

Basic Design II

"At Home With Flowers"

REFLECTIVE class notes, page 1

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What to bring to class
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A Reflective Design contains materials that reflect or give back images of light or other components to the viewer.

Reflective materials are placed to provide visual involvement of the viewer

Reflective material(s) are an integral part of the overall design.

Principles of Design
Balance
Rhythm
Dominance
Contrast
Proportion
Scale

Elements of Design
Line
Color
Light
Texture
Pattern
Form
Size
Space



The reflective component may be material such as shiny metal, plastic, paper, pieces of mirror, or mirrored objects, however, a design staged in front of a mirror does not qualify.

In the example to the left, a screen provides the backdrop while mirrored elements reflect the grasses and peppers adding new dimensions to the design.

Any floral design can become a "jewel" with the use of reflective components within the design that reflect it to its optimum potential, bringing the observer into a whole new world of the reflection of light rays.

Color depends on light, a reflecting or refracting medium, and vision. Without light there is no color and light from the sun contains all visible light rays. Any prism will separate wave lengths of refraction producing various colors. The number of colors are always the same and the colors always appear in the same order. The longest wave lengths are reflected red hues; the shortest are violet. This is called the solar spectrum.

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A flower outside in the sunlight becomes luminous because it reflects the sun's light. Brought into the house, the light is different, artificial and incomplete when determining color.

Iridescence and luster are also related to reflective designs in that they reflect a rainbow of colors as they are seen from different points of view.

Reflective images from different angles have a fluid quality as light reflects from the object. Reflective designs may be eclectic in form and spirit with the designer's choice of materials. The only requirements are that the design unit must have fresh and/or dry plant material arranged according to the principles of design to create beauty, distinction, harmony and the expression of the artist.

Take a look at these designs to get ideas for materials that may provide reflective qualities. Click on the thumbnails to see larger images.



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