

Minimalism

Art & Design

Work that refuses composition and metaphor, and the argument it drew.

American sculpture and painting of the 1960s using industrial fabrication, repeated units and no internal composition, against Abstract Expressionist gesture and personal handwriting.

DECADE
the 1960s

METHOD
industrial fabrication

- Judd, Andre, Flavin, LeWitt, Martin, Morris.
- Fabricated to a specification, not made by hand.
- One after another: repetition instead of composition.
- Judd rejected the term and wrote specific objects.
- Fried's Art and Objecthood, 1967, attacked it.
- The viewer's body and the room became part of the work.

LOOK FOR IT

Andre's Equivalent VIII, 1966: 120 firebricks, bought and arranged rather than carved.

Minimalism in art is not minimalism in design. One is an argument about literal objects; the other is reduction of means.