

JUDGES SCORESHEET - APR 2025 - MARVILLE CHALLENGE - SHAPES and TEXTURES								
Cat.	Seq.	Firstname	Lastname	Star Rating	Title	SCORE	AWARD	Comments
MC	1	Minky	Goodbrand	1S	Cold Steel.	8	Silver	The viewer can feel the hard steel, the ridges and threads in your image and in that you have done well. To improve and simplify the image focus in on a single item and use tones to highlight it. As is the viewer's eye wanders and has no place to rest but by creating a focal point you will eliminate that. It is your choice but this is a great image for a black and white conversion (see suggested image).
MC	2	Jay	Nabbe	1S	Distant encounter	10	Gold	This image overwhelms in that there are so many shapes and textures and could be cropped into multiple images. The building on the left would make a superb shapes image, as would the railing on the left, as would the stairs etc. When confronted with a scene like this consider what you want to capture, focus in on it and fill the frame with it. You should end up with a better image. Well done on seeing the multiple shapes.
MC	3	Debbie	Kleu	1S	Grandpas balls	7	Silver	Your image is not quite sharp enough and has a limited colour palette which causes the viewer to quickly lose interest. There are several different shapes which could be highlighted by altering their hue and / or luminance.
MC	4	Marc	Gordon	1S	Happy Gadget	10	Gold	A good mixture of textures and shapes with good contrast and focus. Well done.
MC	5	Minky	Goodbrand	1S	Homegrown Eggs.	12	Gold	The light has been well controlled and the dark background works well. Focus is spot on. The table does offer different shapes and lines but could be cropped out a bit. Overall a pleasing image.
MC	6	Jay	Nabbe	1S	Locked	9	Silver	There are many shapes here, and I suggest too many. If you had moved closer and framed just the lock and chain and used a wider aperture to blur the background you would have less to contend with. It's a good call to convert to mono as this helps bring out the textures. Because of the time of day the image was taken the lighting is harsh and the shadows deep, which can be mitigated to a degree in post.
MC	7	Marc	Gordon	1S	Magic Mushroom	12	Gold	The rough and smooth textures work well together and the colour of the objects is pleasing. Try changing the background hue and luminance to bring out the objects even more. A good effort with a cellphone.
MC	8	Debbie	Kleu	1S	Stump in the light	8	Silver	Good textures here but the anterior top portion of the stump is too bright. Try reducing the luminance of the entire image and use a mask in post to highlight the top of the post which then creates a focal point in the image (see suggested edit).

MC	9	Sandra	Comrie	2S	Five Stories High	12	Gold	Sjoe! So many shapes. As stated in the comments of some of the previous images it helps to simplify your image. Less is more. The roof is very busy and could be mostly cropped out. Your control of contrast is good. A monochrome conversion would work and has the added benefit of hiding the green of the foliage (see suggested edit).
MC	10	Nyasha	Godoka	2S	Leathery	9	Silver	Elephants have amazing skin which is manna for photographers. Your use of mono is a good idea but needs greater contrast and separation of the subject from the background which can be achieved through masking in for example, Lightroom.
MC	11	Nyasha	Godoka	2S	Snail Trail	8	Silver	The periwinkle leaves an interesting track in the sand but as the lower portion of your image is blurred it could be cropped out. The image was taken late in the afternoon causing the long shadow which is distracting. This can be modified using various tools and techniques in post. The circular shapes on the shell are appealing and we all know how the sand feels and so from that perspective it is evocative, but otherwise lacks anything compelling (see suggested edit).
MC	12	Joan	Lindegger	3S	Shapes and Textures 2	8	Silver	A variety of shapes and textures shown and one knows how they feel. Remember that less is more and if you had managed to get closer to your subject you could have eliminated the distracting background, had fewer distractions but still retained the essence of what you intended (see suggested edit).
MC	13	Joan	Lindegger	3S	Shapes and textures	13	Merit	This is a marvellous image, simple with well-defined shapes. Focus and lighting are very good. A 1:1 crop would help tremendously. Well done.
MC	14	Jake	Alletson	3S	Three Branches of the GOP into the swamp	DQ	DQ	DQ. Date
MC	15	Liesl	Couperthwaite	4S	african golden circle	11	Gold	An interesting image. The contrast of shapes and lines between the subject and background is striking, but too busy. Reducing the contrast of the background lessens the "busy-ness" and highlights the subject.
MC	16	Meleney	Naik	4S	Just Another Brick in the Wall	9	Silver	A pleasing image with contrasting shapes and colour. Unfortunately it is not sharp enough. If it is a crop of a larger image try getting closer next time. Try not to show slivers of bricks (as at the top and left in your image). A good effort that requires some refinement.
MC	17	Liesl	Couperthwaite	4S	patterned passion	8	Silver	A good idea but the execution let you down. A few things may help: change the hue and luminance of the background to reduce the excess red in the image, lift the shadows to better show the inside of the fruit and use a smaller aperture next time to increase your depth of field: the fruit on the right is out of focus (see suggested edit).

