

AnnTaylor.

Ann Taylor.

THE S. D. WARREN

CATALOG OF CATALOG DESIGN

FOREWORD

Dear Catalog Marketer:

S. D. Warren takes pride in presenting our "Catalog of Catalog Design" for your enjoyment. We are dedicated suppliers to the direct marketing industry and have chosen to demonstrate our concern and support by producing a series of informational pieces directed exclusively to the talented people in catalog marketing.

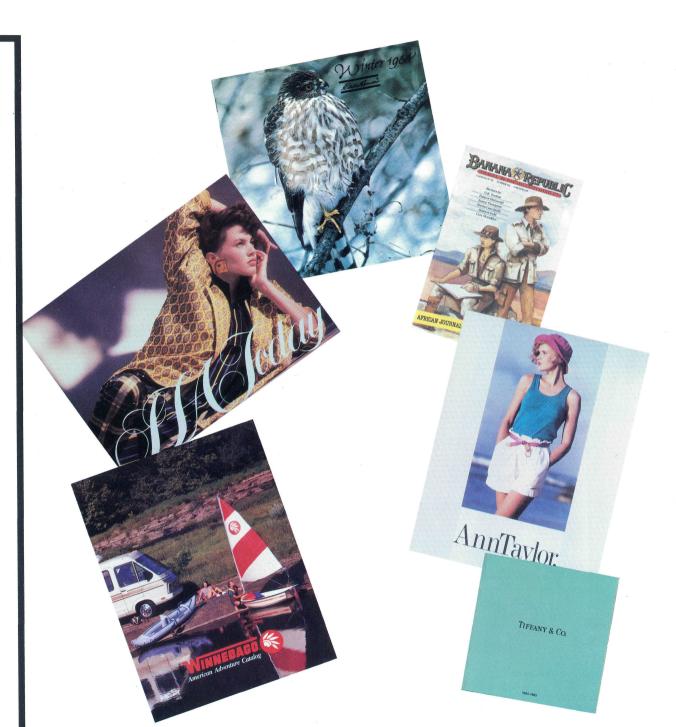
This book on catalog design is the first in our planned series. You'll notice that it is produced entirely in a catalog format, and even provides an order form for you or your creative staff to use to request subsequent issues and other related materials.

Our premiere issue was written, designed and produced by Jo-Von Tucker, an internationally renowned catalog consultant. We hope that you will benefit from reading it, and from sharing it with other members of your creative team.

With best wishes,

Sam Wannen

S. D. Warren Company A Division of Scott Paper Company



CHAPTER ONE ESTABLISHING IMAGE THROUGH DESIGN.

Recent consumer research has proven that the design of a catalog plays an important role in overall perception and positioning. Prospective customers will receive a message and a statement of philosophy based, to a large degree, on the way in which a catalog is visually presented for consideration.

This market-assigned priority requires that careful and expert judgment should be applied to catalog design and graphic treatment. Design provides essential unity for all of the other diverse elements used in catalog marketing. It is the frame for the picture, and should be selected just as thoughtfully as the picture itself.

Basic catalog design directions are provided within this book. It is our hope, however, that the techniques gathered from the outstanding designers chosen for inclusion will aid and inspire you to create your own catalog concepts, or perhaps to seek improvement in what you are currently producing. We encourage innovation and applaud design perfection and refinement.

DESIGNING A CATALOG.

An essential guideline to remember in designing any kind of catalog is that consumers "see" catalogs in visual spreads as opposed to two facing pages. This fact works to the designer's advantage in that the entire space of the two facing pages may be considered as a single visual unit for display. Much like a department store window, the combined space of the facing pages should be worked to maximize the potential visual impact.

The gutter of the catalog, whether it is bound horizontally or vertically, needs to be considered because of cross alignment and press approval of color, but it should not dictate the design treatment nor necessarily restrict it. Delicate and critical alignments (like faces, or intricate prints) can be avoided without giving up design flexibility.

The most important role of design in catalog marketing is the function of combining all of the other elements in the presentation in a pleasing, considerate and persuasive fashion. Catalog design can become a distinctive, recognizeable signature, and can contribute heavily in attaining the desired credibility from the consumers.

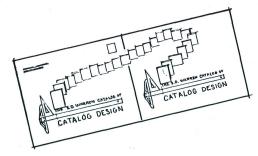
ELEMENTS OF CATALOG DESIGN

- PHOTOGRAPHY...
 The most dramatic portrayal of merchandise.
- DESCRIPTIVE COPY... Informational words used to describe the products and/or services, and to close the sale.
- HEADLINES...
 Explanatory, attention-getting words used to point out themes or special groupings of items.
- PAPER SPACE...
 The "white space" that provides the blank canvas on which to create the design display.
- Company Logo...
- Toll Free Telephone Number and Attention Device.

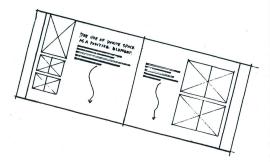


DIRECT YOUR CATALOG PAPER INQUIRIES
TO YOUR LOCAL
S.D. WARREN PAPER MERCHANT.
(Please see listing on back.)

Thumbnail sketches can be used effectively to transfer conceptual thoughts to a more visual form.



These simplified drawings should be accurate in scale to the proposed catalog format.



While developing a concept, try to plan the product depictions in varying sizes and shapes for maximum visual interest.

CONCEPTUALIZATION.

The explanation of conceptualization is simpler than the word itself implies...It is the mental (or thinking) process that should take place before pencil is set to layout pad. This "upfront thinking time" is vital to the flow of the catalog, and can help to insure that the presentation reflects a point of view and a personality. Thoroughly conceptualizing a catalog will provide those important small touches that will identify a catalog to the consumer, either in the planned use of subtle props and accessories, or in the selection of specific backdrops for photography, or even in the application of a sense of humor to the pages of the "paper store."

