



# gridmagic art projects

## Mondrian

# 4a

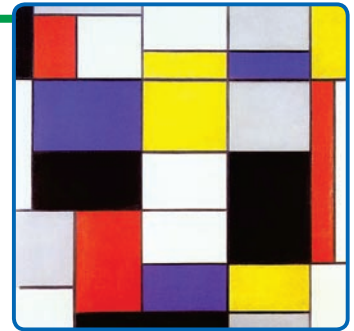
### PIET MONDRIAN

Neo-plasticism is a Dutch abstract art movement founded (and named) by Piet Mondrian. (It's also known as the 'de Stijl' art movement).

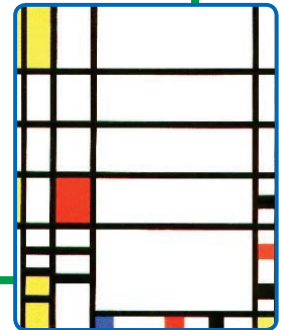
The rules for neo-plasticism are:-

- the canvas is divided into rectangles by horizontal and vertical lines.
- it's coloured using a very limited palette consisting of primary colours (red, blue, yellow) and non-colours (black and white).

Start off by looking at some of Mondrian's work on the internet by doing an 'images search'. Try looking up 'Mondrian', 'Neo-plasticism' and 'de Stijl'.



Composition with Black Red, Gray Yellow and Blue

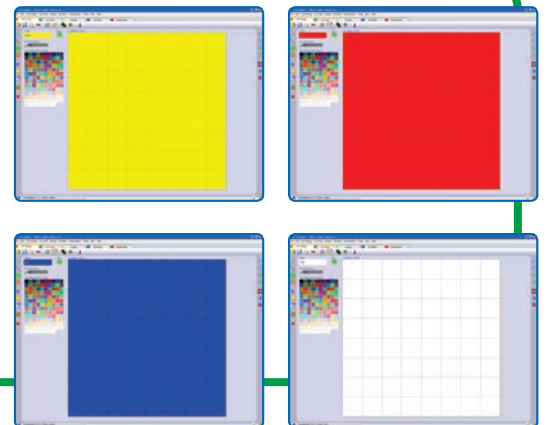


Trafalgar Square

### GRID DESIGN

Start by creating tiles in the colours you want to use. Although these should be primary and non-colours, gridmagic has several different shades of each, so experiment with your own shades.

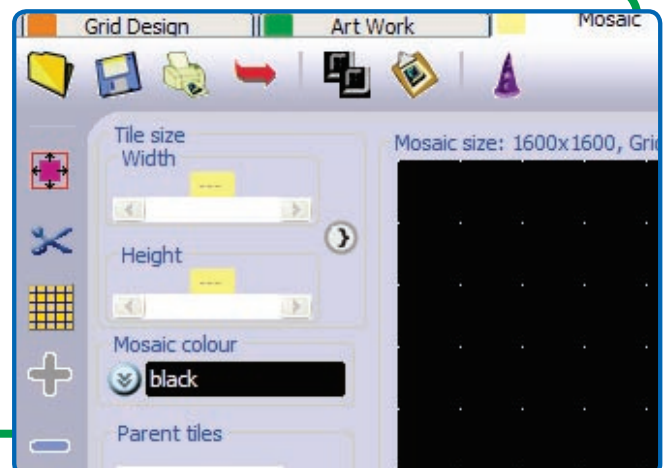
Send each tile to **Mosaic**.



### MOSAIC

Set up your **Mosaic** grid. The **Mosaic** grid colour will determine your parallel lines colour - 'Black' is traditional.

How wide do you want your parallel lines to be? Use the '+' and '-' icons to adjust the spacing of the dots or lines to be narrow or wide.





