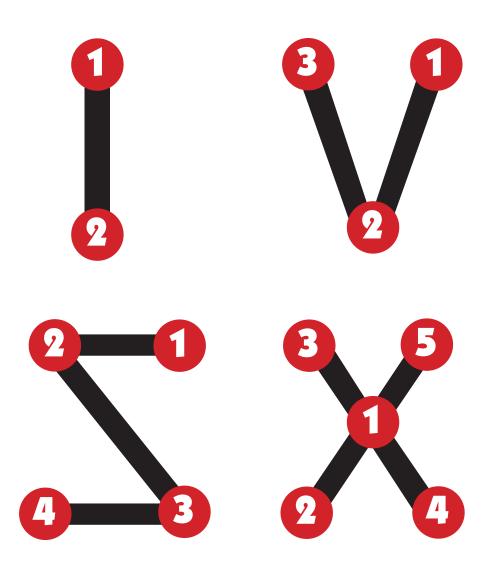
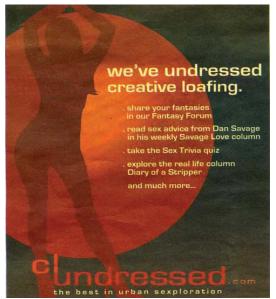
Motion
Visual Hierarchy
in Graphic Design



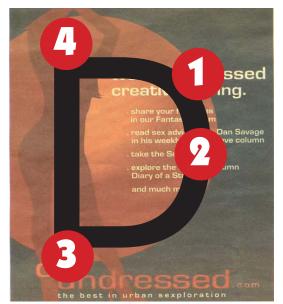
Motion formulas vary but often they are based on a basic letterform as shown in the above graphic. The patterns developed are suggestive movements within a given ad, The psycological "hot spot" or target point for viewers is the upper right hand side of an ad.

Visual hierarchy is the arrangement of elements on a page layout from most importance to least importance. The placements of the elements tend to follow a pattern of motion.



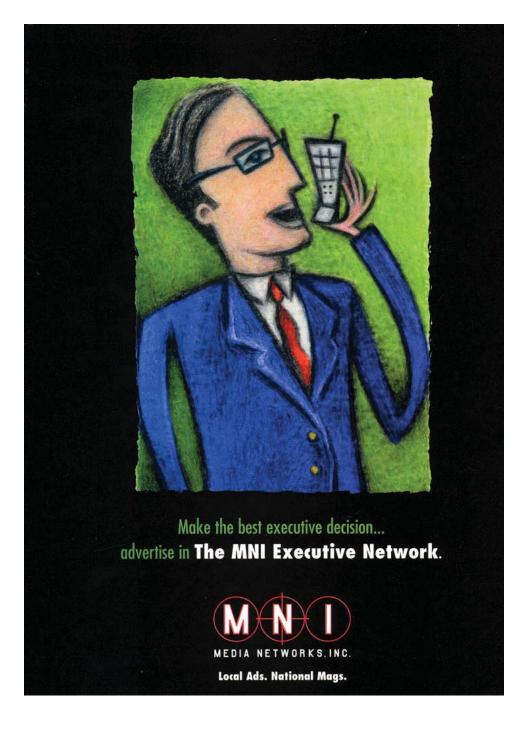
This ad follows a typical arrangement with it's hierarchy:

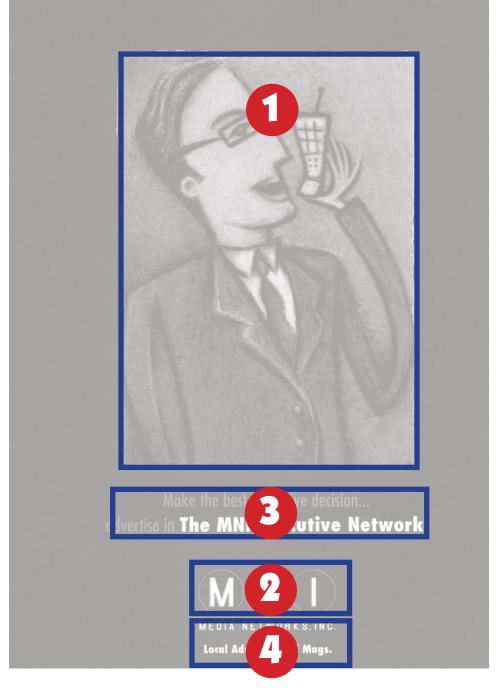
- 01. Headline
- 02. Body Copy
- 03. Secondary Copy
- 04. Background graphic



