# Draw a Realistic Wood Duck: Feather Layering and Iridescent Head

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 side-view wood duck facing left. Body length 10 units, head length 3 units, bill 1.5 units, tail tip 2 units beyond the rear oval. Show five feather rows and a three-zone iridescent head.

Answer: Draw baseline and midline. Place rear oval and front oval overlapping one-quarter. Add head wedge forward of breast, short neck, tapered bill tilted up, eye high and forward. Add tail tips, lower flank, mid-flank, upper wing coverts, and neck rows, each overlapping one-third. Block head into crown, cheek, throat; apply green base, blue-violet lower-cheek band, pale streak above eye; add white throat patch and neck stripe. Check ratios and row spacing.