

ANM 324 Project 2-Variations

This was a very challenging project because it demands an understanding of layers, closed shapes and the unique features of the pen tool. It also requires that you understand the relationship of elements in a scene as well as how light affects the scene. In addition, you had to learn about color palettes and how to apply different colors to your interior. You all have begun to see the incredible potential of Illustrator....the possibilities are endless. I appreciate everyone's efforts on this project...keep up the good work!

Here's my general grading criteria for this project:

95-100-drawing is accurate, demonstrates good control of tools and includes accurate lighting effects, used of named layers and accurate color (high level of difficulty)

90-95-drawing is accurate, shows adequate control of tools lighting and fills considered but not complete or accurate. Layers used effectively

85-90-drawing is accurate, fills not complete with open shapes and lighting not adequately considered. Color palettes not accurately identified.

80-85-drawing and use of tools lacks control, lighting not adequately considered. Only submitted one file instead of required two.

70-80-drawing not controlled, lighting not considered did not meet requirements

Late -10

No Group Critique -5

Frazier Group

Miguel Almeida-What strikes me at first is the strong lighting effects on the glowing globe, back cabinets and bedding. You've used gradient meshes to effectively show a range of highlights on those objects. The shapes are relatively simple and generally drawn with the basic shape tool. Dominant light appears to be coming from the right and casting shadows to the left. The shadow on the box or side-stand on right is believable but the same technique (offset duplicated shape) is not as accurate on the left edge of the bed where the cast shadow would technically be more distorted and on the floor. The texture added to the carpet in foreground is a nice added detail. You definitely go a good "workout" with those meshes. As you discovered, they are very addictive. Good color palettes but no group critique.

Ousmane Cisse-Your interior is very attractive and demonstrates good skill with the drawing tools where you've used both basic shapes and the pen tool to illustrate a variety of furniture. It's a warm and inviting interior. The downside is that you did not include lighting effects, which would give form to all those interesting shapes and emphasize the light streaming in from the large windows. Cast shadows would be very effective in grounding the legs of furniture. It's also important to define your objects with enough surfaces (such as the back and sides of chairs) so that you can use your color palette to show highlights on areas that would be in the direct path of the light. Your color palettes are correct and you did post a group critique!

Tyrone Freeman-You were off to a good start with the background structure of walls and the floor. I especially like the tile lines with the strong perspective. This set the stage for the oval tub. The basic structure of the tub is defined by the filled ovoid shape. Because it's one object, you had to depend on a stroke to define the top edge. That stroke is a bit irregular. It would be more natural looking to draw a rim with width/no stroke on the top. You could fill with tint or shade from your palette to define it and show how light would effect it differently that the interior or exterior of the tub. The tub itself is very tricky due to the unusual shape. This is where the mesh gradient tool can help show brighter or darker areas of the curves. The drop shadow does help us understand how the tub interacts with the room but it tends to "float" above the floor. It would help to have a darker "grounding shadow" that gives the illusion that the tub is sitting flush with the tile. This would best be drawn with the pen as a irregular shape, filled and very slightly blurred. As you peers indicated, the illusion of running water is very good. Group feedback was not completed.

Catherine Ramsey-Your interior has excellent "volume" thanks to a very effective use of lighting effects. We can see the stream of light from above from what appears to be a large skylight. I especially like the irregular cast shadows as the light is cast across irregular surfaces. You've also used well-defined shapes with multiple surface to apply highlights...this is demonstrated with the counter or bar on the far left. The details in the room are beautifully illustrated. The couch looks realistic and soft with the use of gradients and mesh-gradients along with carefully applied shadows. The big screen TV (at least that's what it looks like) adds interest along the wall. Overall it's clear that you have excellent control of the drawing tools and a good understanding of the effect of light and techniques to illustrate this in your artwork. Two good color palettes and group critiques were submitted.