During the schedule of production of a catalog, ample time should be built in for conceptualizing. The designer or layout artist should not be expected to immediately sit down at the drawing board and start cranking out pages of format. Upfront thinking time usually saves more time in the long run, and provides the opportunity for creative design to flow.

A good way to begin the conceptualizing process is by writing notes on a yellow legal pad. The words on paper seem to help designers (who are visually oriented in the first place) to lock in on the priorities to be considered, i.e. the merchandise, specific objectives of the catalog, target market information, lifestyle notations, timing or theme, etc.

The next step in conceptualizing is to begin the thought process, planning the catalog mentally. With the objectives in mind, simply allow ideas to flow. Think about the products and how to show them to their best advantage. Elaborate mentally on the chosen theme or seasonal possibilities, and begin to tie in color treatment and specific background ideas.

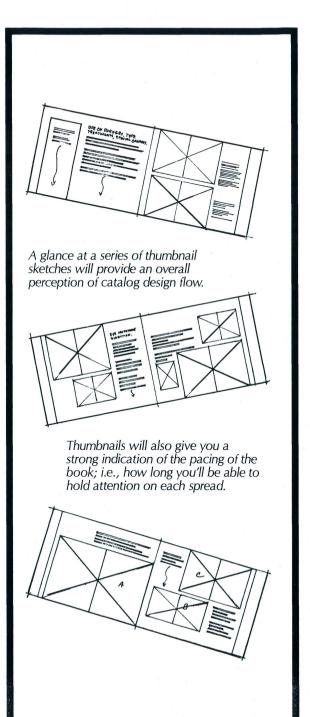
A graphic format will begin to take shape in your mind. At this point in the development of the concept, it's a good time to jot down words or phrases that reflect your thoughts.

Translating ideas to paper can be effectively done with the use of thumbnail sketches. As the term implies, these rough drawings are usually quite small. You can create a fairly accurate perception of a catalog spread with a thumbnail sketch no larger than about 2" in height.

And you need not be an accomplished artist to make use of thumbnails for concept development. Their main contribution is in helping you transfer thoughts to a more visual form. Notes of explanation beside the rough drawings will serve to capture special techniques that you may think of, like lighting for the photography of your merchandise.

Thumbnail sketches also aid in communicating design ideas to the merchandising staff or to other layout artists that you'll be working with during catalog execution. But one of the major benefits of using this technique of concept development is that, by thinking the catalog through from cover to cover, an important thread of continuity will evolve. This will help to avoid a schizophrenic look to your book because your graphics and other visual treatments will merge and flow as a well thought out presentation.











WHITE SPACE AS A POSITIVE ELEMENT

Catalog designers should consider the paper pages as a positive element of the available graphics. The blank white paper of a catalog spread is like the untouched canvas of a painter. The potential for design impact lies within the physical confinements of the dimensions of the paper pages.

If you have ever done a painting yourself, you'll know that, regardless of whether you are working in oils, watercolors or acrylics, the entire space is roughly blocked in first. Composition is the first area of concentration.

The same principle should be applied to catalog spread layout. Working the facing pages as a single visual unit, the diverse graphic elements need to be planned for their combination. The arrangement of photographs, descriptive selling copy and headlines takes the form of planned composition. Even this stage of format development should be done with the consumer in mind. Consideration should be given to the effect of catalog graphics on the customer's eyes and in their mind.

The white space of the paper can provide the cleanest, most dramatic frame for the four-color photography. It is also easy on the eyes of the reader. Focus group studies of catalog customers have provided us with input that reflects a liking of white space in their responses. They appreciate the clarity of presentation when items are allowed to breathe with some respite of space around them.

In designing a catalog to best utilize available space, it doesn't matter whether the paper is left white, or whether you choose to cover the paper surface with a rich, glossy lay of ink. The space itself should still be considered as a positive element, rather than as a negative one. The use of this space is a vital ingredient in the development and execution of a persuasive catalog format.

It is a challenge to the catalog designer to be able to free up space, as opposed to filling the available space. Generally, the less constrained the elements are on the page or spread, the more dramatic the merchandise depictions can be. The white space of the paper can provide the simplest, yet most effective, unifying element of presentation. It can be the "tie that binds."

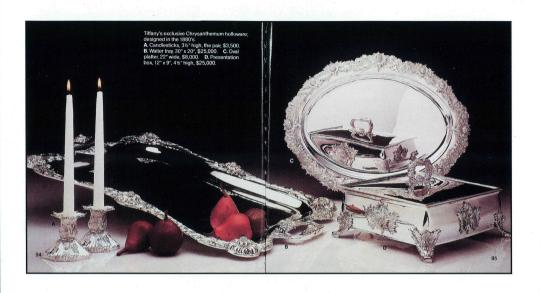
The Williams-Sonoma Catalog shown here is a digest-size $(5\% \times 8\%)$ book. The designers, Carolyn Andres and Peggy Hidell, make maximum use of a smaller amount of display space by designing in visual spreads. Background colors across facing pages are coordinated and strictly monochromatic. The white space of the paper is used cleanly to frame the rich four-color images and to provide a pure space for black-on-white typography.



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THE PRODUCT IS THE STAR.

A rule of thumb to guide all catalog designers... Allow the merchandise to be the star of the entire production! The product depiction should get the most attention of anything shown on the spread. The design, any special graphic treatments, the copy and the headlines should all be secondary to the depiction of the merchandise. The reason for this is that catalogs are primarily a photographic medium of selling. It is the photograph that must capture consumer attention for the products.

Photography as a medium provides us with remarkable flexibility for product display in catalogs. We have the technology of lighting to work with, open to as many interpretations and techniques as the creative mind will allow. Light is there to be bent, shaped, defined and refracted to help spotlight our merchandise and refine its portrayal.

