

What is aerial perspective?

Aerial perspective is one of the seven depth cues. Distant objects tend to look less in focus because of environmental factors.

What is the Albert Ames Room?

The Ames room is a room that has no perpendicular angles. As a result, the room is very distorted and makes objects appear differently than they actually are.

What is ambiguous stimuli?

Ambiguous stimuli are patterns that allow more than one perceptual organization.

What is the apparent distance hypothesis?

The apparent distance hypothesis suggests that the horizon seems more distant than the night sky overhead, because there are more depth cues near the horizon.

What are binocular depth cues?

Binocular depth cues are those that function only when both eyes are used.

What is binocular disparity?

Binocular Disparity is a way of describing the difference between the images provided by each eye.

What is the Boring figure?

The Boring figure is an alternating figure between a young woman and an old woman.

What is bottom-up processing?

Bottom-up processing involves organizing perceptions by beginning with low-level features.

What is brightness constancy?

Brightness constancy is the apparent (or relative) brightness of various objects remains the same as long as each object is illuminated by the same amount of light.

What is camouflage?

Camouflage involves the designs that break up figure-ground organization, making objects more difficult to see.

What is clairvoyance?

Clairvoyance is the purported ability to perceive events at a distance or through physical barriers.

What is closure?

Closure is the gestalt term for the perceptual tendency to complete figures by "closing" or ignoring small gaps.

What is color constancy?

Color constancy is one of the four perceptual constancies. Once learned, yellow objects are perceived as yellow regardless of the context.

What is the constructionist view?

The constructionist view of perception suggests that the brain constructs meaning out of the many and varied individual sensations that it receives.

What is convergence?

Convergence is one of three bodily depth cues. As the eyes move inward and outward, retinal disparity is perceived as depth.

What is dark adaptation?

Dark adaptation is the process by which the eye adapts to low illumination and becomes more light sensitive, principally by a shift to rod vision.

What are depth cues?

Depth cues are perceptual features that impart information about distance and three-dimensional space.

What is depth perception?

Depth perception is the ability to see three-dimensional space and to accurately estimate distances.

What is the significance of detecting movement?

Detecting movement is one of two ways that the eyes are used to perceive relative movement. It is where the eyes are stationary and the environment moves.

What is difference threshold?

Difference threshold is the degree of change in a stimulus necessary for a person to detect the difference.

What is extrasensory perception?

Extrasensory perception is the purported ability to perceive events in ways that cannot be explained by known capacities of the sensory organs.

What is figure-ground organization?

Figure-ground organization is a basic perceptual organization in which part of a stimulus appears to stand out as an object (figure) against a less prominent background (ground).

What is the significance of Ganzfeld?

The Ganzfeld screen is a perceptual "blank screen"; usually achieved by creating a uniform white visual field and a neutral auditory tone.

What is gate control theory?

Gate control theory proposes that pain messages pass through neural "gates" in the spinal cord.

What is gestalt?

Gestalt means the organization of the whole through the shapes and forms that are detected by the brain.

What is the significance of hair cells?

Receptor or hair cells within the cochlea transduce vibrations into nerve impulses.

What is a hallucination?

A Hallucination is an imaginary sensation—such as seeing, hearing, or smelling something that does not exist in the external world.

What is a hertz?

A hertz is one cycle (or vibration) per second.

What is an illusion?

An illusion is any misleading or distorted perception.

What is an illusory figure?

An illusory figure is an implied shape that is not actually bounded by an edge or an outline.

What is an impossible figure?

An impossible figure is a stimulus pattern that cannot be organized into a stable perception.

What is the just noticeable difference?

The JND is the amount of increase or decrease in a stimulus that can be reliably detected as a change in amount, value, or intensity.

What is kinesthetic imagery?

Images created by produced, remembered, or imagined as a result of muscular sensations is called kinesthetic imagery.

What are the kinesthetic senses?

The senses of body movement and positioning are called kinesthetic senses.

What is the law of closure?

The law of closure is a gestalt term for the perceptual tendency to complete figures by "closing" or ignoring small gaps.

What is the law of continuation?

The law of continuation is a gestalt term for the perceptual tendency to complete lines that have something that hides part of them from view.

What is the law of proximity?

The law of proximity is a gestalt term for the perceptual tendency to group things together that are close to one another.

What is the law of similarity?

The law of similarity is a gestalt term for the perceptual tendency to group things together that have some visual elements in common.

What is the meaning of limen?

Another word for sensory threshold or a limit is limen.

What is the significance of linear perspective?

Linear perspective is one of the seven depth cues. Parallel lines in the environment appear to converge as they get farther away.

What is a looking chamber?

A looking chamber is an experimental apparatus used to test infant perception by presenting visual stimuli and observing infant responses.

