



Generative Art



https://editor.p5js.org/

http://www.galaxykate.com/apps/Prototypes/LTrees/



What goes into a piece of generative art?

- **Randomness** is crucial for creating generative art. The art should be different each time you run the generation script, so randomness is usually a large part of that.
- Algorithms Implementing an algorithm visually can often generate awesome art, for example, the binary tree above.
- **Geometry** Most generative art incorporates shapes, and the math from high school geometry class can aid in some really cool effects.



function draw() { background('PEACHPUFF'); ellipse(50,50,100); ellipse(200,200,50);

PEACHPUFF is from CSS colours. You can check out some of these colours: http://colours.neilorangepeel.com/



in your JavaScript file, you will add two functions that will be used in pretty much ever p5 script: setup and draw. These names are necessary for p5 to call them.

setup is called when the program starts. You will probably create a canvas to draw on within it using the createCanvas function, and you may set some defaults there. It is only called once!

draw is called after setup, and is executed constantly until you call noLoop, which will stop it from running again. You can control how many times draw runs each second with the frameRate function.





This means the line goes from (0,0) to (400, 400) -> the top left corner to the bottom right.



Remember to click play to update your sketch

random()

This command will result in a random value between **O and 1**. That means around half the time the value will be bigger than 0.5 and around half the time the value will be less than 0.5.

So what we could do is use the random() command and draw a left line if the value is bigger than 0.5, otherwise, we draw the right-to-left line.

•••

function setup() {
 createCanvas(400, 400);
 noLoop();
}

•••

if (random()>0.5) {
 doAnAction
}
else {
 doSomeOtherAction
}

```
function setup() {
    createCanvas(400, 400);
    noLoop();
}
function draw() {
    background('PEACHPUFF');
    if (random()>0.5) {
        line(0,0,400,400);
    }
    else {
        line(400, 0, 0, 400);
    }
}
```



Make sure to add noLoop(); - that makes sure the line is not flashing.



for (var count=0; count<400; count = count + 100) {
 doAnAction;
}</pre>

1) it declares a variable var count = 0

2) it then adds one hundred *after* running the loop: **count = count + 100**

3) it then checks if count is < 400 with count < 400

for (var x=0; x<10; x=x+1) goes from 0, 1, 2, 3..., 8, 9! (10 is not less than 10, so we exit without running the code.

```
function setup() {
    createCanvas(400, 400);
    noLoop();
}
function draw() {
    background('PEACHPUFF');
    for (var x=0; x<400; x=x+50) {
        line(x,0,x,400);
    }
}</pre>
```

We can use the for loop in our drawing! This draws multiple lines... but not quite random.



What does this draw?

The gap between the lines



Sets the lines' thickness

Starts are same horizontal position, and moves up Ends at bottom and also moves up



```
function setup() {
    createCanvas(400, 400);
    noLoop();
}
function draw() {
    background('PEACHPUFF');
    var step = 20;
    for (var y = 0; y < 400; y = y + step) {
        strokeWeight(5);
        line(100, y, 300, y+step*2);
    }
}</pre>
```

```
function setup() {
    createCanvas(400, 400);
    noLoop();
}
function draw() {
    background('PEACHPUFF');
    var step = 20;
    for (var y = 100; y < 300; y = y + step) {
        strokeWeight(5);
        line(100, y, 300, y+step*5);
    }
}</pre>
```





For loops inside for loops!



.

x=4, y=0; x=4, y=1; x=4, y=2; x=4, y=3; x=4, y=4;

Here's what it looks like, in actuality...

```
function setup() {
    createCanvas(400, 400);
    noLoop();
}
function draw() {
    background('PEACHPUFF');

for (var x=0;x<400;x=x+1) {
    for (var y=0;y<400;y=y+1) {
        strokeWeight(3);
        line(x,y,x+20, y+20);
    }
}</pre>
```

We go from (0,0) to (400,400)!

What do you think this outputs?

