## **Understanding Formal Analysis**

## Introducing Balance

Learning about the principles of design? Begin by noticing balance in works of art. Balance is about the position of objects, colors, texture, and space. When elements on one side are similar to those on the other, the artwork is balanced and symmetrical. When both sides are different from one another, the artwork is balanced and asymmetrical. Look at the mantel clock below. Outline the elements that are balanced.

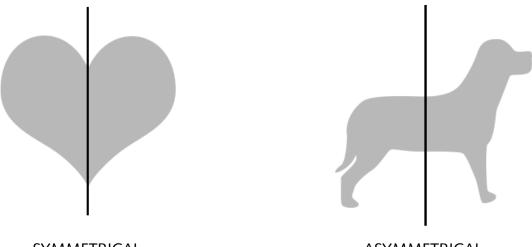


Clock movement by Étienne-Augustin Le Roy (French, 1737–1792, master 1758), and case by Etienne Martincourt (French, died after 1791, master 1762) Mantel Clock, about 1772 The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles



## Introducing Balance

Build your knowledge of balance. Symmetrical balance is when the elements used on one side of the design are similar to those on the other. Asymmetrical balance is when the sides are different but the design is still balanced. Use the chart below to create a design that is symmetrically and asymmetrically balanced.



SYMMETRICAL

ASYMMETRICAL

SYMMETRICAL	ASYMMETRICAL

