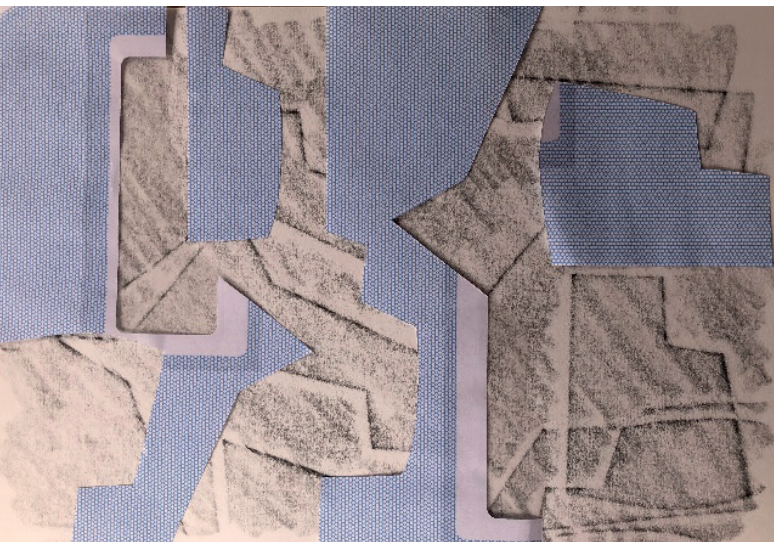


Abstract Material Collage

When creating artwork many of us can get hung up on what something will look like before we have even begun making! This process takes a step back and allows you to discover a more innovative approach to making that opens up more possibilities, ways of thinking and seeing.

You will need:

- 2 x A5 pieces of white paper
- White A4 paper – 5 sheets max
- 1 old envelope - ideally with pattern on inside (opened out)
- Masking tape
- Paper scissors
- Paper clips – 4 max

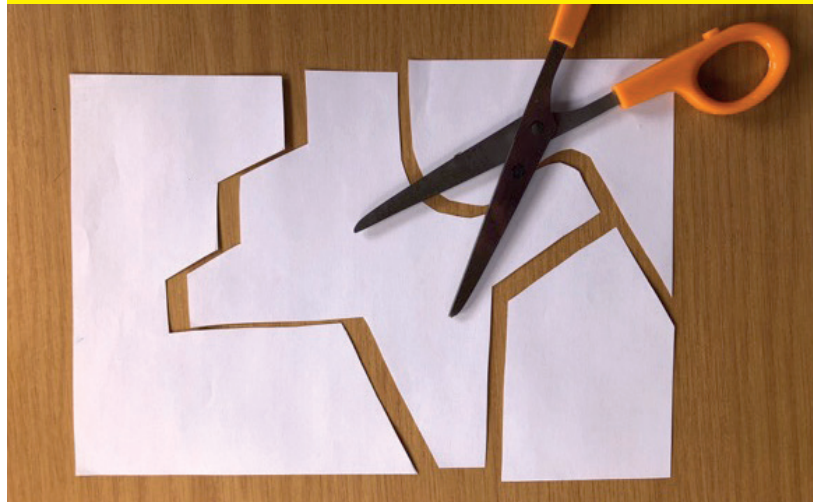


Objectives:

- Create a series of Abstract collages through deconstructing and then recomposing.
- Engage with a limited colour palette – one, two and three colours
- Use frottage* and photography to record compositions
- Develop collage outcomes into a fabric sample, with optional addition of stitch embellishment

Task One:

- Layer up and hold together 2 A5 white papers and your envelope.
- Using a pair of scissors cut your paper into 4 shapes - your scissors aren't allowed to go in one straight line – they have to take a roundabout journey as they cut. This can be a curved line, going into a straight line, maybe into a zig zag etc.
- You may wish to use silhouettes of household objects to inspire your cutting line.



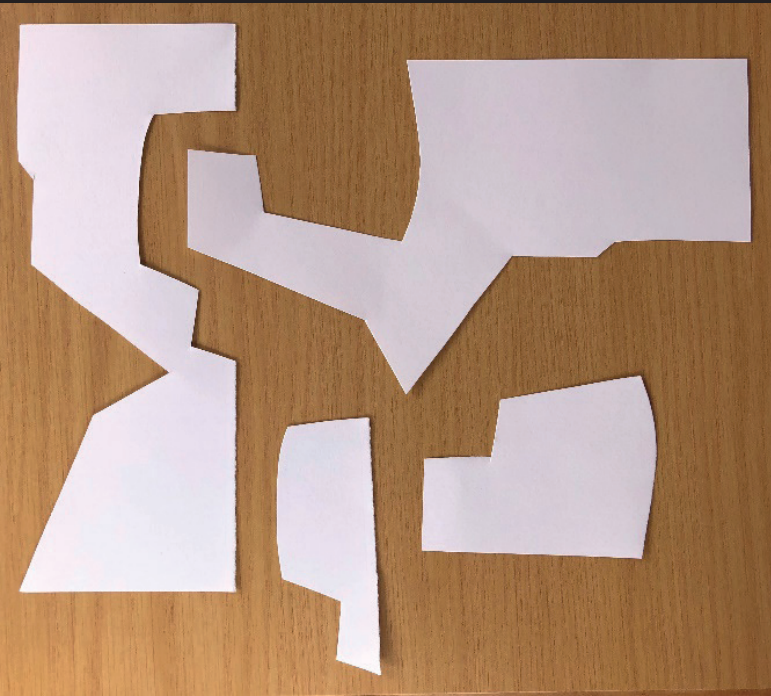
*Frottage - the technique or process of taking a rubbing from an uneven surface to form the basis of a work of art



