

Impossible Objects

Impossible objects are graphic, two-dimensional constructs. They give the illusion of a three-dimensionality that couldn't exist in reality. They're optical illusions whose individual parts the brain interprets differently. At first glance, these three-dimensional forms appear completely normal. Because you can't grasp the whole picture immediately, you comprehend them in stages, so to speak. Just like a puzzle, you begin to put all the information together, and only then do you realize that these objects couldn't exist in reality. In most cases the brain can switch back and forth between a 'possible' and an 'impossible' object. The larger the form is, the harder it becomes to comprehend such spatial illusions.

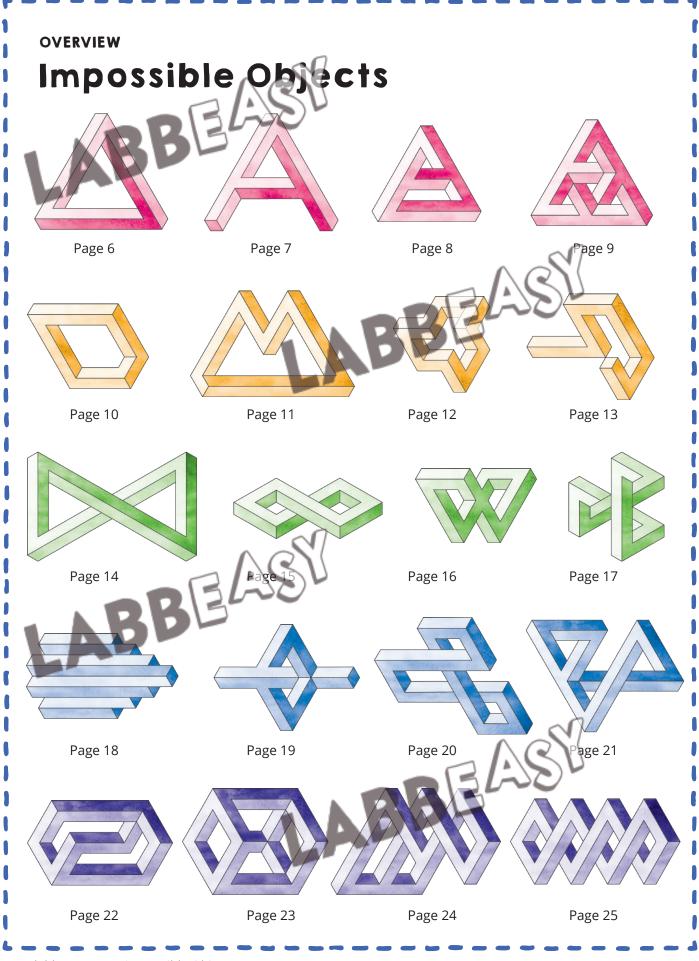
These illogical forms exert a certain fascination, and in this case art trumps reality. Many neurologists, psychologists, mathematicians, and artists such as M. C. Escher (1898 - 1972) and Oscar Reutersvärd (1915-2002) dealt with this phenomenon.

Drawing such optical illusions is usually complicated, but with our templates it's child's play! The original form is shown on a grid and all you have to do is copy it onto a blank grid. Such simple 'brain gymnastics' trains the concentration and imaginative spatial abilities.

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