Attention is needed for binding certain object features, such as color and spatial location. Diverted or overloaded attention can result in incorrectly bound features, or illusory conjunctions. Previous studies (e.g., Treisman & Schmidt, 1982) have used complex displays to study the effects of divided attention on binding errors.

Divided attention on simple stimulus displays can still lead to robust illusory conjunctions of features. Without selective attention, observers are able to accurately perceive object features in their respective visual hemifields, but not in their precise locations.

References

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