

## Keeping a Visual Journal

This is about becoming visually literate but from your own perspective. Therefore it is marked by its existence. The idea is that you consciously interact with a visual a least once a day. The journal is the record of this interaction. You will chose, or generate a visual everyday and put it, along with some comments, into your visual journal. The comments can be about why your chose it, why you liked it, or didn't like it, or what you would have changed and why. The comments can be very brief. There is no wrong or right in your choices. An important part of becoming visually literate is to become aware of your own taste in visuals, your own ideas, to start to understand your own reactions to visuals.

Here are some suggestions of ways you might find visuals.

- Sketch:
  - ideas,
  - data,
  - concepts,
  - things that you see
  - ...
- photograph
  - things that you want to remember
  - parts of things
  - textures
  - patterns
  - ...
- Collect:
  - Images that others have created for information visualization
  - Samples of visual communication in general
    - Chosen because
    - You liked/disliked them
    - You cannot figure out some else's reaction to them
- React
  - Why and which parts you like or dislike
  - Annotate your images, draw on them, write on them, look at them in different scales in different scales
  - Which parts might you use yourself, as is, with changes, or never!
- Generate
  - keep track of your developing ideas
  - include scribbles, sketches, math, and words