How to Analyze and Constructively Critique Artwork

First, look at the work and study in detail. You should be able to describe the work to other reviewers and the artist.

Analyze the work

Look and see how the artist has used the elements and principles of design. These are the tools used to communicate artistic ideas. Design elements are: line, shape, texture, value, color, size, pattern, space (positive and negative) Design principles are: rhythm, movement, balance, proportion, variety, emphasis, unity Look for originality. The work must not be copied and presented in a unique, individual way. Inspect the craftsmanship. Handmade work is never "perfect" however, the piece should have a finished quality with attention to detail. Look for skill and dexterity in construction. Imagination: expressing creative and inventive ideas.

Constructive Criticism. How to give reinforcing feedback

First and foremost, be honest, be kind, be positive, make sure your commentary is not vague and put your personal likes and dislikes aside. Examples of vague comments: I like it, wow, that's cool are not acceptable. Use the language of art.

The more you use it, the more fluent you become. An example: The texture and patterns on this piece make an exciting surface design, however the geometric shape of the piece clashes and the piece is no longer balanced.. Perhaps the artist could try making the shape organic. Another example: The composition of this piece is unified by the use of complementary colors, making the overall effect very unique. The simple form is striking and balanced and in proportion. Point out what works and what doesn't. If something isn't working, be able to give solutions. Every artistic problem has a solution, use common sense. This is a basic criteria for reviewing. Critiquing is an educational process designed to help an artist grow and help the reviewer discuss artwork on a deeper level.