Elements of Art: Texture

All objects have texture, but how can artists depict texture in two-dimensional art?

Tactile texture is texture you can feel (in three-dimensional artwork, or in two-dimensional artwork with thick paint or other materials added).

Visual texture is texture you can see (an illusion of texture in two-dimensional artwork, created with techniques such as color, line, shading, and brush strokes).

Since we can't touch the art, we will focus on visual texture. Personal experience—knowing what the object should feel like—adds to our understanding of texture depicted in an artwork and gives us clues to the artist's intention.

Choose three artworks and answer the questions below:

Title and artist	Pick an object depicted in the artwork and describe how you think it would feel to the touch.	How did the artist create the illusion of texture?	Look at the artwork label. What is the art actually made of?