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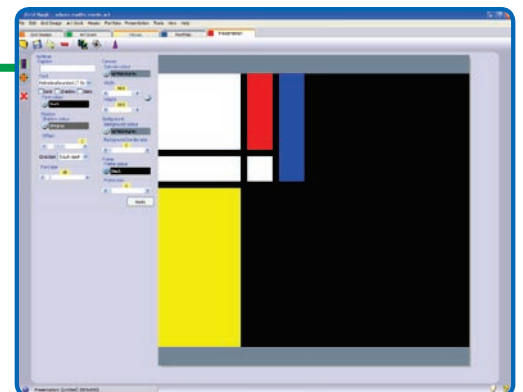
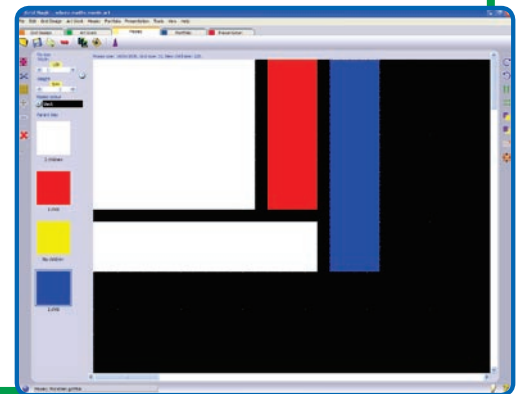
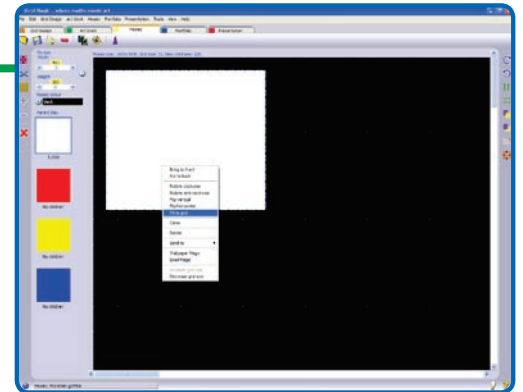
# 4a

### MOSAIC

Drag your first tile onto the **Mosaic** grid and resize it to approximately the size you want. Right click on it and select 'Fit to grid' from the drop down menu. This action adjusts your tile to fit exactly on your grid at the nearest size.

Add more tiles, resizing them to 'Mondrian' proportions (almost in columns and rows). Keep them all fitting to your grid so you get distinct horizontal and vertical parallel lines.

Use the scroll bars if necessary. To get a preview of your art, send it to **Presentation**, even if it's not complete. This allows you to reflect on your composition as a whole. Then return to **Mosaic** and add some more rectangles/square or make adjustments.



### PRESENTATION

As you're developing your composition, send it to **Presentation**. This allows you to make judgements and decisions about your art as you go along. Ask yourself some questions, such as...

- Is my composition complete yet?
- Would another rectangle add or detract?
- Does it need more blue, yellow, red, white or black?
- Should the yellow rectangle be split?
- Does it hold my attention?
- Where are my eyes drawn to?
- Have I followed the rules?
- Can I take something away and make it look better?
- Am I satisfied with my art?
- What am I going to call my composition?





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## teacher's notes

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**Art Project:** **Mondrian**  
**Level:** **Expert**

**Maths skills:**

- Parallel lines
- Shapes & their properties
- Scale & proportion
- Height & width
- Aspect ratio

**ICT skills:**

- Save as (**Mosaic & Presentation**)
- Working with 'objects'
- Working with scroll bars.
- Previewing work

**Art skills:**

- Mondrian
- Abstract Art
- de Stijl / Neo-plasticism art movements
- Composition

**Progression:** This is an open ended Art Project. Pupils could use this as a planning activity and use their design for traditional oil or acrylic work, moving on to explore the different brush techniques used by Mondrian.

**Grid Size/Shape:** The initial grid size is irrelevant. As modification of the shape occurs in **Mosaic**, it's also irrelevant what shape grid you start with, however, square is the default.

**Teaching Points:-**

- At Key Stage 1/2, pupils may have studied Mondrian art to explore the 'Flood Fill' tool. This activity moves pupils to a higher level and focuses on the whole composition of the work. It's aim is to develop an appreciation of Mondrian, Abstract Art and the composition process. (and if pupils ask, gridmagic doesn't have a 'flood fill' tool either).
- Mondrian and the de Stijl art movement has had an enormous influence on many areas of our lives, including art, buildings, furniture etc. (IKEA owes much of it's popularity to this influence). Pupils should be given an opportunity to appreciate this by using the internet to find out about this art movement before embarking on this project.
- **Presentation** is used in a different way to previous projects. Just as an artist will stand back from their work at various points for reflection, we encourage pupils to send their developing composition to **Presentation** as they go along. This allows time for reflection, self questioning, critical analysis and further development of creative ideas.

