Reclining Figure Drawing: Weight and Contact Points

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.

Reclining Figure Drawing: Weight and Contact Points

Worked example / complete source key

A side-reclining figure on a flat surface. Head length H is 3 cm. Total reclining length is 21 cm, giving a ratio of 7. Contact dots are placed at head side, shoulder, hip, outer thigh, and heel. Hypothetical loads: hip 40, shoulder 30, head 15, thigh 10, heel 5. Describe how to draw and check the figure.

Answer: Mark five contact dots named in the prompt: side of head at 0H, shoulder at about 1.5H, hip at about 4H, outer thigh at about 5.5H, and heel at about 7H. Draw a faint weight line from hip to shoulder and sketch the torso dipping toward the hip. Flatten the silhouette most at the hip, next at the shoulder, and least at the heel; keep the head rounder and show slight compression at the thigh. The hypothetical loads 40+30+15+10+5 equal 100. Check that each named contact reaches the surface line and that the flattening follows the load ranking.