

Checker Board Patterns

Checker board designs are simple patterns of squares alternating between two colors. In this project, students will use simple geometry tools to make lines and circular shapes, then define a pattern within the boundaries of the overlapping shapes using the repetition of two colors.

This is a good, easy introduction to the elements of line, pattern and shape.

Grade Levels 5-8

Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Objectives

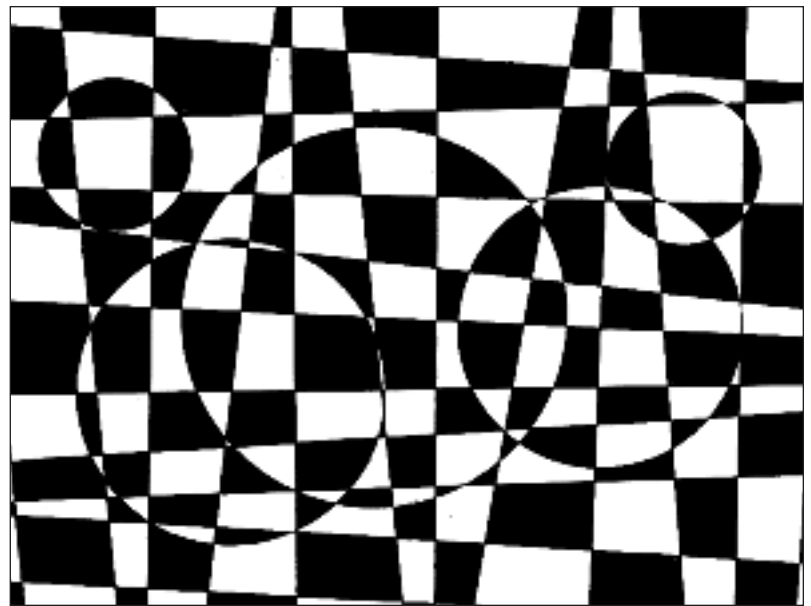
After completing this lesson, students would be able to:

- Draw random straight lines.
- Use a straight edge and compass to draw lines and shapes.
- Define a checkered pattern.

Procedure

1. Using the ruler and graphite pencil, students draw vertical and horizontal lines on the bristol board. Lines are to be randomly placed, without measuring, running from one edge of the board to the other. Lines should not be parallel.
2. With the compass, students draw circles over the random vertical and horizontal lines. Students should draw at least three circles of varying sizes. Circles can overlap.
3. After the basic pattern is drawn in pencil, students start in the upper left hand corner and fill every other shape in with black marker. When one row is complete, they move down to the next row and create a pattern by filling in the opposite one defined in the first row.

Make sure all shapes are considered, even very tiny ones created with the overlapping circles.



Materials

Beinfang® Bristol Board, plate (smooth) surface (13302-1013), 20-board pad 9" x 12", need one board per student

Blick 12" Aluminum Ruler (55430-1012), need one per student

C-Thru® Safety Compass (55742-1006), need one per student

Blick Broadline Water-Based Markers, Black (21224-2001), need one per student

Blick Economy Graphite Pencils (20302-2009), box of 12, need one per student

National Standards

Content Standard #1 – Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

K-4 Students use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner

5-8 Students select media, techniques, and processes; analyze what makes them effective or not effective in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of their choices

Content Standard #2 – Using knowledge of structures and functions

K-4 Students know the differences among visual characteristics and purposes of art in order to convey ideas

5-8 Students employ organizational structures and analyze what makes them effective or not effective in the communication of ideas

