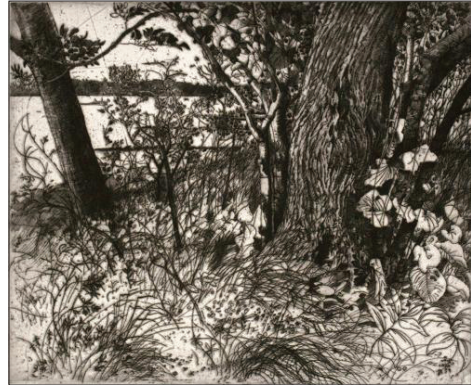


Texture

Texture is an art element related to how something feels (**actual texture**) or how something looks like it would feel (**implied texture**) when it is touched. Actual texture uses our sense of touch. Implied texture uses our sense of sight.



Actual texture: Photograph showing the actual texture of tree bark.



Implied texture: Thomas Cornell, **Basswood Tree**, 1975. Gift of the Estate of Thomas Cornell, 2021.41



Artists use art materials, tools, and techniques to create textures in their work. Take a look at Duane Hanson's **High School Student** on the left. The artist has included a real shirt, jeans, socks, and shoes in his sculpture. Each of these pieces of clothing have different textures. The shirt and socks might feel soft and smooth and the jeans a bit rougher. The shoes might feel smooth along the sides, bumpy where the laces crisscross, and ridged on the bottom where the tread is located.

How do you think the hair might feel? Would it be soft like real hair or would it feel more like a wig? And what about the skin? We would expect it to feel soft and warm, but the artist made his sculpture out of bronze, a cold and hard metal. Duane Hanson painted the bronze to create an implied texture that looks like—but doesn't feel like—real skin.

Duane Hanson, **High School Student**, 1990.
Bequest of Mary Mallery Davis, by exchange, 1994.1

Texture and pattern should function as a surprise.

Robert Denning



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How Many Textures Can You Find?

Materials

Pencil

Instructions

Visit the Flint Institute of Arts and look for textures in the artworks. Draw the textures you find below.

