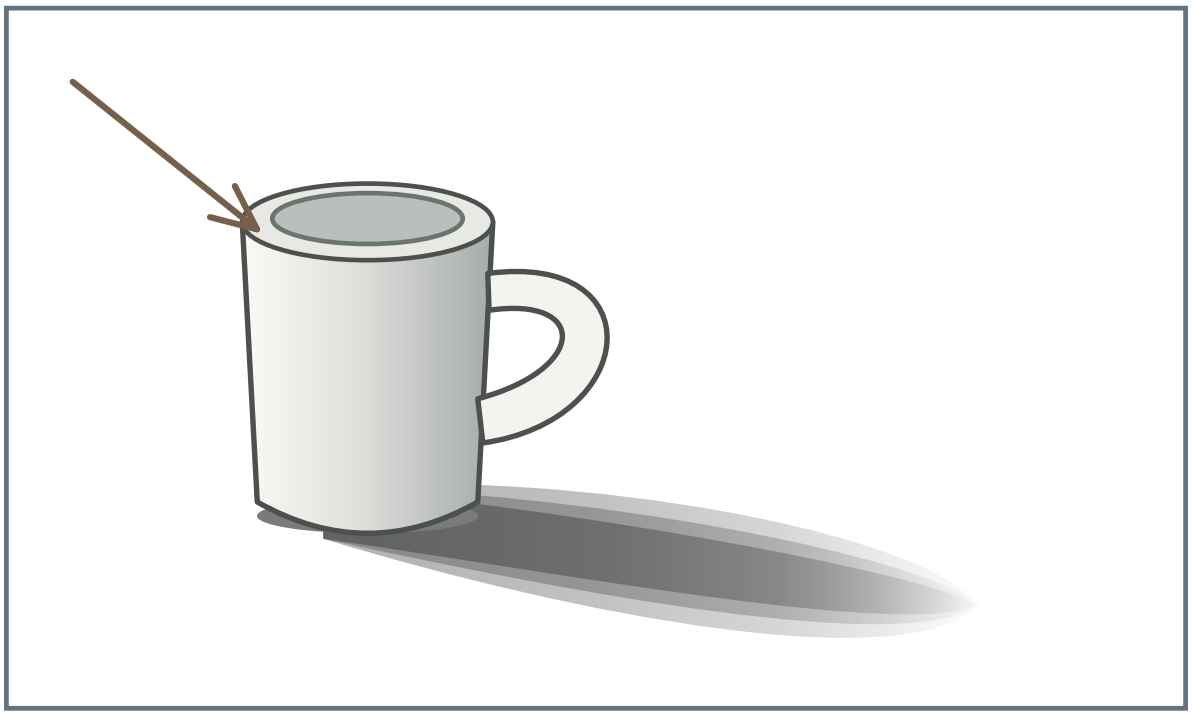
Draw Cast Shadows

Reference I Worked example I LETTER

Original prompt

A cup on a table lit from the upper left. Show the contact shadow and the graded cast shadow falling to the lower right.



Answer

The cast shadow sits to the lower right of the cup, pointing away from the upper-left light. A narrow, dark, sharp-edged contact shadow hugs the base; the shadow then widens, lightens and softens toward its far tip.

Reasoning

The upper-left light gives this tabletop example a lower-right cast. The narrow dark band makes the base meet the table, and the gradual change toward the tip shows the chosen softness.

Check

Confirm three things: the shadow points away from the light, the darkest sharp edge touches the object, and the far end is lighter and softer than the contact.