



Intro to
Baroque
Design





Produced by



PineCreativeLabs.com

Based on the Baroque style of art & architecture, Baroquest Design sets the bar for embodying elegant and elaborate design principles & characteristics intended to inspire quality and creativity.

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Evolution of Elegance

Baroque Design is derived from the delicate evolution of the elegant nature of Baroque art and architecture. To understand the elaborate essence of this inspirational style of design, we must first look at its origins and periods of progression.

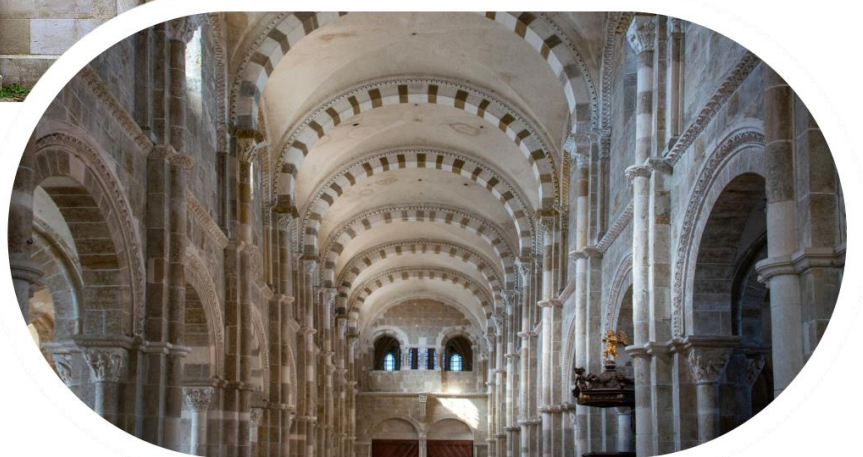


Romanesque Period 11th - 12th Century

The Romanesque style upheld a focus on the supernatural, transposing earthly forms into spiritual and abstract conceptions.

Characteristics of Romanesque art and architecture included:

- Use of primary colors
- Monumental size
- Tightly enclosing frames
- Unified and purified spaces

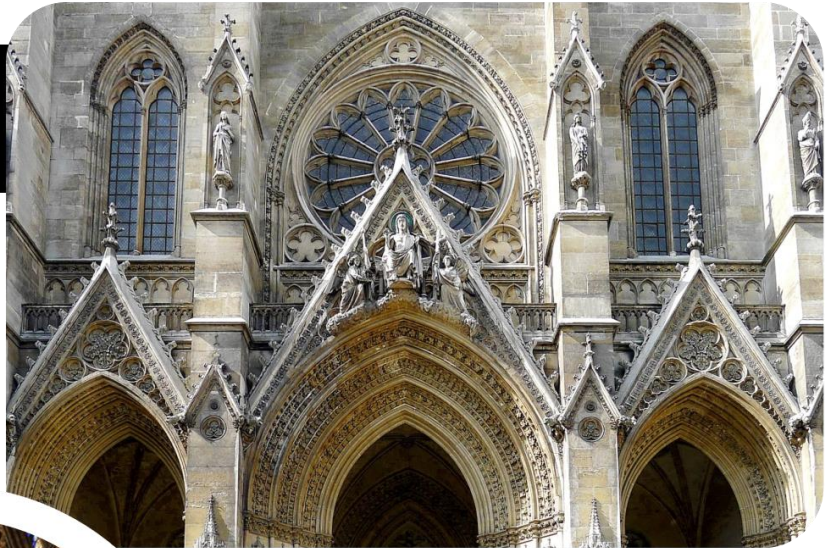


The intention was to contrive an eschewed realism by utilizing decoration to convey a narrative about the spiritual aspect of mankind's existential role in the grand scheme of reality.

Gothic Period

12th - 16th Century

By the Middle Ages, the Gothic style emerged as a version of Romanesque on steroids. Development of an enhanced spiritual narrative became the predominant focus.



Characteristics of Gothic architecture included:

- Over ornamentation & grotesque imagery
- Strong emphasis on shadows
- Elaborate tracery & pointed arches
- Diffused rational space & asymmetry
- Strengthened construction
- Flamboyant & perpendicular styles

Influenced by theological doctrines, the goal of the grandiose and grotesque Gothic style was to create and inspire an impression of complex and chaotic spiritually nuanced perspectives.



Renaissance Period

15th - 17th Century

Originating in Italy, the Renaissance period was an era of architecture that was a rebirth of classical antiquity, particularly ancient Roman architectural styles. These concepts were developed with greater confidence, with an emphasis on solid spatial relationships.

