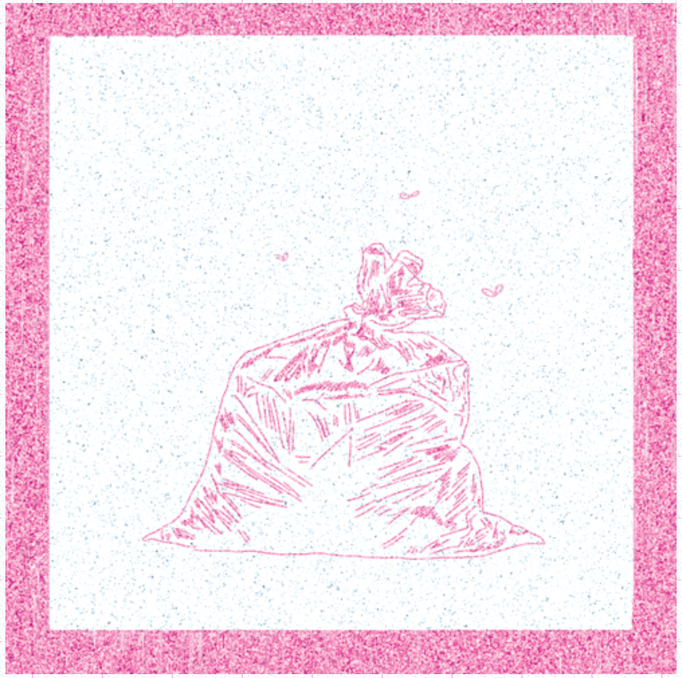
Main T. Nance

derya akbaba

Manifesto for Putting `Chartjunk` in the Trash 2021!

Miriah Meyer

Jack Wilburn

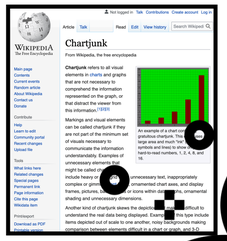


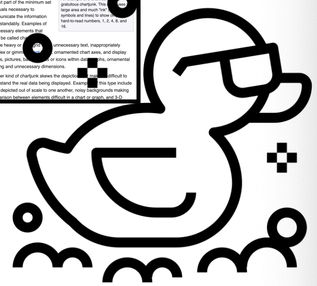
presented at the
alt.vis, a workshop
at IEEE VIS 2021

