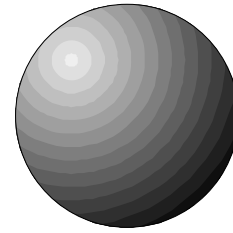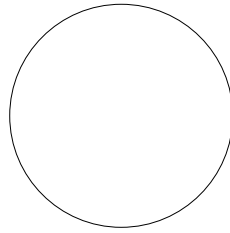# Pointillism Technique

Pointillism is a very old and very respected art technique. It is employed by artists and graphic designers in a variety of situations. In a nutshell, <u>pointillism</u> could be described as the <u>relative grouping of dots</u> to create ***value***. Value in turn creates ***shape*** and ***form***.

<u>Value</u>- The relative lightness
Or darkness of a hue

<u>Shape</u>- An area contained
within a line. A shape
Is two-dimensional

<u>Form</u>- A three
dimensional object
that has volume and
Mass.

Pointillism uses groupings of dots to represent the relative lightness or darkness of an area. The more thickly clustered the dots are, the darker the value will appear. Conversely, the total absence of dots means that this area is completely highlighted, or without shadow.

Key Concept to Learn

Value gives a ***shape*** **it's** ***3-dimensional qualities.*** A circle is just a circle, until the proper shading with value gives it the 3-dimensional appearance of a sphere (see above).

To create a believable form out of a shape, you need to manipulate light and shadow realistically. A key part to doing this is **<u>creating a light source.</u>** An accurate light source needs to be identified before value can be applied.