Task Two:

Take one set of the pieces and reposition them into a new configuration.

Rotate them and compose them to make a new abstract image.



Task Four:

Take an A4 sheet of paper and use it as a backdrop for all of your A5 cutouts and once again compose them into a new collage.

Layer up so that some sections are overlapping with other cut out shapes, you could choose to use all of your pieces or take some out.

Take photographs of this new composition. Play around, you can make lots of different compositions!



Task Three:

Masking tape a piece of A4 paper on top of your composition.

Make a rubbing (frottage) using the side of a pencil or coloured pencil / graphite stick.

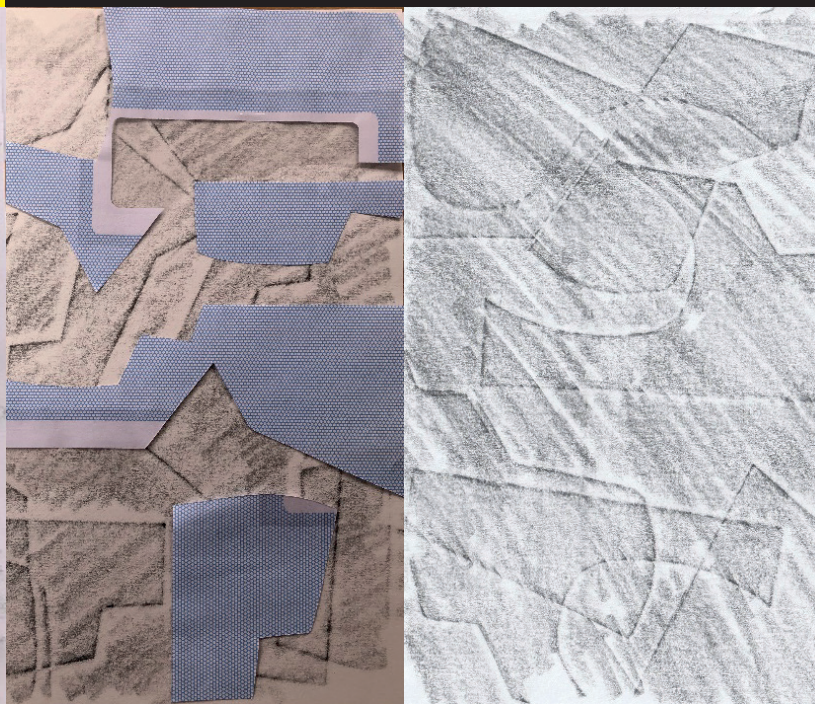
Think about which direction you move your pencil or graphite stick. Which direction works best with your composition?



Task Five:

Place an A4 piece of paper over one of your compositions and make rubbings as you did before – remember to think about which direction you make your rubbings.

