



Today's task is all about how we fit our drawing onto our page. It can be very challenging to make an object fit and we will all be familiar with the sinking feeling when we are drawing a figure and find we have run out of space for the feet.

We are going to look at some ways of making sure that we're in control of where the image ends up.

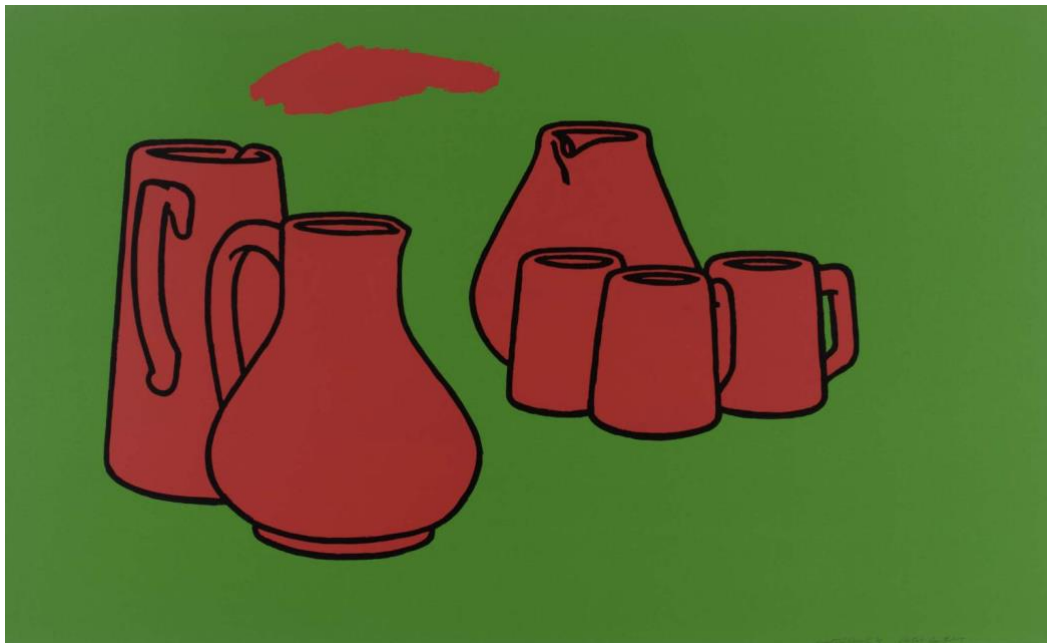
You can try this with anything but I'm going to suggest starting with a simple object like a bottle.

Begin by taping a sheet of A4 paper onto a sheet of A3 paper (alternatively you can draw a rectangular box on your page or use masking tape to mark out a rectangle.) You can do a series of drawings on one piece of paper or use a separate piece for each exercise but always begin with a box.

- 1- Consider your bottle, look at it through your view finder- how will it best fit onto your page.
- 2- Make a simple line drawing of your bottle on a sheet of A4 paper.
- 3- Take a second piece of paper and draw the bottle again this time with your paper turned the opposite way from the first drawing.
- 4- Look at the negative shapes. If you have fitted your whole bottle onto your page you will have created a complex negative shape around it.
- 5- Would it be more interesting if your central axis is on a slight diagonal rather than perpendicular? (as Cezanne so often drew his objects) Have a go.
- 6- What happens if you bleed the edge (this means that you deliberately let your object or shape come up to the edge or outside of your box) – this can make for an interesting composition and will simplify your negative spaces.
- 7-Add one or two more objects to your still life, perhaps a second bottle and a piece of fabric.
- 8-Make a series of simple drawings thinking only about how you fit your objects into your drawing space. Try having : your bottles side by side, one bottle lying down, the bottles over lapping. Don't be afraid to deliberately break out of the box. Think carefully about the positive and negative shapes and the relationships between your objects.
- 9-What happens if you add a horizon line? Change the horizon line.?
- 10-It would be fun to try these exercises with torn paper shapes.



Patrick Caulfield Coloured Still Life 1967



Patrick Caulfield Earthenware 1967



Patrick Caulfield Two Jugs 1969

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