Drawing a Toddler: Proportions, Pose, and Practice

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: Using the four-head-unit convention, describe how to draw a standing toddler who reaches one arm forward. The head unit is 4 cm (hypothetical example).

Answer: Total height is about 16 cm. Mark four 4 cm intervals. Chin at 4 cm, shoulder just below, hip at about 10 cm, floor at 16 cm. Draw a rounded head about 4 cm tall. Torso from shoulder to hip is about 6 cm. Legs from hip to floor are about 6 cm. Arms reach to mid-thigh, so the forward arm extends about 9 cm from the shoulder (torso 6 cm plus about half the 6 cm leg, 3 cm). Keep shoulders narrow and hips slightly wider. Check that the head is one quarter of total height and the reaching arm does not exceed mid-thigh reach.