Drawing a Fist: Front and Side Knuckle Construction

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

On a grid, draw a front-view fist with a rounded rectangle 3 units wide and 4 units tall. Mark a midline at 2 units and place four knuckle circles along a shallow arc. Describe where the middle two knuckles sit relative to the outer two.

Answer: The middle two knuckles sit slightly higher than the outer two, forming a shallow arc.

Reason: The front-view knuckle ridge is not straight; the middle knuckles rise a little to show the compact curve of the fist.

Check: Measure the height of each knuckle circle from the baseline; the middle two should be about 0.2 units higher than the outer two (hypothetical example).

Task 2

Draw a side-view fist as a wedge 4 units long and 3 units tall. Add a thumb fold crossing the front of the fingers. State whether the thumb fold is in front of or behind the finger segments.

Answer: The thumb fold is in front of the finger segments.

Reason: In side view, the thumb wraps across the fingers, so it overlaps them and creates a visible fold line.

Check: Trace the thumb line; it should cross over the finger segment lines without being interrupted by them.

Task 3

Using a grid with 1-unit squares, place a front-view fist and a side-view fist in adjacent columns. Align both to the same baseline and midline. What should match between the two views?

Answer: The baseline, the midline, and the overall height of the fist should match.

Reason: Consistent scale lets you compare the knuckle ridge height and thumb fold position directly.

Check: Measure the distance from baseline to midline in both views; the values should be equal.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Shade a front-view fist so the knuckle peaks are light and the gaps between fingers are dark. Then redraw the same fist on a blank grid, keeping the construction lines faint. What should stay the same in the redrawing?

Answer: The knuckle arc shape, the four knuckle positions, and the finger segment lengths should stay the same.

Reason: Redrawing on a grid tests construction consistency; only line weight and shading should change.

Check: Overlay the two drawings or compare knuckle positions against the grid squares; they should align within one square.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Front view shows four knuckle peaks along a shallow arc.
- [ ] Side view shows the knuckle ridge receding and the thumb fold in front.
- [ ] Finger segments are short and taper toward the palm.
- [ ] Both views align to the same baseline and midline on the grid.
- [ ] Shading distinguishes knuckle peaks from gaps and thumb fold.
- [ ] Labels use the defined x-height convention; alternative letter styles are acceptable.

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