

Positive/Negative Cut Paper Design

Positive spaces are the areas occupied by the main subjects of the work.

Negative spaces are the areas around and behind the positive spaces. Negative space can also be referred to as the background.

VOCABULARY: Positive and Negative Space, Design, Symmetrical, Asymmetrical, Problem Solving, Imagination, Balance, Shape
Samples:

Positive/Negative: can you have one without the other??

The shapes of positive spaces are usually the first thing you see in a design. Negative spaces have shapes as well, creating the background.

Therefore, the shapes of the negative spaces are determined by the shapes of the positive spaces. You can't have one without the other!



ASSIGNMENT:

1. You are to create an **original** design that will demonstrate the balance of positive and negative space.
2. Your design can be **SYMMETRICAL** or **ASYMMETRICAL** so make a sketch before you begin. Plan AHEAD! USE **PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS**!!
3. Work with **SHAPES**, not lines (you can't cut out "lines"!).
4. Use your **imagination** and develop an interesting, challenging design! This is a **self-discovery project**!
5. Take your time and stay focused! You have a "timeline"!
6. If you begin cutting out pieces, but don't have time to glue, make sure you don't lose any!! Keep them together!

ON YOUR OWN: (Read the directions through before you begin!)

1. Make a sketch of your design. Choose a symmetrical or asymmetrical design.
2. Select one color of construction paper and a contrasting color of paper. Black and white works well for this design!
3. If you are making a symmetrical design, fold your paper in half or in quarters to cut out your design so it will stay symmetrical.
4. Cut out your design, **carefully putting the pieces together (like a PUZZLE)**! If you have a shape in the center of your design, be careful to make and "**entrance cut**".
5. The remaining parts are "flipped" to the opposite side of the black paper in locations opposite those from which they were cut. (Whether your design is symmetrical or not.)
6. Carefully, glue down the parts so your design matches.
7. The final project will have a **positive image** in the black paper and a **negative image** in the white paper.