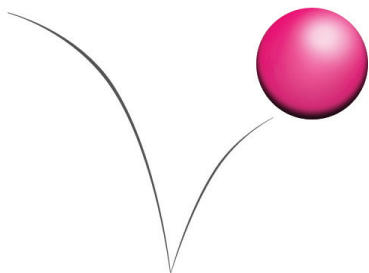
Created in the mid-twentieth century, "Op Art," (short for "optical art") uses techniques such as repetition and contrast to create an illusion that will trigger the brain's natural efforts to organize complex visual sensory information. By "tricking" the sense of sight, artists can create a sensory experience of movement in a still image.



## Implied Movement

Implied action in a work of art creates life and activity.

This is best illustrated by the direction the eye takes along an invisible path created by a line, arrow, or pointing finger (such as bouncing ball image). Action can also be indicated by the "freeze frame" effect of an object or person in motion (such as the dancers shown below).



# MOVEMENT

## WORD SEARCH

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Rearrange the letters to unscramble these 22 MOVEMENT words:

ACTION

IMPLIED

OPTICAL

SENSORY

ACTIVITY

IRREGULAR

PATH

STATIC

COLOR

LINES

PATTERN

STRAIGHT

DYNAMIC

MOVEMENT

REGULAR

TRAVEL

GUIDE

MOTIF

REPETITION

ILLUSION

MOTION

RHYTHM

X	M	O	T	I	O	N	Z	K	G	Q	S	H	F	J	R	V
X	W	P	P	X	G	G	U	I	D	E	Q	C	R	I	E	U
L	T	A	W	Z	W	K	I	A	Y	I	H	F	W	L	G	H
D	I	C	J	A	D	H	X	R	N	S	L	E	B	L	U	M
F	M	T	S	S	V	I	S	T	A	T	I	C	A	U	L	O
L	P	I	E	T	Q	E	M	Q	M	L	I	N	E	S	A	V
M	L	V	N	R	V	L	P	V	I	F	W	B	T	I	R	E
O	I	I	S	A	G	M	A	Y	C	P	K	Z	U	O	W	M
T	E	T	O	I	V	Y	T	P	B	E	Y	Q	V	N	O	E
I	D	Y	R	G	I	F	T	R	H	Y	T	H	M	U	P	N
F	L	I	Y	H	Q	R	E	P	E	T	I	T	I	O	N	T
A	E	Y	B	T	C	E	R	S	T	W	C	O	X	L	Z	W
C	O	T	I	M	Y	K	N	B	Y	P	A	T	H	X	Z	C
G	O	I	B	L	T	R	A	V	E	L	Z	B	B	D	W	H
U	P	C	B	D	P	Q	U	O	P	T	I	C	A	L	Q	J
I	R	R	E	G	U	L	A	R	B	X	Z	R	X	U	I	F
C	O	L	O	R	A	V	R	D	A	C	T	I	O	N	B	R

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## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to unscramble these 22 MOVEMENT words:

1. NIOACT \_\_\_\_\_

2. VYTITICA \_\_\_\_\_

3. RLCOO \_\_\_\_\_

4. CAYNDIM \_\_\_\_\_

5. IUEGD \_\_\_\_\_

6. LLOIIUNS \_\_\_\_\_

7. IIDPMEL \_\_\_\_\_

8. EGRRUILRA \_\_\_\_\_

9. LEINS \_\_\_\_\_

10. OIFTM \_\_\_\_\_

11. NMIOOT \_\_\_\_\_

12. OVETNEMM \_\_\_\_\_

13. IATPCOL \_\_\_\_\_

14. APTH \_\_\_\_\_

15. RTTEPNA \_\_\_\_\_

16. ELARURG \_\_\_\_\_

17. TNORPTEIEI \_\_\_\_\_

18. HYMHTR \_\_\_\_\_

19. YORSENS \_\_\_\_\_

20. IATTSC \_\_\_\_\_

21. RHSGATTI \_\_\_\_\_

22. LATRVE \_\_\_\_\_

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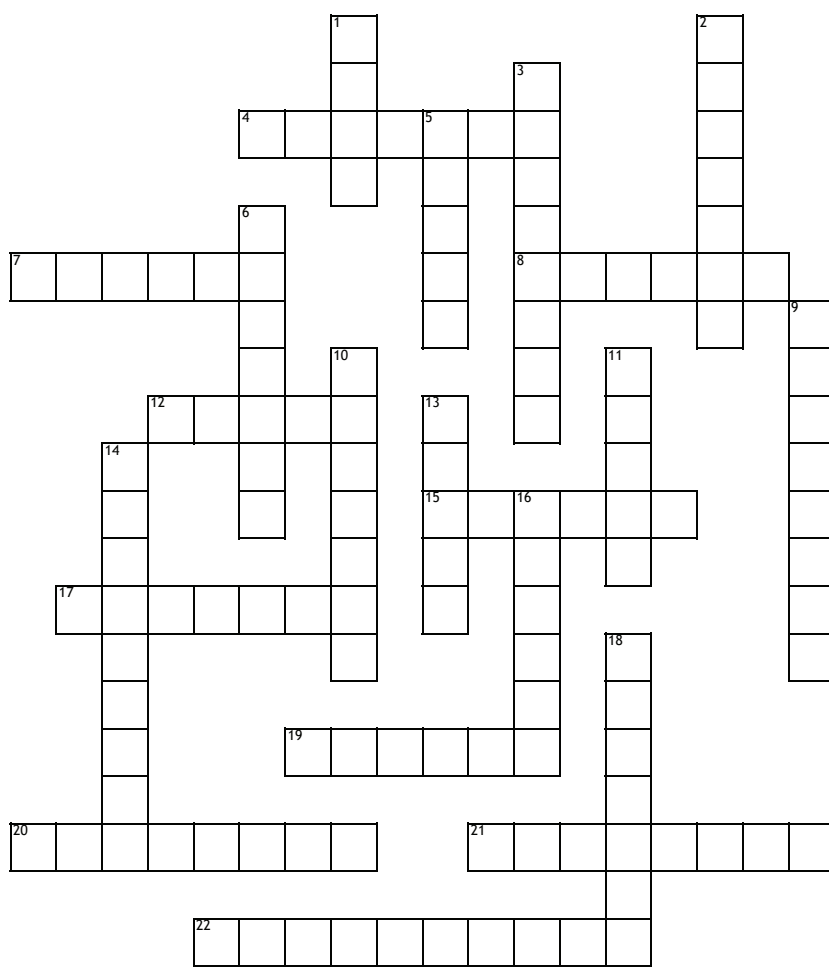
## CROSSWORD

### Across

4. Abbreviated as Op Art; a style of visual art that uses illusions
7. the arrangement of shapes in a way which creates an underlying beat
8. standing still; not moving
12. a lightly marked line; direction
15. move, typically in a constant or predictable way
17. identical in size and spacing
19. a change in position or orientation of an object over time
20. extending or moving uniformly in one direction only; without a curve or bend:
21. the principle of art used to create the impression of action in a work of art
22. recurrence of a particular line, pattern, shape or other visual element in a single work or a series of works

### Down

1. continuous series of positions in any motion
2. based on the idea of movement and energy
3. a thing that is or is likely to be wrongly perceived or interpreted by the senses
5. ----- wheel; may be primary, secondary, or tertiary.
6. suggested but not directly expressed
9. the situation in which a lot of things are happening or people are moving around
10. relating to the physical senses
11. marks that span a distance between two points
13. an element of an image
14. variable in size and spacing
16. the process of doing
18. element or elements that is/are repeated



1. Path; 2. Dynamic; 3. Illusion; 4. Optical; 5. Color; 6. Implied;  
7. Rhythm; 8. Static; 9. Activity; 10. Sensory; 11. Lines; 12. Guide;  
13. Motif; 14. Irregular; 15. Travel; 16. Action; 17. Regular; 18. Pattern;  
19. Motion; 20. Straight; 21. Movement; 22. Repetition