Characteristics of Renaissance architecture included:

- Orderly arrangement of columns
- Use of arches, domes, & niches
- Well-lit, airy spaces
- Balanced façades & ornamentation
- Emphasis on symmetry, geometry & proportion



The Renaissance revived old architectural concepts while simultaneously revolutionizing them. As the style spread, it saw diverse modifications due to grafted architectural traditions based on the region.



Baroque Period

16th - 17th Century

Progression from Renaissance into the Baroque period was largely seamless. Combining both



Gothic and Renaissance, the Baroque style saw an enhanced emphasis on the dramatic and theatrical. Being associated with opulent and irregular forms, the Baroque style defied the conventional and traditional expectations of spiritual representation.

Through the centuries, the evolution of elegance in architecture has been a spiritual journey of creative discovery and inspiration. Diversification of spiritual perspectives emerged in the form of creative artistic expression through architectural design.

Charismatic Characteristics



At its heart and soul, Baroque styles are intended to inspire via charming and creative characteristics. Let's convey a broad scope of characteristics that defines the distinctive "Baroque" style of design.

Peculiar Primes

Use of primary colors, shades, and tones include:

- Idiosyncratic approach to painted subjects
- Strong shadows and lighting contrasts
- Variegated color schemes

Opulent Ornamentation

Lavish & dramatic decoration of elements includes:

- Inosculate intricacies & delicate tracery
- Circumfluent curls and curves
- Written accents and grandiose grotesques

Dynamic Depth

Use of dimensions and spirited elements include:

- Fancy frames, forms, and façades
- Decussate and balanced patterns
- Sense of movement & dynamism

With a profundity in approach to a Baroque design, simply think "POD": *Peculiar*, *Opulent*, and *Dynamic*.



Premium Principles



Perception of the price paid for a quality product determines the value we place upon it. Putting in effort, persevering in dedication, and placing a priority on personal promises is the pearly principle of any Baroque design. To achieve this, and to go above and beyond traditional expectations, we only need to ACT...

Aspirational Afflatus

All creative concepts are of divine influence. Aspire to be simultaneously inspired *and* to inspire. Accept the arcane nature of your distinctive being, and dare to be different. Dare to do daedalian designs. *Aim for an attitude of acquired accomplishments.*

Creative Confluence

Create with careful compassion and contriving confluence. Be unified in the collaborative efforts of your community. Allow the circumfluence of concepts construct new creations. *Conceive. Consolidate concepts. Create.*

Tranquil Transmogrification

Transform your mind and space into a transcendental truth of taking control of your inner peace. Unexpected magical mutations in your typical outlook will turn to towering tools of self-improvement and personal development.

Take control. Transcend. Transform.

Remember... ACT with self-assurance, humility, and integrity.



Grandiose Guidelines



Now that we know how to ACT, how do we put these principles into practice in order to become a Baroque designer? Let's look at the guidelines for greatness in grandiose design.

Majestic Movements

Making majestic moves inspires. In Baroque design, this is applied by incorporating motions that:

- Employ esemplastic elements
- Morph or mold
- Simplify synchronization or symmetry

Elegant Elements

Elevate inspiration with elegance by:

- Sophisticated styling
- Elaborate entrances and enticing content
- Complex shapes and carefree color schemes

Dramatic Details

Develop and dramatize the details with:

- Dynamic or decorative accents
- Fancy fonts and typography
- Grandeur or grotesque graphics
- Distinctive contrasts between light and dark



Remember to take your
MEDs and pop a...



The only necessary guideline for
Baroque design is to remember
"MED":

Movements

Elegance

Details



In other words, the Baroque
standard is to ACT, making
movements and enhancements to
detail-oriented elements.

Rules of Refinement



Unlike the flexibility of guidelines and the expectations of principles, rules are rather rigid, bringing a necessity to reify the concepts of what it means to properly design in the Baroque fashion. We must now establish the refining requirements of regulating the realized remembrance of relished efforts in design excellence and a *recherché* development.

Raise the BAR



Invoking the ACT principle and MED guideline, raise the standard and expectations for yourself by raising the BAR:

Build Beautifully.

Be determined to develop distinctive details.

Attitude of "Bar None".

Make no exceptions to low-quality or lackluster efforts.

Reclaim Rationality.

Embrace conceptual reformation and progression.

Rule of Being EZ: Exemplary Zhuzh

A Baroque design should feel “EZ”: it should be an example of a basic concept or idea brought to life by incorporating increased stylish design elements, utilize an enhanced sense of movement, and provoke peculiarities.

