Charcoal Figure Drawing: Gesture, Mass, and Tonal Modeling

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.

Charcoal Figure Drawing: Gesture, Mass, and Tonal Modeling

Worked example / complete source key

A standing figure on 30 cm hypothetical paper height: draw gesture with joint dots, block masses, then model with one light direction and lift highlights.

Answer: Gesture line runs head to supporting foot with six joint dots. Using a hypothetical 5 cm head unit, the 30 cm figure is about six head units tall. Torso block about 10 cm wide (two head units), limbs tapered. Shadow side darkened, lit side lifted with kneaded eraser. Figure reads as solid with clear gesture.