Draw a Treble Clef: Spiral Construction and Staff Placement

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A staff has lines 5 mm apart. Where should the spiral center sit, and what is a hypothetical spiral diameter that keeps the spiral about twice the line spacing?

Answer: The spiral center sits on line 2. A hypothetical spiral diameter of 10 mm is about twice the 5 mm line spacing.

Reason: The anchor is always line 2. Doubling the measured line spacing gives a proportional spiral size; 5 mm doubled is 10 mm.

Check: Measure the gap between lines 1 and 2, confirm it is 5 mm, then measure the spiral diameter and compare it to 10 mm.

Task 2

Your tall loop stops at line 5 and does not rise above the staff. Describe one adjustment and how to check it.

Answer: Extend the upward sweep so it rises above line 5, then bring it back down. Check by holding a straight edge above line 5 to confirm the loop clears it.

Reason: The tall loop must extend above the staff to read as a treble clef. Extending the sweep without moving the spiral center preserves the anchor.

Check: Place a ruler parallel to line 5 and above it; the top of the loop should be visible above the ruler.

Task 3

You draw the spiral as a closed circle centered on line 2. What is the structural problem, and how do you fix it?

Answer: The spiral lacks an inward coil. Fix it by starting at the center and coiling outward, leaving a visible opening so the shape reads as a spiral.

Reason: A closed circle does not show the spiral construction. The center must remain visible as the inward end of the coil.

Check: Trace the stroke with a finger; it should wind inward to a center point rather than loop back on itself as a closed ring.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

On a staff with 7 mm line spacing, the hook ends 3 mm above line 1. Describe the correction and a check using hypothetical values.

Answer: Continue the final stroke downward until it passes below line 1, for example about 7 mm below line 1, then curve left. Check by measuring from line 1 to the hook's lowest point.

Reason: The hook must fall below the staff. Using the measured line spacing as a guide keeps the correction proportional.

Check: Measure the distance from line 1 to the hook's lowest point; it should be below line 1, such as the hypothetical 7 mm.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Spiral center is on line 2 of the staff.
- [ ] Spiral coils inward to a visible center rather than forming a closed circle.
- [ ] Tall loop rises above the top staff line and returns smoothly.
- [ ] Hook extends below the bottom staff line and curves left.
- [ ] Stroke reads as one continuous clef with consistent width.
- [ ] Clef is legible and proportional to the staff; valid stylistic variations are accepted.

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