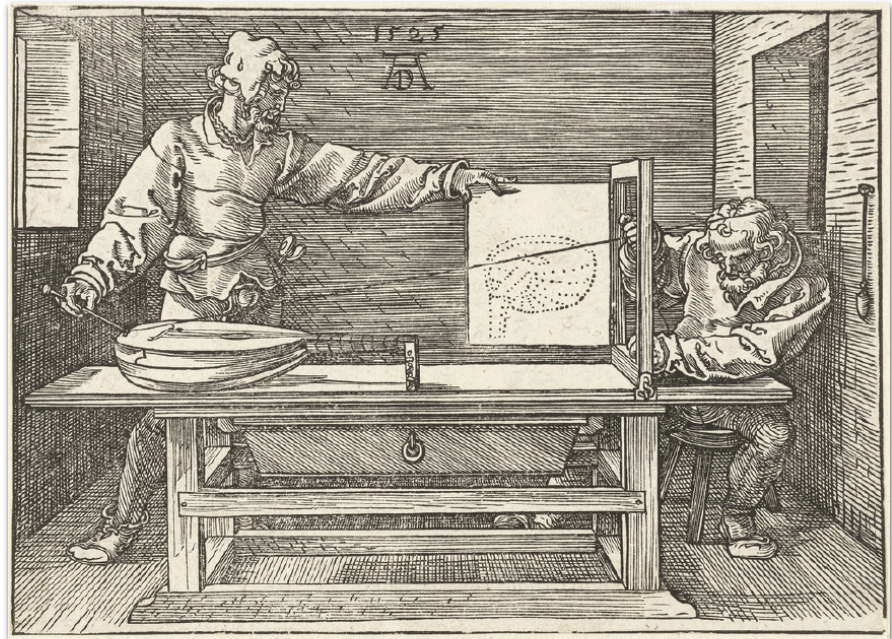


FORESHORTENING

The artist Albrecht Durer, in the engraving here, demonstrates a method of accurately creating a *foreshortened image*, in which parts of an object are drawn smaller or shorter to make the object look like it is receding into the distance.

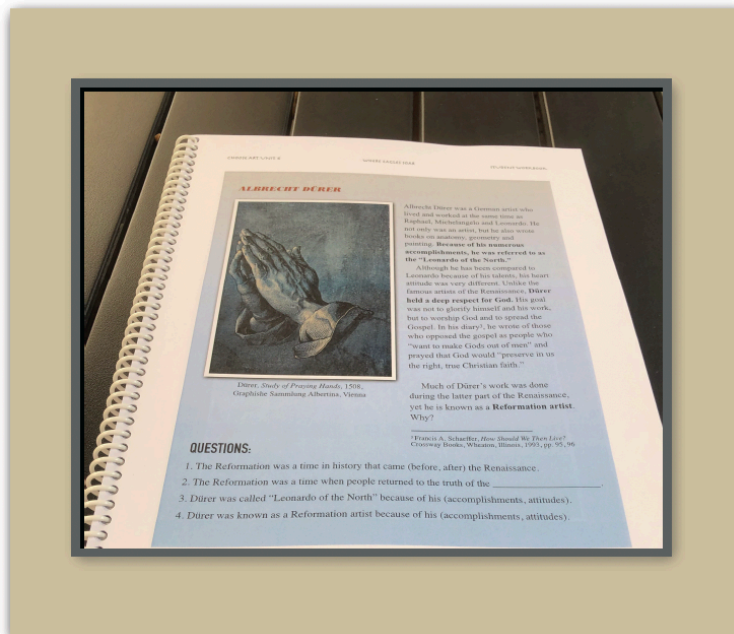
With practice, an artist is able to see how an image changes as it moves farther into the distance and can naturally draw an accurate image with the correct perspective. The artist in Durer's engraving, however, is using a very time-consuming process, which



Albrecht Durer, *Man Drawing a Lute*, 1525, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

involves measurements, string, and the creation of dots on a canvas to ensure accuracy in his painting.

So, have you thought about how objects actually change in appearance depending on our point of view? Are parts of the object really smaller or shorter when placed farther away? Do they appear to be smaller or shorter? Is foreshortening accurate according to what we actually see?



A viewing frame can help us to see the lines and angles of an object more clearly. We can use it to isolate an object from the items around it so that we can focus on the object without distraction.

It also helps us by giving us a framework against which to judge the directions of the lines, the placement of the angles, the extent of the curves, and the sizes of the shapes that make up the image we are viewing.

Viewing Frame