Drawing a Reclining Figure: Contact Points and Body Twist

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.

Drawing a Reclining Figure: Contact Points and Body Twist

Worked example / complete source key

A figure lies on its right side on a flat surface. The head contacts at the left end, the pelvis at about 3.5 head units from the crown, and the heel at about 7.5. The ribcage is twisted 30 degrees toward the viewer relative to the pelvis. Describe the contact ovals and the spine check.

Answer: Draw a horizontal surface line. Place a flattened oval at the back of the head, one at the upper back, one at the pelvis, one at the outer thigh, and one at the heel. The pelvis oval sits lower than the upper-back oval. Draw the pelvis box aligned with the hip contact, then rotate the ribcage box 30 degrees toward the viewer. Connect box centers with one curved spine line. Check: all five ovals overlap the surface line; the spine arc has no sharp bend; the near shoulder is lower than the far shoulder.