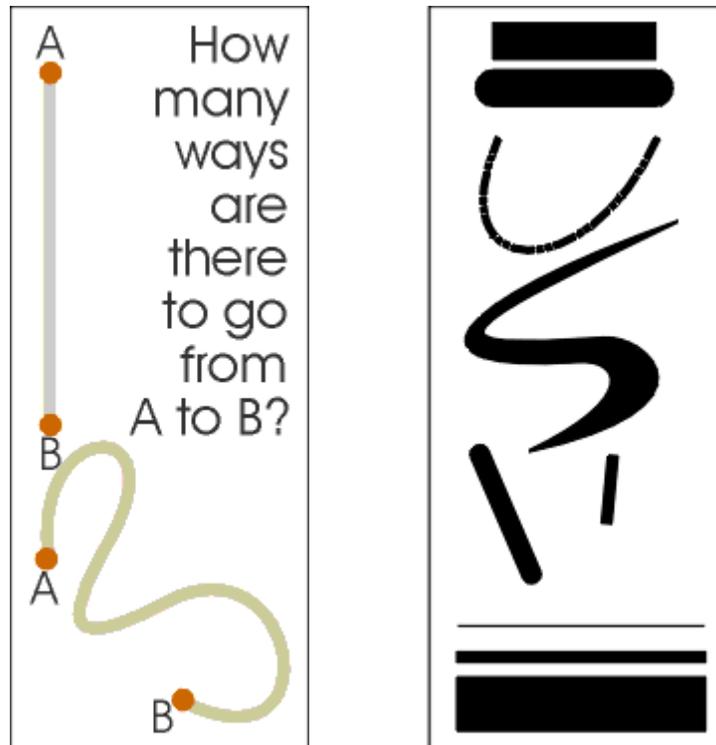


Advanced Higher Graphic Communication

Class 2: Lines

Lesson 1 - Appearance

A line is a mark connecting two points. How we get from point A to point B gives the line its distinctive character and appearance. Lines can be long or short, straight or curved. Lines can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. Lines can be solid, dashed, thick, thin, or of variable width. The endings of lines can be ragged, blunt, or curved.



Exercise

Go through your own magazines and try to find as many different types of lines as possible including straight, curved, and freeform lines. Look for blunt and curved line endings, solid and dashed lines and lines with variable widths.

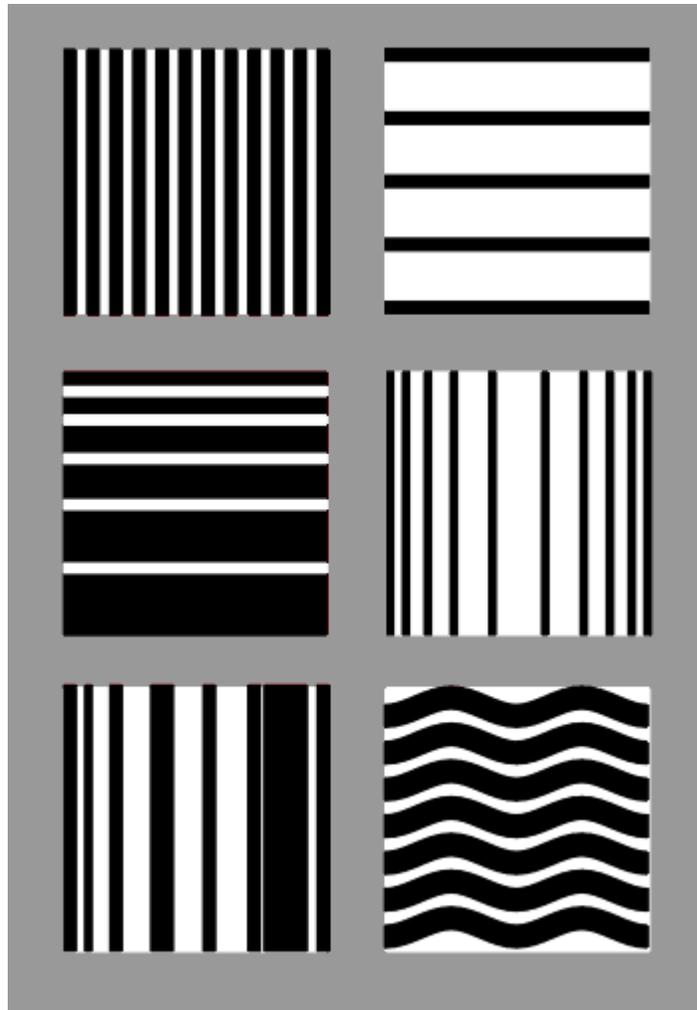
Advanced Higher Graphic Communication

Class 2: Lines

Lesson 2 - Patterns

Lines are often found in pairs or groups. Lines of the same general appearance or lines that are quite different can form a variety of patterns that create textures, suggest movement, or lead the eye — the same as single lines.

If you aren't creating original illustrations or doing logo design, your main concern with this part of the study of lines is being able to recognize these patterns in the illustrations you may select for your work and understand how these patterns may or may not project the image you want for your project. These bits of line patterns illustrate static, dynamic, and random use of lines.



Upper Left: Uniform vertical black and white lines alternate at even intervals. Static. Orderly. Conservative.

Upper Right: Uniform horizontal black lines are widely, but evenly spaced. Static. Stable. Orderly.

Middle Left: Uneven spacing of otherwise uniform lines creates the impression of movement. Dynamic. Orderly progression.

Middle Right: In this example the progression moves in from either side giving the illusion of roundness. Dynamic. Orderly progression. Dimension.

Lower Left: Varying line widths and distances create a random pattern. Dynamic. Chaotic. Disorderly.

