
Y7 Graphics: Surface Pattern

What is Surface Pattern Design?

Surface design is everywhere. It is something that is all around you. A designer created the patterns in pretty much everything you own, wear, and use. From your bed sheets and towels, to the clothes you are wearing, the wallpaper in your living room and the decorative papers your gifts are wrapped in. Before there was a product, there was a pattern design for it.

There are so many kinds of techniques to create patterns. Relief printing, where blocks are carved to create unique prints and patterns, and screen printing are just two examples. The patterns that are created can be digitally manipulated to create a repeat, which is always such a popular type of print.

What does a surface pattern designer do?

Designers in this area create patterns and repeats which are used to give life, energy, character, and movement to surfaces. It is applied to pretty much everything you see in your daily life, which is why it is such an important genre of art and design. The majority of surface pattern designers have a specialist area or style which allows them to make their mark on the world. Many are also textile and product designers, which gives them the insight to see how their patterns will look from conception to adorning the final piece.

Understanding design trends, colour forecasting, and fashion trends are all key to becoming a successful surface pattern designer. When you are able to combine this knowledge with your own spin and unique style, then beautiful things can happen.

