Elements of Art

The Elements of Art are the building blocks of all art. Works of art includes one or more of these elements:

Line	may be two- or three-dimensional and leads the viewer's eye through the work. Can be horizontal, vertical, straight, curved, dotted, broken, thick, thin etc.
Shape	is two-dimensional/flat and encloses an area; it can geometric (round, square, oval, rectangle etc.) or organic (when a line intersects itself it creates a shape)
Form	is three-dimensional and suggests volume. Can be organic or geometric.
Space	is the area around, within, or between shapes or parts of an image. Can show perspective. Can be expressed through negative and positive space.
Colour	has three attributes; hue, intensity, and value.
Value	is the lightness and darkness of colour.
Texture	is the quality of a surface that is tactile or can be implied.

Principles of Design

The ways in which artists organize the Elements of Art in a composition are called the Principles of Design. They include:

Balance	occurs when the <i>Elements of Art</i> are arranged symmetrically, asymmetrically or radially.
Repetition	occurs when a single element occurs many times.
Pattern	occurs when more than one element occurs many times.
Movement	refers to the arrangement of parts such as lines, shapes, and colours in a drawing that creates a slow, fast, or meandering flow of the eye.
Rhythm	occurs when elements are repeated, alternated or otherwise arranged.
Contrast	occurs with the use of opposites such as colour, value, size etc. to create visual effects and interest.
Emphasis	demonstrates an outstanding or interesting point in a composition.
Unity	is the result of how all elements and principles work together.