

# Cues to Depth




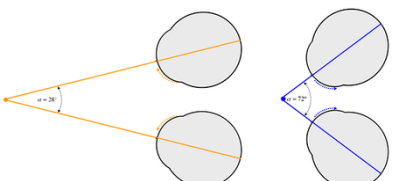
estimate • interpret • register • two • three x 2



Depth perception means...that one has the ability to accurately **estimate** the distance of objects and so perceive the external world in **three** dimensions. Our retinas **register** only **two**-dimensional images, yet our brain is able to **interpret** the information received from the retina into **three**-dimensional perceptions of the world. But how do we do it?

Type of Cue	Monocular	Binocular
Pictorial (in the environment)	<b>linear perspective</b> <b>interposition (or overlap)</b> <b>texture gradient</b> <b>relative size</b> <b>height in the visual field</b>	<b>X</b>
Non-Pictorial (biological cues)	<b>accommodation</b>	<b>convergence</b> <b>retinal disparity</b>

## Depth Perception Cues - Examples

Stimulus Nbr	Cues depicted in stimulus or employed in perceiving it	Monocular or binocular?	Pictorial or Non-Pictorial?
<b>1</b> 2 x teacher. Oh dear. 	Involves “fusing” the two images into one – employs retinal disparity. The fused (middle) image appears three-dimensional. Enough to put students off their holiday.	binocular	non-pictorial
<b>2</b> Monet's poppies 	Poppies – texture gradient Human figures – relative size, height in the visual field Clouds also contribute to relative size effect Interposition, e.g. child in foreground is partially obscured by grass and flowers	monocular	pictorial
<b>3</b> Books in a uni library 	Linear perspective (lines of bookcases) Texture gradient and relative size (books themselves, appearance of each bookcase diminishing in size with distance)	monocular	pictorial
<b>4</b> 	Illustrates convergence, which is greater when the object of focus is closer to the perceiver.	binocular	non-pictorial