Simple line shading

Simple **line shading** of basic forms is quick and effective.
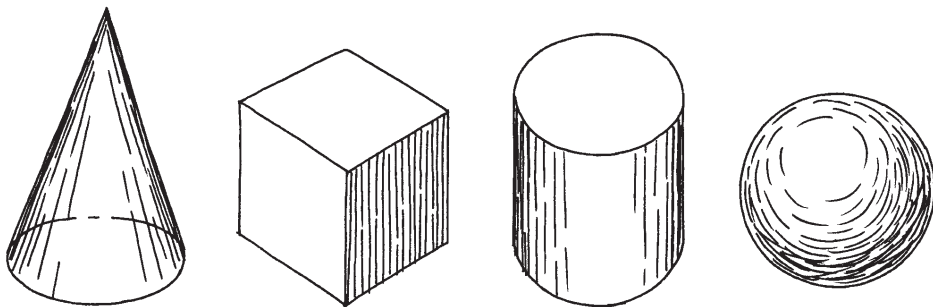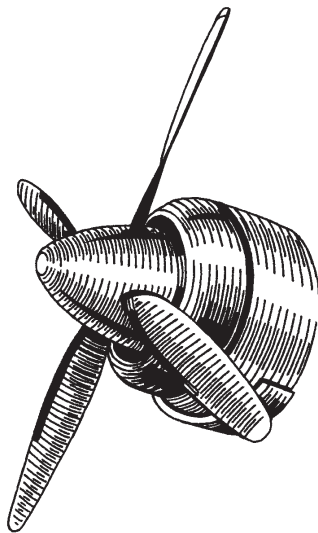

Line shading of basic forms
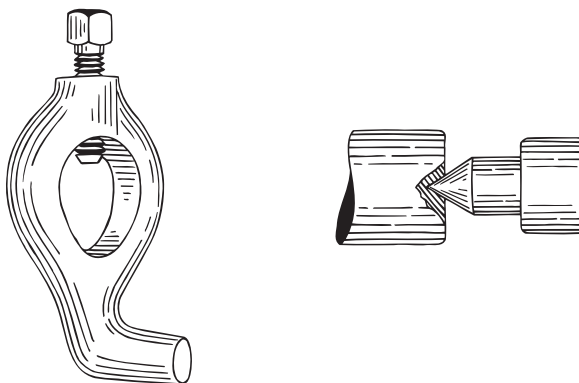
Line shading of complex forms

Line shading can follow contours, as in the examples in the following figure **Stippling** may also be used.
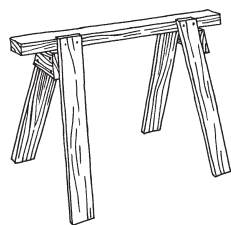
Examples of contour line shading

Textures should be indicated.

- It is not necessary to show all the bricks in a wall, but a few at one end will 'give the idea'.
- Wood is easily rendered with wood grain.
- Rubber has a stippled appearance.
- Metal is shown with form shading and **highlights**. An eraser can be used to make a highlight.
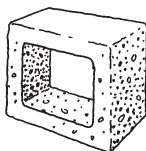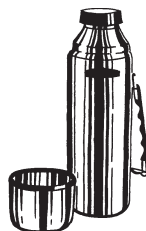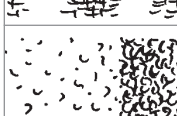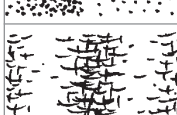
Using different media
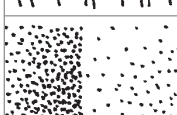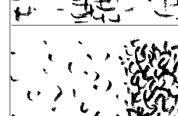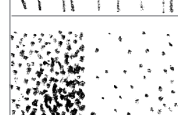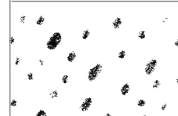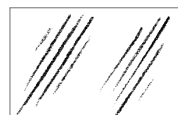
		Pen		Pencil
	wood		glass	
	rubber		reflective plastic or metal	
	concrete		concrete	
	plastic		surface grain	
	metal		wood end grain	
			rubber or foam	
			fabrics	
			textured plastic	

Note: The more highly polished a surface is, the more area is left unshaded. On very shiny surfaces, such as chromium plate, reflections will appear as high **contrast** areas of dark and light.

Rapid rendering of common objects, showing the materials they are made from
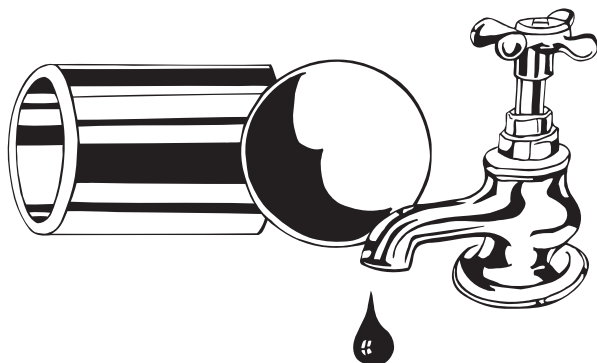
Polished metal cylinder and tap showing reflections.