MC	18	Doug	Couperthwaite	4S	Red pyramid 8548	10	Gold	The tomatoes look inviting and are well captured. I find the overall texture one-dimensional: smooth fruit on a smooth base. The use of a textured base could afford contrasting colours and textures and eliminate the textural monotony. Watch your corners: as presented these could be cloned out.
MC	19	JOAN	JUNG	4S	shells and sand	12	Gold	This has been very well captured and processed. Too much of the image is however taken up by sand and cropping is suggested (see suggested edit).
MC	20	Meleney	Naik	4S	Something Fishy	6	Bronze	A good abstract image but lacking defined shapes and texture. Better suited to an abstract challenge.
MC	21	wynand	lens	4S	Spiked	8	Silver	The textures and thorn threat are good but a lack of contrast lessens the impact. A good image on which to practice your dodge and burn skills.
MC	22	JOAN	JUNG	4S	the loop and the hole	10	Gold	The peeling paint and cracked wood together with the rusting metal provides good textural contrast. I suggest simplifying your image by cropping the upper half out as it does not contribute anything not seen in the lower half. It is also a good candidate for a mono conversion.
MC	23	wynand	lens	4S	Wet Yellow	DQ	DQ	DQ. Date
MC	24	Heidi	Taylor	5S0	Horns	13	Merit	Lovely shapes and textures shown here. You decided to light from the left leaving the right side darker. That does emphasize the size of the horns but leaves the upper right in particular too dark. I suggest lifting the shadows a bit together with a linear gradient. A great image.
MC	25	Heidi	Taylor	5S0	Sunflower symmetry	8	Silver	Sunflowers are marvellous photographic subjects but you did not do this one justice. It is mostly out of focus with a lack of contrast. These flowers have tremendous potential so practice with one to get something more pleasing.
MC	26	Maxi	Holder	5S1	Blue Brommer	9	Silver	Your idea is good as there is shape conformity between the insect wings and the flower, well spotted. It is a pity it was shot with a wide-angle lens necessitating a marked crop with a resultant loss of resolution. The background is too prominent and could be subdued.
MC	27	Maxi	Holder	5S1	Mesmerising Water	8	Silver	A myriad of shapes and colours presented here with the colours overwhelming the image. This could make a great wall covering (? Wynand?) but does not really meet the brief. There is no focal point and is very busy. A rock for example sticking out of the water would provide somewhere for the eye to rest. Simplifying by cropping and using a mono conversion may help.
MC	28	Ronelle	van den Heever	5S3	Bark shapes and textures	9	Silver	The textures and colours are great but there is too much at which to look. Consider a crop which retains the textures but has a point of interest (see suggested edit).

MC	29	Ronelle	van den Heever	5S3	Bourkes pothole shapes	8	Silver	The shapes are varied but as one needs to photograph when the sun is almost directly overhead, as you did it results in dark shadows. Simplify your image by cropping a lot away, lifting the shadows and consider a mono conversion.
MC	30	Rob	Hart	5S4	Picasso bug lookalike 13314	11	Gold	What an amazing gogga! I suggest lowering the background luminance to bring out the insect more.
MC	31	Rob	Hart	5S4	Tassel tessellations	13	Merit	This is the best image photographically with a variety of shapes but a lack of textural variety. In a different challenge I would have scored it higher.
MC	32	Leon	Heyes	6S1	Mosaic of Africa	DQ	DQ	DQ. Date
MC	33	Leon	Heyes	6S1	Peacock Textures	DQ	DQ	DQ. Date
MC		Joan	Lindegger	3S	Shapes and textures	13	Junior winner	
MC		Heidi	Taylor	5S0	Horns	13	Senior Winner	