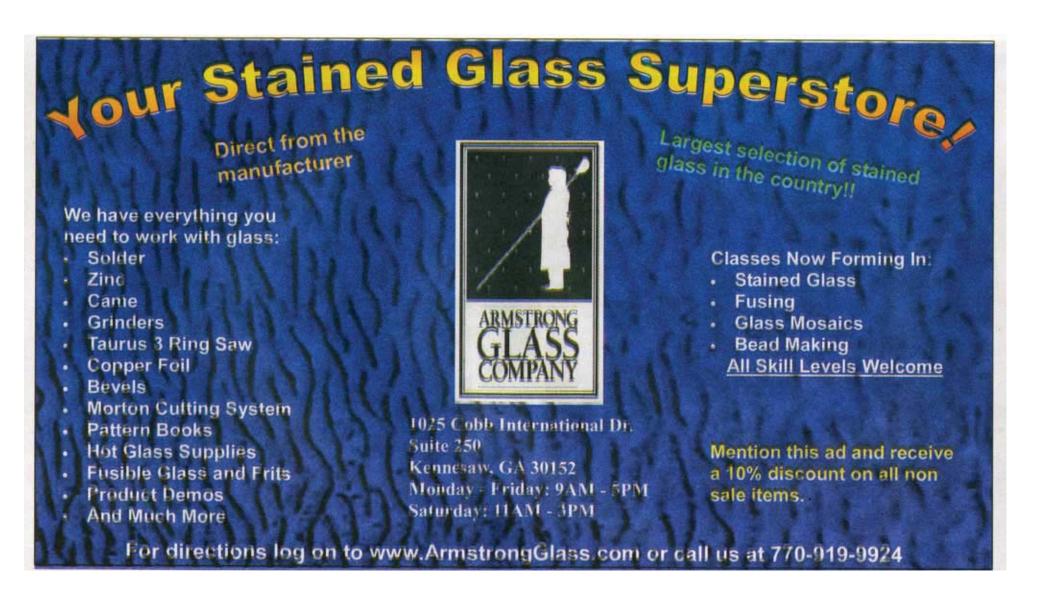
Usually the largest, most defined object will be the defining opening item in the hierarchy.

The most important elements tend to be the largest item on the page. However, in this case, despite the size of the background graphic, it lacks strong defition. As an abstracted silhouette of a human figure, it is less dominant on the page. The designer placed an emphasis on the opening bright-yellow headline so it would stand out stronger on the page.



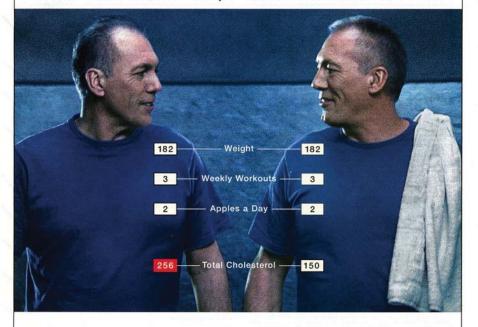


In this simple strategy, the hierarchy of the page is set up in a straight vertical line top to bottom. Notice to break the cliche formula, the elements are not placed in precise order of importance. The viewer's eye moves down and up the page slightly.



Poorly designed ads, business cards, magazine spreads, and web sites lack a strong sense of hierarchy, or contain little visual movement. In the case above, the eye hits the logo as the main information, and cannot determine where to go next. It does not contain a working sy

Two of a kind. Until one took Lipitor.



Important information:

LIPITOR® (atorvastatin calcium) is a prescription drug used with diet to lower cholesterol. LIPITOR is not for everyone, including those with liver disease or possible liver problems, women who are nursing, pregnant, or may become pregnant. LIPITOR has not been shown to prevent heart disease or heart attacks.

If you take LIPITOR, tell your doctor about any unusual muscle pain or weakness. This could be a sign of serious side effects. It is important to tell your doctor about any medications you are currently taking to avoid possible serious drug interactions. Your doctor may do simple blood tests to monitor liver function before and during drug treatment. The most commonly reported side effects are gas, constipation, stomach pain and indigestion. They are usually mild and tend to go away.

Here's something that might make you think twice. Even if you do the right things, you can still have high cholesterol. In fact, for 2 out of 3 adults with high cholesterol, diet and exercise may not lower it enough. The good news is that LIPITOR can lower your total cholesterol 29% to 45%* It can lower your bad cholesterol 39% to 60%*. ("The average effect depends on the dose.) So talk to your doctor today to find out if LIPITOR is right for you. To learn more, call us at 1-888-LIPITOR or find us on the web at www.lipitor.com.

