

Drawing Fundamentals with Bonsai

prepared and drawn by ME Carsley 2022

www.maryellencarsley.com

ELEMENTS of DRAWING

DRAWING uses LINE and VALUE (and sometimes COLOR) to create the illusion of FORM, TEXTURE, and SPACE in 2-D.

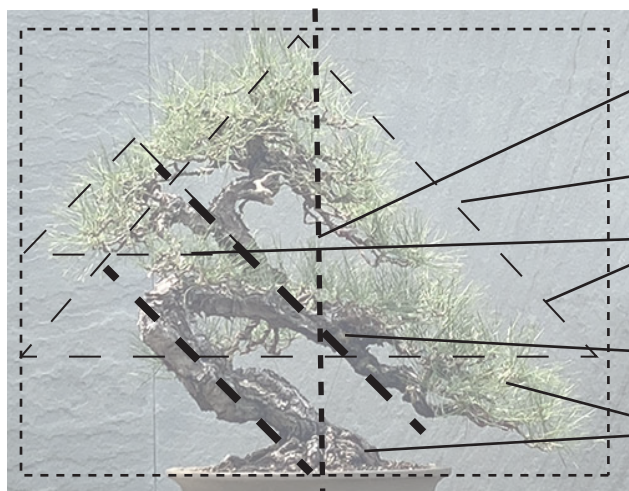
LINE: various types, thickness, direction/angle.
Defines objects and SPACE.

VALUE: dark values-come forward and create EMPHASIS
Light values-recede, less visually important
dark values next very light values=
CONTRAST and EMPHASIS



dark to light value progression=
defines FORM and creates MOVEMENT and VARIETY

TEXTURE: the consistent use of LINE with changes in VALUE.



PRINCIPLES of DESIGN

applies to both drawing and bonsai

BALANCE: includes both MASS and SPACE

SHAPE: both organic and geometric

PROPORTION: the scale of related parts of the subject

MOVEMENT: Line of trunk and masses

HARMONY: where contrast and similarity of elements create interest and a unified whole.

STARTING A DRAWING or GAZING UPON A BONSAI ask yourself:

LINE 1. What are the Lines of movement?

SHAPE/BALANCE 2. What are the overall shapes? (of objects, masses, and values)

PROPORTION/HARMONY 3. How do the shapes and their sizes relate to each other?

CONTRAST/EMPHASIS 4. Where does my eye look first? Why?

for your bookshelf: De Groot's "Principles of Bonsai Design" and Guptill's "Drawing and Sketching in Pencil"