Relief Drawing: Raised Edges and Depth Cues

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

On a 10 cm panel, draw a raised circle with a 4 mm offset and a 3 mm shadow band. Light is from the upper left. Describe where the shadow band goes and give one measurement check.

Answer: The shadow band goes outside the lower right portion of the circle contour. The offset is 4 mm and the shadow band is 3 mm. Check that the shadow band is narrower than the offset and that the upper left edge has no shadow.

Reason: The light convention places shadow on the lower right. The shadow band must be equal to or narrower than the offset to read as raised.

Check: Measure the offset at four points around the circle; all should be 4 mm. Measure the shadow band at the same points; all should be 3 mm.

Task 2

A raised square has a 5 mm offset on the lower right and a 6 mm shadow band. Is this consistent with the lesson? Explain and give a fix.

Answer: No. The shadow band is wider than the offset, which makes the form look sunken rather than raised. Fix by reducing the shadow band to 5 mm or less, for example 4 mm.

Reason: The lesson requires the shadow band to be equal to or narrower than the offset distance.

Check: Compare the two measurements directly: shadow band 6 mm is greater than offset 5 mm, so adjust the shadow band.

Task 3

Draw two raised rectangles at the same height on one panel. Rectangle A has a 3 mm offset. Rectangle B has a 5 mm offset. What should you change and why?

Answer: Change Rectangle B's offset to 3 mm so both rectangles have the same offset. Forms at the same height should use the same offset distance.

Reason: Consistent offset across forms at the same height keeps the relief reading uniform.

Check: Measure both offsets; they should match within 1 mm.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

On a 10 cm panel, draw a raised triangle with a 2 mm offset and a 2 mm shadow band. Light is from the upper left. Describe the shadow placement and one possible line style variation that still follows the convention.

Answer: Place the shadow band outside the lower right edges of the triangle only. A valid variation is using a slightly wavy hand-drawn contour line instead of a perfectly straight line, as long as the offset stays 2 mm and the shadow band stays on the lower right.

Reason: The convention fixes light direction and offset relationships, not line style. Hand-drawn variation is acceptable if measurements and shadow placement are consistent.

Check: Measure the offset and shadow band at three points; both should be 2 mm. Confirm no shadow band on the upper left edges.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Raised shape contour is closed and inside the panel.
- [ ] Offset line appears on the lower right side and is consistent in distance.
- [ ] Shadow band appears only on the lower right side and is equal to or narrower than the offset.
- [ ] Upper left edge has no shadow band and may have a thin highlight.
- [ ] Measurements of offset and shadow band are consistent within 1 mm on a 10 cm panel.
- [ ] Line style may vary, but the light direction and offset relationships are maintained.

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