Crossed Hands Drawing: Wrist Rotation, Finger Overlap, and Palm Orientation

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Block two palm masses for crossed hands. The nearer hand has palm length 7 units and finger length 6 units. The farther hand has palm length 6 units and finger length 5 units. Calculate both finger-to-palm ratios and state which hand is in front at the wrist.

Answer: Nearer ratio is 6 divided by 7, about 0.86. Farther ratio is 5 divided by 6, about 0.83. The nearer hand is in front at the wrist.

Reason: Divide finger length by palm length for each hand using the same unit. The nearer hand is the one labeled in front during blocking.

Check: Recompute both divisions and confirm the nearer hand label matches the front wrist edge.

Task 2

A drawing has a wrist angle of 40 degrees between forearm lines. You want a narrower crossing. Describe how to adjust the forearm lines and what to record.

Answer: Move one forearm line closer to the other to reduce the angle below 40 degrees, rotate the palm masses to match, and record the new angle.

Reason: The wrist angle is the angle between forearm directions. Reducing the separation narrows the crossing. Recording the angle keeps later steps consistent.

Check: Measure the new angle with the same method and confirm both palm masses still meet their forearm lines.

Task 3

At a finger crossing, the nearer hand's index finger passes over the farther hand's middle finger. Describe the drawing order and the tick mark.

Answer: Place a tick at the crossing showing the nearer index finger in front. Draw the farther middle finger first, then draw the nearer index finger outline last so it stays continuous.

Reason: The front finger's outline must remain unbroken. Drawing it last prevents the back finger from cutting through it.

Check: Trace each outline through the crossing and confirm only the front finger's line is continuous.

Crossed Hands Drawing: Wrist Rotation, Finger Overlap, and Palm Orientation

Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A right hand shows the back of the hand to the viewer. The thumb base is on the viewer's right. State the palm orientation and one check to confirm thumb placement.

Answer: The palm faces away from the viewer. For a right hand with the back facing the viewer, the thumb base is on the viewer's right, which matches. Check that the thumb base was drawn before finger details.

Reason: For a right hand, palm-facing puts the thumb base on the viewer's left and back-facing puts it on the viewer's right. The stated side matches back-facing orientation. Drawing the thumb base early makes the orientation readable.

Check: Confirm the hand is labeled right, compare the thumb base side with the orientation rule (back-facing right hand: viewer's right), and confirm the thumb base line was placed before finger lines.

Crossed Hands Drawing: Wrist Rotation, Finger Overlap, and Palm Orientation

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Two palm masses are present and overlap at the wrists.
- [ ] Wrist center, knuckle line, and thumb base are marked on both hands.
- [ ] The wrist crossing angle is recorded and matches the forearm lines.
- [ ] Every finger crossing has a front tick and a consistent overlap order.
- [ ] Thumb bases match the chosen palm orientation.
- [ ] Palm and finger lengths use the same unit and the measured ratio is recorded.
- [ ] Valid alternative hand styles are accepted if the landmark structure and overlap logic remain clear.

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