

1

00:00:00,830 --> 00:00:03,030

Let's say you're creating

2

00:00:03,030 --> 00:00:05,310

something that involves
graphic design,

3

00:00:05,310 --> 00:00:07,770

like an infographic
or website.

4

00:00:07,770 --> 00:00:09,719

Whatever you are creating,

5

00:00:09,719 --> 00:00:11,700

you'll want to make sure
your work stands out

6

00:00:11,700 --> 00:00:14,115

and catches your
viewers attention.

7

00:00:14,115 --> 00:00:15,600

It's also important that

8

00:00:15,600 --> 00:00:16,590

your message doesn't get

9

00:00:16,590 --> 00:00:18,120

lost and that your viewer

10

00:00:18,120 --> 00:00:20,625

doesn't get distracted
by your design.

11

00:00:20,625 --> 00:00:22,650

In this video,
we will cover

12

00:00:22,650 --> 00:00:24,600

four principles of design:

13

00:00:24,600 --> 00:00:28,110

proximity, repetition,

14

00:00:28,110 --> 00:00:31,300

alignment, and contrast.

15

00:00:31,300 --> 00:00:32,840

We'll look at examples of

16

00:00:32,840 --> 00:00:34,730

these principles
in action and

17

00:00:34,730 --> 00:00:36,200

show you how you can apply

18

00:00:36,200 --> 00:00:39,060

them to your own
design projects.

19

00:00:39,670 --> 00:00:43,085

The first principle
is proximity.

20

00:00:43,085 --> 00:00:44,780

We naturally tend to group

21

00:00:44,780 --> 00:00:46,775

items that are
close together.

22

00:00:46,775 --> 00:00:49,340

By following the
principle of proximity.

23

00:00:49,340 --> 00:00:52,595

You can present information
in visual units.

24

00:00:52,595 --> 00:00:54,950

This makes it easier
for your audience to

25

00:00:54,950 --> 00:00:57,785

read and remember
what they've taken in.

26

00:00:57,785 --> 00:00:59,990

Here we have a
grocery list with

27

00:00:59,990 --> 00:01:02,510

every item spaced
equally apart.

28

00:01:02,510 --> 00:01:03,860

While this list might be

29

00:01:03,860 --> 00:01:05,960

everything you need
at the grocery store,

30

00:01:05,960 --> 00:01:07,730
following it in order would

31

00:01:07,730 --> 00:01:09,740
be an ineffective
way to shop.

32

00:01:09,740 --> 00:01:11,240
You would be going
around the store

33

00:01:11,240 --> 00:01:12,755
multiple times.

34

00:01:12,755 --> 00:01:15,650
Instead, we can group
similar items together

35

00:01:15,650 --> 00:01:17,150
and separate the
different groups

36

00:01:17,150 --> 00:01:18,680
with physical space.

37

00:01:18,680 --> 00:01:21,620
Now, the list is easier
to quickly read and

38

00:01:21,620 --> 00:01:23,149
can help with
more organized

39

00:01:23,149 --> 00:01:25,500
and efficient shopping.

40
00:01:25,780 --> 00:01:28,490
Let's take a look
at one more example

41
00:01:28,490 --> 00:01:30,829
of proximity in action.

42
00:01:30,829 --> 00:01:32,450
This webpage presents

43
00:01:32,450 --> 00:01:34,760
three different pet
related services.

44
00:01:34,760 --> 00:01:37,025
Each service
includes a title,

45
00:01:37,025 --> 00:01:39,245
a description,
and an image.

46
00:01:39,245 --> 00:01:40,850
These three items
are close enough

47
00:01:40,850 --> 00:01:42,110
together to make it clear

48
00:01:42,110 --> 00:01:43,295
that they are related.

49

00:01:43,295 --> 00:01:45,590

And they create
a visual unit.

50

00:01:45,590 --> 00:01:47,540

By using proximity
to create

51

00:01:47,540 --> 00:01:49,970

these three distinct
visual units,

52

00:01:49,970 --> 00:01:52,190

it is easy to read
and understand

53

00:01:52,190 --> 00:01:55,320

the services the
business provides.

54

00:01:55,330 --> 00:01:59,075

The next principle of
design is repetition.

55

00:01:59,075 --> 00:02:01,640

Repeating aspects of
your design throughout

56

00:02:01,640 --> 00:02:03,380

the entire project helps

57

00:02:03,380 --> 00:02:06,140

create a cohesive
and unified look.

58

00:02:06,140 --> 00:02:08,750

This can be as simple
as consistently using

59

00:02:08,750 --> 00:02:10,370

the same fonts or making

60

00:02:10,370 --> 00:02:12,965

sure your spacing
is uniform.

61

00:02:12,965 --> 00:02:15,140

Let's take a look
at this resume

62

00:02:15,140 --> 00:02:17,315

for an example
of repetition.

63

00:02:17,315 --> 00:02:19,505

Currently, all the text

64

00:02:19,505 --> 00:02:21,515

is the same style and size,

65

00:02:21,515 --> 00:02:23,240

so it's difficult
to distinguish

66

00:02:23,240 --> 00:02:24,530

the different positions in

67

00:02:24,530 --> 00:02:26,645

the work experience section

68

00:02:26,645 --> 00:02:29,450

in order to make
this easier to read.