The objective of this rule is to create a design that is a quintessential example or model worthy of imitation and admiration. As such, an exemplary zhuzh design is to act as a standard solution to the existing problem of either a non-existent trend, or the creation of a new one.

Rule of Design Paradigm Perpetuity

Never-Ending Trends

Building upon the Being EZ Rule, the application of design enhancement is a perpetual process. In regards to the temporary nature of trends, any Baroque Design is to never be considered truly “finished” - there is always room for improvement.

A perpetual design paradigm uses a distinctive set of concepts and methods for establishing either an updated or entirely new design that improves either an existing trend or defines a new one.

The approach to a new design should be that of proposing or describing a solution to a problematic pattern of any given concept. This is achieved through the process of abstracting and characterization of a design solution.

In summary, the Rule of Design Perpetuity is to create an exemplary model design solution that can be used for future improvement and innovation.



Wunderbar Web Design



How do we apply the characteristics, principles, and guidelines of Baroque Design to web design?

In regards to Baroque print design, the simplest solution is to apply Baroque styles to visuals, such as graphics and other visuals. However, in regards to web design, applying Baroque Design will require a more practical approach that is both functional and dynamic.

Let's look at three components of web design: CSS, HTML, and Javascript.

CSS: Cascading Style Sheets

CSS is a common programming language that is used to specify the appearance of web pages by rendering specific styles. Let's look at a few features of CSS that correlate to Baroque Design.



CSS Animations.

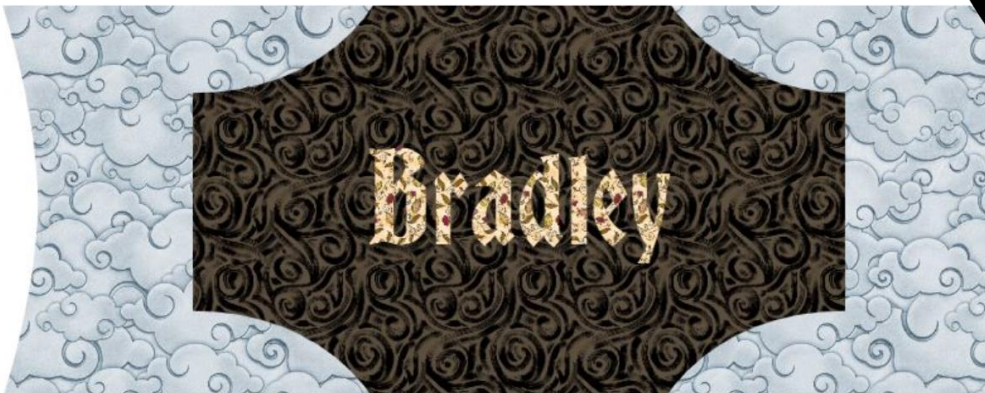
Movement is meaningful in Baroque Web Design, and this can be accomplished by using CSS animations. Create transitions, transformations, and other motions by utilizing @keyframes rules to define stages of an animation class.



CSS Masking.

Use CSS masking to create a mask layer to place over an element to partially or fully hide it. The *mask-image* property is used for this, which is usually in PNG or SVG format. Masked elements can be blended with backgrounds using *mix-blend-mode*.

Text can be masked as well, creating an elegant and textured typography effect. In the example below, we have a masked text element within a masked SVG shape.



```
covered {mask-size: cover;}  
filled {mask-size: 100% 100%;}  
k.repeated {mask-repeat: repeat; k  
sk.tiny {mask-size: calc(100% / 6);  
ask.small {mask-size: 25%;}  
mask.medium {mask-size: 50%;}  
mask.large {mask-size: 75%;}  
mask.xlarge {mask-size: 85%;}  
  
/* MIXERS */  
.unmix {mix-blend-mode: normal; backg  
.mix-multiply {mix-blend-mode: multipl  
.mix-screen {mix-blend-mode: screen; b  
.mix-overlay {mix-blend-mode: overlay  
.mix-darken {mix-blend-mode: darken;  
.mix-lighten {mix-blend-mode: lighten  
.x-color-dodge {mix-blend-mode: col  
.color-burn {mix-blend-mode: col  
.difference {mix-blend-mode: dif  
.exclusion {mix-blend-mode: ex  
.hue {mix-blend-mode: hue;}  
.saturation {mix-blend-mode: s  
blend-mode
```

Other CSS Properties:

@counter-style

@font-palette-values

initial-letter

@layer

list-style-image

@page

@property

@supports

Border Images, Shapes, & Other CSS Elegance.

