



Design for beginners

The overlay technique

Steve Garner:

In the previous activity you produced three flat views: a side view, a front view and a plan view. This activity is going to begin the development of perspective.

In your workbook you will have some illustrations to copy but I'm going to use a basic underlay of some sketches that I've produced. I'm also going to produce – use a sheet of tracing paper. So I put the tracing paper over the top of my sheet which lies under it. So this is called the overlay technique because the paper lies over the top. I'm going to use again a thick pen for this activity but you might find that an ordinary biro or fine ink pen would be quite adequate for this.

The key lies in holding the paper still and not letting it move while you do this activity. But all I'm doing is following the lines, which appear through the paper. This is a very good way of getting quick images down. You can use images you find in magazines. You can use images taken from other designer's drawings and it's a way of getting images quickly produced that you can modify and use for other people's – from other people's work.

So here you go. I've produced a quick image of a chair and that in itself can be become an underlay for the next activity which I could use to modify the chair again.