Jessica Williams-Your bedroom reminds me of one that might be for a princess. You've included a variety of structures with pillows, curtains and the range of details on the bed. I'm very impressed with the coat rack beside the bed....I had to go back to your original image to see if that was a ball or pillow on top of the bed. It was a pillow...but looks more like a ball with the precision of the shape and radial gradient. You have definitely use gradient meshes to effectively illustrate those curtains...that's one of the most effective uses of that tool to show the folds in fabric. I would like to have seen a little more detail in the bed coverings. They are a little too soft and perfect...I would suggest making the edges a little more irregular, like you've done at the foot of the bed. The other technique for adding irregular highlights is to draw a narrow shape along the path of a fold, for example, and then fill with a highlight color with Gaussian blur. Your shadows under the bed are excellent but that's the only place you've included shadows. The pillows would cast soft shadows as would the headboard, which is against the wall. These added effects would further enhance your illustration. Your color palettes are accurate and you offered good feedback to your group memebbers.

Rosenwald Group

Jeffrey Hokenson-This very modern interior has an excellent variety of hard and soft structures as well as strong lighting to illuminate it's features. You've done a great job of drawing the complex shapes and you've used named layers to very effectively manage the illustration. I'm especially impressed with the curved wall feature that becomes a supporting structure for the electronics and accessories. The lighting effects on it clearly highlight the surfaces and curves. The soft structure of the couches is reflected in the padded shapes on the seats. You've used gradients to give us the impression that they are soft and resilient. Some of the other lighting effects are especially notable...the cast shadow off the "plant" looks very believable and the shadow under the table further reinforces the direction of light. The legs could have a slightly more well-defined shadow to ground them on the floor...but that's a minor point. You've demonstrated excellent skill with the drawing tools and lighting effects. Two correct color palettes were submitted and you completed the group critique.

Morwenna McKinley-What an inviting room to sit and read a book! Your complementary color palette adds to the warmth of the interior. You have included a variety of shapes and challenging objects to illustrate. I'm especially impressed with the mirror and reflections into the room as well as the immediate reflection of the accessories on the mantle..this looks great. You've also used gradient on the chair and window covering to give a us the illusion of light coming into the room. I see the effect of light on shapes like the far wall and side of the fireplace where darker color fills show they are not in the direct path of the light. I would expect the shadow under the chair to be more well defined...a hint of a shadow off the legs would help ground the chair on the floor. Overall you've done excellent work and also added thoughtful comments to the group discussions.

Catherine Serou-I really like your treatment of the window coverings which look very realistic. This detail, along with the very precise illustration of the table and chair demonstrate your skill with the drawing tools. You have illustrated the effect of light on the surfaces of the chair, table and ottoman. I am missing the shadows that would be cast off the legs and base of those objects. The easiest way to add these is to draw a separate shape layered below those objects and fill with slightly darker tone. One of your two color versions (monochromatic) is not accurately named and shows very little difference from the complementary. You did not submit the required group critique.

Ulysses Unsueti-Wow! It looks like you really had fun with your interior. The details are amazing. I'm very impressed with the phonograph and the chair. These are very complex objects that clearly required excellent skill with the drawing tools. Both the treatment of surfaces and lighting effects bring this interior to life! That shadow off the phonograph stand is wonderful! As I look closer at the player, it's obvious that you had to do some serious zooming to draw the details of the player parts. Hey..there's Mr. T in the background....you didn't miss a thing! Outstanding work and your feedback for the group was excellent!

Kroencke Group

Evelyn Bigelyaizen-Your teahouse interior literally “glows” with the light streaming in from the translucent back wall. It’s very striking and the level of detail in the furnishings and accessories is amazing. The chairs and table are especially strong with highlights and shadows you’ve added and the reflection on the floor gives us the illusion of a smooth surface. I’m also impressed with the detail in the cups, serving pieces and vase of flowers. These accessory details really give life to the room as we can imagine a tea ceremony ready to begin. My only suggestion, and this is picky, is to add a shadow to the table legs in the foreground to “ground” them on the surface. Your gradient mesh on the left wall helps illustrate the complex light coming in from the back. The right side of the room/wall is not quite as “finished” looking. Your color palettes are perfect and group feedback was excellent!

