Draw an Acorn: Cap Texture and Nut-Body Shading

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw an acorn 8 cm tall with a cap 2 cm tall. Place the widest nut point 2 cm below the cap rim. Use cross-hatch texture and two tones only: light and dark.

Answer: An acorn with a 2 cm dome cap, nut body widest at 2 cm below the rim, cross-hatch patches on the cap, and two clear tones on the nut body.

Reason: The cap is one-quarter of total height, which fits the suggested range. The nut body is 6 cm tall, so its midpoint is 3 cm below the rim; placing the widest point at 2 cm keeps it above the midpoint. Two tones simplify the shading decision.

Check: Measure cap height and widest-point distance with a ruler. Confirm the widest point is less than 3 cm below the rim, two distinct tone areas are present, and cross-hatch patches are visible.

Task 2

Draw an acorn 12 cm tall. Make the cap 4 cm tall and the nut body widest 5 cm below the rim. Use a light direction from the left and three tones. Add a thin clear border at the cap rim.

Answer: A 12 cm acorn with a 4 cm cap, widest nut point at 5 cm below the rim, left-side light, three tones, and an untextured border at the rim.

Reason: Cap height is one-third of total height, within the suggested range. The widest point is above the nut midpoint. The border keeps the rim readable.

Check: Measure cap and widest-point distances. Check that the left side is lightest and the border is visible.

Task 3

Draw two acorns side by side, each 9 cm tall. Give the first a cap 2.5 cm tall and the second a cap 3.5 cm tall. Use cross-hatch on both caps but vary the patch density. Shade both nut bodies with three tones.

Answer: Two acorns with different cap heights, varied cross-hatch density, and three-tone nut shading on each.

Reason: Comparing two cap heights shows how the dome proportion changes the look. Varying patch density practices texture control without changing the subject.

Check: Measure both cap heights. Confirm that cross-hatch density differs between caps and that each nut has three tones.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw an acorn 10 cm tall with the cap rim crossing the nut outline. Erase the nut line inside the cap area. Add cross-hatch texture and shade the nut body with a dark zone under the rim and near the tip. Use a light direction from the upper left.

Answer: An acorn with a clear cap overlap, erased interior nut line, cross-hatch texture, and dark zones under the rim and near the tip.

Reason: Erasing the nut line inside the cap makes the cap read as covering the nut. Dark zones at the rim and tip create depth.

Check: Look for no nut outline inside the cap area. Confirm dark shading under the rim and near the tip, with the upper left lightest.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Nut body is egg-like with the widest point above the midpoint.
- [ ] Cap dome and rim overlap the nut body clearly.
- [ ] Cap texture uses short cross-hatch lines in small patches.
- [ ] Three distinct tones are visible on the nut body.
- [ ] Light direction is consistent across the shading.
- [ ] Outline is clean and readable after erasing construction lines.

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