

Words/phrases to assist in scoring areas Latte Art visual Judges

This list of words and phrases is intended to support Latte Art Visual Judges in completing scoresheets. It is not exhaustive but serves as a helpful vocabulary aid/starting point to describe and assess various scoring areas clearly and consistently.

Two Identical 0-3

High Similarity

Both beverages are nearly identical to the presented photo/image.

- **Mirror image**
- **Precise replication**
- **High visual accuracy**
- **Pattern placement consistent**
- **Line work and elements match exactly**
- **Clean symmetry with image and between cups**
- **Intent fully captured in both cups**
- **Flawless reproduction**

Partial Similarity

One beverage matches the photo/image; the other clearly does not.

- **One accurate, one off-mark**
- **Visible variation in one cup**
- **Asymmetrical execution**
- **Partial resemblance**
- **One cup captures the image, one lacks alignment**
- **Mismatch in structure or flow in second cup**
- **Inconsistent replication**

Low/No Similarity

Neither beverage resembles the presented image.

- **No resemblance to reference**
- **Completely different patterns**
- **Visual disconnect from intended design**
- **Unrecognizable from original image**
- **Lack of replication effort**
- **Both cups diverge from intended outcome**

Extra Notes for Judges:

- Focus is **not on pattern quality**, but **how well both cups match the image**.
 - Language used in feedback should reflect **replication skill**, not aesthetic evaluation.
 - Ensure both judges align on the same score for this category.
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Visual Surface 0-3**High-Scoring Surface**

Describes a well-executed milk texture and clean surface:

- **Glossy /Shiney**– Reflective, mirror-like sheen
- **Velvety** – Soft and uniform surface texture
- **Evenly polished** – Smooth and consistent finish across the cup
- **Tight micro foam** – No visible bubbles; fine and silky
- **Clean surface** – Free from milk bubbles

Acceptable

Still functional, but may affect clarity or visual impact:

- **Dull surface** – Slightly matte finish
- **Mild surface bubbling** – A few small or inconsistent bubbles
- **Uneven polish** – Slightly patchy texture across the surface

Low

Compromised surface quality that affects visual clarity:

- **Bubbly surface** – Visible large bubbles disrupt smoothness
 - **Grainy or lumpy surface** – Inconsistent milk texture
 - **Flat/dry surface** – No gloss; can appear chalky
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Contrast & Definition 0-6

(Focus on clarity between foam and crema, line work, and visual distinction)

Strong

- **High contrast** – Clear and bold separation between milk foam and crema
- **Crisp edges** – Sharp, defined lines in the design
- **Well-defined pattern** – Each element of the art stands out distinctly
- **Clean lines** – No bleeding or blending; precise strokes
- **Clear definition** – Each part of the design is easy to distinguish
- **Bold separation** – Strong visual pop between light (foam) and dark (crema)

Moderate

- **Soft contrast** – Slight blending between foam and crema
- **Fuzzy edges** – Edges are present but not crisp
- **Muted definition** – Design visible but lacks sharp clarity
- **Blended tones** – Slight loss of distinction between elements
- **Mild bleeding** – Foam lightly bleeds into the crema or vice versa
- **Patchy contrast** – Some parts show good definition, others are unclear

Low

- **Low contrast** – Minimal visual separation between milk foam and crema
 - **Blurred lines** – Edges are indistinct or smeared
 - **Washed out** – Design appears faint or disappears into the crema
 - **Muddled pattern** – Elements are hard to distinguish from each other
 - **Broken lines** – Gaps in the design or incomplete forms
 - **Heavy bleeding** – Foam heavily invades crema area, obscuring design
 - **Inconsistent contrast** – Some areas are sharp, others unclear
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Harmony 0-3

(How well the pattern flows, fits the cup, and balances in form)

High Harmony

- **Balanced composition** – All elements work together cohesively
- **Symmetrical** – Pattern is evenly mirrored across its central axis
- **Cantered design** – Art is placed neatly in the middle of the cup
- **Well-proportioned** – Design elements are sized in relation to each other and the cup
- **Flowing pattern** – Design transitions smoothly from base to top
- **Unified elements** – All components of the pattern feel part of one design
- **Consistent spacing** – Equal distance between elements and margins
- **Visually pleasing** – Pattern has aesthetic balance and calmness

