

If you study a shell closely you will find some of the most beautiful shapes nature has created. It never ceases to amaze me how incredible it is that nature could form something so perfect and beautiful and create so many of them in such a variety of shapes, sizes and colours.

» We are surrounded by pictures of perfect shells on beaches – most department stores have some variation on this theme for sale. So why not do yours differently?



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The colour and shape of these shells is stunning, and by shooting on a macro lens at F5.6 they blend into each other beautifully.

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The natural shapes of the holes and sea washed texture create interesting shapes when photographed really close.

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This shell has been broken but still retains it's shape and texture and to me is more beautiful because of it's sea washed edges and imperfections.

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### Texture

Whilst walking on a beach abroad, I eventually got bored with the perfect coloured shells, and decided I preferred the not-so-perfect broken white ones! These were huge shells, up to 8" long, which had been washed up by the sea, broken and weathered so much that their texture was amazing. To me they were more interesting, not least because the perfect ones were in every gift shop in town and I was inspired by something that most people had ignored and would throw away!

By using a macro lens I was able to get incredibly close to the detail. I find it interesting sometimes to create a picture where it is not immediately apparent as to what it is; it makes the viewer think more, and therefore to me it becomes more interesting.

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I felt as if I wanted to get inside the shell, and see where the curves and spirals led to. I loved the texture of the edges which had broken and then been washed smooth by the sea creating a new shape and feel to the shell.