Create complex and elegant frames around elements by using the *border-image* property. Custom shapes, such as polygons, can be created using the *clip-path* property. Consider using other uncommon CSS properties to further enhance your creation (see list on the left).

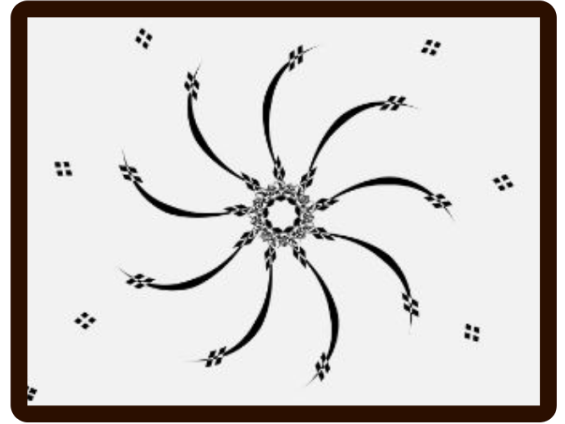


HTML Elements

When writing the code for a fancy web page, HTML elements are necessary for creating the structure. While elegant CSS is used to dictate how a page is styled, class classes are applied to specific HTML elements. Let's take a look at a few HTML elements that correlate to Baroque Design.

Canvas Element.

The `<canvas>` HTML tag is used to define a bitmapped area on a webpage, allowing for complex graphics to be drawn. Nearly anything can be created within a HTML canvas, with the aid of some javascript.



Other Tags:

`<article>`

`<blockquote>`

`<cite>`

`<figure>`

`<hgroup>`

`<section>`

Details Element.

The `<details>` HTML tag is used to create an interactive widget that is opened and closed by the user. It is used in conjunction with the `<summary>` tag, and any type of content can be placed within the details widget.

Other Elements.

In the list to the left, there are a few other HTML tags to consider using within a Baroque web page.

Recommended

JS Libraries:

barba.js

p5.brush.js

three.js

GSAP.com

VFX-JS

JavaScript (JS)

Complex interactions, animations, and other effects may require the use of javascript. There are many free resources available, such as code snippets and libraries (e.g. jQuery and React).

Scroll-Triggered Effects.

Consider implementing scroll-triggered effects into your creation. As the user scrolls, animation effects are applied to various elements, creating a sense of movement and elegance.

Other Fancy Effects & More.

Javascript can be used for enhancing designs with various other types of fancy effects. For example, WebGL is a javascript technology used for rendering interactive 2D and 3D graphics. Let your web creation become something more by adding some javascript joy!



Created as a **FREE** resource for building a wunderbar web design, Baroquest Framework is an ideal starting point for your next project. It is a static **HTML** template framework package that is comprised of **CSS** and **javascript** utility classes that can help with rapid prototyping of elegant and fancy-themed web application designs.

It is open sourced under the **MIT** license, meaning it can be used for your own projects. It is a self-contained package with no dependencies on third parties. The package is self-contained (including documentation) and is available for download at either the above address or via **GitHub**:

Fancy Features:


 GitHub Repository:
github.com/pinecreativelabs/Baroquest-Framework

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 30 custom fonts | 30 ornamental accents | 40 seamless pattern backgrounds |
| 27 color palettes | 7 lace accent patterns | 50 seamless wallpaper backgrounds |
| 3 grid methods | 14 frames | 12 scroll-triggered effects |
| 10 CSS mask shapes | 12 seal styles | 10 entrance animations |

Contriving Core Components



The core of Baroque Framework consists of six components, which is comprised of a suite of utility class CSS libraries. These libraries are “contrived” into a single CSS file that needs to be loaded in the page header: [/css/contrive.css](#).

There are some CSS variables that can be defined in the [/css/variables.css](#) file. These are used throughout the framework. You can define your own custom style via the [/css/theme.css](#) file.

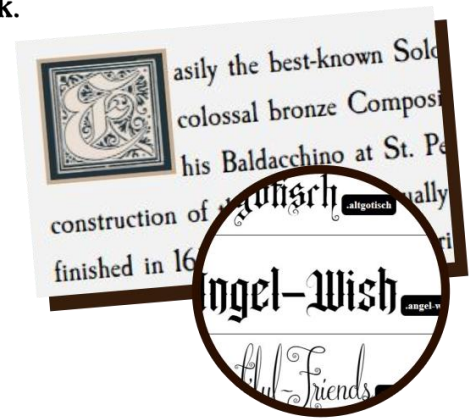
Some of the components require javascript to function. It is noted in the package documentation what javascript files are required. All javascript files are located in the [/js](#) directory.