24.10.2021

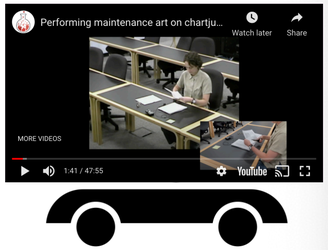
we're making snow angels from chartjunk

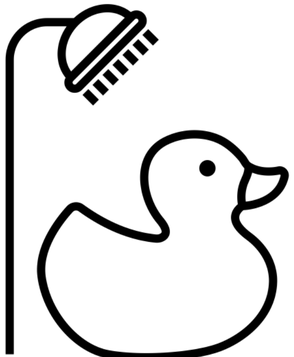
Credit: giphy

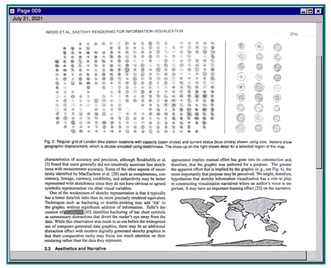


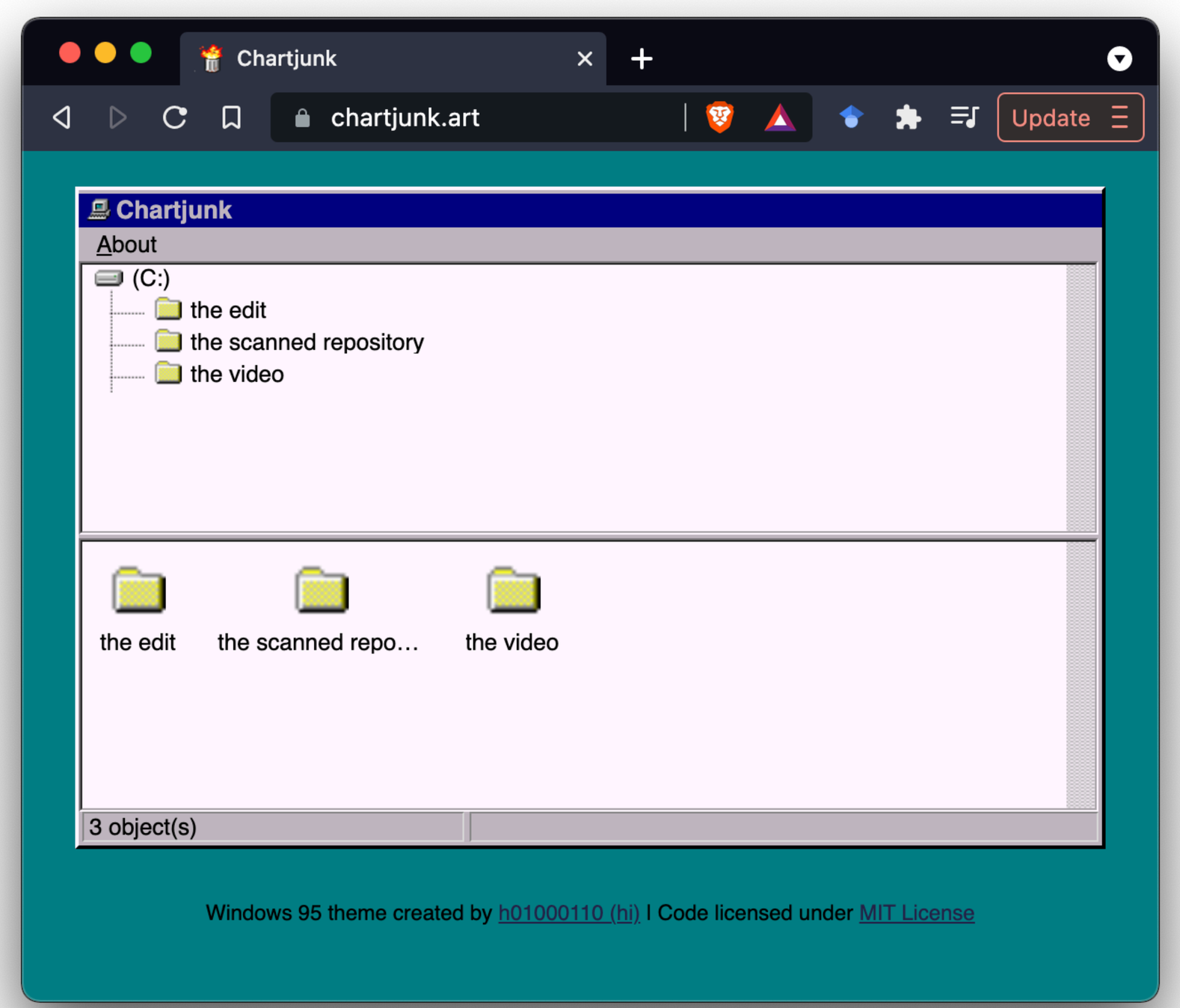


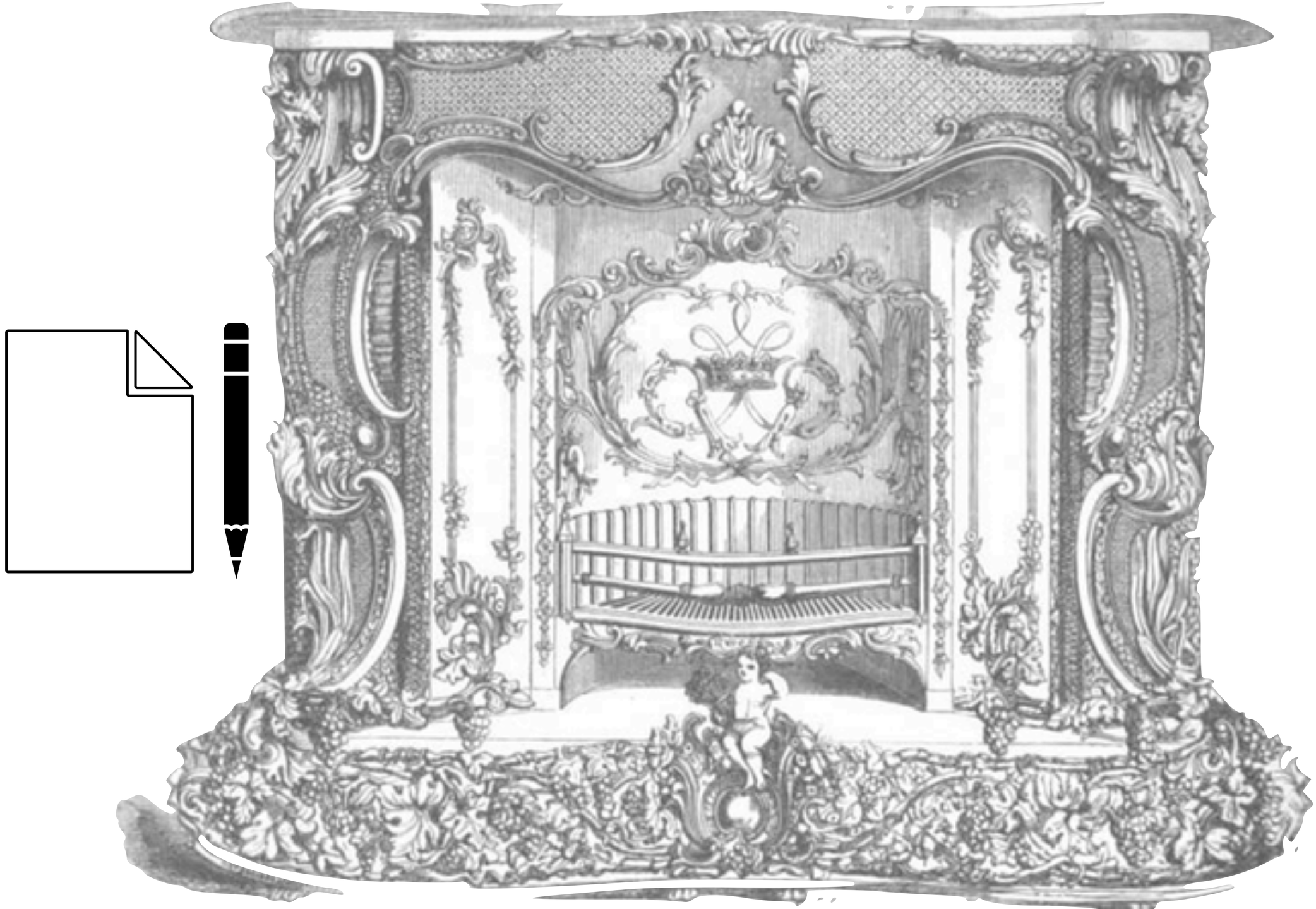
