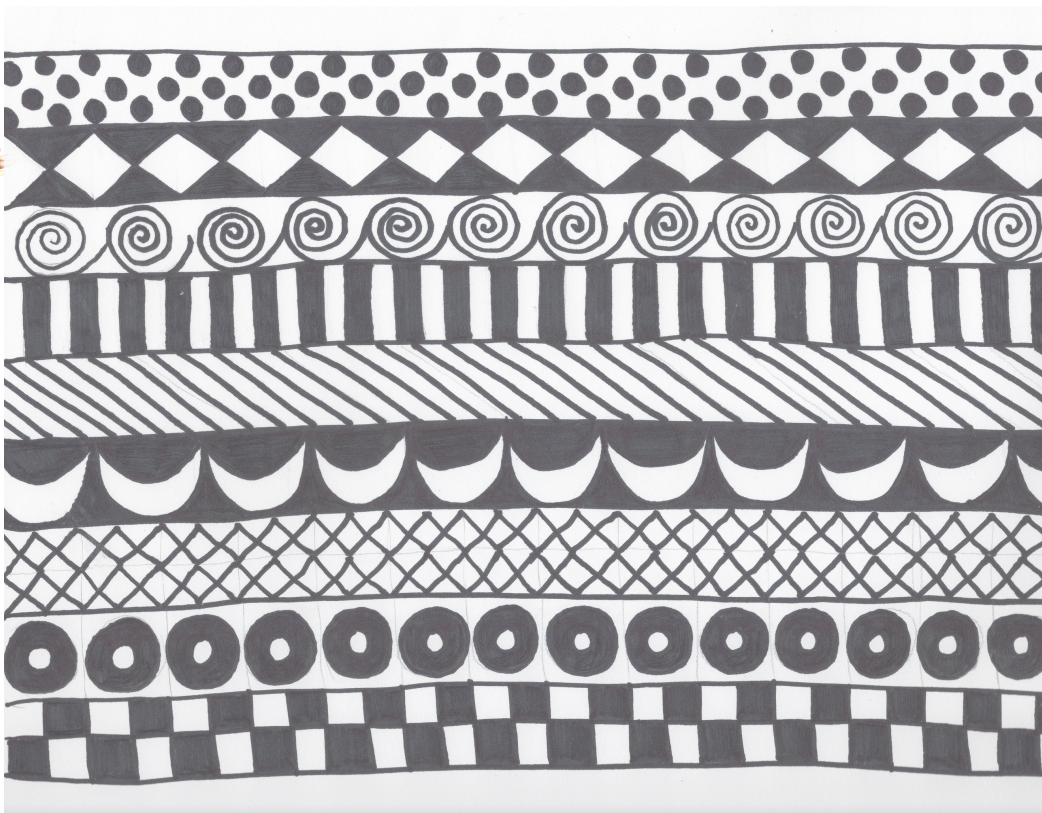


creative matters

by Christine Marie

Pattern Play

Discover how one simple mark can become something beautifully unexpected.



20 - 30
Minutes



Beginner
Friendly



Free
Guide

♥ art, process and the joy of creativity ♥

Why Patterns?

Making patterns is one of the easiest ways to begin creating because you only need one simple mark. From there, you can repeat it, change it, and watch it grow into something interesting.

What you'll learn

- ✓ Create interesting patterns from simple marks.
- ✓ Combine patterns in creative ways.
- ✓ Enjoy the process without worrying about perfection.

A little reminder

There is no right or wrong way to make a pattern.
One simple mark is all you need to begin.

Pause & Notice

Patterns are everywhere.

Look around you. Notice the grain of wood, the veins of a leaf, the stitching on your clothes, or the cracks in the sidewalk. The world is full of beautiful patterns waiting to be noticed.

What You'll Need

Most of these are things you probably already have. Start with the basics, then add more supplies as you discover what you enjoy using.

