Guitarist Drawing: Torso, Arms, and Instrument Alignment

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a standing guitarist with a 6 cm by 4 cm torso block, a 3 cm upper arm, a 2.5 cm forearm, and a 5 cm by 6 cm guitar body. The torso tilts 5 degrees. Check hand placement.

Answer: The strumming hand oval crosses the string line near the sound hole; the fretting hand oval sits behind the nut; the guitar body overlaps the torso; shoulders sit on the shoulder line.

Reason: The construction order keeps the torso stable, the arm lengths consistent, and the guitar aligned to the hands. The 5-degree tilt is a hypothetical example.

Check: Measure the torso, arm segments, and guitar body against the stated sizes, then verify the four alignment checks in order.

Task 2

A seated guitarist has a torso block 6 cm tall and a hip block 3 cm tall overlapping by 1 cm. The guitar neck is 8 cm long. Describe where the fretting hand oval should sit and why.

Answer: The fretting hand oval should sit behind the nut on the neck, touching the neck line, because the neck points toward that hand and the hand must contact the instrument.

Reason: The neck length and direction are set by the fretting arm's reach. Placing the hand behind the nut keeps the alignment check true.

Check: Confirm the hand oval touches the neck and sits behind the nut; confirm the neck points toward the fretting hand.

Task 3

Draw a guitarist whose strumming hand hovers 1 cm above the guitar body. Identify the mistake and correct it using the construction order.

Answer: The mistake is a hovering hand. Correct it by moving the hand oval down until it overlaps the guitar body and crosses the string line, then redraw fingers from that contact point.

Reason: Hands must touch the instrument before details are added. The construction order places hand ovals before fingers.

Check: Check that the hand oval overlaps the body and crosses the string line; check that no gap remains between hand and guitar.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A guitarist's guitar body floats 2 cm beside the torso. The torso is 4 cm wide and the guitar body is 5 cm wide. Describe the correction and the alignment check.

Answer: Move the guitar body until it overlaps the torso by at least 1 cm, then re-check that the strumming hand still crosses the string line and the fretting hand still touches the neck.

Reason: The guitar must sit against the torso, not beside it. Moving the body changes hand placement, so all checks must be repeated.

Check: Measure the overlap between guitar body and torso, then verify hand contact and neck direction.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Torso block is clear and tilted consistently with the pose.
- [ ] Shoulder line and waist seam are marked and used.
- [ ] Both arms originate from the shoulder line and have distinct joints.
- [ ] Strumming hand overlaps the guitar body and crosses the string line.
- [ ] Fretting hand touches the neck behind the nut.
- [ ] Guitar body overlaps the torso rather than floating.
- [ ] Neck angle matches the fretting arm's reach.
- [ ] Valid stylistic alternatives are accepted if alignment checks remain true.

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