

THE ELEMENT OF VALUE (2)

Value is another way to create the illusion of depth (3D) on a flat (2D) surface. It can give weight to objects, or volume by adding darker values.

Value can show distance as things that are far away appear smaller and darker, while things closer to the viewer are lighter. Value can also indicate the light source. Sharp contrasts in value are strong and dramatic and call attention to a composition. In order to make a drawing look realistic, the artist must have a good knowledge and ability to create value.

Emotional characteristics: dark images generally represent menace, fear, the unknown, melancholy, as well as dusk or night time. Compositions that are mostly light in value represent clarity, cheerfulness aspects of daytime, openness or light.