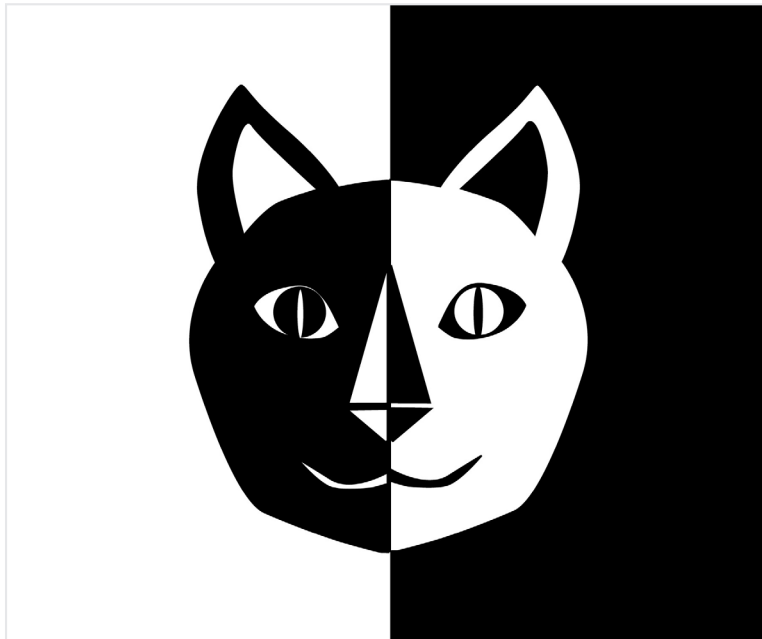


Pearl Fincher | **Museum of Fine Arts**

Pearl at Home

Art projects designed for family fun, for suggested ages of 5 and up to be completed at home with easily-accessible art materials.

NOTANS



Share your artwork with us on social media!
Tag @pearlfinchermfa, and use #pearlathome



6815 Cypresswood Dr, Spring, TX 77379 | 281.376.6322 | pearlmfa.org

MATERIALS

- **Paper:** 1 whole sheet and 1 half sheet, any color
- **Pencil and Eraser**
- **Scissors**
- **Glue or glue stick**

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Notan is a Japanese term involving the relationship between light and dark elements in a design. Artists use notans to help them compose harmony, or balance, between the contrasting light and dark in their artwork. Notans are traditionally done with paint, ink, or cut paper, but can also be used in printmaking and other media.

This project is a fun way to explore the idea of how these concepts work in art.

DIRECTIONS

The easiest cut paper notans are vertically or horizontally **symmetrical**. Once you see how this works, you are encouraged to try notans that are more complicated.

The whole sheet of paper will be used for your background, and the half sheet is for the image.

- 1** Pick any symmetrical object to draw. Our example here is a cat's face.

On your half sheet of paper, draw **ONE SIDE** of the cat's face, using simple shapes that will be easy to cut out. Draw big, using most of the space on your paper.



2 Carefully cut out the shapes and **SAVE** them all, including the space around your object.

Below is an example of the pieces you may have after cutting. Try hard to have the piece you cut out as one piece, but it's okay if you can't.



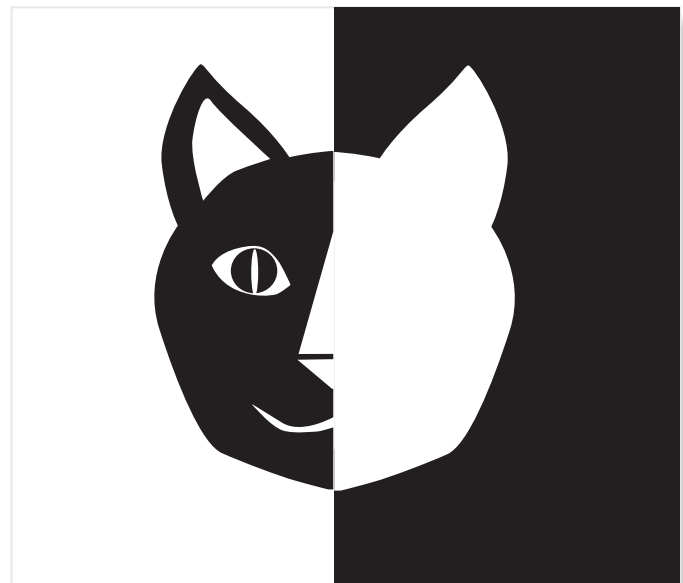
TIPs:

No need to erase! Before you glue anything, you can turn everything over to the clean side of the paper so your pencil lines don't show.

Be sure you lay out any tiny pieces **BEFORE** you glue them down. They are much easier to move without glue on them.

3 Glue the paper that was left around your object (negative space) to one side of the whole piece of paper.

Flip over the single piece of paper you cut out (positive space) and match it to the other side to get one object.



- 4** Glue the small pieces you cut out into the space where there are no features, so they match the other side.

