## SYMMETRY

1. Translation
2. Rotation
3. Reflection
4. Glide reflection

## Translation

- All points in a figure are moved the same distance in the same direction.


- M. C. Escher used translations (and other transformations) to achieve a tessellation (also known as tiling, mosaic, or paving) of the plane
- A tessellation is a set of polygonal regions that cover the plane without gaps and without overlap.
- In art, tessellation is sometimes also known as a regular division of the plane.


- Tessellation is based on the principle of the double function of contour lines.
- A contour line is the outline or edge of a figure.
- Each contour line defines the shapes of two figures, on either side of it.




## Rotation

- A figure is turned on an angle.
- This angle is the fixed point of the rotation.



- Translations and rotations may be used to generate a sense of rhythm and development




## Reflection

Preserves shape (distances) but alters "handedness".

- The figure is "flipped".
- Its right-hand side and lefthand side are exchanged.

- Reflection is not order preserving.
- The points in the image do not have the same order as the points in the original.
- Reflection is an order reversing transformation.
- One cannot move one figure and fit on top of the other figure without taking it off the flat plane and reversing
 it in 3D space.
- Rotations and translations, on the other hand, are order preserving.
- We can move one image onto the other without taking it off the flat plane and onto space.




## Moiré patterns

- Moiré is interference that can be seen when overlaying similar patterns.
- It is a special case of counterpoint.
- The result is strongly dynamic and unstable.



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- Moiré patterns may sometimes produce an alias pattern.
- Aliasing occurs when a new pattern is visually apparent - but was not present in the source patterns.

- A similar instability can also be produced without any moiré patterns.
- Bridget Riley often created such effects by means of thin curved lines packed close together.
- The effect is of intense flowing movement across the image.


Bridget Riley


- Similarity combined with gradual change can give an impression of motion.


Figure 272



## Victor Vasarely

Irregular progression can also create a sense of depth.

Especially when there is a contrast between cool and warm colors.



- Vasarely has made many designs where the progression bulges out from a center.
- This gives an impression of volume.
- The two-dimensional design appears three-dimensional.


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- Here is one way of organizing such a pattern:

1. Draw a square grid.
2. Draw a circle within the grid.

3. Change the lines inside the circle into arcs.
4. Delete the circle to obtain the pattern.


You can also draw a symmetric motif inside the deformed grid.


- There are different ways to organize a progression around the center.


- Different kinds of progression can be combined into one image.

- Bridget Riley

- The previous painting uses a definite geometric progression from the center to the outer edges.
- The gradual change can be seen by making a grid.



- In the previous image, the effect of space is achieved by changing the distance between lines.
- Another important technique is the use of angles.
- Acute and obtuse angles are often viewed as representatives of threedimensional objects.

