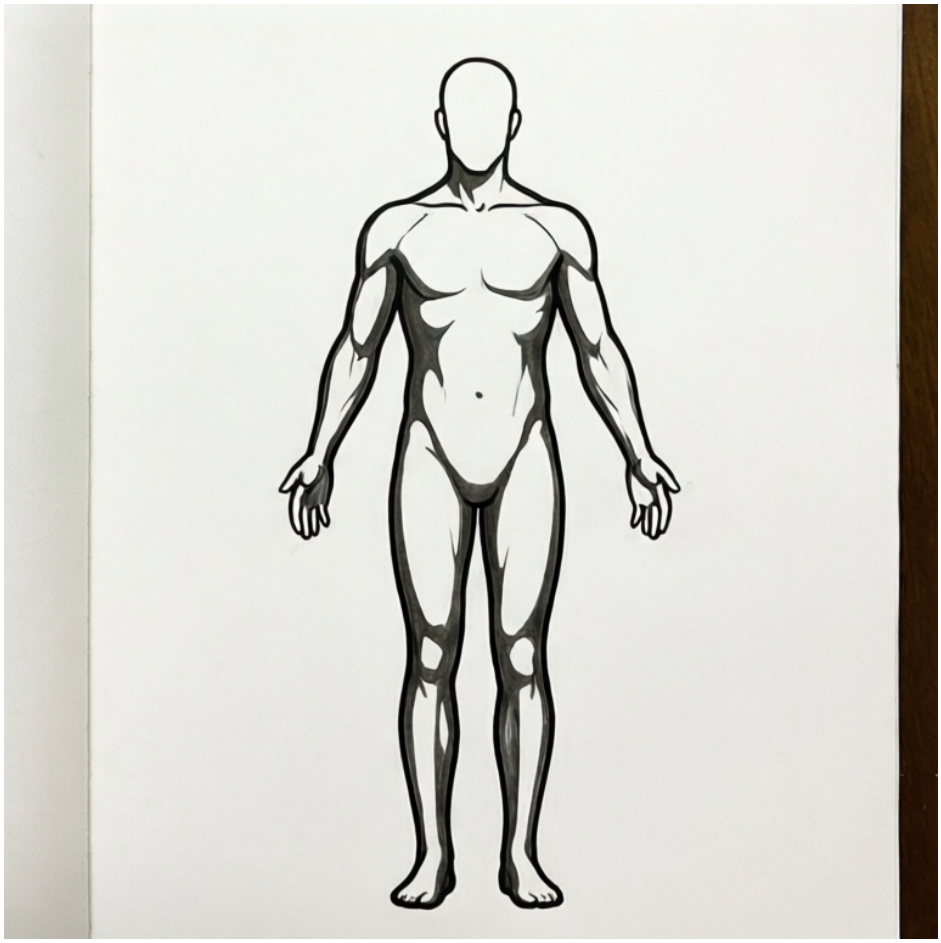
Negative Space Figure Drawing: Enclosed Shapes Around a Figure

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.

Negative Space Figure Drawing: Enclosed Shapes Around a Figure

Worked example / complete source key

A figure outline shows a standing person with one arm slightly away from the torso. The bounding box is marked. Your x-height is 4 mm. The gap between the arm and torso measures about 8 mm. Describe the enclosed negative shapes and check the spacing claim.

Answer: Enclosed regions include: A, the gap between arm and torso, about two x-heights wide (8 mm); B, the background under the raised arm, closed by the arm, torso, and bounding box edge; C, the background between the legs, closed by both legs and the box edge. The figure remains unshaded. Check: 2 x 4 mm = 8 mm, matching the measured gap. Label list matches labels A, B, C. Alternative: region A could be split into two shapes if the arm touches the torso at one point; state that rule.