Moderate Harmony

- **Slight asymmetry** – Small imbalance, but doesn't distract heavily
- **Off-centre** – Pattern is shifted slightly but still visually readable
- **Uneven spacing** – Elements feel slightly cramped or too spread
- **Inconsistent proportions** – Parts of the pattern are larger/smaller than others
- **Minor crowding or stretching** – Design doesn't fill the cup evenly
- **Partially disjointed elements** – Pattern still recognizable but lacks full flow

Low Harmony

- **Unbalanced** – One side of the pattern outweighs the other
 - **Asymmetrical** – No visual balance between sides
 - **Off-axis** – Design leans heavily to one side or appears diagonal
 - **Cramped or overextended** – Pattern squeezed into too little or too much space
 - **Disconnected elements** – Parts of the design don't relate to each other
 - **Broken flow** – Pattern appears disjointed or erratic
 - **Dead space** – Pattern does not sit comfortably in the cup
 - **Visual tension** – Elements feel forced or clashing rather than harmonious
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Successfully Achieved 0-6

This relates to **how well the intended pattern was executed, its clarity, and how the level of difficulty matches the outcome.**

High Achievement

- **Clearly executed complex pattern** – High difficulty, cleanly delivered
- **Pattern is easily recognizable** – Intent is clear and unmistakable
- **Challenging elements delivered with control** – Tight pours, fine lines, and symmetry maintained
- **Balanced complexity** – Difficulty matches skill level; nothing feels overreached
- **Clean separation of elements** – Multi-element designs are distinct and well-integrated
- **Pattern fills the cup appropriately** – Scaled to the vessel without crowding or stretching
- **Confident execution** – Pouring appears deliberate and steady
- **Visual impact matches difficulty** – The "wow" factor is supported by technical precision

Moderate Achievement

- **Recognizable but simplified pattern** – Slight loss of clarity, but overall intent achieved
- **Minor inconsistencies** – Some elements less defined, but structure is intact
- **Moderate difficulty with acceptable control** – Execution does not overwhelm the design
- **Slight imbalance or distortion** – Doesn't strongly impact recognizability
- **Design slightly off-centre or uneven**, but still cohesive
- **Good attempt at a challenging pour**, though elements may appear rushed or loose

Low Achievement

Pattern unclear or unrecognizable – Execution didn't match intended design

- **Level of difficulty exceeded control** – Attempted design was too advanced for current skill
- **Inconsistent or broken elements** – Flow of the design is disrupted
- **Lack of clarity in form** – Pattern appears muddled or blended
- **Poor scale** – Pattern is too small, stretched, or off-balance in the cup
- **Disjointed elements** – No visual harmony or connection between parts

Overall Appeal 0-6

“Does it make you smile?” 😊

This is your **gut-level, emotional reaction** to the final presentation. It considers more than just technicality – it’s about **beauty, balance, and charm**.

Strong Appeal

- Instantly eye-catching – a cup that *makes you smile*
- Cohesive and pleasing – all elements feel like they belong together
- Beautiful balance of white and brown space – not too empty, not too crowded
- Invites you to drink it – visually delicious
- Harmonious in shape, flow, and placement
- Aesthetic refinement – both delicate and confident
- The pattern “feels finished” – nothing seems missing or undone

Moderate Appeal

- Some visual interest, but not striking
- A few inconsistencies that slightly distract from the overall effect
- The pattern has potential but lacks full execution

Low Appeal

- Doesn’t draw the eye or stir an emotional reaction
- Poor balance – looks awkward or crowded
- Unrefined finish – feels rushed or incomplete
- Lack of harmony – elements don’t seem to flow or relate
- Visually flat or messy – lacks intention or beauty
- Hard to define pattern in cup – art not clearly recognisable

This is where you let your instinct meet your experience. As a judge, you're asking:

“Would I be delighted to receive this cup at a café?”

If the answer is yes – that’s the magic of **Overall Appeal**.