Please see additional important information on next page.

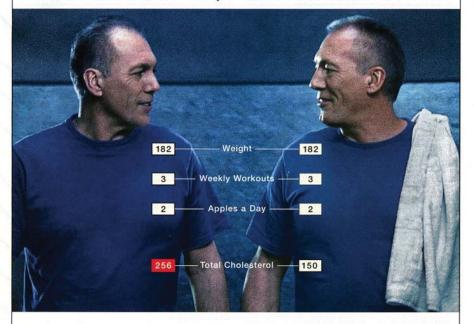
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At first glance the Lipitor ad is a simple design. The motion of the page is established as two lines of mirroring elements, reinforced by the mirror image of the twins.

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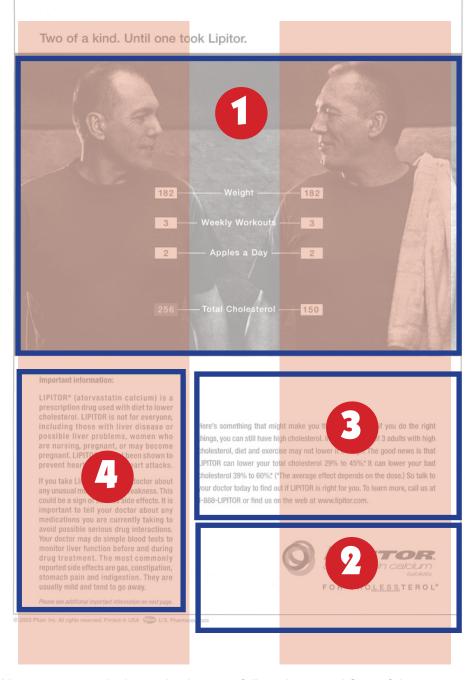
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However, notice the hierarchy does not follow the natural flow of the page. The designer scattered the hierarchy to keep a visual interest on the material.





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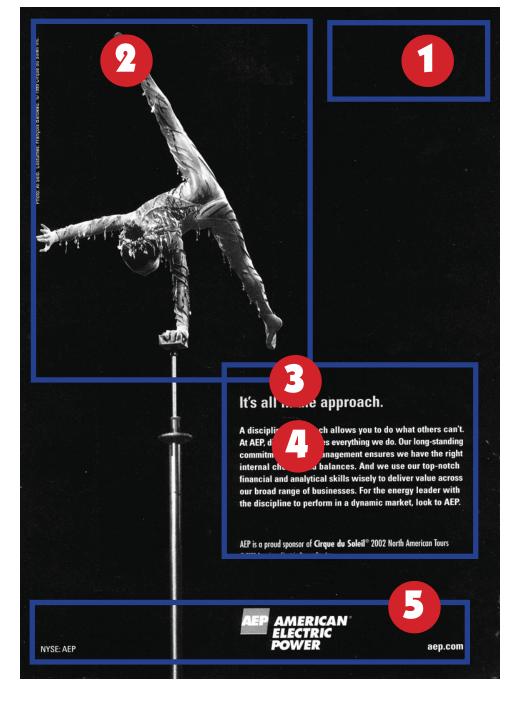
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The Air France ad exists as a variation of the Z-pattern. By using a land-scape image and strategically placing their logo, the energy of the design moves along the top of the photo, down her arm to a secondary logo, and finally to the body copy. Notice the way the photo was cropped to encourage the movement. Likewise, the complex angles of the photo generate energy towards the lower left edge of the page, away from the model's face.





A backwards Z pattern emerges with the viewer's eye hitting the negative space (1) towards the acrobat's raised foot (2). Her form leads you down to the headline, (3) set with a light green. The smaller szed body copy (4) leads the eye to the line of information at the base of the page (5).





Color can influence hierarchy as well as size. Here the ad promotes a X shape, motioning from the central product first to the gold product name; a second motion heads towards the logo; a third branches off to the headline; and finally, a fourth arm heads to the smaller sized body copy. This complex idea is strengthened by additional crosshair graphics in the background.

Motion Visual Hierarchy in Graphic Design

To sum up, when creating any form of graphic materials, from business cards to billboards, quarter page ads to magazine covers, the designer needs to:

- establish a sense of hierarchy with the elements of the page
- establish a sense of internal motion between the hierarchy of elements