Ha! It's all black, because the changes are just x=x+1 and y=y+1.

Too small of a change so we just fill it all.



function setup() { createCanvas(400, 400); noLoop(); function draw() { background('PEACHPUFF'); var step = 30; for (var x=0;x<400;x=x+step) {</pre> for (var y=0;y<400;y=y+step) {</pre> strokeWeight(3); line(x,y,x+20, y+20); } }

Notice how step is > 20, which is the jump we have in the lines. This makes the gap effect!

```
function setup() {
  createCanvas(400, 400);
  noLoop();
}
function draw() {
  background('PEACHPUFF');
  var step = 30;
  for (var x=0;x<400;x=x+step) {</pre>
    for (var y=0;y<400;y=y+step) {</pre>
      strokeWeight(1+x/step);
      line(x,y,x+(step/2),y+(step/2));
      strokeWeight(1+x/step/10);
      line(x+(step/2),y+(step/2),x+step,y+step);
}
```

We change the strokeWeight to be heavier as we near (400,400)

The lines also have some that jump = step and some < step (more precisely, step/2)



```
function setup() {
  createCanvas(400, 400);
  noLoop();
}
function draw() {
  background('PEACHPUFF');
  var step = 30;
  for (var x=0;x<400;x=x+step) {</pre>
    for (var y=0;y<400;y=y+step) {</pre>
      strokeWeight(3);
      if (random()>0.5) {
        line(x,y,x+step,y+step);
      }
      else {
        line(x+step,y,x,y+step);
}
```





```
function setup() {
    createCanvas(400, 400);
    noLoop();
    rectMode(CENTER);
}
```

```
function draw() {
   background(229, 232, 182);
   var step = 40;
   for (var x = 0; x < 400; x = x + step) {
      for (var y = 0; y < 400; y = y + step) {
        drawRandomSquare(x, y, step);
      }
   }
}</pre>
```

```
function drawRandomSquare(x,y,step) {
    fill(125, 134, 156);
    stroke(88, 105, 148);
    push();
    translate(x+step/2,y+step/2);
    var maxRotation = map(y,0,400,0,PI);
    rotate( random(0,maxRotation) );
    rect(0,0,step,step);
    pop();
}
```



```
function setup() {
 createCanvas(800, 800);
 angleMode(DEGREES);
 rectMode(CENTER);
 const ctx = drawingContext;
 const x = width / 2;
 const y = height / 2;
 const squareSideDotsCount = 30;
 const squareVertices = [];
 let startAngle = 45;
 for (let i = 0; i < 4; i += 1) {
   squareVertices.push({
     x: 400 * cos(startAngle),
     y: 400 * sin(startAngle),
   });
   startAngle += 360 / 4;
 const square = [];
 for (let i = 0; i < 4; i += 1) {
   for (let j = 0; j < squareSideDotsCount; j += 1) {</pre>
     const x = lerp(
       squareVertices[i].x,
       squareVertices[(i + 1) % squareVertices.length].x,
       j / squareSideDotsCount,
     );
     const y = lerp(
       squareVertices[i].y,
       squareVertices[(i + 1) % squareVertices.length].y,
       j / squareSideDotsCount,
     );
     square.push({ x, y });
   }
 push();
 translate(x, y);
  for (let i = 0; i < square.length; i += 1) {</pre>
    push();
    noStroke();
    if (i % 2 === 0) fill(0);
    else fill(255);
    beginShape();
    vertex(square[i].x, square[i].y);
    vertex(0, 0);
    vertex(
       square[(i + 1) % square.length].x,
       square[(i + 1) % square.length].y,
     );
    endShape(CLOSE);
    pop();
 pop();
```