Photography captures the details of items, picking up for the customer's benefit such important selling features as texture, color and design. And good product photography allows us to achieve fidelity of reproduction, another vitally important element of catalog marketing. High quality reproduction, both in color separations and in printing, help the cataloger to attain credibility from the consumer, and continue to help maintain credibility when the merchandise is received looking exactly as it was portrayed on the pages of the catalog.

In order to insure that the product will always be the star, art directors and designers must be careful never to let the background overpower the merchandise. Photographic backdrops that are busy in content may pull attention away from the items shown for sale. Backgrounds are there to enhance, not to compete. The same is true with props and accessories in a shot; they should only be used to explain usage, to scale, or to amuse and entertain, but never to take away from the impact of the merchandise itself.

The product should also be the star in the subject of space allotment. Rarely, if ever, should the descriptive copy be given more space prominence than the photography. Customers will look at the photographs if they are appealing and interesting. They must usually be brought into the copy by the strength and appeal of the photograph. And we should not presume that consumers will take the time to read long copy in a catalog. While it is true that certain kinds of products require longer copy than others, it is still safe to assume that the balance of space allotment is the same, and that the item depiction should be larger than the copy space. If it requires more words to explain, chances are that it also requires a larger photograph to show its merits.

Tiffany & Co. presents a square format catalog that is perfect for a very focused merchandise display. The book is perfect-bound and measures $6" \times 6\%$. The designer, Bert Abbott, chose to pace this outstanding catalog with the technique of alternating dense black backgrounds with light white or grey ones. Spice and punctuation are added by the use of a spread of bright red placed strategically throughout. The beautiful merchandise is allowed to star in the presentation.







Special graphics can enhance a catalog presentaiton, but if overused, or used unnecessarily, can divert too much attention from the merchandise.

Some simple guidelines can help you determine whether or not the use of special graphics should be considered.

- If ten or more items are to be shown on a spread, avoid the use of swash cap lead-ins to your copy. They will require too much visual attention from the consumer.
- If grid-system design is used, where four photographs are clumped together in a box shape, consider using white rules to separate the photos for a clean, organized presentation.
- A simple border can be used going across a spread or down the side of a page to unify diverse elements of photography and copy.
- Ask yourself if call-outs are really necessary to explain the merchandise.
 If not, eliminate them to simplify the presentation.
- In fact (and in judgment), are any special graphics needed? If their use will add personality to the display, use them carefully and consistently.

USE OF BORDERS, TYPE TREATMENTS, SPECIAL GRAPHICS.

The catalog designer has many different special effects available. There are rules, fancy borders, plain borders, cap and swash lead-ins, reverses, cartouches, type treatments like flush right/ragged left, etc. The question is usually when and where (or whether) to use them. It requires good design judgment to use them at all, and even then the usage should be carefully, consistently and discreetly done.

Borders and rules, for example, may help to tie in the elements of a busy spread. They can actually help to hold the graphics together. If a spread has an unusually high number of items to be depicted, delicate rules or thin borders may provide the visual unity needed. However, if the border chosen is bold and strong, it may just compete for attention and further confuse the issue. We've chosen to use simple, thin rules throughout the S. D. Warren Catalog of Catalog Design to provide design continuity for the many elements of our presentation, and to give us a clean frame, along with the white space and composition, for the editorial content.

Cartouche treatment is an effective way to set off editorial copy, or to avoid the use of reverse type out of photography. A cartouche is a ruled or bordered box that provides a clean, classic frame for copy content, usually with the photographic background dropped out. Too much reverse copy can be hard to read, and can create confusion and frustration on the part of the customer. Reverse copy can be dramatic if used sparingly, but it should not be overdone.

Special typography treatments can be attention-getting and can enhance a themed spread. Sometimes a hand-lettered or specific caligraphic headline can be just the ticket to punctuate the graphic format. Or perhaps wrap-around copy is selected to use with silhouette product depictions. There is an infinite variety of choices at our design disposal, but we should caution ourselves when making use of these graphic gymnastics. Are they really necessary? Do they add to the impact of the visuals without taking away from the merchandise offerings? Does their use accomplish continuity? Have we used them consistently or inconsistently?

Just as merchandise is measured by selection criteria for inclusion in a catalog, so should these special design techniques be considered. Analyze their use during the conceptualization stage. That way, if you plan to include them, they will have a role to play from the beginning, and your development plan will have a place for them.



The Horchow Collection, that now-famous innovator in upscale catalog marketing, presents several types of special graphics in their Summer Book. Creative Director Vona MacDonald combines silhouettes with square-finished photographs and punctuates them with splashes of color and border treatments. Headlines and sub-heads considerately tip the consumer to the reason why these products were placed together.

By varying the depiction sizes of the merchandise, the Horchow Collection adds visual interest and impact on the spread. Special graphics are utilized discretely, and never overwhelm the product display.







EYE MOVEMENT DIRECTION.

A design technique used successfully in catalog marketing to guide the reader's eyes around the spread is called "eye movement direction." It can be accomplished by the arrangement of the graphic elements on the pages, as well as by using both the merchandise and models directionally.

The purpose of eye movement direction is to give each item of merchandise on the spread an opportunity to be seen by the consumer. In other words, the reader's attention is gently led from one photograph to the next, and then on to the next until all items have been seen.

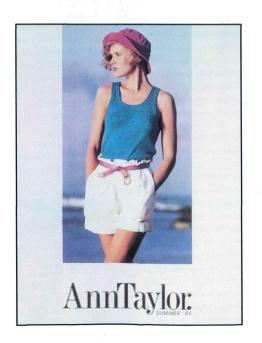
The Banana Republic, successful catalog extraordinaire, uses the technique of eye movement direction well. By strategically (and artfully) placing the items on the spread, visual direction is attained very subtly, giving each product a fair chance to be seen.

In the exquisite Ann Taylor Catalog, composition of models and still life photographs achieves eye movement direction. Designer Sonny Jaen is a master in using art direction of his photography to gently guide the reader's eyes across the spread and back for even longer consideration.

