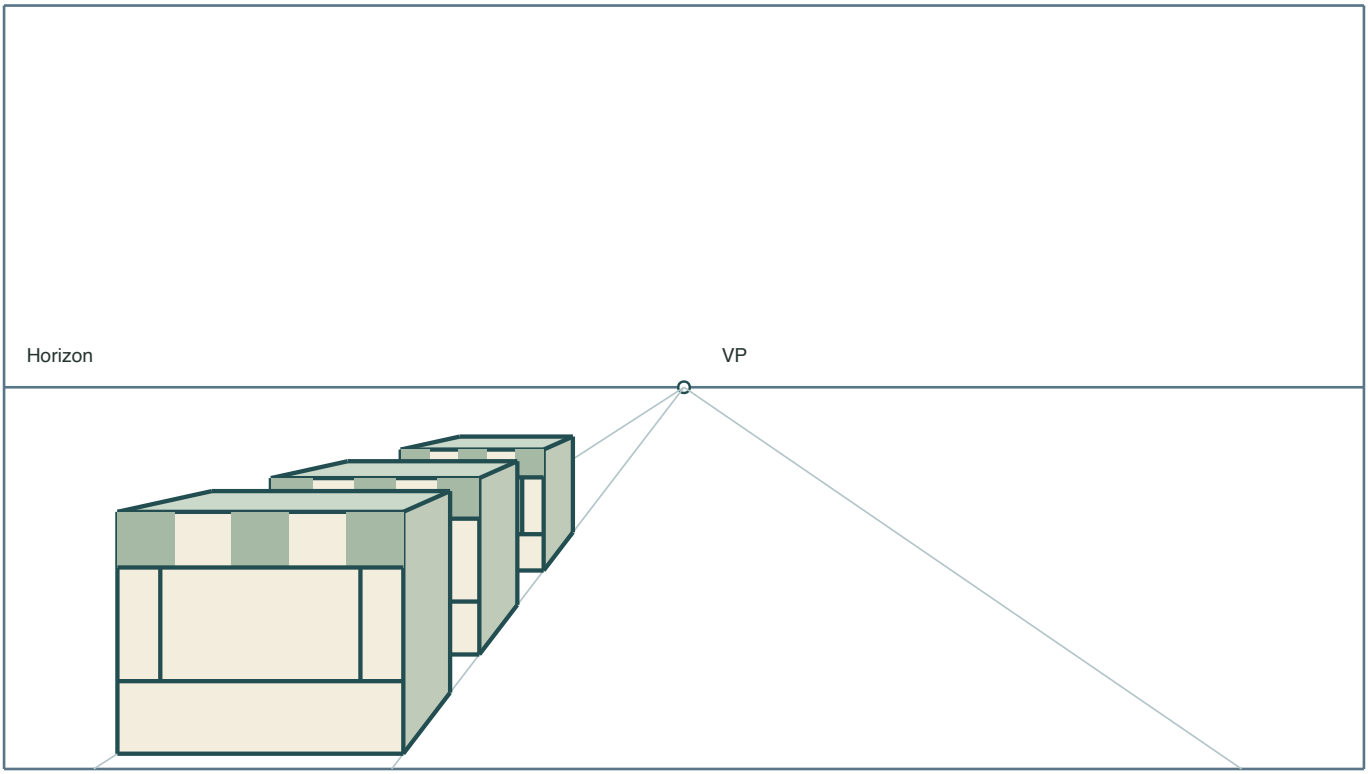
Draw a Market in Perspective

Reference | Worked example | LETTER

Original prompt

Worked example: a three-stall market aisle in one-point perspective.



Answer

Draw a horizon line across the middle of the page and mark one vanishing point on it. From the bottom edge, draw three ground lines that all pass through the vanishing point, spreading wider at the bottom. Place the nearest stall front as a wide rectangle low on the page, sitting on the widest ground line. From its top and bottom corners, draw side edges back toward the vanishing point. Place the second stall front farther up the same ground line, smaller and narrower, and draw its side edges back. Place the third stall front still farther up, smaller again, with short side edges. Check that every side edge points at the vanishing point and that each stall front is smaller than the one in front of it.

Reasoning

The horizon and vanishing point fix the direction of recession. The ground lines carry the stalls back. Stall fronts stay rectangular because they face the viewer; only the side edges recede. Making each stall front smaller and its side edges shorter produces the recession.

Check

Sight along each side edge: it should pass through the vanishing point. Compare stall fronts: each farther front should be smaller than the nearer one. If a side edge misses the vanishing point, redraw it.