chartjunk.art

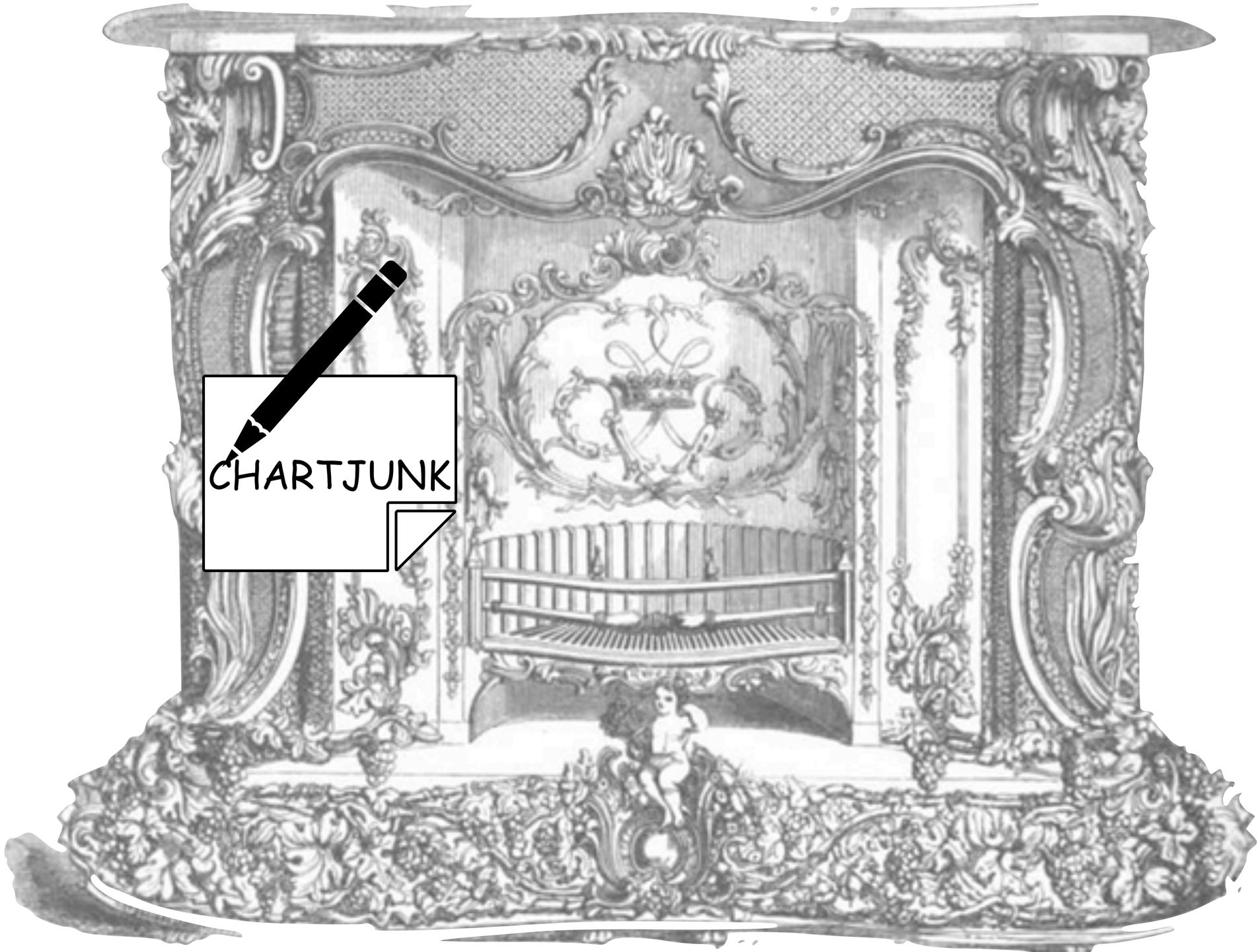


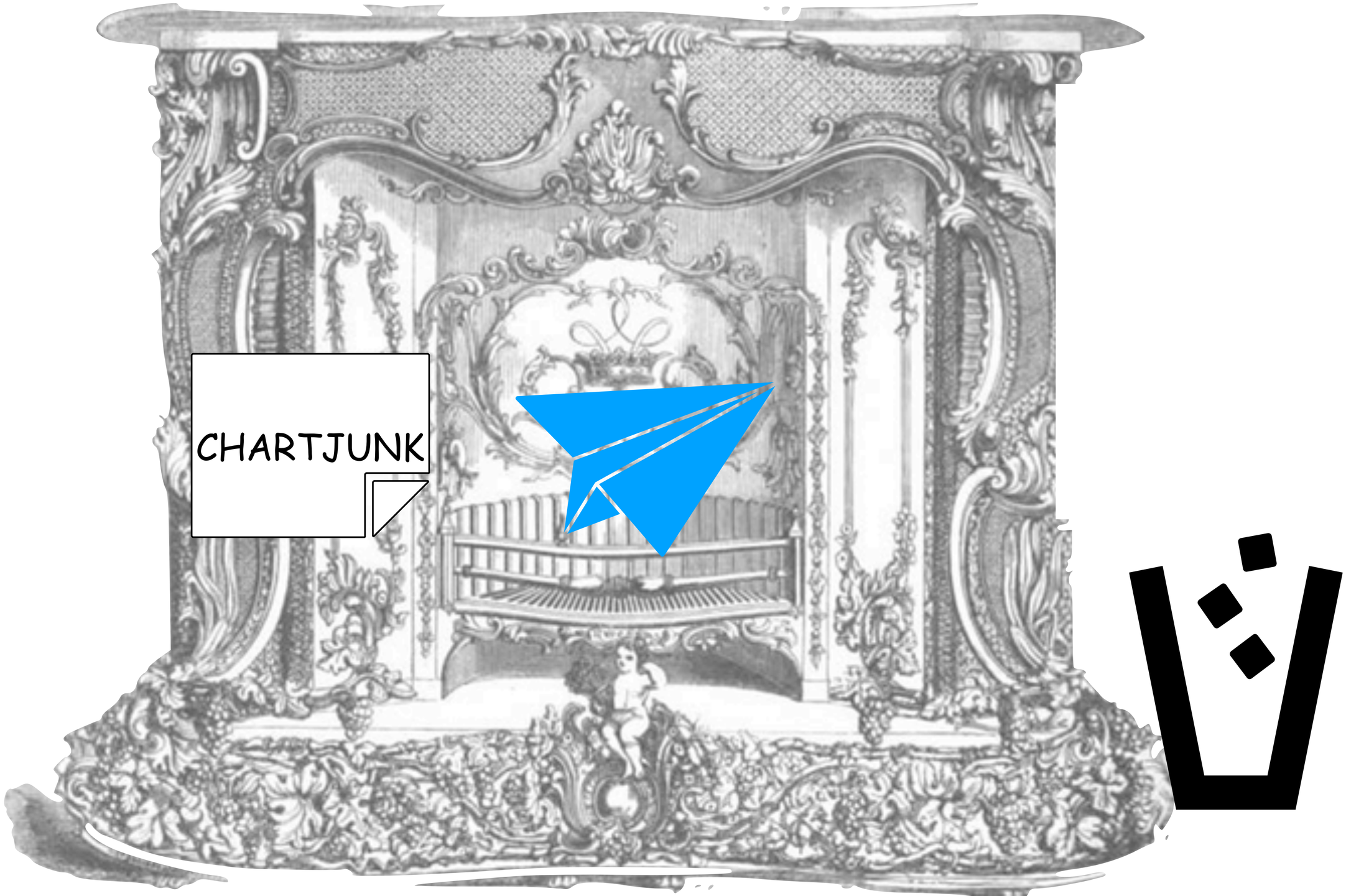









