Draw a Simple Wave: Curl, Crest, and Foam Line

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

On a sheet of paper, mark a forward direction to the right. Draw a curl that opens toward it, add a crest above the curl's center, and finish with a broken foam line inside the crest. Describe the result using the convention.

Answer: The curl is a spiral opening to the right with about one and a quarter turns and a small center opening. The crest rises smoothly from the curl's outer end to a highest point above the curl's center, then descends to the baseline on the left. The foam line is a broken line of short, evenly spaced segments that follows the crest and curls over the lip, sitting slightly inside the crest line. All three parts are clearly identifiable, and the joins are smooth.