Start With

- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Black pen or marker

Nice to Have

- ✓ Colored markers
- ✓ Colored pencils
- ✓ Watercolors
- ✓ Timer
- ✓ A cup of tea or coffee ☕

Remember:

You don't need everything to get started.



One Mark at a Time

Practice 1

Choose one type of mark for each box. Fill the box using only that mark.

A large, empty square box with rounded corners, intended for drawing using only dots.

Dots

A large, empty square box with rounded corners, intended for drawing using only lines.

Lines

A large, empty square box with rounded corners, intended for drawing using only circles.

Circles

A large, empty square box with rounded corners, intended for drawing using only waves.

Waves

A large, empty square box with rounded corners, intended for drawing using only loops.

Loops

A large, empty square box with rounded corners, intended for drawing using any mark of the student's choice.

Your Choice

Change One Thing

Practice 2

Create one simple pattern. Then, in each box, change only one thing.

Size – Larger or smaller

Spacing – Closer or farther apart

Direction – Turn or rotate the marks

Color – Try two or more colors



Size



Spacing



Direction



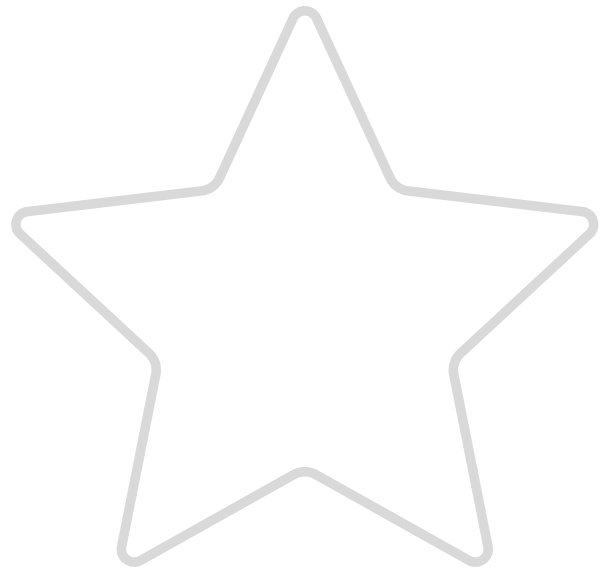
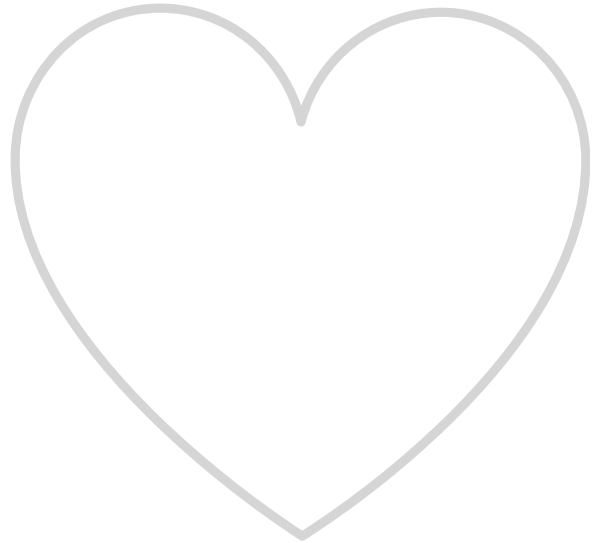
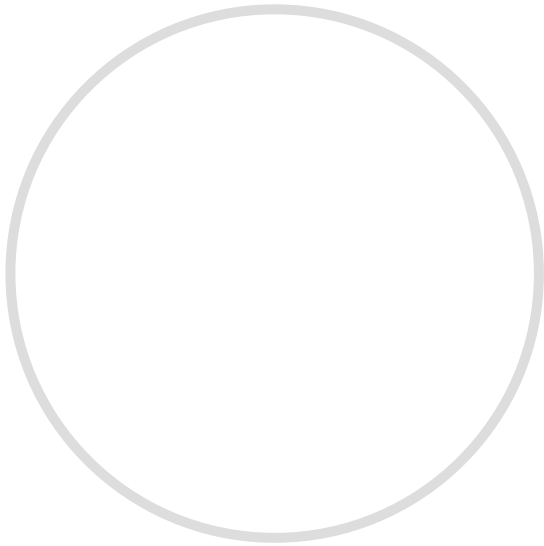
Color

Which change did you like best?