What are monocular depth cues?

Depth cues that can be sensed with one eye are called monocular cues.

What is the moon illusion?

The moon illusion is the apparent change in size that occurs as the moon moves from the horizon (large moon) to overhead (small moon).

What is the Müller-Lyer illusion?

The Müller-Lyer illusion consists of two parallel lines tipped with inward or outward pointing V's.

What is muscular imagery?

Muscular imagery is the mental representation based on produced, remembered, or imagined muscular sensations; for instance, the images produced when one imagines hammering a nail.

What is the Necker cube?

The Necker cube is made up of only the outlines of the cube. One can see through the cube resulting in a perceptual shift in the foreground and the background image.

What does overlap mean?

Overlap is one of the seven depth cues. The perception of depth is created when one object partially blocks another object.

What is parapsychology?

Parapsychology is the study of extranormal psychological events, such as extrasensory perception.

What is perception?

The mental process of organizing sensations into meaningful patterns is called perception.

What are the perceptual categories?

The perceptual categories are the sets of preexisting classes, types, or groupings of stimuli that exist in the study of perception.

What is perceptual expectancy (or set)?

Perceptual set is a readiness to perceive in a particular manner, induced by strong expectations.

What are perceptual features?

Perceptual features are the important elements of a stimulus pattern, such as lines, shapes, edges, spots, and colors.

What are perceptual habits?

Perceptual habits are established patterns of perceptual organization and attention.

What is the perceptual hypothesis?

A perceptual hypothesis is an initial guess regarding the correct way to organize (perceive) a stimulus pattern.

What is peripheral vision?

Vision at the periphery (edges) of the visual field is called peripheral vision.

What is a phantom limb?

The illusory sensation that a limb still exists after it is lost through accident or amputation is often called a phantom limb.

What are pictorial depth cues?

Pictorial depth cues are features found in paintings, drawings, and photographs that impart information about space, depth, and distance.

What is the Ponzo illusion?

The ponzo illusion is where two horizontal bars of equal length appear on top of each other on a railroad track.

What is the PSI phenomena?

Events that seem to lie outside the realm of accepted scientific laws are called PSI phenomena.

What is psychokinesis?

The purported ability to mentally alter or influence objects or events is called psychokinesis.

What is reality testing?

Reality testing is obtaining additional information to check on the accuracy of perceptions.

What is relative height?

Relative height is one of the seven depth cues. Objects that are higher in a scene are usually perceived as being farther away and therefore should be smaller.

What is relative motion?

Relative motion is one of the seven depth cues. While moving, objects close to us appear to move faster than objects in the background.

What is relative size?

Relative size is one of the seven depth cues. Objects that are known to be the same size will convey depth if one appears smaller than the other.

What is a reversible figure?

A reversible figure is a stimulus pattern that allows perceivers to reverse figure-ground organization.

What is a run of luck?

A run of luck is a statistically unusual outcome (as in getting five heads in a row when flipping a coin) that could still occur by chance alone.

What is selective attention?

Voluntarily focusing on a selected portion of sensory input, most likely by rerouting messages within the brain is called selective attention.

What is shape constancy?

Shape constancy is perceiving the shape of objects as unaltered even though the shape of the proximal image changes on the retina.

What is signal detection theory?

Signal detection theory takes into account things like your environment, your physical condition, your sensitivity to stimuli in the environment, your mood and attitude in affecting your ability to perceive stimuli.

What is size constancy?

Size constancy is perceiving the size of objects as unchanged despite changes in the size of the images they cast on the retina.

What is size-distance invariance?

The strict relationship that exists between the distance an object lies from the eyes and the size of its image is often called size distance invariance.

What is stereoscopic vision?

Stereoscopic vision is the perception of space and depth caused chiefly by the fact that the eyes receive different images.

What is stroboscopic movement?

Stroboscopic movement is the illusion of movement in which an object is shown in a rapidly changing series of positions.

What is subliminal perception?

Perception of a stimulus presented below the threshold for conscious recognition is called subliminal perception.

What is telepathy?

Telepathy is the purported ability to directly know another person's thoughts.

What is the significance of texture?

Texture is one of the seven depth cues. Objects in the foreground tend to have more vivid textures than in the background.

What is top-down processing?

Top-down processing is the applying higher-level knowledge to rapidly organize sensory information into a meaningful perception.

What is tracking Movement?

Tracking movement is one of two ways that the eyes are used to perceive relative movement. It is where the eyes move along with the object in the environment and yet the brain still perceives relative motion.

What is the visual cliff?

The visual cliff is an apparatus that looks like the edge of an elevated platform or cliff; used to test for depth perception in infants and baby animals.

What are Zener cards?

Zener cards are cards bearing various symbols and used in early parapsychological research.