

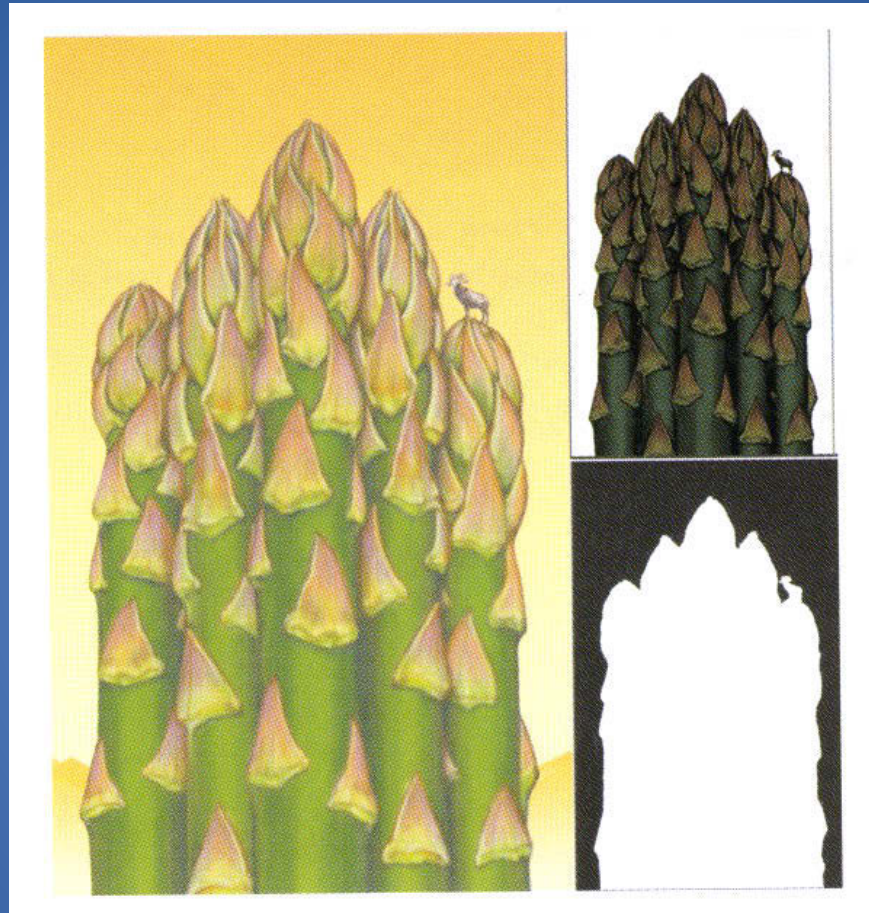
Space

SPACE, sometimes referred to as negative space, is the area around or between elements in a design. Space is an element that is present before a design is ever created.

Space

- The empty space surrounding a positive shape is negative space
- Negative space is easy to see when viewing recognizable subject matter
- The negative space allows the positive space to be seen
- The relationship between the positive and negative space is called the figure/ground relationship
- This relationship can be stable and easy to see, or it may be reversible or confused

Space



The asparagus is the positive space and the background is the negative space.

