Compression Drawing: Foreshortened Limbs in a Crouched Pose

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.

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Worked example / complete source key

A crouched figure has a torso tilted 35 degrees forward, a knee angle of 60 degrees, and a near forearm drawn at 40 percent of the upper-arm length. The upper arm measures 6 cm on paper. How long is the visible forearm, and what does the knee angle tell you about the lower leg?

Answer: Visible forearm = 0.40 x 6 cm = 2.4 cm. A 60-degree knee angle means the lower leg folds back sharply toward the thigh, so the knee bend should look tight and the lower leg should overlap the thigh near the knee.