Draw a Layered Mountain Range: Overlapping Ridges for Depth

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.

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Worked example / complete source key

On an 18 cm by 12 cm frame, plan three ridges with far peaks at 4, middle peaks at 3, and near peaks at 2. The far ridge occupies the top 4 cm band, middle the next 4 cm, near the bottom 4 cm. If the far ridge has 4 peaks and the middle ridge overlaps it twice, how many unbroken overlap points must the near ridge create to match the middle ridge's overlap count?

Answer: The near ridge must create 2 unbroken overlap points to match the middle ridge's count. Total overlap points across the range would then be 2 (middle over far) + 2 (near over middle) = 4.

Reason: The middle ridge overlaps the far ridge twice, so the near ridge should overlap the middle ridge twice to keep the depth pattern consistent. Each overlap is counted where the nearer ridge line is unbroken and the farther line stops. The arithmetic is 2 + 2 = 4 total overlaps.

Check: Count the unbroken nearer-ridge lines at each crossing. There should be exactly 2 near-over-middle overlaps and 2 middle-over-far overlaps. If the count differs, adjust the ridge lines until the counts match.