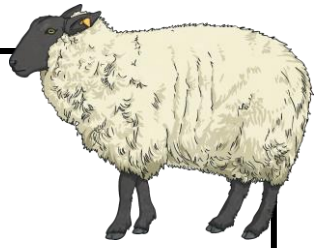
Vocabulary

abrasive
bumpy
brushstroke
coarse
even
fine
flat
furry
glossy
hairy
hard
jagged
prickly
rough
raised
scratched
sharp
shiny
smooth
soft

The Elements of Art

Artwork is made up of seven elements, often used together to make a final piece of art. Texture refers to how a surface feels. Actual texture really exists, and you are able to touch it like the texture of different fabrics in a collage.



Visual texture is an illusion of texture, created using lines, shapes, colours or tones. A texture can look different to how it really feels e.g. a drawing of a sheep might look fluffy, but the paper feels smooth to touch.

One way of creating texture in art is to make a **collage**. Collage is a work of art in which pieces of paper, photographs, fabric and nature, along with painting and drawing are arranged and stuck down onto a surface. It creates a 3D effect and a textural feel.

Actual texture, means the actual physical surface of an artwork. It describes the tactile feeling you would get if you were able to run your hand over an artwork.

The result depends on the materials used and this feeling could be smooth, bumpy, coarse, rough or many other textures.

The roof terrace of Casa Mila (Antonio Gaudi 1906-12) feature sculptural chimneys in a variety of textures.

Organic forms made of limestone create smooth, flowing shapes. In contrast, broken glass, tiles and marble are used to create a rough texture.

Starry Night by Van Gogh

- Rather than copying the appearance of their subject, many artists use texture to show their technique and to express emotion.
- Applying thick areas of paint on a canvas like this is known as **impasto**. This layered, thick paint creates a visual effect that allows you to see the individual brushstrokes the artist has used
- .The thick brushstrokes follow the shapes and forms of the objects and people - creating a sense of movement in the painting.

The Snail by Matisse (Collage of paper)