<pre>function setup() { createCanvas(800, 800); angleMode(DEGREES); rectMode(CENTER); const ctx = drawingContext; const x = width / 2; const y = height / 2; const squareSideDotsCount = 30; stroke(0);</pre>	
<pre>const squareVertices = []; let startAngle = 45; for (let i = 0; i < 4; i += 1) { squareVertices.push({ x: 400 * cos(startAngle), y: 400 * sin(startAngle), }); startAngle += 360 / 4; }</pre>	
<pre>const square = []; for (let i = 0; i < 4; i += 1) { for (let j = 0; j < squareSideDotsCount; j += 1) { const x = lerp(squareVertices[i].x, squareVertices[(i + 1) % squareVertices.length].x, j / squareSideDotsCount,); const y = lerp(squareVertices[i].y, squareVertices[(i + 1) % squareVertices.length].y, j / squareSideDotsCount,); square.push({ x, y }); } }</pre>	
<pre>push(); translate(x, y); for (let i = 0; i < square.length; i += 1) { push(); noStroke(); if (i % 2 === 0) { fill(0); } else { fill(255); } beginShape(); vertex(square[i].x, square[i].y); vertex(square[i].x, square[i].y); vertex(0, 0); vertex(square[(i + 1) % square.length].x, square[(i + 1) % square.length].y,); endShape(CLOSE); pop(); } </pre>	
<pre>const innerRectSide = 520; const cellCount = 7; const grid = []; const pointCount = cellCount ** 2; const cellSide = innerRectSide / cellCount; const startPoint = -(cellSide * (cellCount - 1)) / 2; for (let rowIndex = 0; rowIndex < cellCount; rowIndex += 1) { for (let colIndex = 0; colIndex < cellCount; colIndex += 1)</pre>	{

x: startPoint + colIndex * cellSide, y: startPoint + rowIndex * cellSide,

}
for (let rowIndex = 0; rowIndex < cellCount; rowIndex += 1) {
 for (let colIndex = 0; colIndex < cellCount; colIndex += 1) {
 const x = grid[rowIndex * cellCount + colIndex].x;
 const y = grid[rowIndex * cellCount + colIndex].y;
 rect(x, y, cellSide, cellSide)
</pre>



https://gist.github.com/ClaireBookworm/ebf3379ab6fb6840d5e6dfd70b05d62b

https://codepen.io/Shvembldr/pen/zbqpBp



https://codepen.io/Shvembldr/pen/pYypqd



<u>openprocessing.org</u>

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<u>**Creative coding — find and share!</u>**</u>

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Beginner's Generative Art in P5.js CheatSheet



Full Reference p5js.org/reference/





https://gist.github.com/ClaireBookworm/04b139695749f53ad896df0c67668f3c

Now let's make a grid of dots.

For every dot coordinate we will draw it on the canvas, but also store the coordinate in an array for future use.

Every coordinate will be represented by an object with 2 properties: x and y.

The space between lines and columns is defined by the variable gap, we'll draw these circles so we can see how our grid is placed out on the canvas.

```
var canvas = document.querySelector('canvas');
var context = canvas.getContext('2d');
var size = window innerWidth;
var dpr = window.devicePixelRatio;
canvas.width = size * dpr;
canvas height = size * dpr;
context.scale(dpr, dpr);
context lineJoin = 'bevel';
var line,
   lines = [],
    gap = size / 7;
for(var y = gap / 2; y <= size; y+= gap) {
  line = [];
  for (var x = gap / 2; x <= size; x+= gap) {</pre>
   line.push(\{x: x, y: y\});
    context.beginPath();
    context.arc(x, y, 1, 0, 2 * Math.PI, true);
    context.fill();
 lines.push(line);
```

.

Now, we're going to displace every other line on the x axis. We do this by alternating the variable called odd between true and false. We can see that the new pattern is shaping up to be a mesh of regular triangles.

```
var line, dot,
11
        odd = false,
12
        lines = [],
13
        gap = size / 8;
14
15
    for(var y = gap / 2; y <= size; y+= gap) {</pre>
16
      odd = !odd;
17
      line = [];
18
      for(var x = gap / 4; x <= size; x+= gap) {
19
        dot = {x: x + (odd ? gap/2 : 0), y: y;
20
        line.push(dot);
21
        context.beginPath();
22
        context.arc(dot.x, dot.y, 1, 0, 2 * Math.PI, true);
23
        context.fill();
24
25
      }
      lines.push(line);
26
27 }
```


The next step will be using the dots to draw the triangles. To make our life easier let's make a function that take the 3 coordinates of a triangle and draw them together.