In design, this is accomplished by the composition of the photographs and copy. One depiction is usually larger than the others on the page, and could be called a feature or a mini-feature. This provides a starting point for the reader's perusal of the spread. Then, whether the eyes are led from left to right or from right to left, there is a logical and directional visual guide to encompass every depiction.

The direction can be circular in shape, or it can curve around the spread in a sweep. The important thing is for each piece of merchandise to have a chance to be seen. The white space of the paper can also play a role in eye movement direction. If the frame of

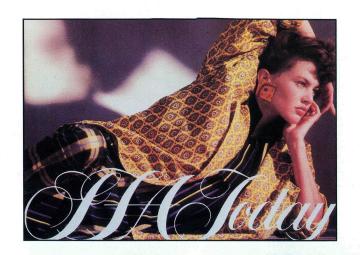
the paper is strong and directional, it will aid in helping to direct the customer's atttention.











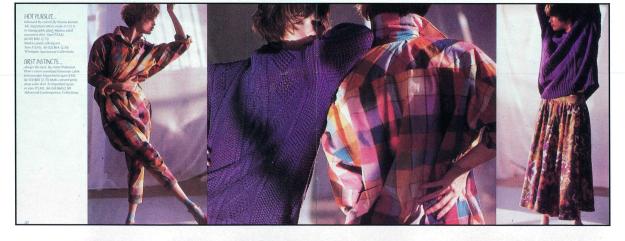
EYE MOVEMENT DIRECTION, Continued.

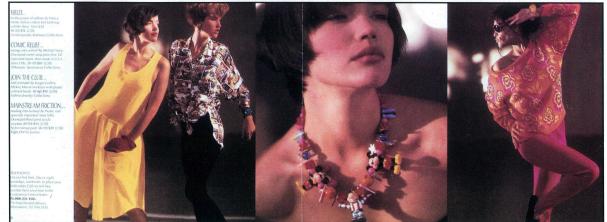
Many times the merchandise itself may be directional in shape, as in the case of shoes. Because of their shape, shoes can function almost like a visual arrow. Other products are equally directional in shape; bottles are distinctly vertical, leading the eye straight up or down; the spout of a teapot, pointed in the right direction, can lead directly into the next depiction; the belt of a microfazer can act like a visual slide from one photograph to another, if composed properly.

Models should be used to help contain the reader's attention within the spread. If they are located on the far outside edges of the spread, they should be facing into

the center of the book, at least with the attitude of their body and with their glance. When the models are facing out of the book instead of toward the gutter or even straight ahead, attention is led off of the page. With little encouragement, intended or not, the consumer is quick to flip to the next page, and the chance of a sale on the previous pages was lost.

Silhouette, or outlined, photographs can also be used directionally. Silhouette photos on catalog pages are most effective and believable when a soft drop-shadow is used. This should be planned for in





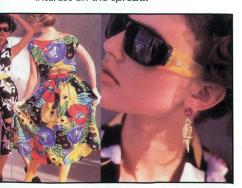


photography shooting, using a white no-seam background and lighting accordingly to get a shadow of grey. The shadow adds dimension to the depiction of an outline shot. Without a shadow, the effect is like a flat paper doll that has been pasted on the page.

Props can help direct the eye from one shot to another, just as the merchandise and the models can. A flower laid beside a picture frame not only scales the frame for size, but also leads the eye by the direction of its stem and leaves. Cookies laid beside a cookie jar can direct attention down into the next shot. A pen beside a desk agenda directs the eye into the pages of the agenda calendar, as well as on to the next photograph or down into the descriptive copy.

The composition of the two spreads used here to describe eye movement direction also illustrates the theory. In addition to the samples chosen to show its use, study the way in which the graphic elements are combined, providing directional flow and guidance for the eyes.

Saks Fifth Avenue's SFA TODAY Catalog utilizes eye movement direction beautifully in the attitudes of the models. Starting on the front cover, the directionality of the pose of the model (and the direction of the glance of her eyes) leads the reader right into the pages of the book. The use of tightly cropped close-ups adds drama to the presentation and holds interest on the spread.









GUIDELINES FOR PAGINATING A CATALOG

- Give your catalog some air (and breathing room to your customers) by varying the numbers of items on each spread. You can "heavy up" on one spread in order to "lighten up" on another.
- If items are paginated along a lifestyle theme, be consistent to that theme and don't force a product in just because it fits in the space.
- Logic or use may dictate pagination. Items for a certain room (bedroom, bath, kitchen) may be grouped together, as can related products or accessories for the office. Fashion garments that mix and match, along with appropriate accessories combine to create a logical, useful pagination.
- Choose merchandise for feature slots that are unique, either because of design, exclusivity, price point or topicality.
- Paginate *considerately,* with the consumer in mind.

CHAPTER TWO PACING AND PAGINATION.

Just as with eye movement direction you can guide the catalog customer's eyes around a spread, with pacing and pagination it is possible to control (to some degree) the speed at which a person browses through the book. Feature pages and mini-features can function like punctuation in a paragraph of words. Interesting treatment of merchandise can slow or stop the readers' attention as they go through the pages.

Space allotment has a lot to do with pacing and its potential impact upon the consumer. By giving an item an important space assignment, either in size or position on the page, you are making a statement as to the importance of the product. Your inherent authority as the merchant is accorded to you by the consumer. If you say that an item is important, by your depiction and attention, customers are prepared to accept that implication and then to consider it long enough to make their own judgment.

That is why feature pages with one or two items on them can reflect as much bottom-line as a page with ten items on it. Your treatment of the merchandise says that it is important. Additionally, these kinds of big statements will hold attention for a longer span of time than an average size photograph.

