

Do You Know

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SPACE is one of the Art Elements of Design which are the RULES for making a quality artwork. There are 7 Elements + 7 Principles of Design.

I will talk about the use of SPACE in a painting when creating your artwork.

On your paper, you plan the SPACE when placing objects of your theme.

Objects that are close are Large, they decrease in size as they go back in SPACE or go back into the distance of your picture. This SPACE area shows distance through the “Depth of Space” which allows the viewer to understand a dimensional placement.

Size is the easiest to show SPACE - Large comes forward, Small goes farther away.

Depth of Space is how the artist can show a “depth” that occurs between objects that are set in the space on the paper. Also, with “overlap objects” has space too.

The depth of space between objects can be only inches or it can be miles.

Artists use **VALUES of light and dark** to show this space. When objects overlap as in my photo of the apples - there is only a tiny “SPACE” between these apples. It is my job as an Artist to use dark values to darken this space to show a Depth of the Space. This is how I approach this job: I imagine myself as a little bug, and “walk into my photo”I imagine that I bump into the first apple (in front) then I walk behind and into that Space between the apples. I realize now that I would not be in any “light” since it is so dark deep down between the apples. Therefore, I need to make this area a very very Dark Value of color. As I continue to walk up the “back apple” in the distance, I gradually come into the “light” as I near the top of the Apple. Again, I realize that my “DARK VALUE color will get a bit lighter from the Deep Dark Depth of Space to the top of the apple where my coloring will be a lighter value of color - no dark.

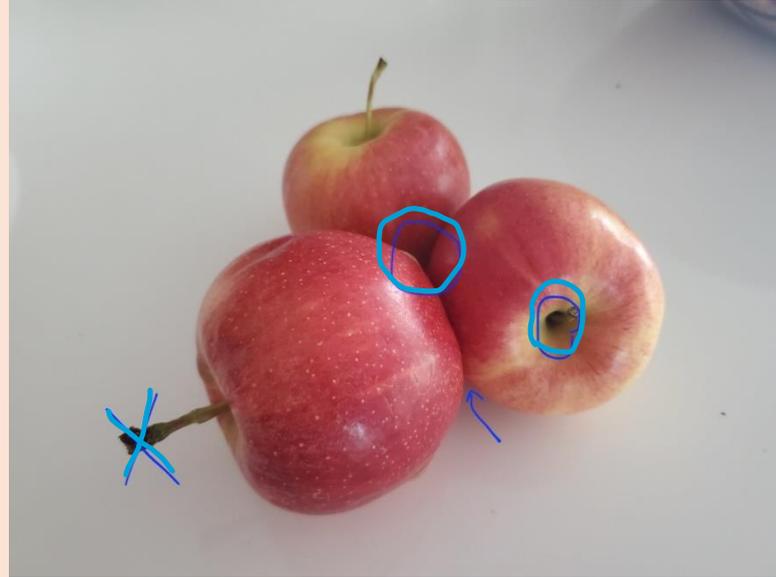
Many Colored Pencil artists are hesitant to make their “Deep Dark Spaces” VERY DARKbut that is the most common problem with a finished painting - not enough darks.

I use this thought when painting, if I have any “white color” in my painting, then I MUST balance that value with a very very DARK color. I look for the “deepest” spaces within my painting to find these tiny spots that need my darkest dark coloring. When a very dark value is colored, it POPS the lighter object forward and makes it look like it “stands out” from the painting. Thus, creating a “Depth of Space”.

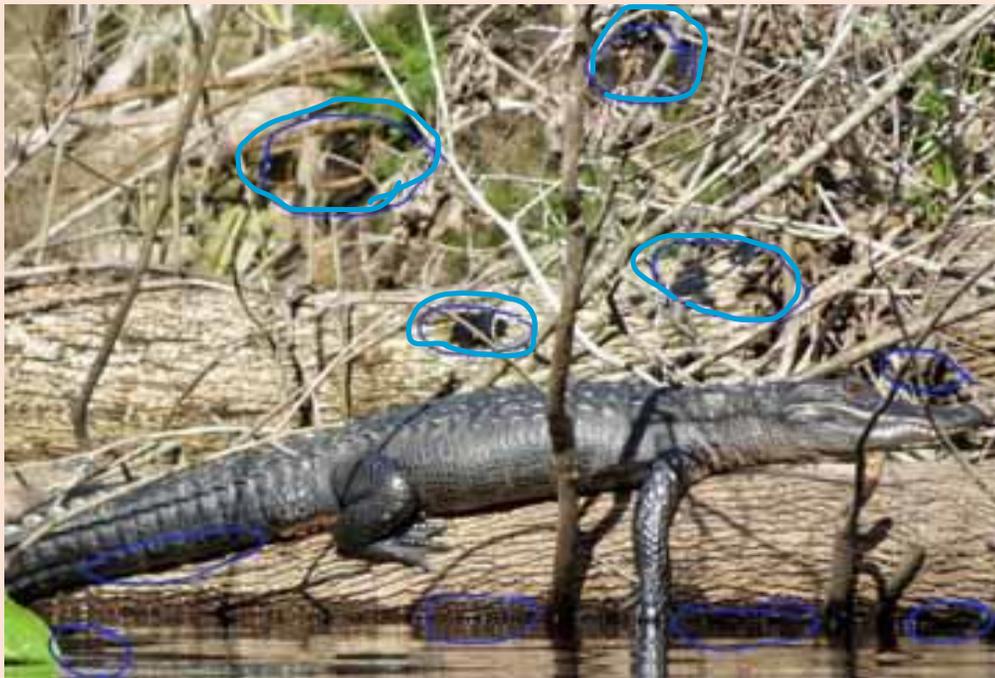


Try looking for the Deepest Dark values in some of my example photos:

Apples on a tree = spaces in leaves/branches behind or in back of front apples



Alligator = dark areas in grass, in water, under shadow of gator



Mt. Lupine = deep space in grass, under petals in flowers

Beach Day = space in shadows, deep darks contrast with real white sand



I would ask everyone to start looking at all photos for the DARKS — not the colors, and not the lights but focus your eyes to SEE those deep dark colors. THEN try and choose the colors you would need to MAKE that color of dark...lol another page....

