

Japanese Notan Examples



Japanese Notan is the interaction between light and dark. Your assignment is to basically deconstruct a square sheet of black paper and glue it on to a large white sheet. You will need to be careful to place all the cut areas of black down on the white paper so that a mirrored image is formed. It is not simply moved up and placed away, it must be **FLIPPED** so a reversal is formed of that shape.

Balance and precision are important parts of this assignment. You must be very exact as you place the flipped pieces. If the segment was cut 3 inches in on the square, it must also be placed 3 inches out of the square. You must consider exact placement for every piece you cut.

As shown in the examples, you **MUST** do more than just cut out chunks of the black square. Each segment you cut away must also be cut smaller, into more delicate pieces, so a more interesting design is formed.

Don't glue anything down until the very end. To attach it to your white paper, put it all back together as if it was a puzzle. Piece by piece, flip the out and glue them where they should be in their reversed placement. You don't need to use a lot of glue. Go slow and think carefully about what you are doing before you glue things down.

How will you be graded?

Use of class time.....	0	1	2	
Intricateness of cuts/design.....	0	1	2	3
Proper mirror image of pieces.....	0	1	2	3
Neatness of gluing/paper isn't ripped, etc.....	0	1	2	

Teacher notes: Paper for this lesson is in the back room on the shelves by the closet. Glue is in the bottom cabinet close to the drawers by the fridge. Scissors are in one of the lower drawers. Use the red handled scissors and make sure all are returned each day.