Realistic Pumpkin Drawing: Rib Shading, Stem Texture, and Cast Shadow

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 pumpkin is drawn with its widest oval 12 cm wide and 8 cm tall. The light comes from the upper left. Describe where to place the light, middle, and dark values on a rib on the right side of the pumpkin, and where the cast shadow should fall.

Answer: On a right-side rib, the light-facing edge is the upper-left side of that rib, so place the light value there. The middle value goes across the central curve. The dark value goes on the lower-right edge and in the crease to its right. The cast shadow falls to the lower right, touching the base and extending outward.

Reason: The light direction is upper left, so surfaces facing upper left receive more light. A right-side rib faces partly away from the light on its lower-right side, so that side is darker. The cast shadow is opposite the light, to the lower right.

Check: Squint at the drawing: the right-side rib should show a clear light-to-dark gradient from upper left to lower right, and the cast shadow should touch the base on the lower right without floating.