In art, lines may be the path made by a pencil or the stroke of a paintbrush.
Lines are also formed when two objects meet or overlap, such as the line made by your upper and lower lips when you smile.
Lines can be thin or thick, continuous or interrupted. In general, they connect two points and are usually longer than they are wide.
Are the horizontal lines parallel or do they slope?
Take the white background away, and the lines do indeed look parallel.
A line is... the path of a dot through space.
This work is from the island of New Guinea, near Australia. What words would you use to describe the creature or creatures depicted? How do the lines used by the artist help you describe the image?
Had you ever thought of this very famous structure simply in terms of line? Its sleek profile foreshadowed modern skyscraper construction.

The lines, or stripes, on a zebra serve as camouflage as it roams its natural habitat. In what type of environment might these natural lines best blend?
Line Types
Many types of lines are used to create art. We will examine six of the most common lines.
Structural Lines

Structural lines are the lines that hold a design together. Structural lines come in a variety of types with different characteristics and qualities. They can be delicate and thin like a spider’s web, or thick and bold like a row of telephone poles.
Outlines
An outline generally refers to the outer edge of a silhouette, or the line made by the edges of an object. An outline makes an object seem flat and is usually the same thickness throughout. Tracing around an object placed on a sheet of paper is one way to create an outline.
Why is an outlining technique particularly appropriate for conveying the physical characteristics of these objects?
**Contour Lines**

Contour lines describe the shape of an object, and include interior detail. For example, a contour drawing of a person’s face would include a line defining the shape of the head and additional lines that describe the surfaces and planes of the facial features.

This contour drawing gives an indication of general physical features and folds in clothing.
This is a contour drawing. Contour lines show the edges and outlines of shapes.
Blind contour drawings are practice drawings made up entirely of lines. They are called blind contour drawings because you can't look at your drawing until you are done! Blind contour drawings will help you train your eyes to see the shapes and edges as you draw. Your hand will record every detail slowly and accurately. Remember! No peeking!
Gesture Lines

Gesture lines, sometimes called movement lines, emphasize direction and fluidity. Imagine a thin, continuous flow of line coming out of the drawing tool. By looping, twisting, and changing direction, gesture lines quickly describe a figure.
Gesture Lines
Gesture lines indicate action and physical movement. They are done quickly in the form of a rough sketch as the model moves. Therefore they lack detail.
Sketch Lines

Sketch lines provide more detail than outlines, contour lines, and gesture lines. They can be drawn very quickly, but they sometimes have a finished appearance. Sketch lines often give an object the appearance of depth, or three-dimensionality. Artists use sketches for information gathering.
Calligraphy

Calligraphy, from two Greek words meaning "beautiful writing," is precise, elegant hand-writing or lettering done by hand. The lines in calligraphy often vary between thick and thin, even within a single letter.

ROMAN The formal style derived from stone carved letters

RUSTICA the informal pen-lettered form.

UNCIAL Blackletter

Halfuncial

VERSALS Capital letters

Variations of uncial.

Carolingian

Italic the most popular calligraphic style.

Bookhand

The foundation for most type faces
The Art of Hand-Lettering
بعض آثار فرهنگ اسلامی در هنر ایرانی
Review: Line Types

Many types of lines are used to create art. Six of the most common are listed below:

1) Structural Lines
2) Outlines
3) Contour Lines
4) Gesture Lines
5) Sketch Lines
6) Calligraphy