Lower Right: While the uniform size and spacing of the lines in the upper examples are static, make the lines into curves and you get movement although it is a controlled movement. Dynamic. Orderly flow.

Exercise

Go through your own magazines and look for patterns created with two or more lines. To find examples similar to those above, look beyond the obvious and find the lines within illustrations or used within logos. Draw your own sets of patterns using only black or white lines that illustrate static, dynamic, or random line patterns. Experiment with line width, spacing, and using horizontal, vertical, curved, and even diagonal lines.

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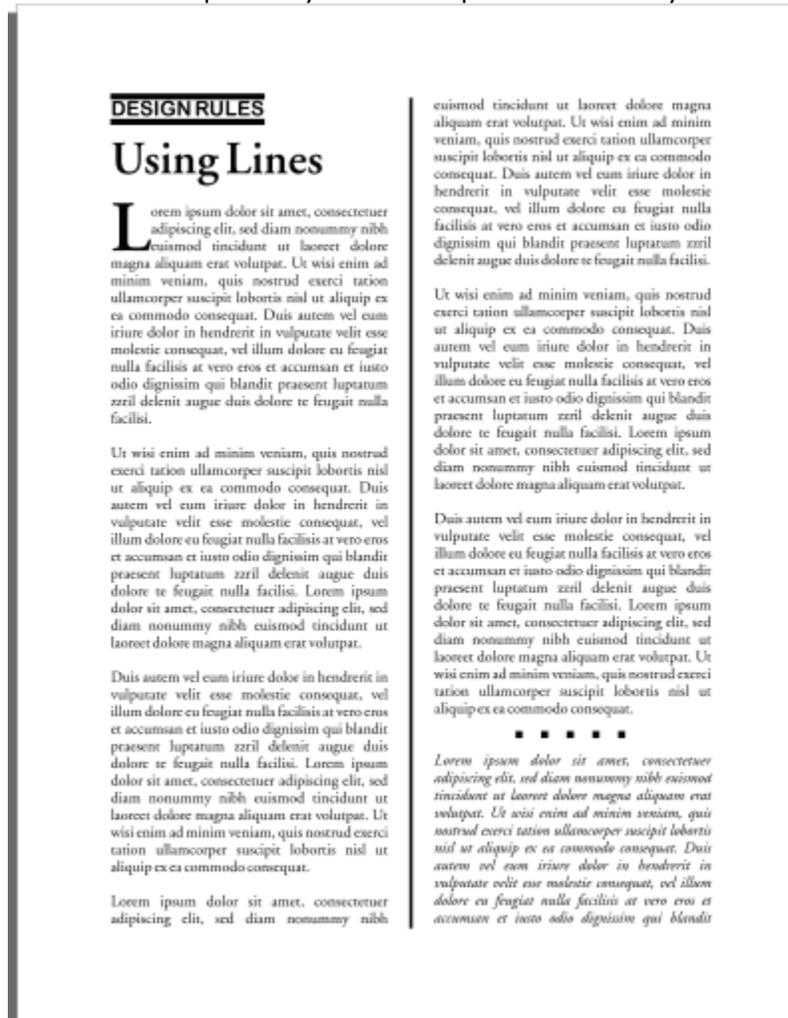
Class 2: Lines

Lesson 3 – Using Lines

Some ways that you might use lines in your design are to:

- Organize, connect, separate
- Create movement
- Provide texture
- Convey a mood or emotion
- Define shapes
- Provide emphasis
- Provide a framework

The examples below demonstrate a few of the ways lines might be used in page layout or illustration. You can probably find examples all around you as well.



Above, a solid line separates columns of text, a pair of lines set apart a phrase, and a short dotted line separates a section of text from other parts of the page.



A few simple lines added to a piece of clip art gives a sense of movement to the airplane. Short, choppy, vertical lines create a grooved texture along the edge of the timepiece sketch.



Dashed lines suggest a coupon, whether there is one or not. It causes many of us to take a second look at this ad because the familiar dashed line makes us think "I can save money!"

Exercise

Go through your own magazines. Find examples for each of the ways you might use lines described in this lesson.

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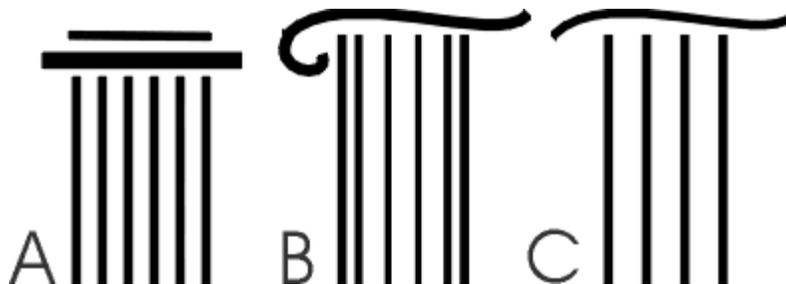
Class 2: Lines **Graded Assignment**

How Well Do You Know Lines?

1. Describe the differences between these two lines (length, width, general appearance, etc.):



2. Compare these groups of lines designed to suggest a column. If your hometown bank or savings & loan were trying to choose from among these (rough draft) patterns for a new logo, which do you think best suggests both stability and 'down home friendliness'? Explain why you chose A, B, or C -- especially how the appearance and patterns created by these lines convey that feeling. There is no absolutely right or wrong answer as long as you can explain your reasoning.



3. Sharp edges or line endings would typically convey:
 - a. formality
 - b. movement
 - c. friendliness
 - d. softness
4. A hairline rule is usually:
 - a. dashed lines
 - b. 1/4 of a point in width
 - c. 24 points long
 - d. made to be broken
5. In only one or two sentences, describe the main points you've learned from this class on LINES.