Dog Face Drawing: Feature Placement Guide

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A head shape is 10 cm tall. The eye line is at the middle. You place the top of the nose one-third of the way from the eye line to the chin. Calculate the distance from the eye line to the top of the nose.

Answer: The eye line to chin distance is 10 ÷ 2 = 5 cm. One-third of 5 cm is about 1.67 cm. So the top of the nose is about 1.67 cm below the eye line.

Reason: The head is split into upper and lower halves by the eye line. The lower half is 5 cm. The nose top is one-third of that lower half, so 5 ÷ 3 ≈ 1.67 cm.

Check: Measure 5 cm from the eye line to the chin on your drawing, then divide that segment into three equal parts. The first part below the eye line should match your calculated distance.

Task 2

On a front-facing dog face, each eye is 2 cm wide. The gap between the eyes is one eye-width. What is the total width from the left edge of the left eye to the right edge of the right eye?

Answer: Total width = left eye width + gap + right eye width = 2 cm + 2 cm + 2 cm = 6 cm.

Reason: The gap is one eye-width, which is 2 cm. Add the two eye widths and the gap: 2 + 2 + 2 = 6 cm.

Check: Use a ruler to measure each eye and the gap on your drawing. The three measurements should be approximately equal, and their sum should be about 6 cm.

Task 3

A head shape is 14 cm tall. The eye line is at the middle. The top of the nose is 2 cm below the eye line. What fraction of the distance from the eye line to the chin is the nose-top distance?

Answer: The eye line to chin distance is 14 ÷ 2 = 7 cm. The fraction is 2 ÷ 7, or about two-sevenths.

Reason: The lower half of the head is 7 cm. The nose top is 2 cm below the eye line, so the fraction is 2/7.

Check: Measure the lower half of the head on your drawing. Divide it into seven equal parts; the nose top should be about two parts below the eye line.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

You draw a dog face with floppy ears. Each ear base is 3 cm from the midline, and the two ear bases are at the same height. The head is 12 cm wide. How far is each ear base from the nearest side of the head?

Answer: Half the head width is 12 ÷ 2 = 6 cm. Each ear base is 3 cm from the midline, so the distance to the nearest side is 6 − 3 = 3 cm.

Reason: The midline divides the 12 cm head into two 6 cm halves. An ear base 3 cm from the midline leaves 3 cm to the side of the head.

Check: Measure 6 cm from the midline to the side of the head on your drawing. Mark 3 cm from the midline and check that the remaining distance to the side is also about 3 cm.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Head shape is closed and roughly symmetrical.
- [ ] Vertical midline is present and used to center the nose and mouth.
- [ ] Eye line is horizontal and eyes are placed at matching heights.
- [ ] Gap between the eyes is approximately one eye-width.
- [ ] Nose is centered on the midline and sits below the eye line.
- [ ] Mouth is centered below the nose with a small gap.
- [ ] Ear bases are at matching heights on both sides.
- [ ] Proportions are checked with simple units such as eye-widths.
- [ ] Light construction lines are used and can be adjusted.
- [ ] Final drawing reads clearly as a dog face, allowing valid style variations.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?