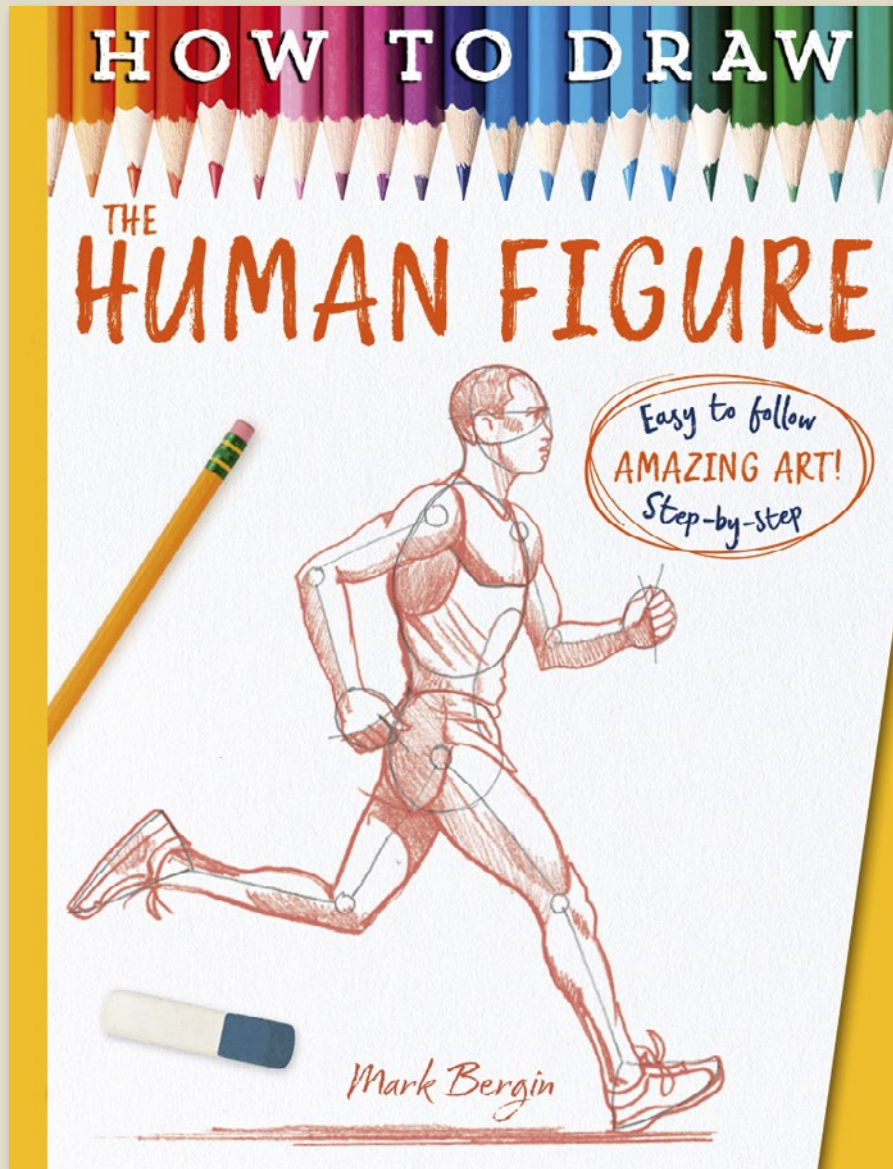


How To Draw The Human Figure



A step-by-step guide to the human figure!

- Easy to follow instructions, simple steps and diagrams throughout.
- Perfect beginners guide to introduce artists to the human figure, ideal for budding illustrators and sketchers.
- Continue the series with 55 other *How to Draw* titles available!

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The head

The head is a difficult shape to draw. It includes some of the most expressive features of the body. Using construction lines helps to place the eyes, nose, ears and mouth accurately on the head.

These construction lines are used to place the features of the head accurately.

When drawing the head from different angles, construction lines can help to keep the features in the correct positions.

These construction lines show the head facing downwards.

The curved construction lines help you to place the features.

Add detail and expression. Features such as hair.

These construction lines show a head facing upwards.

Draw in the features. Do not forget the underside of the chin.

Complete any details and remove unwanted construction lines.

The feet

Feet come in all shapes and sizes and can be drawn in many different poses. The construction lines for a simple side view usually start with a triangle shape, then the toes are added and the ankle is positioned.

The shape of the foot can be broken down into simple three-dimensional shapes.

A simple irregular-shaped side view of the foot.

Use these construction lines as a guide, draw in the toes and add detail.

Draw in the toes. Position lines within the area of the construction lines.

Add lines to give drawing individuality. Direction of the light source.

The base of the foot is a simple irregular shape. Indicate the form and the heel of the foot.

Use these construction lines as a guide, draw in both views of the foot.

Balance and motion

Motion and balance are important aspects to consider in your drawing. Use basic construction lines to create a variety of poses. Then build up the drawing from there.

A balance diagram is a picture that shows the balance of the human body.

This figure shows a basic plane. Note the changes in balance as the figure is moving.

This figure is positioned in a crouching pose. Note the changes in the line of the body through each stage of the pose.

When the basic construction lines are in place, you can add detail to the figure. Pay particular attention to the curve and direction of the spine and neck.

Add the limbs, indicating the elbow and knee joints with small circles between straight lines. Draw in the hand position using small and thin triangles for the hand.

Then begin to add tone and shading to finish the drawing. Remember to remove any unwanted construction lines.

Walking figure

A simple walking movement is a good starting point for drawing a figure in motion. In this case, the figure is viewed from the side, so remember to consider which parts of the body will be seen.

Add a small circle on the upper torso for the shoulders.

Draw in the basic shapes for the head, torso and hips. Join these shapes with a line for the spine.

Add straight lines for the arms with small circles at the elbow joints.

Draw ovals to indicate the hands.

Draw a small circle in the middle of the hips. This indicates the top of each leg. Add straight lines for the legs with small circles for the knee joints.

Add in a basic triangular shape for each foot.

Using the construction lines as a guide, start to add the shape of the body.

Pay particular attention to the joints of each limb, drawing elbows and knees accordingly.

Start to add in the facial features.

Add in muscle structure.

Using the ovals as a guide, add detail to the hands.

Add muscles to the legs using the joints as a guide.

Add shoes.

Add shade to areas where light will not reach.

Complete the details of the facial features and hair.

Add clothing to the figure.

Add tone for definition.

Add socks.

Mirror
You can often see mistakes in a drawing by looking at it in reverse in a mirror.

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