

guided-study critique workshop

get it
scrapped!



Design Topics 3
Week 3: Tension

part 1: Read

Excerpts from Tension, Story, Focus & Flow:
[click here to open \(be sure to save to your device\)](#)

- [Tension](#), pages 8-9
- [Snuggle and Separate](#), pages 10-17
- [Break Space and Borders](#) (we already covered this in lesson 1, but it's relevant here, too) pages 18-27
- [Juxtapose Unexpected Elements](#), pages 28-31

- How To Create Visual Tension in Your Designs*** by Vanseo Designs. [Click here to read online.](#)
- Five Key Elements for Creating Tension in Fiction*** by Andrea G Wenger. [Click here to read online.](#)
- Painting Tension from Secrets of a Modern Painter.*** [Click here to read online.](#)
- Tension and Release: Alpha and Omega** by Musical Assumptions. [Click here to read online.](#)

part 2: Look Around

Study architecture and tension

Take a look at the [Get It Scrapped architecture pinterest board](#) and find a building that you immediately understand has visual tension.

Share the image on our class pinboard

In the comments area, point out the tension in the architectural piece you've chosen.



part 3: Scrapbook

Make layouts! Be sure you've got two of them you want to share with us by next Wednesday morning.

Make 2 pages that incorporate tension. Each should go about this in a different way. Remember: too much tension and you've got chaos. But you need enough tension for the viewer to feel that there's something just a little "off" something needed attention.

Approaches include:

- asymmetrical design
- figure-ground confusion
- contrast-color, size, motif . . .
- juxtaposition of unexpected elements
- break borders
- push the expected balance or placement

By next Wednesday at 11 am ET be sure to:

- Upload 1 layout to the Week 1 Gallery Critique album.
- Upload 1 layout to the Week 1 Live Critique album.

NOTE: Make pages that make you happy--and work in this assignment as it fits with your style and your goals.