

# **Use Grids to Design a Series of Projects**

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A collage of images representing Canadian First Nations culture. The background is divided into several diagonal sections. The top left shows a young woman with a neutral expression. The top right features a close-up of a beaded mask with intricate patterns. The bottom right shows a dreamcatcher with purple and pink feathers. The bottom left shows a close-up of a beaded mask with large, stylized eyes.

# **CANADIAN FIRST NATIONS PERSPECTIVES IN DESIGN**

**A CELEBRATION OF  
CULTURAL RESILIENCE,  
SUSTAINABILITY, AND  
INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE**

# Modular Grid Poster Rationale

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**Inspiration:** For inspiration, I looked at many posters that utilized modular grids in unusual ways. My main point of inspiration was this Geometric Design poster, which showcases how a modular grid can feature creative designs and shapes. I appreciated how the text is clearly separated from the art, promoting hierarchy and legibility. It's both creative and simplistic! For my poster, I tried to recreate these traits to make a design that is both unique and easily understandable.



**How a Modular Grid was used:** In my poster, I used a modular grid in an unorthodox way. At first, I created the designs without tilting the images, but it looked uninteresting. By tilting the photographs, I created visual interest in the background. The rotation makes the details in each picture stand out. Since the images are separated by evenly-spaced units, a modular grid is created in a unique way.

**Mood & Meaning:** For this poster, the idea was to be fun and creative. My design accomplishes this through the use of an unusual orientation for the pictures, the text's bright colours, distinct drop-shadows, and a bubbly font. These elements all coalesce into the modular grid, which lines the images up in a way that is both engaging and clean.



# Canadian First Nations Perspectives in Design: A Celebration of Cultural Resilience, Sustainability, and Intercultural Dialogue

Canadian First Nations perspectives in design represent the artistic expressions and cultural traditions of Indigenous communities across the country. With a deep connection to the land, rich storytelling traditions, and a profound respect for ancestral wisdom, First Nations design embodies the resilience, cultural identity, and spirit of Indigenous peoples. This article aims to explore the multifaceted nature of Canadian First Nations perspectives in design, highlighting their significance in preserving cultural heritage, promoting sustainability, fostering intercultural dialogue, and empowering Indigenous communities.



Canadian First Nations design embraces principles of sustainability and ecological stewardship.

## Preserving Cultural Heritage



Canadian First Nations design serves as a powerful vehicle for preserving and celebrating cultural heritage. Rooted in the teachings, stories, and symbols that have been passed down through generations, these designs encapsulate the essence of Indigenous cultures. They incorporate traditional elements such as animal motifs, ancestral patterns, and sacred symbols, infusing them with contemporary aesthetics. First Nations designers draw inspiration from the land, spiritual beliefs, and the interconnectedness of all living beings. Through their designs, they assert their cultural identity, challenge stereotypes, and provide a tangible representation of the resilience and enduring presence of Indigenous peoples.

# Hierarchical Grid Magazine Article Rationale

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**Inspiration:** For inspiration, I looked to clean magazine articles that establish hierarchy. This example design creates excellent hierarchy through the use of bold images, clearly defined headers, and simple body text. The images draw the viewer's attention first, followed by the most prominent heading, subheadings, and body text. I wanted to imitate this hierarchical flow in my design.



**How a Hierarchical Grid was used:** In my article, I employed hierarchy to define sections and guide the viewer's eye across the page. The striking image of the Canadian flag is immediately prominent, and the red colour of the main header text seamlessly directs the viewer down through the rest of the article. This design combines modules and the golden ratio spiral to organize the elements based on prominence and emphasis.

**Mood & Meaning:** The intended mood and meaning for this design was serious and informative. My design accomplishes this by displaying the body text in a simplistic layout and an easily readable format. The body text is left-aligned and has a twelve-point font, a standard for magazine articles. By keeping the design free of clutter, the important information can take center stage.



## Canadian First Nations Perspectives in Design

### Welcome!

This website celebrates and highlights the importance of Canadian First Nations perspectives in design. They represent the artistic expressions and cultural traditions of Indigenous communities across the country. With a deep connection to the land, rich storytelling traditions, and a profound respect for ancestral wisdom, First Nations design embodies the resilience, cultural identity, and spirit of Indigenous peoples. This website aims to explore the multifaceted nature of Canadian First Nations perspectives in design, highlighting their significance in preserving cultural heritage, promoting sustainability, fostering intercultural dialogue, and empowering Indigenous communities.

A Celebration of Cultural Resilience, Sustainability, and Intercultural Dialogue



**CULTURAL  
HERITAGE**



**STORYTELLING  
& TRADITIONS**



**SUSTAINABILITY**



**CULTURAL  
REVITALIZATION**

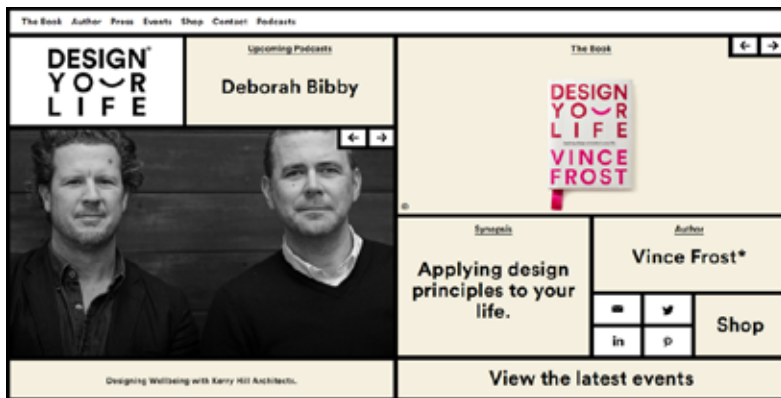


**INTERCULTURAL  
COLLABORATION**

# Combined Grid Website Mockup Rationale

**Inspiration:** For inspiration, I investigated creative website designs that used unique grid formats. This example uses

squares and rectangles to clearly divide elements, implementing aspects of both hierarchical and modular grids. For my design, I attempted to imitate the interesting way in which this design implemented a combined grid.



**How a Combined Grid was used:** For my website mockup, I combined the best aspects of my poster and article designs. I used modular rectangles and squares to separate blocks of content, and established hierarchy by changing the sizes of the blocks. The larger modules serve as introductions to the page, and the square units divide up the different sections. The user can easily understand what each section of the page will contain, and the hierarchy directs the flow of information.

**Mood & Meaning:** The intended mood was to be professional, and to have the appearance of a college website. To accomplish this, I chose a clean font, laid out the content in an legible way, and followed modern web design principles. Additionally, I thought back to the designs of the University of Regina and Saskatchewan Polytechnic websites for inspiration. My design fulfills the desired mood by following these essential design cues.