CHARTJUNK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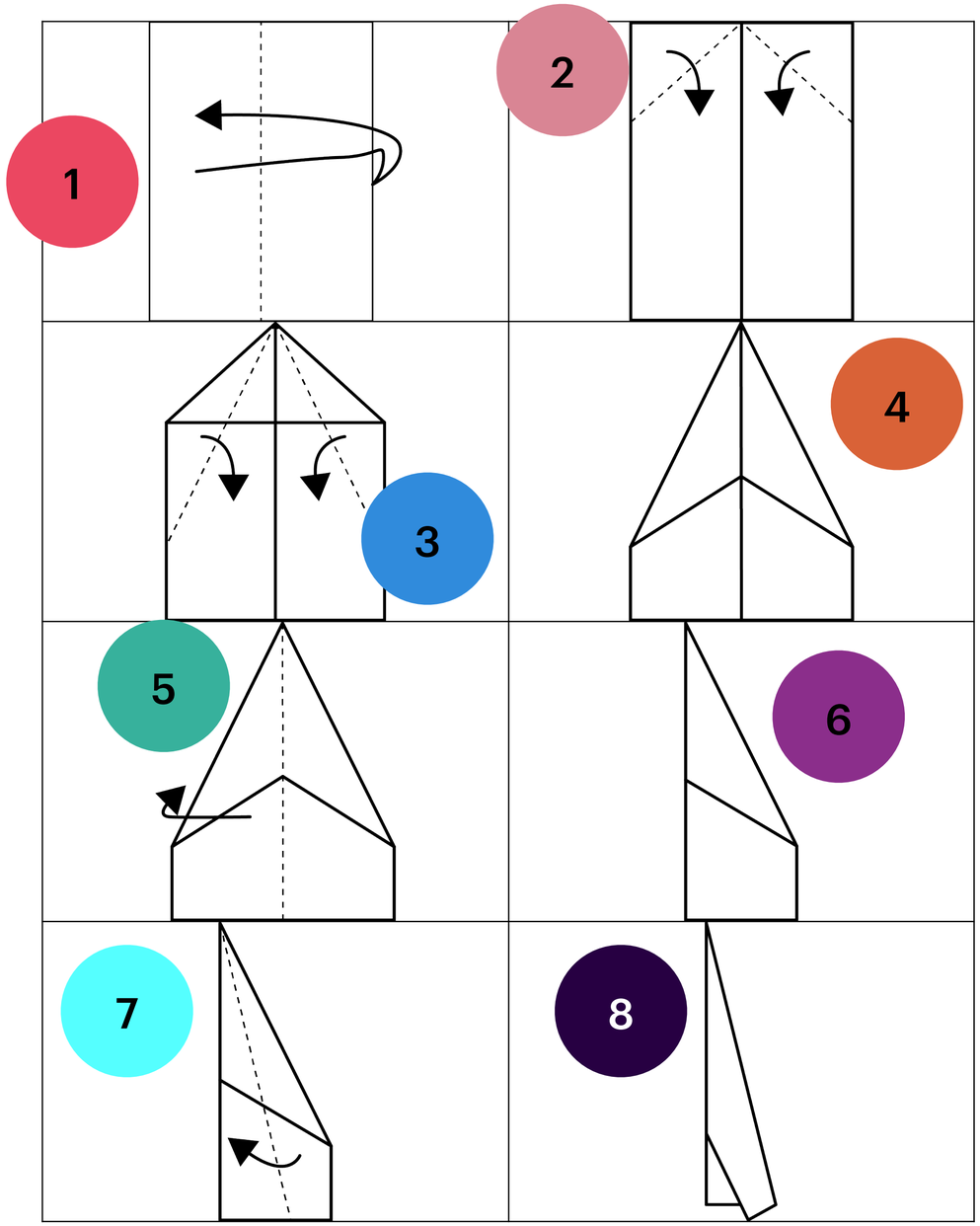
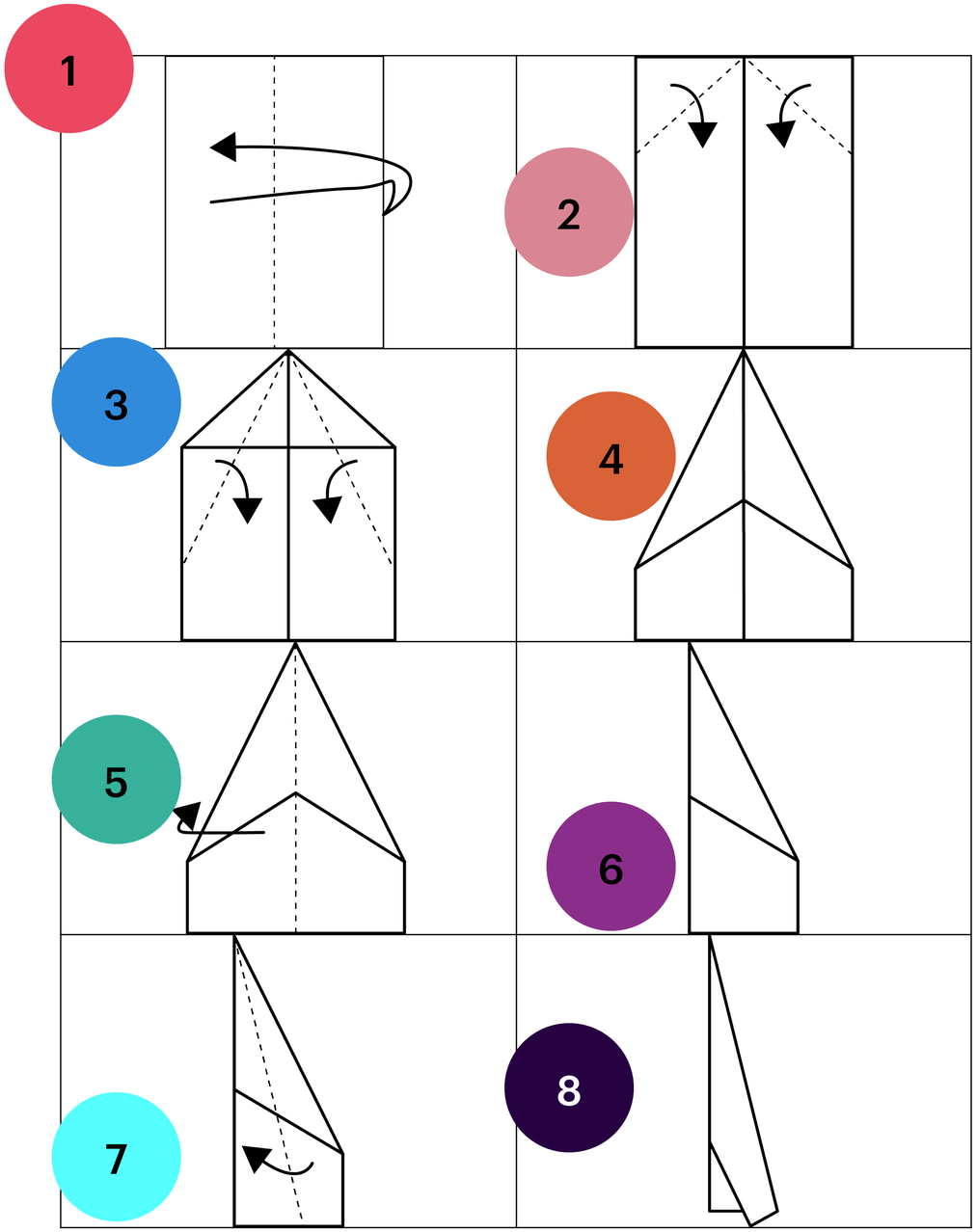


