

What a Crit Is For

Art & Design

What a critique is for, and the three questions it should answer.

A critique is a structured reading of work in progress by people who are not you. Its purpose is to find the gap between what you intended and what the work communicates.

BEST ON

work in progress

ORDER

describe, interpret, judge

- It tests communication, not the worth of the maker.
- Work in progress benefits most; finished work least.
- Describe first, then interpret, then judge.
- Three questions: what, how, and is it working?
- The group learns as much as the person showing.
- Silence in a crit is a failure of the group.

LOOK FOR IT

Show the work without introducing it, and hear what people see before explaining what you meant.

The gap between intention and reading is the whole information. Explaining the intention first destroys the measurement.