Cat Legs Drawing: Joint Bends and Front/Back Comparison

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a front leg with shoulder, elbow, and wrist. Make the elbow offset small and behind the shoulder-to-wrist line. Label the elbow.

Answer: A front leg with a gentle backward elbow bend and a small wrist angle; elbow label placed near the middle joint.

Reason: The front leg is defined by a small elbow offset, not a sharp zigzag.

Check: Fold paper along the shoulder-to-wrist line; the elbow should sit slightly behind the fold.

Task 2

Draw a back leg with hip, knee, and ankle. Make the knee point forward and the ankle point back. Label the knee.

Answer: A back leg with a forward knee and backward ankle, forming a clear zigzag.

Reason: The back leg reads correctly when the middle joint points opposite the lower joint.

Check: Compare the knee and ankle directions: they should alternate.

Task 3

Draw a front leg and a back leg on equal-height baselines. Make the back leg upper segment longer than its lower segment. Check the middle-joint angles.

Answer: Two legs of equal total height; back leg has a longer hip-to-knee segment and a sharper middle bend.

Reason: Equal baselines make proportion comparison fair; the back leg shows a longer upper segment as a hypothetical example.

Check: Measure both baselines; confirm they match. Compare middle-joint angles by folding paper.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw two back legs side by side. In one, make the knee bend sharper; in the other, make it gentler. Label both knees and state which is sharper.

Answer: Two back legs with different knee bends; the sharper one has a smaller angle at the knee.

Reason: Varying one joint while keeping landmarks consistent tests control of bend direction and angle.

Check: Use a folded paper corner to compare the two knee angles; the sharper bend fits a narrower fold.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Three joint points are marked on each leg.
- [ ] Front elbow offset is small and behind the main line.
- [ ] Back knee points forward and ankle points back.
- [ ] Back middle bend is visibly sharper than front middle bend.
- [ ] Labels follow the baseline-to-midline x-height convention.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if joint directions and relative bends are correct.

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