

Mountains: Friend or Foe? One point perspective mountains

Key Facts

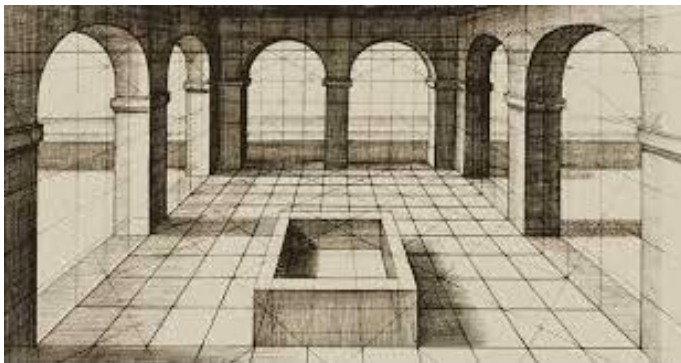
The system of perspective we take for granted today is a relatively recent discovery in artistic history. Before the 14th Century little to no attempts were made to realistically depict the three dimensional world in art in the way in which we are now accustomed to seeing it.

The art of the Byzantine, Medieval and Gothic periods was rich and beautiful, but the images made no attempt to create the illusion of depth and space.

The Italian masters Giotto and Duccio began to explore the idea of depth and volume in their art and can be credited with introducing an early form of perspective, using shadowing to great effect to create an illusion of depth, but it was still far from the kind of perspective we are used to seeing in art today.

The first known picture to make use of linear perspective was created by the Florentine architect Filippo Brunelleschi (1377-1446). Painted in 1415, it depicted the Baptistry in Florence from the front gate of the unfinished cathedral.

Masaccio (1401 – 1428) the first great painter of the early Renaissance period, was the first artist who demonstrated full command of the new rules of perspective; the figures in his paintings have volume and the buildings and landscapes realistically recede into the distance.



Key Skills

One point perspective sketching	Use line to show perspective. Think carefully about the size of objects to show how things appear to get smaller as they get further away.
Watercolour techniques	Experiment with and use a variety of techniques including, hard edge, blotting, glazing, washing and bleeding for a soft edge.
Colour mixing	Experiment with and show evidence of understanding how colours work, including the effects of cold, hot and contrasting colours.
Composition	Show an understanding of how to build up a painting by working from the background first and ending with the detail.
Discuss an artist's work	Talk about the concept of perspective and work out how artists create a sense of distance. Look at, talk critically about and get inspiration from the work of artists.



Key Vocabulary

pigment	The colouring components of paint, derived from rocks, plants or chemicals, that dissolve in water.
glazing	A layer of transparent colour is washed over a previous dry layer of paint.
one point perspective	A drawing method that shows how things appear to get smaller as they get further away. It is a way of drawing objects upon a flat piece of paper so that they look three-dimensional and realistic.
horizon	The horizon line art theory is a horizontal line that runs across the paper or canvas to represent the viewer's eye level.
vanishing point	The point in perspective drawing at which lines appear to converge.
converging	To move towards or meet at a common point.

