

## Sketchbook Practice

**“The only journal that really matters is my sketchbook” - Louise Bourgeois**

**Before you begin your sketchbook practice read the following articles:**

**How, one fine night, Louise Bourgeois told me about her sketchbooks...**

<http://www.iskn.co/one-fine-night-louise-bourgeois-told-sketchbooks/>

**Chuck Close on Creativity, Work Ethic, and Problem-Solving vs. Problem-Creating**

<https://www.brainpickings.org/2012/12/27/chuck-close-on-creativity/>

A sketchbook is a place where you can plan, experiment, brainstorm, and reflect. It is intended to be a place where you can take risks and make mistakes. The most important aspect of sketchbook practice is **consistency**. Use it and use it often!

**This list is a collection of ideas for getting started in your sketchbook if you are not sure where to begin:**

- When creating an image be thoughtful about using the entire surface of the page.
- Experiment with combining text & imagery.
- Create thumbnails (small scale compositional sketches of larger projects that you want to create).
- Write about your thought process, and reflect.
- Fill pages with inspirational quotes, lyrics, images, etc.
- Create collages using paper ephemera, ticket stubs, found objects. Create layers and then cut pieces out of them.
- Create observational drawings (drawings of objects that are in front of you while you are drawing them).
- Take “sketchnotes” about an artist that you admire, a video that you have watched, or a podcast that you have listened to. Here is a great video on visual notetaking:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tJPeumHNLY> .
- Create artworks that experiment with color.
- Using multiples to make an artwork: try sketching one object from multiple viewpoints.
- Go to [www.theartassignment.com](http://www.theartassignment.com) and try out one of their assignments!
- Revisit an idea over and over to see it change over time.

**Still looking for ideas?**

**Here are some great sketchbook practice exemplars:**

<http://lisacongdon.com/blog/>

<https://www.sketchbookproject.com/>

<http://www.dannygregory.com/>