69

00:02:29,450 --> 00:02:31,100

we it can make
the position title

70

00:02:31,100 --> 00:02:32,645

bold and bigger,

71

00:02:32,645 --> 00:02:35,600

italicize the
company name and

72

00:02:35,600 --> 00:02:36,935

align the date range

73

00:02:36,935 --> 00:02:38,975

on the right side
of the page.

74

00:02:38,975 --> 00:02:41,180

Then we repeat
that style for

75

00:02:41,180 --> 00:02:43,670

each entry under
work experience,

76

00:02:43,670 --> 00:02:45,290

which creates
a uniform look

77

00:02:45,290 --> 00:02:47,585
that makes it easy to read.

78

00:02:47,585 --> 00:02:50,000
Now, let's look at this
infographic.

79

00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:52,235

Repetition is applied

80

00:02:52,235 --> 00:02:54,620
through many aspects
of the design.

81

00:02:54,620 --> 00:02:56,360
The four body sections all

82

00:02:56,360 --> 00:02:57,980
have the same header style,

83

00:02:57,980 --> 00:03:01,010
a white box with
black uppercase text,

84

00:03:01,010 --> 00:03:02,960
and it's easy to see
that these are four

85

00:03:02,960 --> 00:03:04,190
different aspects of

86

00:03:04,190 --> 00:03:06,140
creating a business plan.

87

00:03:06,140 --> 00:03:07,880

There's also repetition in

88

00:03:07,880 --> 00:03:10,114

the body text for
each section, with the

89

00:03:10,114 --> 00:03:13,745

bolded subheadings and
uniform line spacing.

90

00:03:13,745 --> 00:03:16,040

The alternating color
scheme of yellow and

91

00:03:16,040 --> 00:03:18,710

blue is another
example of repetition.

92

00:03:18,710 --> 00:03:20,525

All of these
repeated aspects

93

00:03:20,525 --> 00:03:21,950

of the design work

94

00:03:21,950 --> 00:03:25,850

to create a cohesive
and unified and result.

95

00:03:25,850 --> 00:03:28,219

The next principle
is alignment,

96

00:03:28,219 --> 00:03:29,690
which requires designers

97

00:03:29,690 --> 00:03:30,800
to be intentional about

98

00:03:30,800 --> 00:03:32,090
where they place
their design

99

00:03:32,090 --> 00:03:33,830
elements on the page.

100

00:03:33,830 --> 00:03:35,960
Lining up different
elements with each

101

00:03:35,960 --> 00:03:38,150
other creates a
unifying effect.

102

00:03:38,150 --> 00:03:41,015
Strong alignment
clarifies two-year viewer

103

00:03:41,015 --> 00:03:44,105
that everything on the
page is connected.

104

00:03:44,105 --> 00:03:46,895
Let's take a look at
this magazine article,

105

00:03:46,895 --> 00:03:48,290

which has a title,

106

00:03:48,290 --> 00:03:51,890

byline, image

and body text.

107

00:03:51,890 --> 00:03:53,540

And these four elements are

108

00:03:53,540 --> 00:03:55,265

placed randomly

on the page.

109

00:03:55,265 --> 00:03:57,725

There is no

cohesion or unity.

110

00:03:57,725 --> 00:03:59,630

But if we adjust the size

111

00:03:59,630 --> 00:04:01,460

and placement of

these elements,

112

00:04:01,460 --> 00:04:02,900

we can create a clean,

113

00:04:02,900 --> 00:04:05,330

attractive, and

unified look.

114

00:04:05,330 --> 00:04:08,525

Now, the image is lined

up with the text,

115

00:04:08,525 --> 00:04:10,840

the title and body
text are left aligned

116

00:04:10,840 --> 00:04:12,620

and the byline

117

00:04:12,620 --> 00:04:15,360

is lined up with
the paragraph indent.

118

00:04:15,360 --> 00:04:16,880

Let's look at how

119

00:04:16,880 --> 00:04:19,865

alignment is working in
this research poster.

120

00:04:19,865 --> 00:04:22,040

One of the ways to
apply alignment is

121

00:04:22,040 --> 00:04:24,124

to use a grid
for your design.

122

00:04:24,124 --> 00:04:25,880

It grid can help
you identify

123

00:04:25,880 --> 00:04:27,590

where to place the
various sections of

124

00:04:27,590 --> 00:04:29,915
your poster while
ensuring you create

125
00:04:29,915 --> 00:04:32,540
a unified feel
among your columns,

126
00:04:32,540 --> 00:04:33,905
section headings,

127
00:04:33,905 --> 00:04:37,325
body text, images,
and captions.

128
00:04:37,325 --> 00:04:39,050
The overall effect is

129
00:04:39,050 --> 00:04:41,000
a sharp and clean
design that

130
00:04:41,000 --> 00:04:43,370
is easier for the
audience to read.

131
00:04:43,370 --> 00:04:45,290
All this research
poster uses

132
00:04:45,290 --> 00:04:48,320
a traditional four
column grid layout.

