

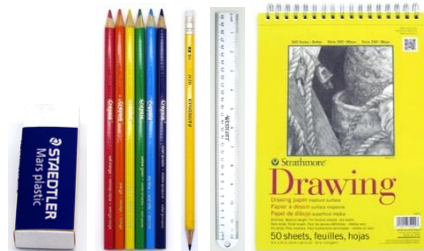
Sculpture and Pattern

Learn how to draw repeating patterns as seen across the surface of an object.

draw from the
COLLECTION
... at home!

Supplies

- pencil
- paper
- eraser
- ruler
- colored pencils



Step 1

Look closely at the patterns in this artwork. Draw the basic geometric shapes which most closely resembles the object (ex: circle for a plate, square for a box, etc.).

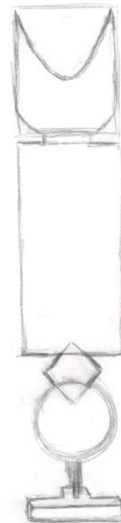


Helpful hint: draw lightly. Allow shapes to overlap each other as needed.



Step 2

Further refine the geometric shape to best resemble the outer contour of the object. Erase any remnants of the former shapes as needed.



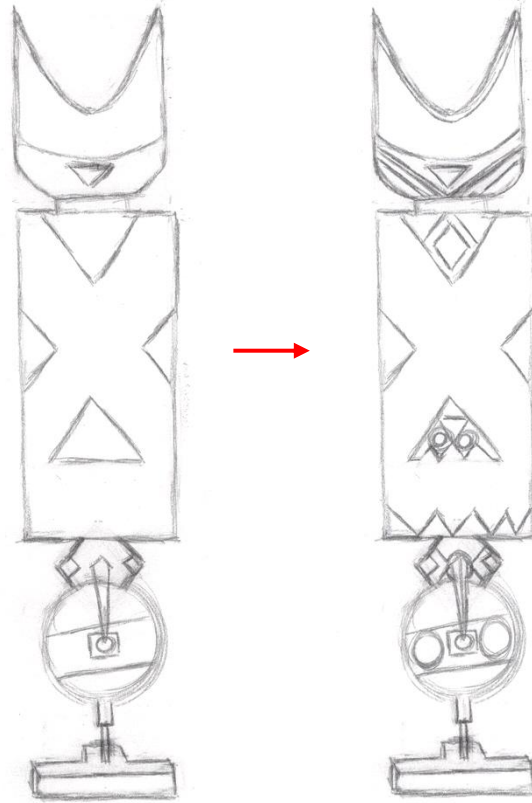
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Step 3

Look more closely again at the artwork.
Lightly draw the basic geometric shapes of
the internal parts or pieces.

Note: do not begin drawing the patterns
at this stage.

Helpful hint: for areas where patterns
occur, draw boundary shapes or lines to
define those areas first (ex: draw only the
outermost circle and not all the
concentric rings inside that circle shape).



Step 4

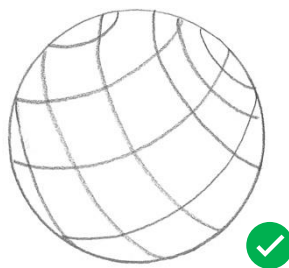
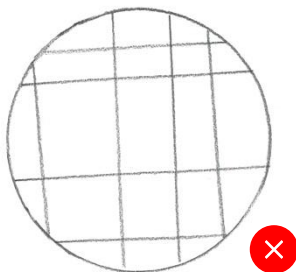
Continue to refine the internal shapes to best
resemble the outer contour of those parts.
Erase any remnants of the former shapes.

Step 5

Closely examine the patterns in the artwork and observe the rules
that the patterns follow (ex: concentric circles, parallel zig zag lines,
etc.). Lightly draw the patterns where they appear.

Note: for best results, draw the overall impression of complex
patterns rather than an exact precision to detail.

Helpful hint: for a good dimensional effect, patterns should also
follow the form of non-flat objects (ex: lines within a sphere
should curve rather than go straight across).



Step 6

Add value or color to your drawing using pencil, pen, markers or colored pencils.

Note: for best color results, areas to be colored should remain white until color is applied. Coloring over areas shaded with graphite pencil will dull the color.

Helpful hint: for darkest value, press firmly with extra soft leaded pencils (ex: 6B or 8B). Smear with finger or tortillon to spread evenly. Use an eraser to lighten values as needed.



Helpful hint: create rich color hues by adding several layers of colors on top of each other. Add layers from lightest to darkest and push harder into the paper with each new layer. If colors get too dark, use an eraser to lighten. For extra dark colors, add black last and slowly push harder until desired darkness is achieved.



Extra Challenge

Draw patterns into an object with no patterns.
Create your own patterns inspired by other artworks.

Resources

[See another artwork with patterns from DAI's African art collection](#)

[Learn more about the meaning of the checkerboard patterns in this lesson's featured artwork](#)

[Learn color pencil blending techniques](#)

draw from the
COLLECTION
... at home!

Questions about or ideas for Draw from the Collection? Email edu@daytonart.org