Pagination is the assignment of items to a spread. Frequently this is done by the buyers or merchants, but may also be the responsibility of the creative team. The choice, or mix, of items might be determined by a special theme, or by lifestyle interest or use, or even by colors of the products. The grouping of merchandise is important in catalog marketing because it lends interest and, again, helps in pacing. By slowing the reader down as they browse through the catalog, each item is given a chance for consideration.



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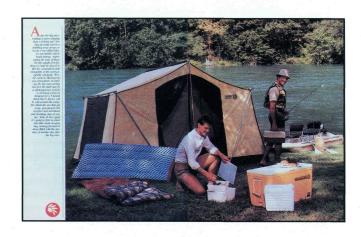
The designer has pacing and pagination to work with as elements of design, just as he or she has the graphics. Pacing and pagination are, however, psychological elements as opposed to positive elements. But they are nevertheless as important to the overall personality and identity of the catalog.

Prime selling spaces in a catalog should be considered when paginating. The "hot" spots are generally considered to be the front and back covers, inside front and back covers (or opening and closing spreads), upper left hand corner of a left page, upper right hand corner of a right page, and, of course, the center spread. When choosing space for a feature or mini-features on any spread, the positions just described will enhance the importance placed on items in those locations. However, feature shots and mini-features can enlighten and strengthen the pull of any page.

Pacing and pagination as techniques should be thoughtfully planned, with the entire book in mind. The pagination or grouping of products can be logical or simply entertaining. Pacing should be planned in the most interesting way, spaced with important statements throughout.

Winnebago's American Adventure Catalog shows the importance of pacing through design. Consumer interest is held from spread to spread because of the visual surprises revealed as the pages are turned. There is a distinctive surge and flow of presentation, with each spread working effectively to entice the reader to linger.











The Winnebago American Adventure Catalog demonstrates a unique style of design and pacing that was conceptualized to enhance credibility for Winnebago as an authority on outdoor activities. Every other spread is editorial in content, showing merchandise in use in a nature setting, accompanied by purely editorial copy to enhance the ambiance of an outdoor lifestyle. Each spread that follows an editorial depiction shows the same products in focused, individual selling mode. These merchandised spreads are open and light, with descriptive selling copy used in cut fashion. The entire catalog was photographed on location in Beavers Bend State Park in Broken Bow, Oklahoma by The Photographers, Inc.







CHAPTER THREE A COMPARISON OF DESIGN TECHNIQUES.

Although there are endless interpretations of catalog design techniques, there are basically two major categories: free flowing design and grid system design. These two techniques may even be used in combination.

Free flowing design is looser and less structured than the grid system, and usually more creative. It is done on a spread by spread basis, although it is desirable to use formats, even for this free-wheeling approach to catalog design. Free flowing design is generally favored and used by the more upscale catalogs. There does appear to be a connection between application of creativity in catalog marketing and resultant sales and persuasiveness.

Grid system design, just as the name implies, is a matter of dividing the space of the pages into grids. The sizes of the photographs can still vary, but will vary mechanically, usually from ½ page to ¼ page to ½ page to a full page depiction. The format is quite tight, and may be considered restrictive by designers.







My Child's Destiny is a newcomer to the industry, offering children's fashion and educational toys. Borders in complimentary colors are used to hold the toy pages together, while the fashion spreads are light and open, offering visual relief from the crowded toy spreads.

With the toy products being primarily in bright, primary colors, photographic backgrounds are white, soft and neutral, allowing the merchandise to dominate.

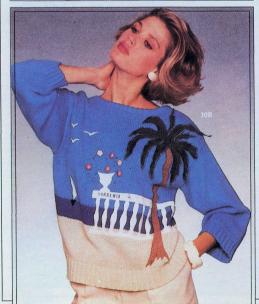


The art director for My Child's Destiny achieved great rapport with the children who were modelling. Nothing is more charming or persuasive in a catalog than a graphic rendition of children being children. Good design simply has to allow that magic to happen.



The Lew Magram Catalog illustrates classic design with maximum simplicity. A digest-sized book, the LM approach is one of presenting the fashion products in a straightforward way on appealing, sassy-looking models. Backgrounds are primarily no-seams. Thinly ruled black borders are used to anchor the light-tone photographic backgrounds on the page.



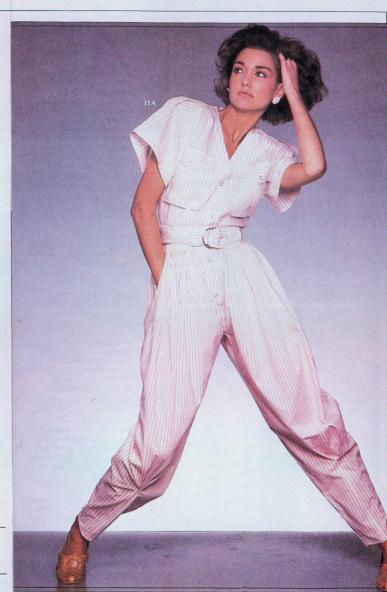


OU'LL ALWAYS
TAKE THE RIGHT
TURN. 10A. In
our "highway
signs" camp shirt. Ever so
comfortable in silky rayon
... features one pocket. By
Toto n Ko. Color is
WHITE. Sizes: \$(4-6),
M(8-10), L(12-14).
Imported. \$52.

10B. YOU'LL LOVE
"SORRENTO". The beauty
of that scenic splendor is
captured in this creative
sweater with pearltrimmed embroidered
flowers and artful
appliqués. Loose and easy
in a cool blend of cotton
and ramie. Color as
shown. Sizes: S(4-6),
M(8-10), L(12-14).
Imported. \$98.

11A. SPRING TRAINING NEVER LOOKED THIS GREAT! Batting a thousand, this oversized "baseball" pinstriped jumpsuit designed by Karen Alexander scores a home run with us. Snap front, elastic back, four large pockets, epaulets and a D-ring belt lead into the new, fuller fashion leg featuring "dimpled" knee. All cotton in WHITE with melon stripe. Even sizes 4 to 12. American made. \$134.