“Graphical decoration, which prospers in technical publications as well as in commercial and media graphics, comes cheaper than the hard work required to produce intriguing numbers and secure evidence.”

—E. Tufte p. 107

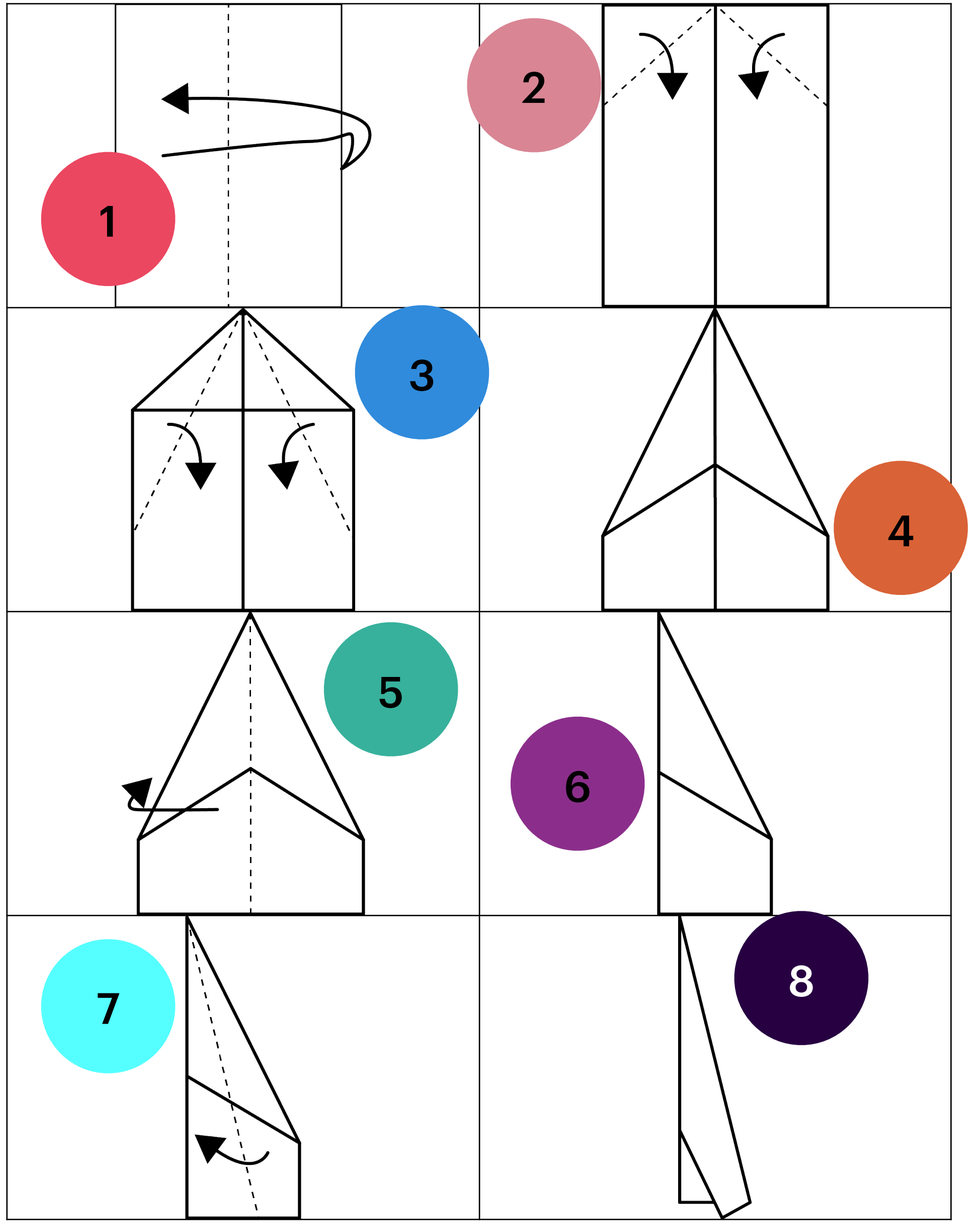
(tl;dr: blame designers)



“Moiré effects have proliferated with computer graphics (in programs such as Excel). Such unfortunate patterns were once generated by means of thin plastic transfer sheets; now the computer produces instant chartjunk.”

—E. Tufte p. 111

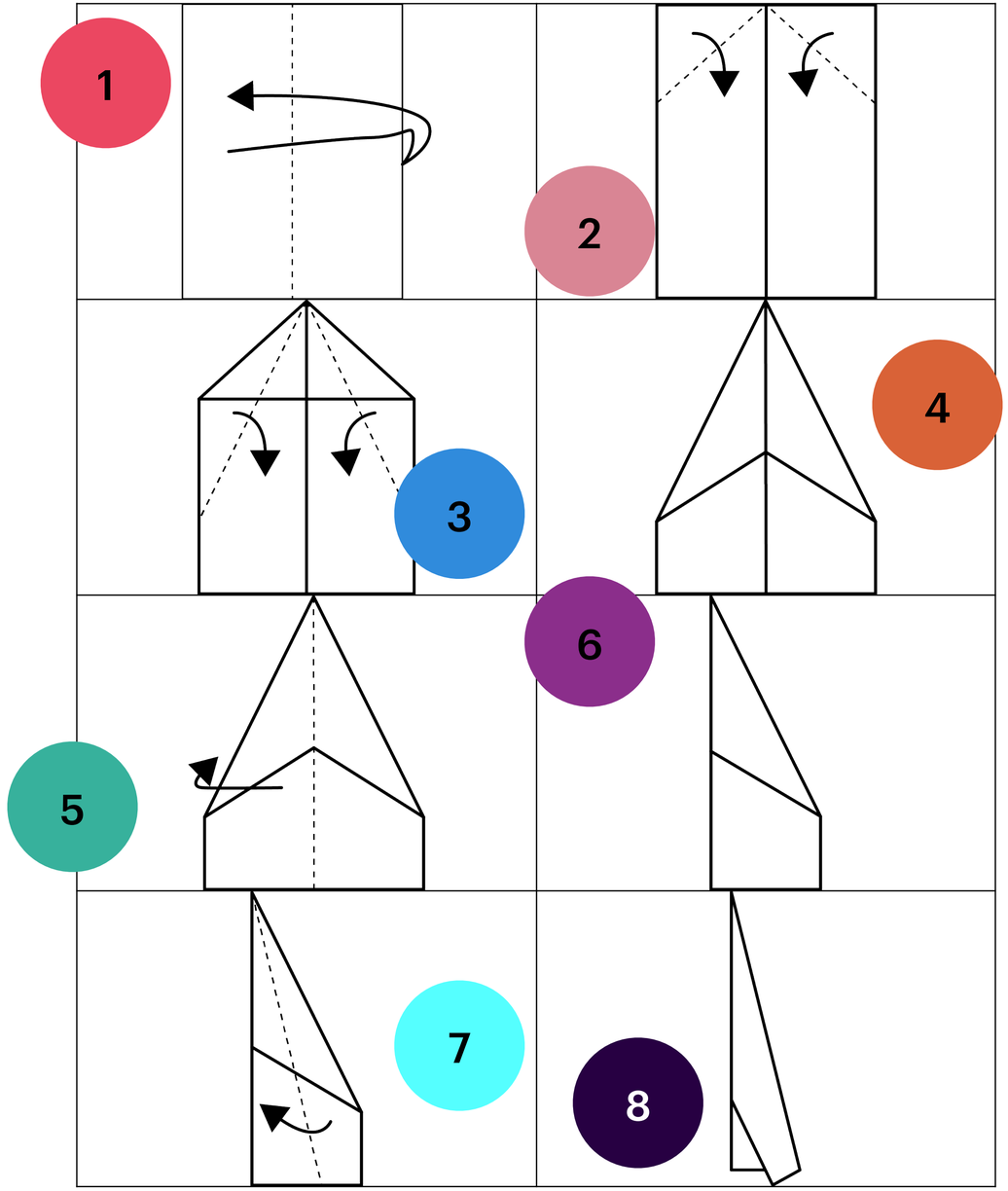
(tl;dr: blame computers)



“One of the more sedate graphical elements, the grid should usually be busted or completely suppressed so that its presence is only implicit — lest it compete with the data.”

