Pen Cat Drawing: Contour, Line Weight, and Hatching

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

Draw a seated cat in pen with a light source from the upper left. Use thin lines on the top and back, thick lines on the underside and paws, and hatch the shadow side with lines parallel to the nearest contour. State your line-weight convention.

Answer: The cat is drawn with a thin contour first. The top of the head and the back remain thin (one light pass). The underside of the body and the paws are thickened with one firm pass. The shadow side is the right side and the underside. Hatching on the back follows the curve of the spine; hatching on the chest runs vertically; hatching on the tail follows the tail curve. The lit side (upper left) is left open. The convention is: thin = one light pass; thick = one firm pass. Check: every thick line has a reason (shadow or contact), hatching direction matches the nearest contour, and the lit side is open.