Realistic Crab Drawing: Anatomy, Texture, and Shading

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: Draw a top-down practice crab with a hypothetical 10 cm carapace width, 5 cm claw length, and 15 cm leg span. Use an Atlantic rock crab surface reference described as having a granulated carapace and granulated pincer ridges. Light the drawing from the upper left; copy only those described texture areas and do not invent leg hairs.

Answer: Begin with a light sketch: draw a carapace 10 cm wide and 6 cm tall. For this worksheet convention, mark four leg attachment points on each side; verify the actual limb form against the selected species reference. Draw claws extending forward, each 5 cm long, and arrange the legs to reach a total span of 15 cm. For texture, copy the granulated carapace and pincer ridges described for the Atlantic rock crab; leave other surfaces unmarked unless the reference shows additional details. With light from upper left, keep the upper-left carapace lighter, midtone the center, and shade the lower right and undersides. Check the hypothetical proportions: carapace width is twice claw length and leg span is 1.5 times carapace width.