—E. Tufte p. 112

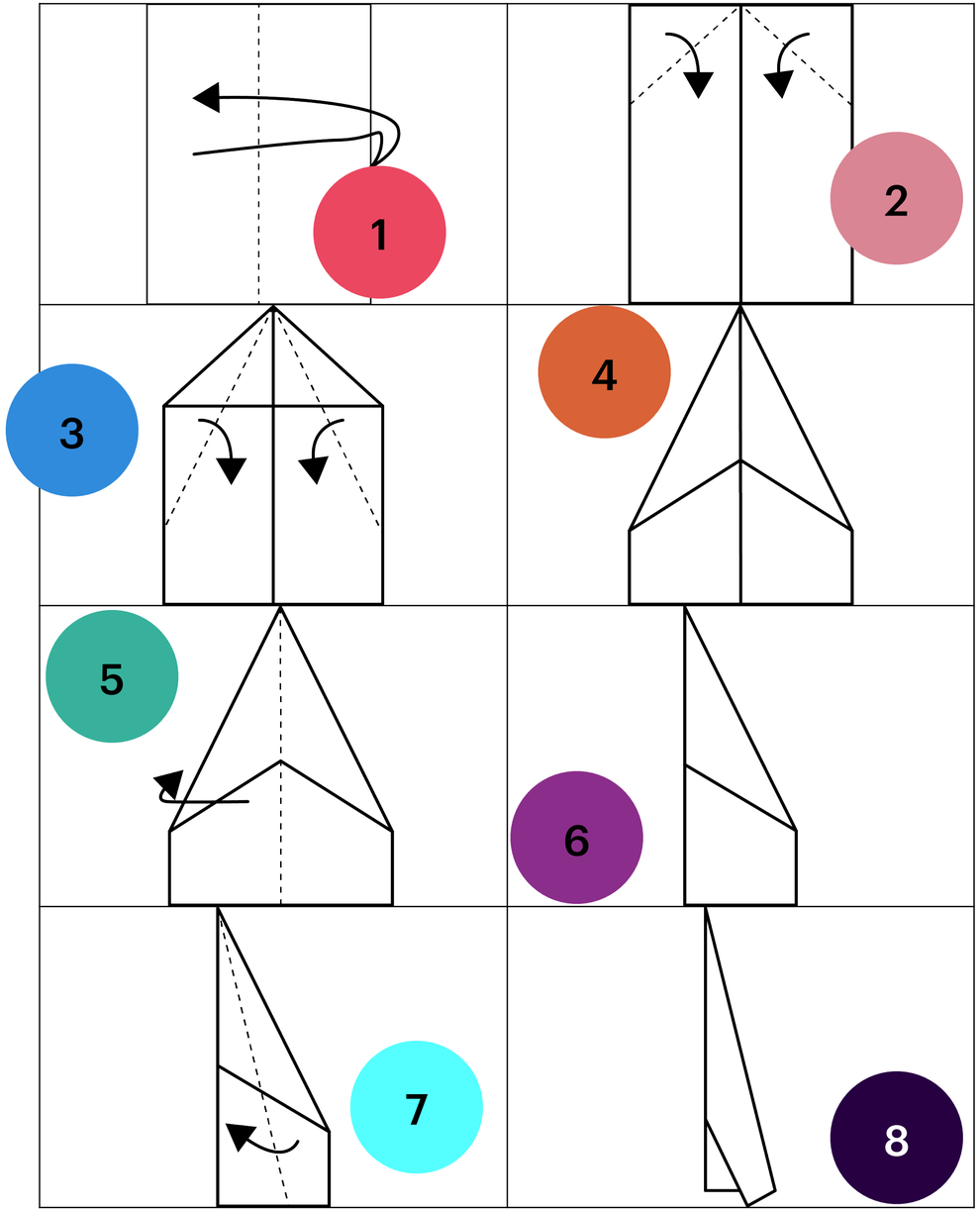
(tl;dr: blame grids)



“When a graphic is taken over by decorate forms or computer debris, when the data measures and structures become Design Elements, when the overall design purveys Graphical Style rather than quantitative information, then that graphic may be call a *duck* ...”