The use of stylish, oversized cap lead-ins work well for Lew Magram in directing attention to the descriptive copy. Columnar copy treatment provides a solid foundation of product information without detracting visually from the photography.





"Body-English" helps hold the reader's attention on each spread. The models' poses are well selected to direct the eyes of the customer around the pages of the Lew Magram book.

DETERMINING FORMAT.

- Test the flexibility of your format by turning the tissue tracing over. This will allow you to see if the layout will work well when flopped.
- Establish your cover format by thinking ahead to the next series of catalogs.
 Can you depict seasonal changes within the framework? Will it become a recognized look for you? Does it reflect the personality of the catalog?
- Try to avoid getting locked into a grid system format. While there is some degree of flexibility, you are still more restricted design-wise than in a freeflowing format.
- Have you allowed for incorporation of the logo on some of the spreads? And for the toll free order number?

CHAPTER FOUR CATALOG FORMATS.

Established formats lend catalogs identity and continuity. Their use becomes recognizeable to consumers, and helps to establish credibility as well as personality. It is important to be able to conceptualize a format that works well for your catalog and for your customer, without sacrificing design flexibility.

Formats should be loose enough to provide general design guidelines with few restrictions. Thumbnail sketches are helpful in determining an overall direction for format, at the same time providing a good feeling of the flow and impact of the entire book.

Four basic spread designs should be enough to establish format for a 32 or 36 page catalog. The four selected spread designs can be diversified throughout the catalog by flopping (or reversing) the composition. They may even be turned upside down for additional flexibility, and still will blend into the rest of the book.

Whether the design technique opted for is free-flowing or grid system, a format should be used for all catalogs. In order to continually reaffirm positioning, the format should be roughly adhered to for all subsequent issues. Subtle changes can be made without abandoning an established format.

The key to finding a successful graphic format is to work with your specific requirements for merchandise and copy. A special approach that "fits" well with your objectives will be the one that best allows you the flexibility, access to dramatic presentation, and a unique visual personality.



Henri Bendel's catalog, Bendel's-By-Mail, is designed with a flexible, attractive format which allows the merchandise to shine! A full page feature shot can fall either on a right or left-hand page, flanked with a square-cut mini-feature and a refreshing silhouette. The models are beautiful with a pensive mood reflected.









CATALOG FORMATS, Continued.

The examples shown on these two spreads show how format can work effectively. You can also visualize how the formats shown could be flopped or slightly altered for interest and diversity. The feature pages could, for example, appear on the opposite side.

Cover formats are especially important as far as customer recognition is concerned. Front and back cover formats should be developed for your book, providing a consistent and expected greeting for the recipient. Cover formats will quickly become recognizeable from issue to issue. Customers will recognize the look, and welcome it. Chosen formats for covers should present the logotype consistently, but can offer great flexibility of treatment for each individual mailing. Colors can be changed, textures can vary and subject matter can be very seasonal. But the image and identity of the catalog remain solidly in place in the consumer's mind, attaining positioning for the company.

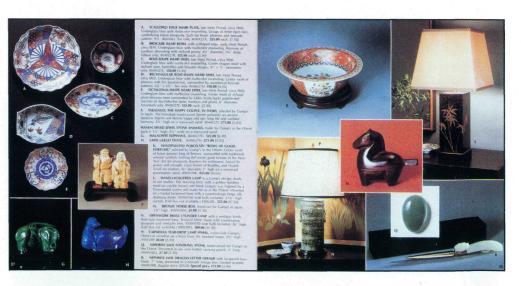
Choices of treatments for the covers include institutional (purely image-promoting), editorial (usually merchandised, but in a non-selling kind of statement), and merchandised (straightforward depictions of a product or selection of products from within the book).

The Marshall Fields' Catalog shown at left is a successful gridsystem design. The feature page floats from right to left, and the smaller shots are presented in an organized look on the opposite side.



Gump's achieves a distinctive look for their catalog by insetting photos onto photos. Clean white reverse rules separate the shots and actually allow for larger depictions by using the display space so effectively.





CHAPTER FIVE COMPREHENSIVE LAYOUTS.

A question that always comes up in discussions of catalog graphics is... How tightly must a layout be rendered? Since catalog production schedules are notoriously tight, and since layouts in any finished form require a good segment of production time, it is generally recommended that semi-comprehensive layouts be considered adequate. They should be done to size, but they need not be rendered with tight-comp merchandise indications.

Accuracy of sizing is important, so that the photographer will have correct windows to shoot catalog shots, with the exception of fashion shots, should be photographed to reproduction Semi-comp layouts will allow some creative license for the photographer to work with. Many better angle is apparent for a product only when the item is placed in front of the camera.

Whether or not to munication that a cases, color rena very long time to would prefer to coloring time.



work in color for layouts depends upon the understanding designer has with the people who will be approving layouts. derings are required only for the covers and a spread or two.

render layouts in color, especially in a tight comprehensive form. Most catalogers have their designer's thinking time as ______ opposed to their

Notes can be made on black and white layouts that will fully explain color for backgrounds, or specific props and accessories. Merchandise rendered so as to be recognizeable without having to be finished or backdrops can be communicated with notations or verbal solid trust factor between designer and merchant will save wasted



to fit. All size. times a

and com-In most It takes

the planned use of can be loosely illustrations. Themes explanations. And a

time.

Thumbnail sketches work very well as a preliminary approval step to be sure that the creative staff understands the objectives and is on the right presentation path. Merchants are creative and visually oriented, and are quick to grasp direction from rough thumbnail sketches. Once an approval is obtained on basic direction from thumbnails, the actual to-size layouts will go much more quickly and smoothly.

