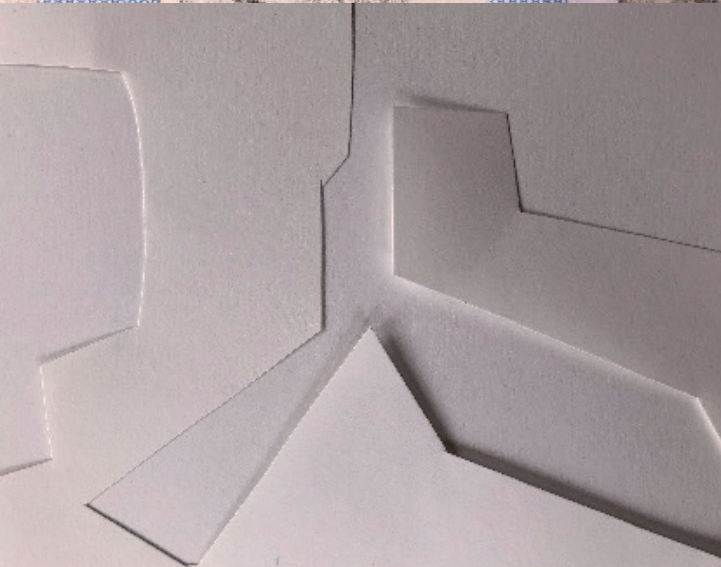
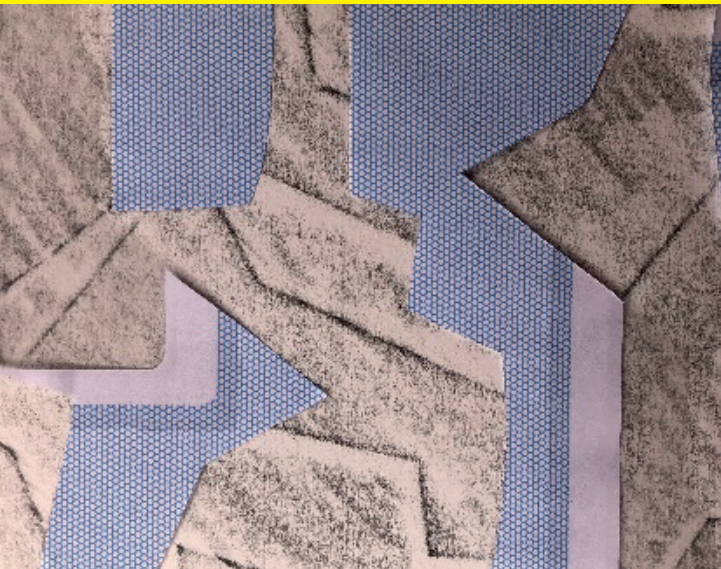
You can then take your envelope pieces and arrange them on top of your rubbing, to make a new composition!



Finally:

You can use your camera or a view finder to zoom in on specific compositions that you think look interesting or suggestive.

Keep experimenting to find new and interesting compositions. You can even introduce additional coloured papers to vary your experiments.

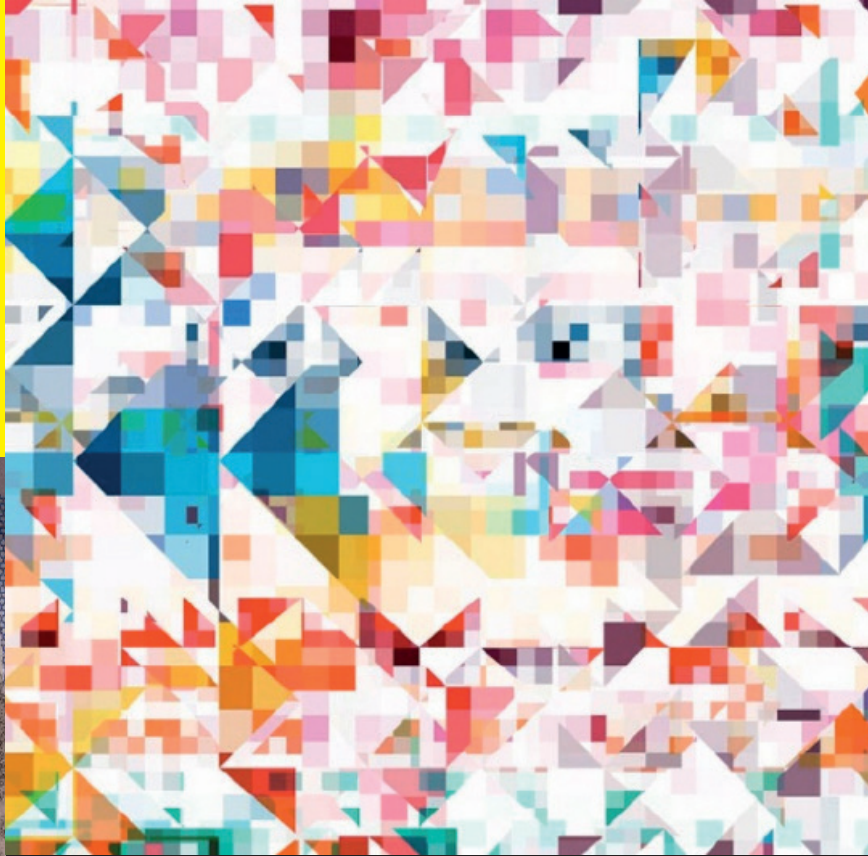


Congratulations on developing this piece of original artwork! This can be used as a basis for your fabric collage (in part two) but it's also important to consider how similar processes can be applied to industry.

You may want to look at the following Fine Artists to see how they use collage in their work.

- Quince-yellow, outside – Matt Gonzalez
- Works on Paper – Eduardo Chillida

Or even take a look at how some of NUA's graduates use collage.



Next steps – to find a related career –

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/fine-artist>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/fine-art>



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www.nua.ac.uk

Useful Links

Creative Careers: <https://discovercreative.careers/#/>

UCAS: <https://www.ucas.com/>



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