

# ART AND DESIGN

**Explore how hares or tortoises have inspired artists across the world, and throughout history.**

Several Roman figures and mosaics of hares survive in Britain, and they were commonly depicted in Medieval art.

Albrecht Durer's painting *Young Hare* (1502), captures in fine detail the markings and texture of the animal's fur. Pre-dating photography, the incredibly technical study was drawn from observation, and is testament to the stillness of the hare at certain times of day. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Young\\_Hare](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Young_Hare)

Durer's famous painting has become a source of inspiration for contemporary artist Ottmar Horl (b.1950). He has repeatedly reimagined the *Young Hare*, and has created a huge bright pink model of it for display in Vienna, and filled a courtyard in Nuremberg with 7000 green hares.

[www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/entertainment-arts-27131132/vienna-museum-turns-durer-s-hare-pink-and-other-art-stories](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/entertainment-arts-27131132/vienna-museum-turns-durer-s-hare-pink-and-other-art-stories)

[www.ottmar-hoerl.de/en/projects/2003/2003\\_2\\_Durerer-Hare.php](http://www.ottmar-hoerl.de/en/projects/2003/2003_2_Durerer-Hare.php)

The movement and body shape of the hare was something that interested artists Barry Flanagan (1941-2009) and Elizabeth Frink (1930-1993). Although Flanagan worked in bronze and other heavy sculptural materials, Flanagan captured the energy, agility, and character of the animal.

[www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/flanagan-leaping-hare-embellished-2-3-jan-80-t13296](http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/flanagan-leaping-hare-embellished-2-3-jan-80-t13296)

Frink's expressive sketches and prints also convey this dynamism.

[www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/frink-hare-p06165](http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/frink-hare-p06165)

## **Have a go at drawing a hare or tortoise**

Why not have a go at drawing or painting with the speed of a hare? How quickly can you move a pencil or brush across paper and capture the way that a hare looks as it crouches or 'hunkers down', or how it looks in mid-air as it jumps to change direction? How can you create the texture and pattern of the tortoise shell?

## **Make a 3D hare or tortoise**

As well as working towards the surface design of your sculpture, why not explore the 3D form of the hare or tortoise using reclaimed materials? Choose whether your hare will be standing, crouching, or leaping. Select appropriate materials to make the hard shell of the tortoise or the tall ears of the hare.

Thick cardboard (from boxes) cut into different sizes of hexagons make great tortoise-themed decorations.

