Realistic Hair Drawing: Strand Flow and Shine Studies

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A practice box is 12 cm wide. You draw four guide curves from a left part to the lower edge, spaced evenly. What is the spacing between adjacent guides?

Answer: 4 cm.

Reason: Four guides create three gaps. 12 cm divided by three gaps equals 4 cm per gap, which is the spacing between adjacent guides.

Check: Count the gaps between guides and divide the box width by that number. Verify that the number of gaps is one less than the number of guides.

Task 2

You draw a shine band that crosses five strands. You then add two more strands inside the band. How many strands does the band cross now?

Answer: Seven strands.

Reason: The original count is five. Adding two strands inside the band increases the count by two, giving seven.

Check: Recount the strands inside the band after adding the new lines. Confirm the count matches the original plus the added number.

Task 3

A hair mass is 8 cm wide at its widest curve. You want a shine band that is one quarter of that width. How wide is the band in centimeters?

Answer: 2 cm.

Reason: One quarter of 8 cm is 8 divided by four, which equals 2 cm.

Check: Multiply the band width by four and confirm it equals the mass width. Use the same unit throughout.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

You have three guide curves and you add two intermediate strands between each pair of guides. How many strands are there in total?

Answer: Seven strands.

Reason: Three guides create two gaps. Adding two intermediate strands per gap adds four strands. Three guides plus four intermediate strands equals seven strands.

Check: Count the gaps, multiply by the number of intermediate strands per gap, then add the original guide count. Confirm the total matches your drawn lines.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Strand direction: guide curves bend over the imagined skull and strands stay parallel to their nearest guide.
- [ ] Shine placement: the band follows strand flow, crosses at least three strands, and is softened at the edges.
- [ ] Layer changes: direction shifts gradually and crossings occur only for visible layer overlaps.
- [ ] Spacing: guide spacing narrows near curves and widens on flat areas, using a consistent measuring unit and showing the arithmetic.
- [ ] Self-check: arithmetic for spacing and strand counts is shown and consistent in units.

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