

PERSPECTIVE BASICS

1&2 POINT PERSPECTIVE

- Find the Horizon Line (HL). This is also your Eye Level.
- Vanishing Points (VP) - The converging point for construction lines receding to the HL.
- There can be multiple VPs in both 1&2 Point Perspective (PP) depending on the orientation of the subject(s)
- Remember: above the EL you will see the underside of an element. Below the EL you will see the top.
- In 1 PP you will have a front plane. In 2PP look for the leading edge. You may have two planes receding to the HL.
- Look for easy directional lines in photos or outside which will help establish the perspective. Try to see where they meet on the HL.
- Perspective is easier to see in buildings. Try to see organic perspective. I.e a sense of receding elements, trees bushes etc, going into the distance. Here you will be looking for more general directional lines going back to the HL.
- Don't worry too much about perfect technical perspective. Don't be afraid to use your eye or measure.
- It's easy to get lost in perspective as it can get so complex. As always, simplify as much as possible.

ATMOSPHERIC PERSPECTIVE

- As objects recede into distance they become lighter.
- As objects recede into distance they become less colourful.
- As objects recede into distance they become cooler.
- As objects recede into distance they become less detailed.
- Over distance Yellow is the first colour to fade followed by Red. This leaves Blue which is why distant hills etc look blue/grey.
- Over distance the contrast between light and shadow narrows i.e. avoid strong contrasts in the distance or it will bring that part "forward".
- Over distance you will go from harder edges to softer edges
- In general the sky will be darker at the "top" and lighten as it gets closer to the HL with a slight darkening on the HL.
- AP is also called Aerial Perspective.