Glossy Plastic Drawing: Bottle and Cup Shading

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

A bottle outline is 12 cm tall and 4 cm wide. Using the upper-left light convention, describe where to place the diffuse zone and specular highlight, and give a five-step value plan.

Answer: Place the diffuse zone as a soft vertical band from about 1 cm to 2 cm from the left edge, running most of the height. Place the specular highlight as a narrow vertical shape about 0.5 cm wide inside that band, starting 2 cm below the top and ending 2 cm above the base. Value plan: paper white for specular, light gray for diffuse, middle gray for body, dark gray for shadow side, near-black for contact shadow. Check that the highlight does not touch the outline and that the diffuse zone is wider than the highlight.