Martin Nichols-You’ve used some very well drawn shapes to define the structures in the room...the curvature of the couch and corner chair are nicely illustrated. The surface treatment, to show lighting is a little too harsh with dark splashes of color. You applied these with the mesh tool, which can be very difficult to control. I would suggest keeping it more simple with solid gradients or, in the case of cast shadows from objects like the flowers, just draw a rough shape of the shadow, apply a blur and opacity adjustment to give us the illusion of highlights or shadows. The end of the couch looks a bit thin..a separate shape to define the width of the arm would give you more surface to work with. I would also suggest you extend the shadow under the oval table, like you have on the couch to ground it firmly on the floor. You’ve done a good job with organizing and naming layers and I’m sure your feedback to the group was appreciated.

Elena Yanovski-It’s a beautiful interior! You’ve done an amazing job of illustrating the soft and hard structures in the room. It’s sometimes difficult to make furniture that looks like you can comfortably sit on...you’ve done it! That rustic table clearly gives us the impression of half sawn logs...that’s got to be a monster to move. Your lighting effects are also very strong. The gradient mesh helps add complex lighting to your cushions and pillows. The large shadow under the table is accurate but you should also consider a grounding shadow off the legs. Last thought...cast shadow on the chair in background would be better as a flat shadow on the floor. You’ve demonstrated excellent drawing skills, provided two accurate color palettes and provided group feedback!

Kunz Group

Melissa Davalos-Your interior has wonderful structural details. I especially like the columns that lead to the very complex ceiling beams and lighting. The overall scene has depth and realism. You’ve applied gradients very successfully to surfaces to illustrate the effect of light, perhaps a combination of artificial and natural from the large round windows. My only suggestion is to consider a cast shadow off the base of the two large pillars. The base of the steps on the lower right would also benefit from a hint of shadow on the floor. You clearly have excellent control over the tool

set and understand how lighting gives volume and form to the interior. Group feedback was provided.

Marissa Patton-This definitely fits the Halloween season...absolutely reminded me of a dark mysterious meeting place. OK this was further communicated with the kind of “scary” abstract shapes on the shelves. Let’s proceed....you’ve definitely captured the depth of the room and perspective as we look down that long table. The chairs, runner and centerpiece all compliment the layout. I’ve especially impressed with the detail on the left wall with the fireplace and accessories...they are very detailed and show technical drawing skill. Lighting effects have been incorporated with the use of the mesh tool...it’s very addictive isn’t it? I think the mesh is a bit overdone on the back wall...easy to get things a little muddy with too many mesh points. My only other suggestion for lighting effects would be to have a more well defined shadow cast onto the chairs from the table...it looks like the main light source is from directly above so a layer that blurred and transparent would cast a nice soft shadow on the seats. Overall a very challenging interior that’s very successful.

Deena Tolan- My favorite part of your illustration is the line of transition from carpet to smooth floor and the reflections that communicate these surface features to the viewer. Other parts of the interior are equally impressive. The couch is amazingly well drawn with a variety of structural elements and gradient mesh treatment to show light across the curved surfaces. The details on the shelf and vases in the foreground look great. All these features demonstrate skill with the tools and an understanding of lighting techniques. Although not as strong in the original image, the vases on the bookshelf should have a hint of a shadow that resonates the highlights on the front surface. OK..I did check to see if you drew the clock...there are tools in Illustrator to create segments along a circle like the clock face but I wouldn’t expect you to get into that level of detail. You’ve demonstrated excellent skill with the tools and provided good feedback to your group!

Selena Vera-Wow—another wonderful illustration! I’ve used so many superlatives to describe this project, but yours is just amazing. The interior is small and compact but there is so much going on in terms of structure, detail and lighting effects. The metal structure of the table is awesome. Lighting/gradients have been applied precisely to show the metal surfaces. The couch also has a very comfortable look...although the dark shape on the side, which was a blanket or throw in the original, could have more detail or folds to make it more easily understood. That’s a relatively minor point...I’m awestruck by the artwork on the wall...all originally drawn too...very cool and well done! You submitted two accurate color palettes and excellent feedback to your group!