

GCSE Art & Design: Resource Sheet 2

A02 - Creative making: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials techniques and processes.
Helpful definition: **Refine** can mean to perfect, clarify or improve.

What's the purpose of this AO?

This AO is meant to enable you to refine your ideas and practical abilities in the creative processes of making art, craft and design.

This should help you to:

- explore promising ideas and make them clearer
- develop the knowledge, understanding and practical skills needed to experiment with media and processes, showing a sense of purpose
- improve your control of manual and digital techniques
- select appropriately from these to further refine your responses
- make effective use of the elements of visual language, such as line, tone, colour and texture.

What is involved in creative making?

Creative making can first involve exploring:

- stimulating sources, that can include new or previously overlooked locations or subjects
- topics that you are interested in and may feel strongly about
- existing ideas, including from contextual sources, and reinterpreting or combining them in unexpected, 'risky' ways.

There is then a phase of initial drafting or visualising to give ideas a broad shape or outline.

This is followed by a process of development involving exploration of appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes.

Tip: Evidence of creative processes is as important as final outcomes.

What is the most important stage?

One of the most important phases of development is the last but one stage where:

- a range of possible outcomes should be considered much more critically, with a sharper focus
- good judgement should be evident in selecting aspects such as the media and technique to be used for the final outcome; its scale, composition, colour, etc.
- due account should be made of the refined control required to produce outcomes of quality.

Achieving your best in this AO

Explore a sufficient, but not excessive, breadth of media and techniques to make informed choices from these.

Balance this with depth of study in some, enabling you to develop high levels of skilful control to show your best abilities.

Make clear the process of reviewing and refining the development of your work, showing rigour, discrimination and imagination.

Have a positive attitude towards your work, building realistic self-belief in your abilities and promoting confidence to take calculated risks.