Draw a Reclining Man with Foreshortening: A Step-by-Step Guide

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: A reclining man lies on his back, propped on his left elbow. His right leg is bent with the knee pointing up, and his left leg extends away. The near shoulder is closer to the viewer than the far shoulder. Using the landmark method, describe how to place the torso boxes and limb cylinders, and give a hypothetical ratio check for the right thigh versus right calf.

Answer: Draw the ground line and mark the near left shoulder and near left hip. Place the ribcage box tilted back, then the pelvis box tilted forward, overlapping at the waist. The far shoulder and far hip are drawn smaller and partially hidden. For the right leg, draw the thigh cylinder from hip to knee with a large knee ellipse because the knee is near. Draw the calf cylinder from knee to ankle with a smaller ankle ellipse because the ankle recedes. Hypothetical check: if the right thigh measures 5 units and the right calf measures 3 units, the ratio is 5:3. Compare to your reference; if the reference shows 5:2, shorten the calf. Label all landmarks and re-measure after adjustment.