Space



Left: Confused figure ground relationship

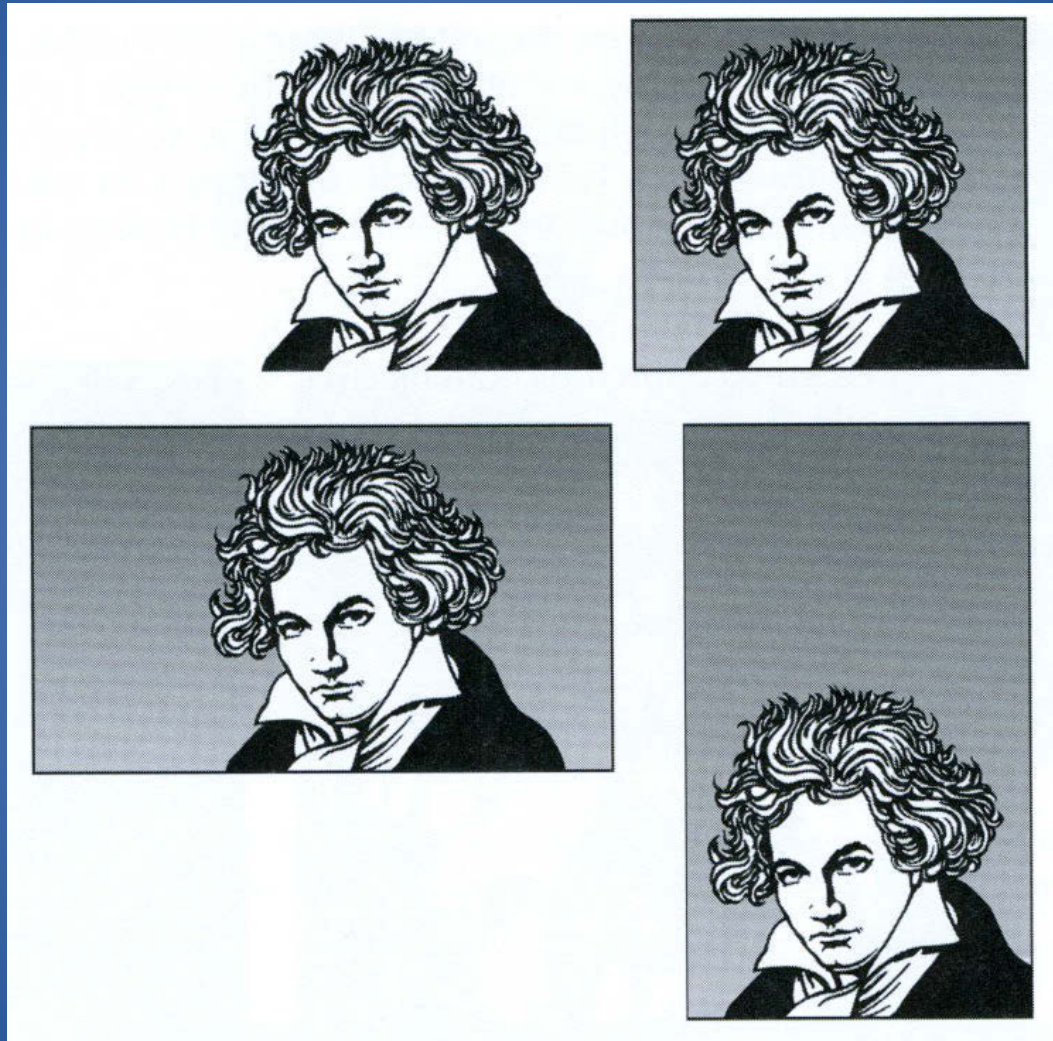
Right: Reversible and confused figure ground relationship

Space



New shapes can be seen in the negative space.
Negative space can also help create the illusion
of 3-D space and depth.

Space



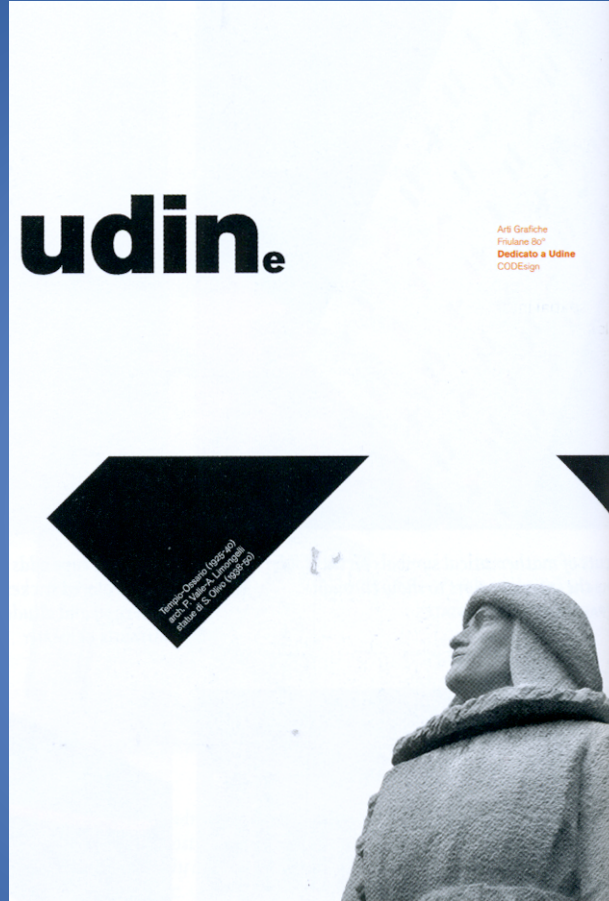
The boundaries of the design space must be defined to understand negative space. Where the negative space is and how of it changes the viewer's reaction to the design.

Space



Negative space can be used to create the illusion of depth and to create a mood of loneliness or isolation.

Space



Negative space can be used to organize and create separate areas within the design.

Space



Negative space can contribute to the communication of a message.

Space



Attention can be drawn to the negative space by moving the eye into it.

