Blacksmith Drawing: Pose, Anvil, and Hand Tools

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a blacksmith standing with feet apart, knees slightly bent, and a right arm reaching to an anvil top. The anvil is half the torso width and sits on the ground line. Add a hammer with a rectangular head.

Answer: A balanced figure with hips over feet, apron to mid-thigh, right hand at the anvil face, and hammer head above the face. The anvil touches the ground and is smaller than the torso.

Reason: The stance line and head-height marks keep the body proportional. The reach is checked by placing the hand at the anvil face before drawing the hammer.

Check: Confirm feet and anvil touch the ground line, the hammer hand meets the anvil face, and the anvil width is about half the torso width.

Task 2

Draw the same blacksmith but left-handed, with tongs instead of a hammer. The tong jaws should rest on the anvil face. Keep the apron below the waist.

Answer: A mirrored working pose with the left hand at the anvil face and tong jaws touching the top. The apron hangs below the waist and the right arm rests clear of the tool path.

Reason: Mirroring the reach tests whether the pose logic is understood rather than copied. Tongs use two handle lines and a small jaw shape.

Check: Check that the tong jaws touch the anvil face, the resting arm does not cross the tool path, and the apron bottom is below the waist mark.

Task 3

Draw a blacksmith leaning slightly toward the anvil with a punch lying on the anvil base. The hammer hand is near the anvil face but the hammer head points away from the body. Add a hardy hole as a small square on the top face.

Answer: A leaning figure with weight still over the feet, a punch separated from the hammer, and a small square hardy hole on the anvil top. The hammer head points away from the body.

Reason: The lean must not move weight past the feet. Separating the punch keeps tools readable. The hardy hole is a simple square, not a detailed feature.

Check: Confirm the hips remain over the feet, the punch has a small gap from other tools, and the hardy hole is a square on the top face.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a blacksmith with a short apron ending above the knee and a hammer held at the anvil face. Add a second tool on the ground beside the anvil. Use a ground line for both feet and the anvil.

Answer: A figure with a short apron, hammer hand at the anvil face, and a separate tool on the ground. Feet and anvil share the ground line.

Reason: A short apron is a valid alternative if the waist and hip marks remain clear. The second tool must be separate and simple.

Check: Check that the apron ends above the knee mark, the hammer meets the anvil face, and the second tool does not overlap the anvil base.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Stance is balanced with weight over the feet.
- [ ] Torso and apron shapes are clear and proportional.
- [ ] Working arm reaches the anvil face without crossing the body.
- [ ] Hammer or tongs are simple, separate, and readable.
- [ ] Anvil has base, waist, top face, and ground contact.
- [ ] Final lines are clean and construction marks are removed.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if the working pose and tool contact remain clear.

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