



Drawing Groups of Leaves in Perspective

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 or leaf toward or away from us the subject appears shorter.

Take a branch with multiple leaves or a flower with leaves and draw the leaves showing the many points of view to really understand the way perspective and foreshortening work.

❖ Check their shape and how each leaf connects to the branch and how they are arranged on the branch. These connections help us to identify a plant.

- ❖ Look at where the leaves overlap one another and the **negative shapes** that are created. This can be a great help in getting the right proportions and angles of what you are drawing.
- ❖ Remember, you do not have to draw a leaf that is in an awkward position. move the leaf to make it easier to draw as long keeping it attached to the stem where it should be.
- ❖ The important thing is to draw what you see, not what you know and keeping the energy in your work while still working carefully and slowly



The leaves here and above were drawn by Maria Martín Bachman as a backdrop for Audubon's birds. *"I feel bound to make some ornithological acknowledgment for the aid she has on several occasions afforded me in embellishing my drawings of birds, by adding to them beautiful and correct representations of plants and flowers..." John James Audubon*