•••

```
function drawTriangle(pointA, pointB, pointC) {
   context.beginPath();
   context.moveTo(pointA.x, pointA.y);
   context.lineTo(pointB.x, pointB.y);
   context.lineTo(pointC.x, pointC.y);
   context.lineTo(pointA.x, pointA.y);
   context.closePath();
   context.stroke();
}
```

This is called a *helper function*.

Now we'll string up our **drawTriangle** function, and use the dots we generated earlier to draw all the triangles.

This part might be a bit complex to understand. The script is going to go through all the lines and combining the two dots of the sibling line, forming triangles. The concatenation of two lines, let's say line **a** and line **b**, and merge the dots into one array to make it look like a zig-zag: **a1**, **b1**, **a2**, **b2**, **a3** etc.

This will give us an array, containing each triangles specific coordinates. Looking something like [a1, b1, a2], [b1, a2, b2], [a2, b2, a3]...

```
var dotLine;
odd = true;
for(var y = 0; y < lines.length - 1; y++) {
    odd = !odd;
    dotLine = [];
    for(var i = 0; i < lines[y].length; i++) {
        dotLine.push(odd ? lines[y][i] : lines[y+1][i]);
        dotLine.push(odd ? lines[y+1][i] : lines[y+1][i]);
        dotLine.push(odd ? lines[y+1][i] : lines[y][i]);
    }
    for(var i = 0; i < dotLine.length - 2; i++) {
        drawTriangle(dotLine[i], dotLine[i+1], dotLine[i+2]);
    }
}
```


Now that we have a regular triangle mesh, we are one detail away from getting the magic to happen. Every dot is a gap away from the surrounding dots. So a dot can be moved in this area without overlapping with other dots.

Let's use a bit of Math.random() to get a random position in this area.

```
//setup code here
```

```
var line, dot,
    odd = false,
    lines = [],
    gap = size / 8;
for(var y = gap / 2; y <= size; y+= gap) {
    odd = !odd;
    line = [];
    for(var x = gap / 4; x <= size; x+= gap) {
        dot = {x: x + (odd ? gap/2 : 0), y: y};
        line.push({
            x: x + (Math.random()*.8 - .4) * gap + (odd ? gap/2 : 0),
            y: y + (Math.random()*.8 - .4) * gap
        });
        context.fill();
    }
    lines.push(line);
}
function drawTriangle(pointA, pointB, pointC) {
// helper function code here
```

```
var dotLine;
odd = true;
```

```
for(var y = 0; y < lines.length - 1; y++) {
    odd = !odd;
    dotLine = [];
    for(var i = 0; i < lines[y].length; i++) {
        dotLine.push(odd ? lines[y][i] : lines[y+1][i]);
        dotLine.push(odd ? lines[y+1][i] : lines[y][i]);
    }
    for(var i = 0; i < dotLine.length - 2; i++) {
        drawTriangle(dotLine[i], dotLine[i+1], dotLine[i+2]);
    }
}</pre>
```



```
function drawTriangle(pointA, pointB, pointC) {
    context.beginPath();
    context.moveTo(pointA.x, pointA.y);
    context.lineTo(pointB.x, pointB.y);
    context.lineTo(pointC.x, pointC.y);
    context.lineTo(pointA.x, pointA.y);
    context.closePath();
    var gray = Math.floor(Math.random()*45).toString(16);
    context.fillStyle = '#' + gray + gray + gray;
    context.fill();
    context.stroke();
}
```

What you multiply random() by is the number of shades.

```
45 is a lot, 4 is too little – experiment!
```

I ended up using 16.