



Self Portrait... with rules

Form. Line. Color. Shape. Pattern. Space. Art and design share many of the same building blocks. Your challenge is to use one of these elements of art and design to create a self portrait.

Materials needed

- Paper
- Pens/markers/crayons/pencils

Optional

- Paint
- 3D material – clay, found objects
- Stickers, tape
- Glue
- Mirror

Step 1: Decide the "style" of your portrait.

Will you use only lines? What about color? Maybe you'll use pattern in some way. Think about how you can represent who you are beyond a literal image of yourself. Are you outwardly happy, but sad sometimes too? Maybe your portrait uses colors to show that. Do you try to not attract attention while still being successful? Could you use a pattern or lines to communicate your ideas?

Step 2: Make your portrait.

Try to use different methods on your portrait. Do you like the result with color? What would happen if you experimented with form? Show your portrait to others to see how they understand it.

Step 3: Try something you haven't before!

Do you love to make watercolors? Try out a pixel art program like Aseprite! Maybe you are a photographer at heart – try using only pencil and paper to create your portrait. This is a time to experiment. Maybe you'll find another medium you love!

When you're done with your project, take a picture and share it with us too! You can tag us on social media (@designmuseumchi on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter) or email us at info@designchicago.org. We're looking forward to seeing your work!