

# Patterns in Art: Greater Depth Exploration

*Learning objective: To analyse, identify, and evaluate the use of visual patterns in art and design, applying higher-order thinking skills to complex decorative concepts.*

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of pattern terminology and their application in artistic design. For the 'Greater Depth' questions, provide detailed justifications for your answers.

## Motif

A recurring shape, object, or theme used as a single unit within a larger pattern design.

## Tessellation

A pattern made of identical shapes that fit together perfectly without any gaps or overlapping, like a honeycomb.

## Radial Symmetry

A type of pattern where elements are arranged symmetrically around a central point, like the petals of a flower.

## Geometric Pattern

A pattern consisting of regular shapes such as squares, triangles, or circles, often used in architecture and textiles.

## Organic Pattern

A pattern inspired by nature, featuring fluid, curving lines and irregular shapes rather than rigid geometry.

## Explain why artists might choose to use a repeating motif in a large-scale mural.

To create visual rhythm, unity, and a sense of harmony that guides the viewer's eye across the artwork.

## Compare and contrast Geometric and Organic patterns.

Geometric patterns rely on mathematical precision and rigid, man-made shapes, whereas Organic patterns mimic the unpredictable, flowing forms found in the natural environment.

## Justify why Zara the Zebra might choose an asymmetrical pattern for a modern art piece.

Asymmetry can create a sense of movement, tension, or surprise, preventing the viewer from becoming bored by perfect, predictable balance.

## What might happen to the visual impact of a design if the negative space is ignored?

The pattern may become cluttered or illegible, losing its focal point and failing to provide the viewer's eye with a place to 'rest'.

## Analyse the role of 'Interlocking' patterns in complex floor tile designs.

Interlocking patterns are essential for structural integrity and visual cohesion, ensuring that individual units connect to form a unified, seamless surface.