

Printmaking Pattern

KS2 Art · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

What is a 'motif' in pattern design?

Step 1 · Think about the smallest repeated unit in a pattern

It's the single shape or image repeated across a pattern

Answer: A motif is the single shape, image or design that gets repeated to build a pattern

Check: A honeycomb's hexagon shape is a great example of a repeating motif.

2. Now try one with the steps

How is printmaking different from painting directly onto paper?

Step 1 · Think about how the design is transferred

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What do we call the repeated shape or image in a pattern?

2. What tool is often used to carve a design for block printing?

3. Why can printmaking make several identical copies of the same design?

4. Name one everyday object that has a repeating pattern.

5. Explain why a repeating pattern needs to 'tile' seamlessly (fit together without gaps).

6. Why might an artist use printmaking instead of painting when they want to produce many copies of the same artwork?

4. Before you hand it in

Designing a motif that doesn't line up properly when repeated, leaving visible gaps or seams.

Test your motif by repeating it several times before finalising the design.

Thinking printmaking is just 'painting but stamped'.

Learn the actual steps of printmaking (carve, ink, press) rather than treating it painting shortcut.