Kitchen Table Drawing: Top Shape, Legs, and Attachment

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a rectangular kitchen tabletop 10 units wide and 6 units deep. Place four legs inset by 1 unit from each corner. Make each leg 8 units long and stop all legs at one floor line. Describe the finished drawing.

Answer: A rectangle 10 by 6 units with an inner footprint rectangle inset 1 unit. Four legs at the inset corners, each 8 units long, all ending on the same floor line.

Reason: The inset keeps legs under the top. One floor line guarantees equal leg length and a stable table.

Check: Measure the inset from each corner: it should be 1 unit. Measure each leg from tabletop underside to floor line: all should be 8 units.

Task 2

Draw an elliptical tabletop 14 units wide and 9 units deep. Place four legs at the compass points of an inner footprint ellipse inset by 1 unit. Taper each leg from 2 units at the top to 1 unit at the bottom. Describe how you check symmetry.

Answer: A smooth ellipse 14 by 9 units with an inner footprint ellipse inset 1 unit. Four legs at north, south, east, and west footprint points, each tapered symmetrically from 2 to 1 unit.

Reason: Compass-point placement distributes legs evenly under an elliptical top. Symmetric taper keeps each leg centered.

Check: Fold or lightly mirror the drawing along the vertical and horizontal midlines; leg positions and taper widths should match on both sides.

Task 3

A student draws a tabletop 12 units wide and 8 units deep but places the back legs 2 units outside the tabletop outline. State the mistake and give a correction using an inner footprint.

Answer: The back legs are outside the top. Correct by drawing an inner footprint inset 1 unit and moving the back leg centers onto that footprint before redrawing the legs.

Reason: Legs must attach under the top. An inner footprint gives a checkable boundary for all four leg centers.

Check: Trace the tabletop outline and confirm every leg center lies inside it; measure the inset from the edge to each leg center.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a kitchen table with a rectangular top 9 units wide and 7 units deep, four legs 9 units long, and a taper from 2 units to 1 unit. Add a bracket line at each attachment. Describe one valid alternative letter style for labeling the units.

Answer: A 9 by 7 rectangle with four inset legs 9 units long, symmetric taper 2 to 1, and bracket lines at each leg. Labels may be printed or cursive as long as x-height is measured baseline to midline.

Reason: The rectangle and inset legs satisfy the attachment rule. The taper and brackets show construction. Letter style is free because only x-height is fixed.

Check: Measure top width and depth, leg length, and taper widths. Check that each label's x-height runs from baseline to midline regardless of style.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Tabletop shape is clearly an ellipse or rectangle and is smooth or straight as chosen.
- [ ] Four legs are present, inset under the top, and none fall outside the tabletop outline.
- [ ] All four legs stop at one floor line and have equal length.
- [ ] Taper is symmetric on each leg and consistent across legs.
- [ ] Attachment details such as brackets or apron lines are visible at each leg.
- [ ] Labels, if used, follow the baseline-to-midline x-height convention and remain legible; letter style may vary.
- [ ] Any numerical values are labeled as hypothetical examples or are actual measured values.

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