

CRAFT IN AMERICA

THROUGH THE EYE: PERSONAL CONNECTIONS WITH NEEDLE & LENS EDUCATION GUIDE

Pattern Guide

Visual images operate as symbols in our everyday lives. Let this “word bank” of visual imagery inspire your design work.

<u>Pattern</u>	<u>Symbolic Meaning</u>
Stripes	Order, uniformity, or conflict
Chevron (zigzag)	Movement, energy, victory, or protection
Polka dots	Playfulness, joy, innocence
Checkerboard	Duality, balance, competition
Houndstooth	Sophistication, tradition, strength
Spirals	Growth, evolution, cosmic energy
Waves	Change, fluidity, emotion
Floral motifs	Beauty, fertility, life, femininity
Animal prints	Power, sensuality, wilderness
Feather	Freedom, spirituality, transcendence
Scales (fish/reptile)	Protection, adaptability, transformation
Shell	Continuity, the ocean, rebirth
Paisley	Eternity, fertility, divine energy
Celtic knots	Eternity, interconnectedness
Mandala	Wholeness, the universe, meditation
Moroccan tile (zellige)	Harmony, divine order, balance
Toile de Jouy	Storytelling, nostalgia, elegance
Tribal patterns	Heritage, identity, protection, lineage
Tartan/Plaid	Clan identity, tradition
Patchwork	Family, unity, memory
Circle	Wholeness, eternity, unity
Triangle	Balance, strength, spiritual trinity
Square	Stability, structure, foundation
Hexagon (honeycomb)	Harmony, community, efficiency
Fractals	Infinity, complexity in nature