The Banana Republic makes another appearance, here to demonstrate the overall flow and distinctive personality of the book. This catalog is well-conceptualized, and presents the consumers with a real treat, both graphically and verbally. Illustrations are used instead of photography, and it seems a perfect fit for this very successful maverick of a catalog! The copy is narrative in style, and totally entertaining. Notice the smooth visual transition from one spread to the next. Great pacing, eye movement direction.

COMPREHENSIVE LAYOUTS, Continued.

The thumbnail sketches should be done proportionately correct, and may be photostated up to size for even faster layout refinement. Tracing paper over the stats provides a short-cut to the required full size layout renderings.

Rough layouts are not photographer to fill the between roughs and tight

Semi-comp layouts are understand what is being

use and placement of the vital elements of be placed periodically throughout the catalog. telephone number and guarantee policy. These tion of the layouts. In this way, they have a place in or require changes to accommodate them.

good enough to shoot from. Too much responsibility is placed on the role of art director if the layouts are too loose. Semi-comps are a step comprehensives, and work very well in catalog production.

accurately sized and are rendered tightly enough for the viewer to shown. One of the most important design steps is the actual planning of



identification; i.e. company logo, which should Other elements for inclusion are toll free features should be planned for during the executhe design of the book and won't be overlooked

Even relatively rough renderings of the products should take into consideration the shape of the actual merchandise. If the item to be shown is a strong vertical in shape and proportion, the space allocated for display should be complimentary. Layout planning to accommodate shape of product will avoid wasted display space.

Indicate the merchandise to its best advantage, even if it means having to compromise elsewhere. If props are required for scaling or explanation, plan for them in advance and indicate their use on the comp layouts.

The comprehensive layouts should reflect the thinking process that is done on the catalog at concept stage. Well thought out themes will be readily identifiable, as denoted by selection of backgrounds for

photography, color schemes, use of textures sories. The "look" of the catalog should flow, personality. The graphics must work in com-



and shapes, and selected props and accessmoothly and visually, to achieve a distinctive bination to "present face" for a catalog.

















Eddie Bauer's Winter '84 Catalog was selected to show interesting design solutions to multiple products. At a glance you can see how the catalog's personality comes through. The spreads are busy with merchandise, but are well planned to accomplish outdoors showmanship consistency. The pace is varied by the free-flowing design and with the occasional use of a decorative border across the top. The spreads work well as visual units, using the entire 2-page display space effectively. Eddie Bauer's institutional cover format is recognizable with outstanding nature photographs each issue.

CHAPTER SIX ANALYZING RESULTS OF CATALOG DESIGN.

Catalog designers should be held partially responsible for bottom-line sales, just as the buyers are responsible for their selections. A knowledgeable art director knows how much influence the depiction has over the customer. Therefore, catalog sales results should be shared by management with the creative team.

A marked up catalog showing sales per item is sufficient information for graphic analysis of success or failure. The designer should spend time after each production to study results and determine whether or not depiction had anything to do with the results. Could sales have been improved if an item had a larger space or was shown from a different angle? Was the message to the consumer confusing? Did each piece of merchandise have its fair share of visual attention? Was the page too crowded with product or copy to elicit a response? Was the size of the item understood clearly in the photograph? Did the background and/or props conflict with the merchandise and call attention away? The answers to these questions will help the designer to improve presentation, time after time. If this kind of in-depth analysis provides answers that indicate that the creative team did give it their best efforts, then an indication is probably there that the merchandise has been around too much, or that the customers simply didn't like it, no matter how it was shown.

Since many catalogers repeat merchandise from book to book, this graphic analysis of results can be helpful in determining when to reshoot an item. Oftentimes a new depiction can breath new life into a tired product. If sales are continually slipping on a stand-by item, it is more than likely time for a new photograph. Show it a different way, or with a new usage. Try a new angle or point of view.

After-production analysis should extend beyond the function of design. It should also include a hard study on copy effectiveness, and an objective analysis of catalog reproduction. The way to continued improvement and refinement of our catalog efforts lies in an ongoing opportunity to learn.

Close scrutiny of sales results may very well indicate problems in any of our creative endeavors. Refinement of design can lead to clearer, more persuasive presentation. More dramatic lighting in product photography can maximize our potential impact. Varying the sizes of depictions across a spread can lend interest to a too-static format. Any or all of these observations can translate into improved sales and responses.

The role of the designer in the success of a catalog venture is an important one. S. D. Warren salutes those talented people whose work is shown on the pages of this book, and wishes continued success to all the creative efforts of those of you involved in and dedicated to catalog marketing.



DIRECT YOUR CATALOG PAPER INQUIRIES
TO YOUR LOCAL
S.D. WARREN PAPER MERCHANT.
(Please see listing on back.)

CREDITS

WILLIAMS-SONOMA HOLIDAY '84 CATALOG:

Designers: Hidell-Andres Studio

Carolyn Andres and Peggy Hidell

TIFFANY CATALOG:

Director of Publications: Yone Akiyama

Designer: Bert Abbott

THE HORCHOW COLLECTION:

Creative Director: Vona McDonald

BANANA REPUBLIC CATALOG:

Designer: Patricia Ziegler Art Director: Terry Stelling

THE ANN TAYLOR CATALOG:

Creative Director: Sonny Jaen

SAKS FIFTH AVENUE/SFA TODAY:

Saks Fifth Avenue Creative Staff

WINNEBAGO AMERICAN ADVENTURE CATALOG:

Creative Director: Io-Von Tucker Art Director: Martha Barrett

MY CHILD'S DESTINY CATALOG:

Creative Director: Jo-Von Tucker

Art Director: Martha Barrett

LEW MAGRAM CATALOG:

Designer: Tom Lennon & Associates

HENRI BENDEL CATALOG:

Designer/Art Director: Susan Slover

MARSHALL FIELD'S CATALOG:

Designer/Art Director: Michael Burch

GUMP'S CATALOG:

Designer: Marlon Malcolm

EDDIE BAUER WINTER 1984 CATALOG:

Director of Advertising: Abbie Anderson Designer: Firi Dutro and Tammy Fujihara

WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS CATALOG:

Creative Director: Io-Von Tucker Art Director: loe Takahashi





THE ROLE OF PAPER IN CATALOG MARKETING

Paper serves two vital functions in catalogs: first, it provides the surface on which we depict our products; and second, it is the tactile element that customers perceive as the "touch and feel" of the catalog. Both areas are important, contributing to fine reproduction and credibility, and should be considered carefully when the paper specification is being made.