Let’s take a look at the six components of Baroque Framework.



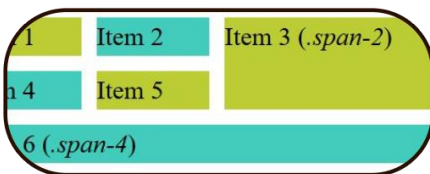
Typography

This library contains general typography utility classes for formatting, sizing, list styles, as well as custom fonts and drop caps.



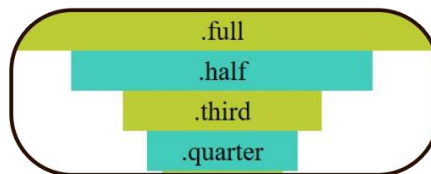
LTC Grid: Lattice Trellis Columnize

This library offers three methods for creating layouts using a very simple grid system. Built using CSS Grid and Flexbox, it is simple to create basic responsive layouts with only a few utility classes.



Lattice Grid

2-D grid system built using CSS Grid. Divide the grid into a range from 1 to 12 items per row.



Trellis Grid

1-D grid system built using Flexbox. Items can be arranged vertically or horizontally.



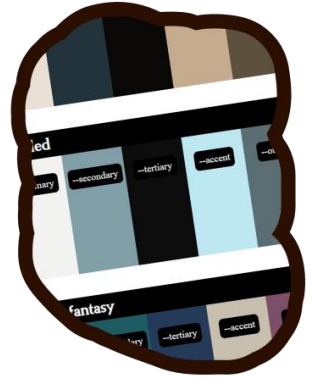
Columnize

Divides content into multiple columns ranging from 2 to 12 columns.



Palette

This library uses CSS variables to define a color scheme. Each color palette defines a primary, secondary, tertiary, accent, and an other variable. This allows for flexibility in creating complex custom color schemes when theming.



Ornaments

This library contains decorative elements. These include seamless and tileable wallpaper and pattern backgrounds, lace patterns (coded entirely in CSS), accent elements (based on PNG graphics), frames (fancy borders), and seals (circular accent elements). All image-based ornaments are in PNG format with transparent backgrounds, rendered at 200 DPI. These image files are found within the `/css/images` directory.



Masquerade

This library makes use of the mask-image CSS property to blend shaped elements together in creative ways. Masks can use blend-mode property classes to mix with backgrounds. These sophisticated effects can be applied to text, allowing for rich, textured headings.





Movements

This library uses javascript to create scroll-triggered motions and other animations. These include fancy scrolling effects by applying animations or zooming effects to an object when it comes into or out of view. Other effects include animating an object upon page load.



BONUS Templates

The Baroque Framework package includes four HTML substyle boilerplate templates (see “Substyles of Baroque Design” ebook for more details), and one advanced scrolling effect demo:

- gothic-grotesque.html
- mannerist-avant-garde.html
- organic-nature.html
- victorian-vintage.html
- writhen-scroll.html



Combine With Brutalist Framework

Similar to Baroque Framework, the static core of Brutalist Framework is built with CSS libraries and uses javascript. Built for raw simplicity, Brutalist Framework has a variety of components that can enhance the UI/UX. In essence, it is the “sister” framework of Baroque Framework. Learn more about Brutalist Framework at:

BrutalistFramework.com

Sister Frameworks

Both Baroque Framework and Brutalist Framework share similar traits, effectively making them “sisters.” Both terms (“brutal” and “baroque”) have French origins, and both are:

- inspired by architectural styles
- internationally recognized styles
- self-contained autonomous packages
- built using the same core (CSS, JS)



Distinctive Differences.

Although “related,” Baroque and Brutalist have some distinguishing differences.

BRUTALIST

- Raw, rugged, rebellious
- Static & rigid
- Plain & simple
- Cynical & audacious
- Forgot her pants (on purpose)
- Kicks your ass

BAROQUE

- Refined, reformed, regal
- Dynamic & flexible
- Elegant & ornamental
- Calm & collected
- Flaunts fancy pants
- Pampers the shit out of you

BUILD BRILLIANCE.

In conclusion, build your future project by raising the BAR(oque). Your creativity and imagination knows no bounds. Be bold. Break barriers. Be free to use frameworks as a starting point to build and boost your beautifully brutal brilliance of big dreams.

