Draw a Generic Mammal with Mass Shapes and Joint Landmarks

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

A learner draws a generic mammal on a page with a ground line. They place an abdomen ovoid 6 cm long, a chest ovoid 4 cm long, a hindquarter ovoid 4 cm long, and a head ovoid 2 cm long. They mark shoulder, elbow, and wrist circles on the front leg and hip, knee, and ankle circles on the hind leg. The front wrist circle is 1 cm above the ground line and the hind ankle circle is 2 cm above the ground line. The learner adds fur arrows pointing from front to back on the back and downward on the legs. Check the construction and suggest one adjustment.

Answer: The masses overlap to form a continuous body, and the joint circles are placed at the main landmarks. The front wrist circle is 1 cm above the ground line while the hind ankle circle is 2 cm above it, so the front leg appears shorter. Move the front wrist circle down by 1 cm so both feet reach the ground line at the same height. The fur arrows are consistent: front-to-back on the back and downward on the legs. After the adjustment, the mammal is balanced and readable. This is a valid generic construction, not a species-specific drawing.