

Habits/Patterns of Compositional Problem Solving
[DOT thumbnail team process crit]

1. TABLE GROUP

Spread out all thumbnail compositions [comps] on your desk. Your table team will spend 5-7 minutes analyzing your thumbnails and NOTING your habits/patterns of problem solving for the entire set of compositions.

TAKE NOTES while your work is being crit. You will participate in the analysis of the rest of your team members. But will not talk while they analyze your visual problem solving habits.

Possible habits/patterns in solutions to look for

- a. Scale
- b. Distances
- c. Relational shifts of scale, distance, placement and/or density
- d. Density
- e. Positive to negative space
- f. Placement (within page)

You will discover you have compositional habits as well as work/process habits that should be paid attention to and pushed/stretched throughout the semester. Watch for them.

You are to record the team's analysis of your work and apparent solution habits. PLUS three things you learned while other people were being crit or during today's large group discussion.

HW Write up a review using complete sentences of what you learned from your and your peers' problem solving habit crits. Be sure to address each of the following, scale, distance, relational shifts, density, placement and describe give specific examples in notes even if your team did not discuss each. Complete before next surface studio.

2. INDIVIDUALLY following table crit

Create 2-3 new/revise thumbnail solutions for each concept (total 6 to 9) that break your habits and/or are inspired by what you learned from other peoples solutions.

For communicating MEANING (gestalt), if adjustment is needed based on more thorough understanding via team discussion, make several revisions (new thumbnails).

3. INDIVIDUAL DESIGN DECISIONS

Add your additional thumbnails to your original set of 30. **Re-SORT** conceptually into the three categories not by what you intended but by how they appear now to you—proximity, similarity, and continuance. **NARROW** down to top 6 most interesting, unique, and conceptually clear for each category—proximity, similarity, and continuance. Then narrow down again to strongest 3 solutions for each category (conceptually and visually) for a total of 9 compositions.

4. Render with sharpies (SOLID DOTS; no outlines) the top 3 strongest (conceptually and visually) compositions for EACH principle as 5 x 5 BW composition. Due Thursday.

STRATEGY

- a. Cut out 9 – 5 x 5 inch SQUAREs from smooth Bristol or white cardstock.
- b. Scale up from thumbnail, tweak design, and replicate your 9 chosen thumbnails on to the 5 x 5 squares. ASK ME ABOUT THE GRID
- c. Within each square, using a fine tip black pen, draw 3-6 precise circles with a circle template or compass. Carefully fill in circles completely with black sharpie.
- d. Remember you are composing these circle forms to express the following gestalt principles: **Continuance, Proximity, and Similarity.**
- e. CRAFTSMANSHIP matters!
- f. Label each composition lightly with pencil on back with concept and your name. After you have completed these 9 compositions, carefully evaluate each and determine which ones are the most successful. Do any need to be revised? Make it happen.

These 9 comps will be critiqued first thing next studio.

Complete 9 comps before next studio and write up your habit critique as well.