A wide range of choices of paper is available to meet the diverse needs of the catalog industry. From free sheets to groundwood, from blue-whites to creamy tones, and from gloss to matte, papers are specifically and carefully produced to offer differences in opacity, bulking and surface reproduction. The selection of paper for a catalog is as reflective of image and personality as is the design of the book.

The Warren Paper Merchants are available to help you determine your catalog paper needs. They will work with you to prepare your specifications, providing guidance and direction for basis weight, grade and availability, as well as printed samples and dummies for comparison. Give them a call, and add their input to the professionalism of your creative team.

IDEA EXCHANGE

The S. D. Warren Idea Exchange maintains a large Library of Printed Samples. Approximately 15,000 different commercially printed samples are filed in more than 150 industry and graphic categories. One of the categories is Catalogs. If you would like "catalog ideas", write to the Idea Exchange & Promotional Services, S.D. Warren Company, A Division of Scott Paper Company, 225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02101. Or, call 617-423-7300.

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WARREN PAPER MERCHANTS									
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Montgomon	Unijax, Inc. Weaver Paper Co.	Cedar Rapids	Midwestern Paper Co.	Rutherford	Lindenmeyr Paper Corp. Central Paper Co.	TENNESSEE			
Montgomery ALASKA	Weaver raper Co.	Des Moines	Midwestern Paper Co.	Trenton NEW MEXICO	Central Paper Co.	Chattanooga	Sloan Paper Co. Southern Paper Co.		
Anchorage	Zellerbach Paper Co.	KANSAS Wichita	Western Paper Co.	Albuquerque	Dixon Paper Co.	Knoxville	Dillard Paper Co.		
ARIZONA	•	KENTUCKY	vvesterri aper co.	NEW YORK			Southern Paper Co.		
Phoenix	Zellerbach Paper Co.	Lexington	Southern Paper Co.	Albany	Hudson Valley Paper Co.	Memphis Nashville	Western Paper Co. Athens Paper		
Tucson ARKANSAS	Zellerbach Paper Co.	Louisville	Louisville/Southeastern Paper Co.	Binghamton	Hudson Valley Paper Co. Seneca Paper Co.	14d3HVIIIC	Mead Merchants		
Little Rock	Western Paper Co.	LOUISIANA	raper co.	Buffalo	Alling and Cory	TEXAS			
CALIFORNIA		Baton Rouge	Butler Paper	New York City	Seneca Paper Co. Alling and Cory	Amarillo Austin	Dixon Paper Co. Monarch Paper Co.		
Fresno	Zellerbach Paper Co. Zellerbach Paper Co.	Lafayette New Orleans	Butler Paper Butler Paper	New Tork City	Baldwin Paper Co.	Dallas	Monarch Paper Co.		
Los Angeles Sacramento	Zellerbach Paper Co. Zellerbach Paper Co.	New Offeatis	Palmer Paper Co.		Bulkley Dunton	El 0	Olmsted-Kirk Paper Co.		
San Diego	Zellerbach Paper Co.	Shreveport	Butler Paper		Lindenmeyr Paper Corp. Marguardt & Co., Inc.	El Paso Fort Worth	Dixon Paper Co. Olmsted-Kirk Paper Co.		
San Francisco	Zellerbach Paper Co.	MAINE	Western Paper Co.	Rochester	Alling and Cory	Houston	Monarch Paper Co.		
COLORADO Colorado Springs	Dixon Paper Co.	Portland	C.M. Rice Paper Co.	C	Seneca Paper Co.	1-611	Olmsted-Kirk Paper Co.		
Denver	Carpenter Paper Co.		C.H. Robinson Co.	Syracuse	Alling and Cory Seneca Paper Co.	Lubbock San Antonio	Dixon Paper Co. Monarch Paper Co.		
	Dixon Paper Co.	MARYLAND Baltimore	Baltimore-Warner	Utica	Alling and Cory	Waco	Olmsted-Kirk Paper Co.		
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FLORIDA	virginia raper Co.	Woburn	C.H. Robinson Co.	Winston-Salem	Dillard Paper Co.	Norfolk	Dillard Paper Co.		
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Miami	Palmer Paper Co. Virginia Paper Co.	C In II	Seaman-Patrick Paper Co.	Cleveland	Nationwide Papers Alling and Cory	WASHINGTON	- 11 - 1 - 2 2		
Orlando	Palmer Paper Co.	Grand Rapids	Carpenter Paper Co. Quimby-Walstrom		Cleveland Paper Co.	Seattle Spokane	Zellerbach Paper Co. Zellerback Paper Co.		
Tampa	Virginia Paper Co. Palmer Paper Co.		Paper Co.	Columbus	Cordage Papers/Columbus Division	WEST VIRGINIA	Zenerback raper co.		
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IDAHO	Zellerbach Paper Co.	Kansas City	Midwestern Paper Co.	Portland PENNSYLVANIA	Zellerbach Paper Co.	EXPORT AND FOR			
IDAHO Boise	Dixon Paper Co.	Ct Louis	Tobey Fine Papers	Allentown	Alling and Cory	New York, N.Y.	Moller & Rothe, Inc.		
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Champaign Chicago	Crescent Paper Co. Bradner Smith & Co.	MONTANA	D'ann Barra G	Timadeipina	Lindenmeyr Paper Corp.	Montreal	Les papiers graphiques		
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THE S. D. WARREN

CATALOG OF CATALOG DESIGN

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