Fill a Shape

Practice 3

Fill each shape with a repeating pattern. Try a different pattern in each shape, or challenge yourself to use the same pattern in all four. Notice how each shape changes the pattern.



Pause & Notice

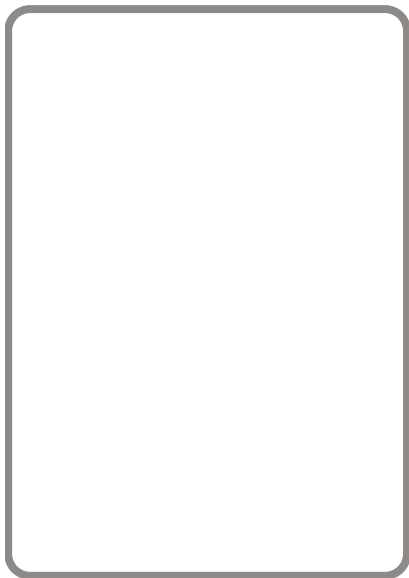
How did each shape change your pattern?

Combine Patterns

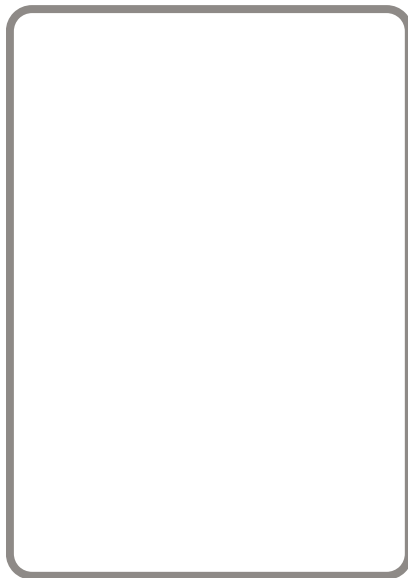
Practice 4

Combine two or more simple patterns to create something new. Mix dots, lines, circles, loops, zigzags, waves—or invent your own.

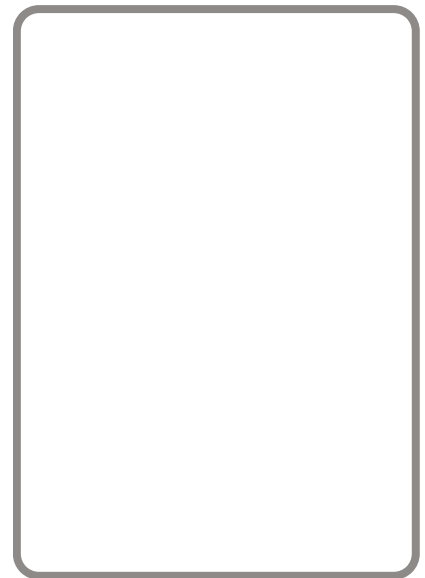
Example



Two Patterns



Three or More
Patterns



Explore Further

Pause & Notice

Which pattern combinations would you explore again?