—E. Tufte p. 116

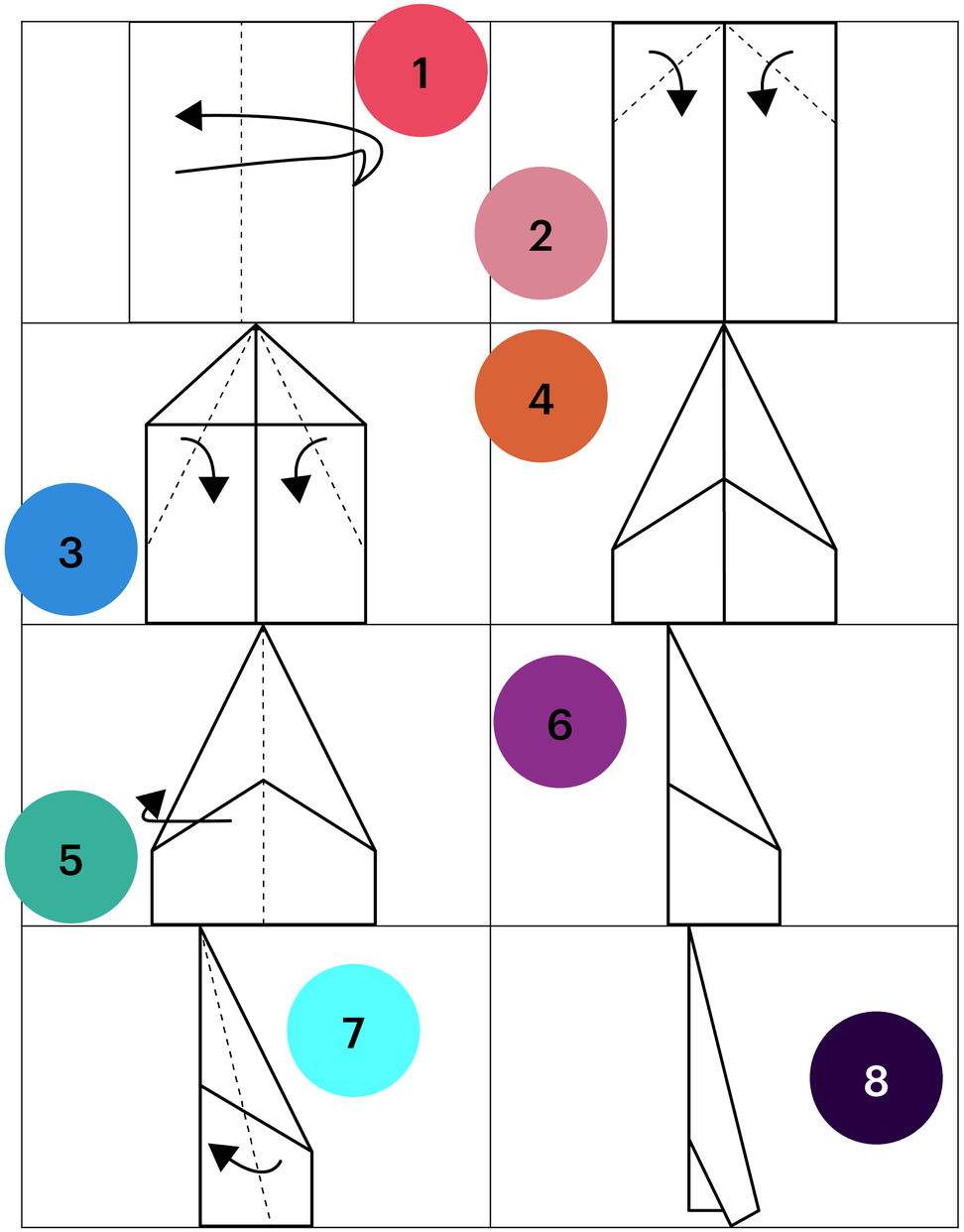
(tl;dr: blame ducks)



“Nearly all those who produce graphics for mass publication are trained exclusively in the fine arts and have had little experience with the analysis of data. Such experiences are essential for achieving precision and grace in the presence of statistics... Those who get ahead are those who beautified data, never mind statistical integrity.”

—E. Tufte p. 79

(tl;dr: blame fine arts)

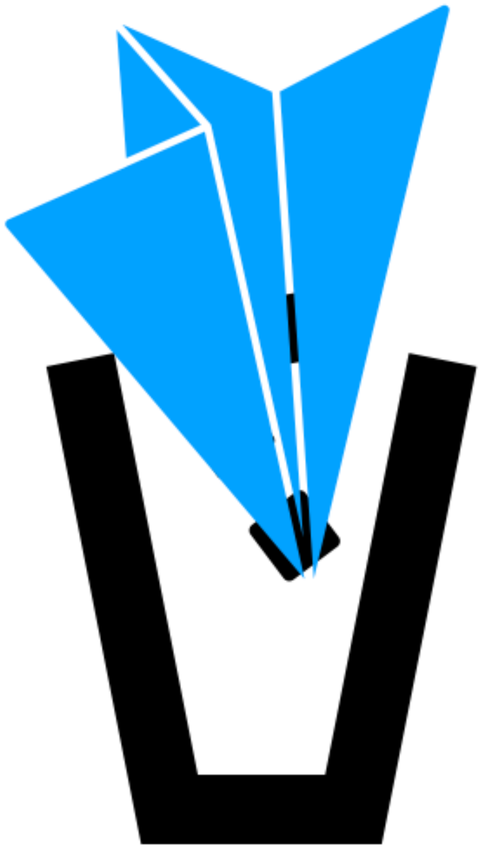


“Consider this unsavory exhibit at right – chockablock with cliché and stereotype, coarse humor, and a content-empty third dimension… Credibility vanishes in clouds of chartjunk; who would trust a chart that looks like a video game?”

—E. Tufte p. 34,35

(tl;dr: blame video games)

@SayNo2Chartjunk



@SayNo2Chartjunk

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STOP USING CHARTJUNK

ACKNOWLEDGE MAINTENANCE

MAINTAIN KNOWLEDGE REPOSITORIES

thank you

derya akbaba
@gotdairyya

Jack Wilburn
@JackWilb

Main T. Nance
@SayNo2Chartjunk

Miriah Meyer
@miriah_meyer

img credit

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https://giphy.com/gifs/the-simpsons-trash-garbage-5xaOcLCBzBw4QrtdDP2

Duck by Vectorstall from the Noun Project

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https://eagereyes.org/blog/2012/three-types-chart-junk