



NUA  
Summer  
Schools  
Series

# Typography Design

## Creating compositions from objects found at home

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### Objective

To create unique type designs with items found in your home. Designing typography is a skill that plays a large part in many of the creative industries and the more creative you get, the more successful the outcome can be.

### You will need

- Camera
- A clear backdrop
- Assortment of household objects
- Assortment of objects that say something about you

### Task one - lettering

The aim of this task is to create a composition of a letter from objects found within your home. This task will be an exploration of how creative you can be whilst using objects found in your home and/or garden.

- Try to find objects that make this task easier for yourself, look at the shape and form of each object and try to match your letter.
- Think about the scale of your design. Do you want to create something small, intricate and delicate or do you want to make a big statement and go large?

- Try researching your letter online or in a book, can you find an interesting letter on any of the books in your home? For example the letter 'g' has two very different styles; 'g' and 'g.'
- Try to think differently when creating your letter. You can use perspective, negative space or utilise the architecture in your room to bring your idea to life.

Once you have your final composition you should photograph it.

### Top tip:

Think about how you are going to photograph your letter before you start, consider the composition of your image. Is there anything distracting in your background? Clear an area so your letter can be the hero of the image, not the objects in the background. Try to photograph using good lighting.



## Task two - telling your story

This task will be an expression of who you are, so you will need to find lots of objects that represent your interests and your personality.

- We are going to do the same task as before but with a bit of a twist! All of the objects have to represent something about you. Your interests, hobbies, likes and dislikes or objects that bring back memories. Find objects that have a personal meaning to you.
- Try to find a mix of objects; large and small, personal and practical, interesting and boring, silly and serious etc.
- Tell us an intriguing story through your chosen objects!



## Task three - illustrate a word

We would like you to create a word out of the letters/ images that you have all created. Think about your word and look at the images carefully. If you chose a harsh word like 'Broken' you might want your letters to look very different from each other, but if you chose 'Harmony' you would want to balance the letters so that they feel similar to each other.



### Let's go further

#### Step back from your work and consider:

- Do you want all of your images to feel like they are the same scale, or do you want them to look wildly different?
- How could this technique be applied to other projects - posters, publications or logo designs?
- An extra challenge would be to arrange the letters in a photo-editing program like 'Photoshop' or a free version 'Gimp'





## Conclusion

The creative industries are all about story telling. This can be through images, language, sound or moving image. The one thing that they all have in common is conveying a message. As a graphic designer you are designing with words almost every day and clients these days want creativity, not just boring words on a page!

This short workshop is a great way to think about how to add creativity into your message. You have not only created interesting letters in a short space of time, but you have also told us something about yourself through your creativity.

The skills you have been developing in this workshop tie in with a range of career paths including Graphic Design, Branding Design, 3D Visualising, Editorial Design, Typographer and even Art Direction.



## Further resources

[Prospects - Graphic Designer Profile](#)

[Free Photoshop 7 day trial](#)

## Photoshop tips:

[20+ Tips for Using Tools in Photoshop](#)

[25 Photoshop TIPS AND TRICKS](#)

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