

Linear Perspective Vocabulary

1. **Form** – element of art that is three-dimensional and encloses volume. Cubes, spheres, and cylinders are examples of various forms.
2. **Linear perspective** – a system of drawing where the artist creates the illusion of space, distance, and depth using lines on a two-dimensional plane
3. **Vanishing point** – the point where converging lines seem to disappear
4. **Horizon line** – the line at which the sky and Earth appear to meet
5. **Converging lines** – two or more lines that get closer and closer towards the end. They seem to disappear at a vanishing point.
6. **Point of view** - the position from which something is observed
7. **Worm's eye view** – when viewing an object from below
8. **Bird's eye view** – when viewing an object from above
9. **Eye level** – when viewing an object at the same level as your eye
10. **Depth** – how close or far away something is
11. **Parallel lines** – 2 lines that are next to each other that will never intersect
12. **One-point perspective** – using one vanishing point to show that one side of a form is parallel to the viewer, and all lines that are not parallel recede to that one point on the horizon line
13. **Two-point perspective** – using two vanishing points to show how objects recede in two different directions; forms are placed at an angle to the viewer (usually the corner of an object)
14. **Three-point perspective** - using three vanishing points to show three edges of an object; it requires three orthogonal lines. This can be drawn looking up or looking down.
15. **Foreground** – the part of the image that appears nearest to the viewer
16. **Middle ground** – area between the foreground and background
17. **Background** – the part of the image that appears farthest away from the viewer
18. **Overlapping** - a way to create the illusion of depth in an artwork. Objects that are in front of other objects look closer to the viewer.
19. **Atmospheric perspective** - the effect of the atmosphere has on the tone and color of a landscape; areas that are farther away appear less detailed and pale in color
20. **Picture plane** - the flat two-dimensional surface on which we draw or project an image in perspective