Dull metal cylinder and hollow cylinder.
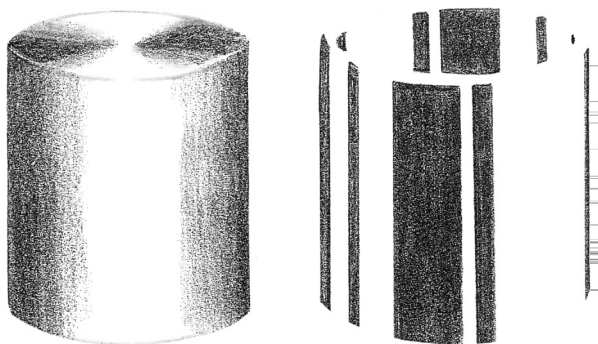
Rendering metal

The amount of highlighting on a sketch depends on how shiny the object is.

- To depict glass on a vertical surface such as a window, short parallel diagonal lines are used.
- To show glass on a horizontal surface, short parallel vertical lines are used.
- If glass is **transparent**, then the shapes behind must be shown. Since some detail will be lost, this can be done with thin broken lines.
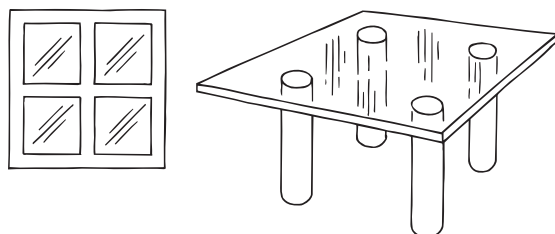
Glass window, and glass table

Emphasising sketched ideas

Sketches can also be emphasised using coloured surrounds to draw attention to them, but be careful to do it in a manner that does not distract or is of a dominant shape of its own. Muted colours of greys, greens, blues and browns are best for surrounds. Bright colours are better for small detail.

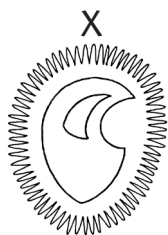**Negative space** can be filled with 'scribble' to make a feature stand out.

Drop shadows can be put on sketches.

Scribble in a negative space

Drop shadows

X

X

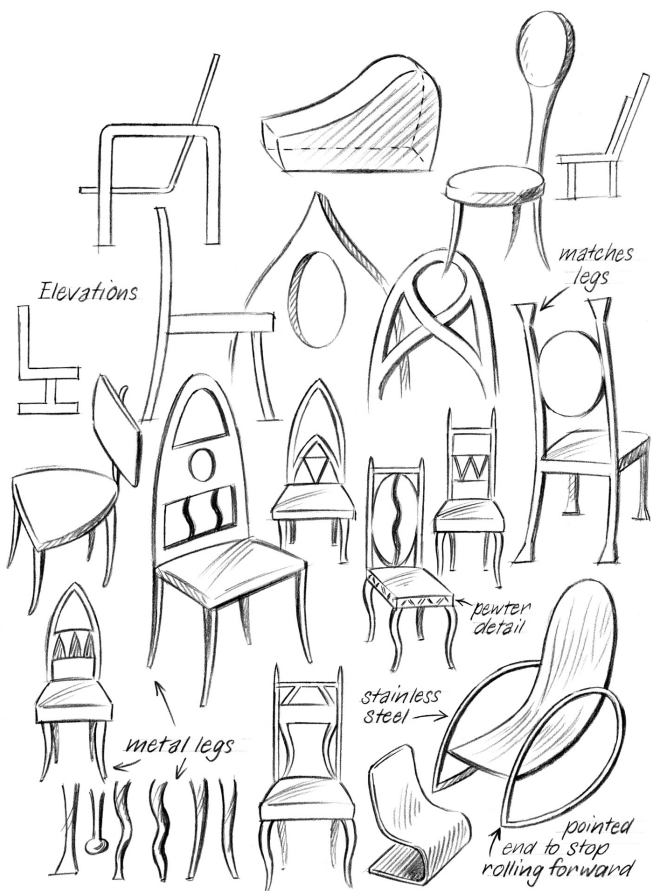Attention is drawn to the surround rather than the design inside it.

Object appears to have been enlarged and distorted by 'taking on' the shape of the surround.

✓

✓

Suitable surrounds – the shading near the object emphasizes its shape and is not distracting.

Shaded surrounds

A sketch page using overlapping 3-D and 2-D, varying line weight and notation