

HOW TO DRAW

# CHRISTMAS

Easy to follow  
**AMAZING ART!**  
Step-by-step



Mark Bergin

# Drawing materials

Try using different types of drawing paper and materials. Experiment with charcoal, wax crayons and pastels. All pens, from felt-tips to ballpoints, will make interesting marks – or try drawing with pen and ink on wet paper.

**Pencil** drawings can include a vast amount of detail and tone. Try experimenting with different grades of pencil to get a range of light and shade effects in your drawing.



Pencil

Remember, the best equipment and materials will not necessarily make the best drawing – only practice will!

Ink silhouette



Lines drawn in **ink** cannot be erased, so keep your ink drawings sketchy and less rigid. Don't worry about mistakes, as these lines can be lost in the drawing as it develops.

Adding light and shade to a drawing with an ink pen can be tricky. Use solid ink for the very darkest areas and cross-hatching for ordinary dark tones. Use hatching for midtones, and leave the white of the paper for the lightest areas.

**Crosshatching** is the use of straight lines that criss-cross each other.

**Hatching** is when short parallel lines are used to create tone.



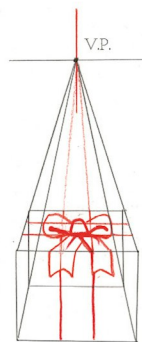
Ink

Felt-tip pen

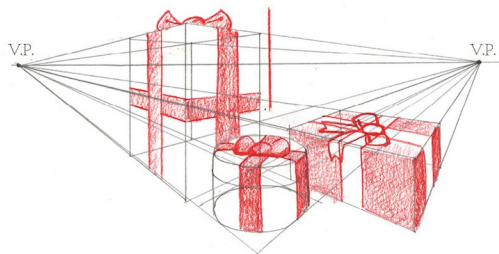
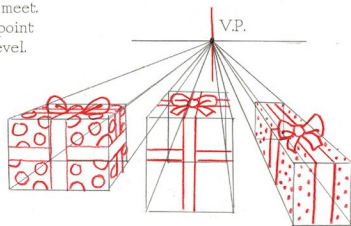
**Felt-tips** come in a range of line widths. The wider pens are good for filling in large areas of flat tone.

# Perspective

If you look at anything from different viewpoints, you will see that the part that is closest to you looks larger, and the part furthest away from you looks smaller. Drawing in perspective is a way of creating a feeling of space - of showing three dimensions on a flat surface.



The vanishing point (V.P.) is the place in a perspective drawing where parallel lines appear to meet. The position of the vanishing point depends on the viewer's eye level.

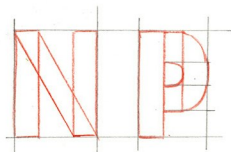


Two-point perspective uses two vanishing points: one for lines running along the length of the subject, and one on the opposite side for lines running across the width of the subject.

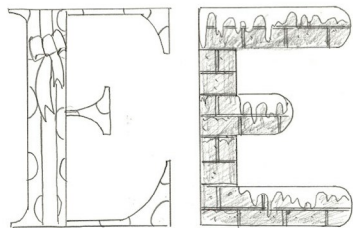


# Christmas alphabet

It is fun to create your own hand-drawn lettering. Here is an example of how to design a jolly Christmas-themed alphabet. Use it for cards, invitations and posters, or use it to spell out someone's name to personalise special gifts.



Use construction lines to accurately proportion each letter in your alphabet.



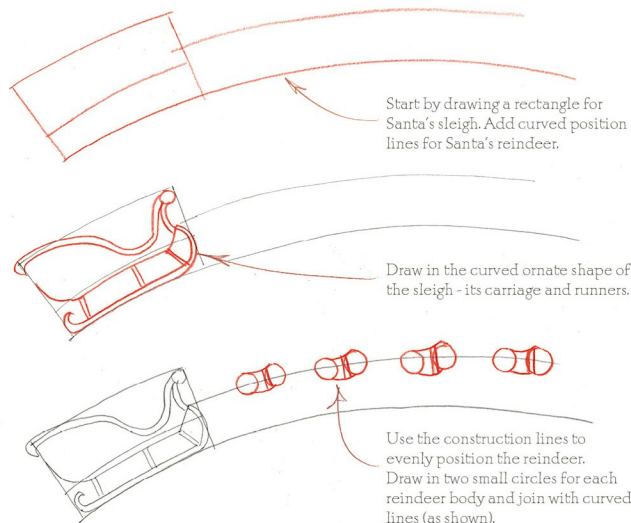
You can create a wide variety of different Christmas themes, such as a gift-wrapped letter or a snow-capped brick letter, as shown in these two examples of the letter 'E'.

Here are some ideas for a Christmas-themed alphabet.

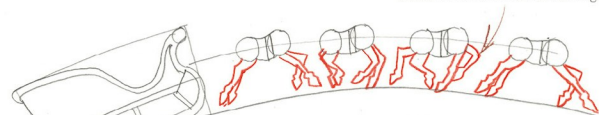


# Santa Claus' sleigh

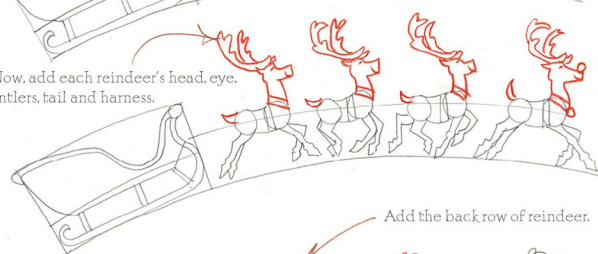
The modern idea of Santa's sleigh and the names of his reindeer, comes from the poem *The Night Before Christmas*. It was originally published anonymously in 1823 in the *New York Sentinel*. Rudolph was not invented until 1939, when he featured in a booklet that was sold at Montgomery Ward department stores.



Draw in the reindeers' racing legs.

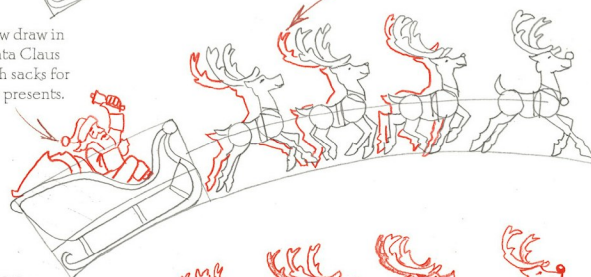


Now, add each reindeer's head, eye, antlers, tail and harness.

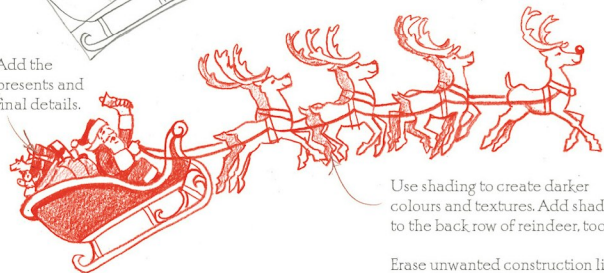


Add the back row of reindeer.

Now draw in Santa Claus with sacks for the presents.



Add the presents and final details.



Use shading to create darker colours and textures. Add shading to the back row of reindeer, too.

Erase unwanted construction lines.