

Twisty leaves and sepals

Perspective and Foreshortening

Perspective is a technique for drawing a three dimensional object on a two dimensional piece of paper.

Foreshortening is a method of showing perspective by shortening the object. As we tilt flower toward or away from us the petals or sepals of the flower appear shorter.

Look at the sepals on a persimmon or a rose hip or look at a dried twisting leaf.

- ❖ The sepals on of persimmons are really interesting. The ones in front will be foreshortened. Carefully measure to get the right proportions and take your time drawing them.
- ❖ Look at (maybe draw) the sepals from the top so you really understand them. The circle in the middle becomes an oval when tilted away from you.
- ❖ Try not to think about the folds or “coming at me” and instead deal with each one as an interesting shape to draw. Follow the contours. Look carefully. Draw slowly and then go back and refine.
- ❖ The edges of your dried leaf may have the same kind of folds. These are really good to practice.
- ❖ In the spring the twists are more graceful. In the fall when everything is dry, the lines are crisper, more geometric.
- ❖ Take your time with these fascinating objects.



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“It is wonderful to draw what you see. It is even better to know what to see.”

...Dick Rauh, [The Science Behind Flowers](#)