

Relief Print Planning Guide: Research to Large Format Linocut

Project Goal: Systematically translate the historical, technical, and conceptual inspiration from your researched artist into a definitive design for your large-format linocut.

Day 1: Brainstorming & Source Research (Approx. 60 minutes)

Part 1: Defining Your Vision (VA.C.1 - Connection)

Refer back to your **Artist Deep Dive Worksheet** to define your focus.

Element	My Researched Artist (Name)	My Artist's Key Concept/Technique	My Linocut Project Plan
A. Core Theme/Subject			<i>What is the main subject or message of your print?</i>
B. Compositional Rule		<i>What specific composition idea are you borrowing? (e.g., strong diagonals, tight cropping, dramatic asymmetry)</i>	<i>How will you apply this rule to your specific subject?</i>
C. Technical Focus		<i>What specific carving/value technique are you using? (e.g., deep black contrast, textural carving, use of negative space)</i>	<i>How will this focus impact your drawing?</i>
D. Final Dimensions			<i>What are the precise dimensions of your linoleum block?</i>

Part 2: Gathering Source Material (VA.C.1 - Creation)

You must find visual references to support your original design.

1. **Content & Symbolism:** What are the **two or three specific** objects, figures, or symbols that must be included in your print based on your theme (A)?
 - o **Element 1:**
 - o **Element 2:**
 - o **Element 3:**
2. **Source Imagery Research:** Find and attach (or link to) **at least three high-quality source images** that you will use as references for line, texture, perspective, or pose.
 - o *Source 1 (Figure/Object):*
 - o *Source 2 (Texture/Background):*
 - o *Source 3 (Lighting/Perspective):*
3. **Copyright Consideration (VA.P.1 - Presentation):** Briefly explain how you will **transform and combine** these source images to ensure your final linocut design is an original work, not a copy.

Day 2: Developing the Design (Approx. 60 minutes)

Part 3: Thumbnail Sketches (VA.C.1 - Creation)

Create at least **four distinct compositional options** that incorporate your Compositional Rule (B). Focus on the arrangement of **major shapes** and the balance of **black and white (value)**.

Thumbnail 1 (Option A)	Thumbnail 2 (Option B)	Thumbnail 3 (Option C)	Thumbnail 4 (Option D)
[Drawing space - Sketch a small (e.g., 3"x4") composition]	[Drawing space - Sketch a small composition]	[Drawing space - Sketch a small composition]	[Drawing space - Sketch a small composition]

Selection: Circle the strongest thumbnail and justify your choice:

I chose this composition because...

Part 4: Final Detailed Drawing (VA.C.2 - Creation)

This drawing is the final guide for your carving.

1. **Drafting:** Create your final drawing on a separate sheet of paper that is the **exact size** of your linoleum block (D). The drawing must integrate your chosen thumbnail, source

images, and the compositional rule from your researched artist.

2. **Value Plan:** In your final drawing, **shade in ALL areas that will be BLACK in the final print** (the areas that will *not* be carved). Leave all areas that will be carved out (printed white/paper color) blank. This is a critical step for planning your Technical Focus (C).
3. **Drawing Submission: Attach or Insert a photo** of your final, scaled, and shaded drawing here.

Day 3: Image Transfer (Approx. 60 minutes)

Part 5: Preparing the Block (VA.C.2 - Technique)

Remember: The final print will be a **mirror image** of your carving.

1. **Reversal Check:** Do any elements in your design (text, numbers, specific direction/movement) need to be drawn **backwards** on the block?
 - **Yes / No** (Circle one)
 - If **Yes**, list the elements you must reverse:
2. **Block Preparation:** Describe the method you will use to cleanly transfer your detailed drawing to the linoleum block (e.g., graphite pencil/burnishing, carbon paper).
3. **Tool Check:** Before carving begins, list the sizes of the **two V-gouges and two U-gouges** you anticipate using most frequently to achieve the **texture and line variation** necessary for your Technical Focus (C):
 - V-Gouge Sizes:
 - U-Gouge Sizes:

Once the transfer is complete, you are ready for the carving phase.