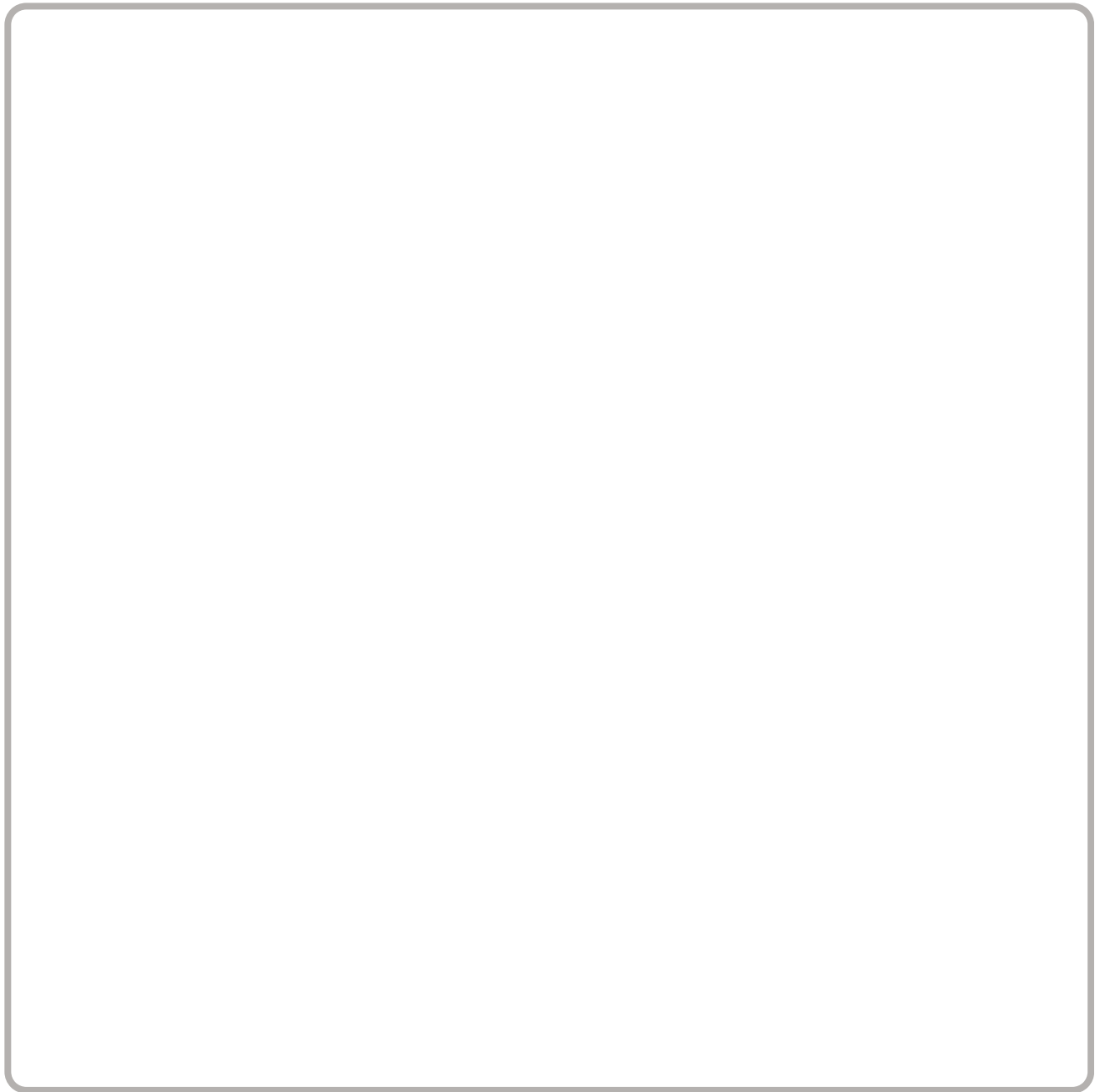
Your Pattern Challenge

Practice 5

Choose one challenge..

- ☐ Fill an entire page with one pattern.
- ☐ Use only dots.
- ☐ Use only lines.
- ☐ Use patterns from nature.
- ☐ Create a page using only two colors.
- ☐ Create your own challenge.

♥ *There is no right way to complete this challenge. Let yourself explore.*



Before You Go



Pause & Notice

Take a moment to look through the patterns you created.

Which pattern did you enjoy creating the most?

Did anything surprise you?

What would you like to try next?

Every pattern begins with one simple mark.

Every creative practice begins with one small step.



Thank you for creating with Creative Matters.

