Dog Base Drawing: Build a Reusable Body Outline Template

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A torso oval is 9 cm long and 5 cm high. Leg height is 6 cm. Calculate the body-length-to-leg-height ratio and state whether two leg heights are longer than the torso.

Answer: The ratio is 9 divided by 6, or 1.5 to 1. Two leg heights equal 12 cm, which is longer than the 9 cm torso.

Reason: Divide torso length by leg height. Then multiply leg height by two and compare with torso length.

Check: Measure the drawn torso and leg lines with a ruler; recalculate 9 divided by 6 and 6 times 2.

Task 2

A head circle has diameter 4 cm and the torso length is 11 cm. Calculate the head-to-torso ratio. If the learner wants a ratio near 0.3 to 1, what head diameter is a simple example?

Answer: The ratio is 4 divided by 11, about 0.36 to 1. A simple example near 0.3 to 1 is a 3.3 cm diameter, since 3.3 divided by 11 equals 0.3.

Reason: Divide head diameter by torso length. To find an example diameter, multiply torso length by the target ratio: 11 times 0.3 equals 3.3.

Check: Measure the head circle and torso line; recalculate 4 divided by 11 and 3.3 divided by 11.

Task 3

A base template has torso length 10 cm, leg height 7 cm, and head diameter 4 cm. The learner draws a blank overlay copy but erases the midline. Explain why this is a problem and give one fix.

Answer: Erasing the midline removes the reference for x-height and head placement checks. The fix is to keep the baseline and midline visible on the blank copy, or redraw them before adding breed features.

Reason: The convention uses baseline to midline as x-height, and the midline helps place the head circle. Removing it weakens the reusable template.

Check: Inspect the blank copy for a visible baseline and midline; confirm the head circle can be checked against the torso midline.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A learner records torso length 8 cm, leg height 5 cm, and head diameter 3 cm. Calculate both checklist ratios and list two rubric items that must still be checked on the drawing.

Answer: Body length to leg height is 8 divided by 5, or 1.6 to 1. Head to torso is 3 divided by 8, or 0.375 to 1. Two rubric items to check are that four leg guides are measured from the baseline and that the blank overlay copy keeps the base guides visible.

Reason: Divide the recorded values for each ratio. Then match the drawing to rubric items about leg guides and overlay copies.

Check: Measure the drawn lines and recalculate 8 divided by 5 and 3 divided by 8; inspect the template for four leg guides and a visible-guide overlay copy.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Torso oval is drawn with a marked baseline and midline.
- [ ] Four leg guides are placed and measured from the baseline in centimetres.
- [ ] Head circle is placed above the front torso and measured.
- [ ] Body-length-to-leg-height ratio is calculated and recorded.
- [ ] Head-to-torso ratio is calculated and recorded.
- [ ] Blank overlay copy keeps the base guides visible.
- [ ] Breed features are added only after the base passes the checklist.
- [ ] Labels are readable and use a consistent letter style; x-height is baseline to midline.

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