

# [P1] Dots & Dashes

due at 6pm on Wednesday 1.23

## Challenge:

After brainstorming/sketching inside your Visual Journal, create a series of at least 30 unique & ambitious non-representational designs as polished thumbnail solutions using black sharpies &/or black liquid pens on Bristol paper.

The goal for TEN polished thumbnail solutions is to create dynamic compositions emphasizing & focusing on **LINE**. v

Consider how you can use line in exciting ways, exploring variety, unity, repetition, scale, implied, heavy, soft, elegant, busy, organic, jagged...etc.

The goal for TEN polished thumbnail solutions is to create dynamic compositions emphasizing & focusing on **BALANCE**.

Consider how you can use balance in exciting ways, exploring space, unity, contrast, shape, repetition, scale, size, radial, asymmetrical, symmetrical...etc.

The goal for TEN polished thumbnail solutions is to create dynamic compositions emphasizing & focusing on **VALUE**.

Consider how you can use value in exciting ways, exploring patterns, cross-hatching, stippling, density, contrast, space, repetition, scale, size, elegant, texture...etc.

**You must use between 3 to 9 shapes in each thumbnail while being limited to any combination of:**

**rectangles, squares, circles, ovals**

You can NOT use any other shapes in your designs.

**All thumbnails must be the exact same square size.**

[lightly with a pencil then erase pencil lines]

Carefully and cut the thumbnails apart from one another.

Store them using a folder, envelope, or bag. Do not write on thumbnails.

DO consider craftsmanship...always, in ALL ways.

DO play with placement, scale & distance between shapes; explore/pay attention to the composition, relative to the square format.

DO think about variety, unity & pattern.

DO explore cropping shapes off the edge of compositions.

DO explore overlapping & tension within the composition.

**DO NOT use less than three shapes per composition.**

**DO NOT use more than nine shapes per composition.**

**Non-Representational Designs? Take notes on what that means here:**

**Grade Evaluation:**  
Design  
Concept  
Craft  
Critique/Presentation  
Artistic Process

1. Sketch ideas in VJ
2. Select the top 10 solutions for line; balance & value
3. Create polished thumbnails on Bristol paper
4. Carefully cut out squares & store

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## Materials:

Visual Journal & Bristol pad

variety of Black Sharpies &/or black liquid pens {no ballpoint pens}

metal ruler

pencil to measure/then erase

scissors/X-acto knife/paper cutter for neatly cutting thumbnails

You might find it helpful to use a circle/square template, or simply trace shapes you desire in your designs

envelope/ziplock for storing cut thumbnails

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## Key terms:

**Thumbnails:** A series of square studies created in preparation & research for a project. This process allows the artist to push beyond the first solution, to discover the most innovative & creative solution. This takes time & is a valuable part of the artistic process.

**Polished:** This is something that demonstrates time, review & careful calculation. Using a ruler to complete a consistently measured template so all of your thumbnails are the exact same square dimensions.

