

Basic Design II

"At Home With Flowers"

PARALLEL

class notes, page 1

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bring to
class
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A Parallel Design is a Creative Design in which three or more groupings are placed in a strong parallel manner (no crossing lines).

Principles
of Design

- Balance
- Rhythm
- Dominance
- Contrast
- Proportion
- Scale

Parallel direction may be vertical, horizontal, or on a diagonal, according to schedule or at discretion of exhibitor, within allotted space.

Schedule may specify type/s of plant materials and other components, except in a class eligible for a Designer's Choice Award.



Betty Cahoon's blue ribbon winner shows how 3 groupings are tied by a common base.

Design MUST appear to be one unit. Design may be organized with or without a container. If more than one container, they must be combined so as to appear as one unit.

Units may be of one plant material, a combination, or each unit may be made up of different materials.

An open space or void between each grouping is vital to success.

A connective/s may be used at base of groupings to unify design.

This style differs from a Spatial Thrust Design in which space between the parallel lines creates the thrust. Also, a Spatial Thrust Design MAY only have TWO groupings, whereas a Parallel Design requires THREE or more.

Elements
of Design

- Line
- Color
- Light
- Texture
- Pattern
- Form
- Size
- Space



All plant material need not be the same.

Click on the thumbnails to the left to see more.

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Plant material that is linear in form will lend itself well to a parallel design. Think of things like:

liatris
iris or yucca leaves, stiff forms work best
grasses of substance
straight branches
foliage and sticks from your own yard - look around!

Also, some bolder foliage to anchor your design. Houseplants often yield bold and interesting shapes.

This time of year, daffodils are plentiful and redbud branches are coming into bloom.

For containers, gather tall, thin vases, or use frogs in long, low containers. Bring several different containers to experiment with.

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