Realistic Hand Drawing: Knuckle and Crease Study

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

Realistic Hand Drawing: Knuckle and Crease Study

Worked example / complete source key

A described diagram shows a relaxed right hand with light from the upper left. The wrist-to-knuckle distance is 70 mm and the knuckle-to-fingertip distance is 75 mm. The palm width is 80 mm. The four finger widths are 18 mm, 20 mm, 19 mm, and 16 mm. Using the x-height convention, the handwritten x-height is 8 mm. Check the finger-width sum against palm width and state one shading adjustment.

Answer: The finger-width sum is 18 + 20 + 19 + 16 = 73 mm. The palm width is 80 mm, so the sum is 7 mm less than the palm width; this is acceptable for a relaxed pose with slight overlap. Each finger width is about 2 to 2.5 x-heights (for example, 20 mm divided by 8 mm equals 2.5). Shading adjustment: darken the hollow between the ring and little fingers because it faces away from the upper-left light, and keep a small highlight on the middle knuckle ridge.