

Shape Up

Gallery Hunt

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS



VMFA



Shape Up

Artists use shapes, both geometric and organic, to create works of art. Geometric shapes are regular and have names you recognize like circle, square, triangle, rectangle, and oval. Organic shapes are usually irregular, occur in nature, and don't always have names. Explore the galleries and see how artists used different shapes!

Begin in the **American Galleries** on Level 2. Have fun!



1

This artist has made a painting of part of a bridge. The metal bars make familiar shapes against the sky. What geometric shapes can you see? _____



2

Continue in the **American Galleries** to find this swirling landscape painting. This artist used shapes that are very different from the first work you saw. Are these shapes organic or geometric? _____



3

Make your way out of the American Galleries, toward the **Ancient Galleries** courtyard. This large Greek storage jar is covered in geometric and organic shapes! What do you think might have been stored in here?



4

Leave ancient Greece, go through Tapestry Hall, and enter the **European Galleries**. Be sure to bring your appetite! This artist's still life includes lots of organic fruits and shapes. What familiar fruits do you see?



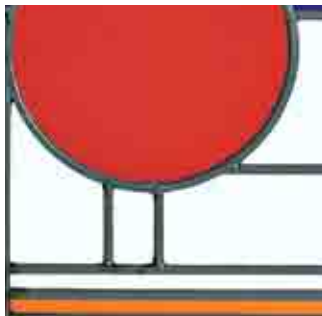
5

Travel through Evans Court to the African Galleries. This mighty cloth is full of geometric shapes that have specific meanings and is worn for special occasions. What do you wear for special occasions?



6

As you head into the **Marble Hall**, you can't miss the large, colorful blocks bouncing along the walls! What is another word for block? _____



7

Go upstairs to the **Art Deco Galleries** to find this brightly colored, functional work of art. This artist combined lots of geometric-shaped pieces of glass to make this window. Name the largest shape.



8

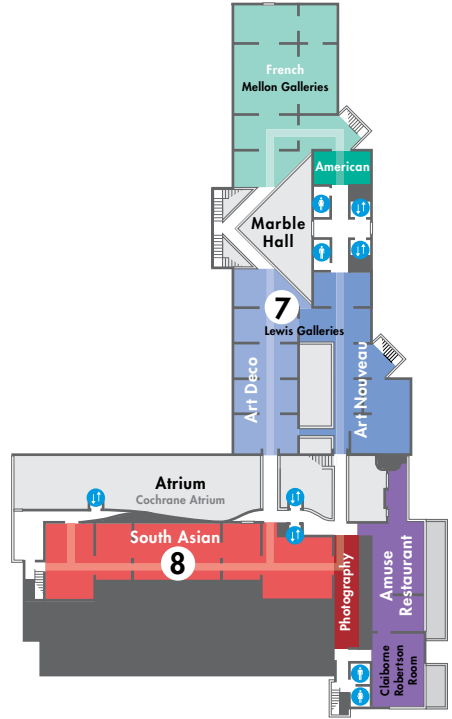
Leave the Art Deco Galleries, cross the bridge, and go into the **South Asian Galleries**. This huge marble pavilion is bursting with organic and geometric shapes and was used for both work and play. What would you use it for? _____



Shapes are everywhere at VMFA! Keep looking for more organic and geometric shapes. Be sure to visit the Robins Sculpture Garden before you leave and check out the VMFA website when you go home at www.VMFA.museum.



Level 2



Level 3

Finding the Objects in the Galleries

Object 1 is located in the American Galleries on Level 2. The remaining objects can be found on Levels 2 and 3.

IMAGES (as details)

1

Steel-Croton, 1953
Charles Sheeler, American (1883–1965)
John Barton Payne Fund

2

Mars in Orange and Green, 1935
Arthur Dove, American (1880–1946)
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Brinkley Jr.

3

Relief Pithos (Storage Container), ca. 675 BC
Greek (Cretan)
Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund

4

Still Life, 1640–50
Jan Davidsz de Heem, Dutch (1606–1684)
Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund

5

Man's Wrapper (Kente Cloth), late 20th century
Akan culture (Ghana)
Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund

6

Wall Drawing #541, 1987
Sol LeWitt, American (1928–2007)
Sydney and Frances Lewis Endowment Fund

7

Window, 1912
Frank Lloyd Wright, American (1867–1959)
Gift of Sydney and Frances Lewis

8

Garden Pavilion, 19th century
Indian (Rajasthan)
Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund

Cover & Inside

Mars in Orange and Green, 1935
Arthur Dove, American (1880–1946)
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Answers
1. Triangles, diamonds, squares 2. Organic 3. olive oil,
wine, water or grain 4. Cropes, pomegranate, lemons,
peaches 5. Your own idea 6. cube 7. A circle 8. Your
own idea



It's your art.

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