

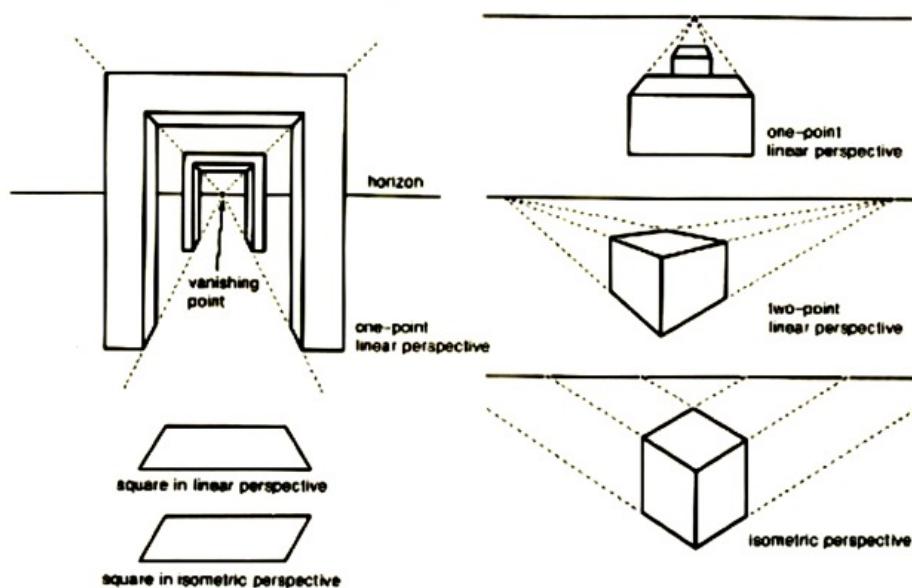
# Perspective > Issaquah Schools Foundation

 [isfdn.org/perspective-reference-materials](http://isfdn.org/perspective-reference-materials)



**Art Concept: Perspective.** Perspective is another way of describing all the things that create the illusion of depth. Throughout time, artists have used many devices to create an illusion of depth or that the picture goes back, away from the picture plane or surface of the painting. Overlapping is one way to show depth because it shows that one thing is one front or behind another. Position is another way. Things on top or above, sometimes give the illusion that they are further back in space.

In the 15th century, Italian and Northern European artists perfected a scientific method of creating the illusion of space called “Linear and Atmospheric Perspective.” In **linear perspective**, the artist defines a **horizon line**. If all the lines slope in a parallel manner toward the horizon line, it is called **isometric perspective**. If the artist defines the horizon and a point on the horizon line called the vanishing point and all lines in the painting slope towards this point, it is called **one-point perspective**. Even more complex, an artist can have two vanishing points and create **two point linear perspective**.



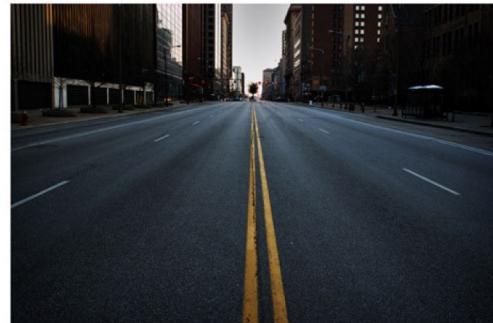
Additional examples of one point perspective:

Red line identifies the horizon line, green slanting lines lead to the blue dot vanishing point.



**Atmospheric perspective** refers to the phenomenon created by the atmosphere where things farther away have fuzzier edges and duller colors. The sky is also lighter closer to the horizon than higher up in the sky. The next time you go outside, look and see if it's true!

Look at the examples below and discuss what methods are used to show the illusion of depth. Ask if it is effective. Note that some artists purposefully ignore the rules of perspective. Why would they do that?



## Sample Projects:

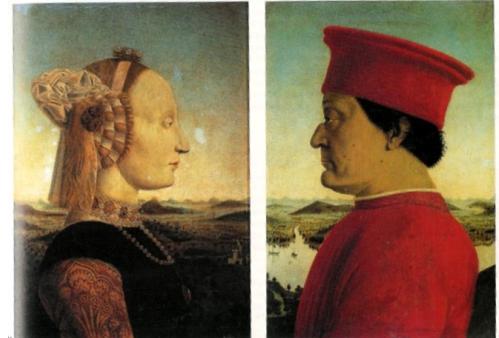
- One Point Perspective (4th Grade) art lesson.
- Practice drawing a square in all the different types of perspective
- Practice drawing a square in one-point perspective. When they get good, make it into a room and add square objects in perspective like the tiled floor, a dresser, a t.v., etc.
- Draw a road receding into the horizon to practice one point perspective.

School of Athens, Raphael (Italian), 1512. Perfected perspective.

Battista Sforza and Federica da Montefeltro, Piero Della Francesca (Italian), 1474. Perfected atmospheric perspective.



View of Mitsumata, Hiroshige (Japan) 1857. Atmospheric perspective



The Persistence of Memory, Salvador Dali (Spain), 1931. Playing with perspective.

California Highway, Robbins, 1936.



