# Tattoo Shading Practice: Gradient Blending and Stipple Density Drills

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.

# Tattoo Shading Practice: Gradient Blending and Stipple Density Drills

Worked example / complete source key

A practice plate has a gradient strip with five segments. Segment 3 reads darker than segment 4 when squinted. What is the likely cause and how do you fix it?

Answer: The tonal order is reversed because segment 3 received more pressure or an extra pass than segment 4. Fix by lightening segment 3 with a transition pass toward segment 2, then rebuild segment 4 with one additional pass so the order reads 1 lightest to 5 darkest.