

Letters as Objects - Spatial Design

This exercise will help you explore different spatial designs utilizing Adobe Illustrator controls over shapes.

You are provided an Illustrator document with 6 words to use for this project. Following the directions below, create an abstracted design utilizing the different shapes and curves of the individual letters.

Be sure to enlarge or minimize the text proportionately. To add more design possibilities, rotate one or more of the letters and crop off excess elements.

Treat the letters more as individual shapes, abstracted objects. Do not try to arrange them into visual representations of their meaning.

Step-by-step guideline:

01. Open up Adobe Illustrator and create a new document: 11" tall by 17" wide.

Be sure to select CMYK color mode.

02. View > Show Rulers

02. With your guidelines, create margins around page:

top: 1" bottom: 1" left: 1.25" right: 1.25"

03. Divide page into 4" x 4" squares, with 1" perimeter between all internal borders.

Be sure to leave the **Fill option** on white, **Stroke option** on black.

04. For squares #1-5, using the specific files provided, create an abstracted design.

Below each square be sure to indicate which word you chose.

05. Under menu options open **Window > Pathfinder**.

06. After positioning the shapes as you wish, select them as a group and then select the square also.

07. Select the **Divide** Pathfinder option. Then select **Object > Ungroup**.

08. Delete any overflow shapes.

09. Square #6 is a "free-for-all": using your initials, create oversized letters (275 pts) with font of your choice. Be sure to **outline** text, then **Object > Ungroup** letters.

Be creative. Surprise me.

10. Save the file with your name as the title. Place in the Transfer Space folder.

11. Print and turn in.

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