133
00:04:48,320 --> 00:04:50,660

There are many possibilities.

134

00:04:50,660 --> 00:04:52,745

Consider how you can use a grid

135

00:04:52,745 --> 00:04:55,770

and apply alignment to your own project.

136

00:04:55,990 --> 00:04:59,930

The final principle of design is contrast.

137

00:04:59,930 --> 00:05:01,460

One of the most important ways

138

00:05:01,460 --> 00:05:02,900

to consider contrast in

139

00:05:02,900 --> 00:05:04,340

your design isn't how

140

00:05:04,340 --> 00:05:06,875

easily someone could read your text.

141

00:05:06,875 --> 00:05:09,530

Look at this presentation slide with

142

00:05:09,530 --> 00:05:12,620

white text on a patterned

yellow background.

143

00:05:12,620 --> 00:05:14,840

The contrast ratio
between the text

144

00:05:14,840 --> 00:05:17,090

and background
color is very low,

145

00:05:17,090 --> 00:05:19,040

making it
difficult to read.

146

00:05:19,040 --> 00:05:20,825

To make it easier to read,

147

00:05:20,825 --> 00:05:22,805

we can increase
the contrast by

148

00:05:22,805 --> 00:05:25,055

changing the background
color to blue,

149

00:05:25,055 --> 00:05:27,980

which has a higher
contrast ratio with white.

150

00:05:27,980 --> 00:05:30,755

Already the text
is easier to read,

151

00:05:30,755 --> 00:05:32,945

but let's increase

the contrast further

152

00:05:32,945 --> 00:05:35,450

by policing on border
around the text.

153

00:05:35,450 --> 00:05:37,520

The small black
border helps create

154

00:05:37,520 --> 00:05:39,230

stronger contrast between

155

00:05:39,230 --> 00:05:41,300

the background and
the foreground.

156

00:05:41,300 --> 00:05:43,550

Finally, if we
increase the weight

157

00:05:43,550 --> 00:05:45,575

of the font from
regular to bold,

158

00:05:45,575 --> 00:05:47,405

we have even more contrast

159

00:05:47,405 --> 00:05:50,060

and the result is
legible text.

160

00:05:50,060 --> 00:05:52,610

There are certain
reading conventions that

161

00:05:52,610 --> 00:05:54,965

your viewer's eye will
usually follow,

162

00:05:54,965 --> 00:05:56,390

such as reading
something from

163

00:05:56,390 --> 00:05:58,550

left to right and
top to bottom.

164

00:05:58,550 --> 00:06:00,650

But you can use
contrast to create

165

00:06:00,650 --> 00:06:03,695

a different visual
hierarchy for your design.

166

00:06:03,695 --> 00:06:05,930

Here our eyes are drawn to

167

00:06:05,930 --> 00:06:07,595

the large and bold word

168

00:06:07,595 --> 00:06:09,560

at the bottom
of the design.

169

00:06:09,560 --> 00:06:11,420

The large bolded text is

170

00:06:11,420 --> 00:06:12,710
contrasted with the rest

171
00:06:12,710 --> 00:06:14,030
of the text on the page,

172
00:06:14,030 --> 00:06:16,355
which is much smaller
and a different font,

173
00:06:16,355 --> 00:06:18,560
While the rest of the
text is important,

174
00:06:18,560 --> 00:06:20,480
The design is
intentional in wanting

175
00:06:20,480 --> 00:06:22,895
the viewer to focus
on the large text

176
00:06:22,895 --> 00:06:25,205
and then read the rest.

177
00:06:25,205 --> 00:06:28,490
Remember these four
design principles as you

178
00:06:28,490 --> 00:06:29,990
evaluate other's work and

179
00:06:29,990 --> 00:06:31,850
play in your own projects.

180

00:06:31,850 --> 00:06:34,220

Group related
items together to

181

00:06:34,220 --> 00:06:37,115

create visual units
of information.

182

00:06:37,115 --> 00:06:39,770

Repeat aspects of your
design throughout to

183

00:06:39,770 --> 00:06:42,920

create a cohesive
and consistent look.

184

00:06:42,920 --> 00:06:45,410

Pay attention to
alignment to create

185

00:06:45,410 --> 00:06:47,990

a clean and
intentional design.

186

00:06:47,990 --> 00:06:51,170

And use contrast to
ensure readability to

187

00:06:51,170 --> 00:06:52,460

guide your viewer's eye to

188

00:06:52,460 --> 00:06:54,725

points of visual interest.

189

00:06:54,725 --> 00:06:57,080
The Student Multimedia
Design Center in the

190
00:06:57,080 --> 00:07:00,000
University of Delaware
Library, Museums and Press

191
00:07:00,000 --> 00:07:02,150
is a great place to
find resources,

192
00:07:02,150 --> 00:07:04,519
software, equipment,
and expertise

193
00:07:04,519 --> 00:07:05,285
to help you with

194
00:07:05,285 --> 00:07:07,174
all your multimedia
projects.

195
00:07:07,174 --> 00:07:10,140
Talked to us through
email and chat.