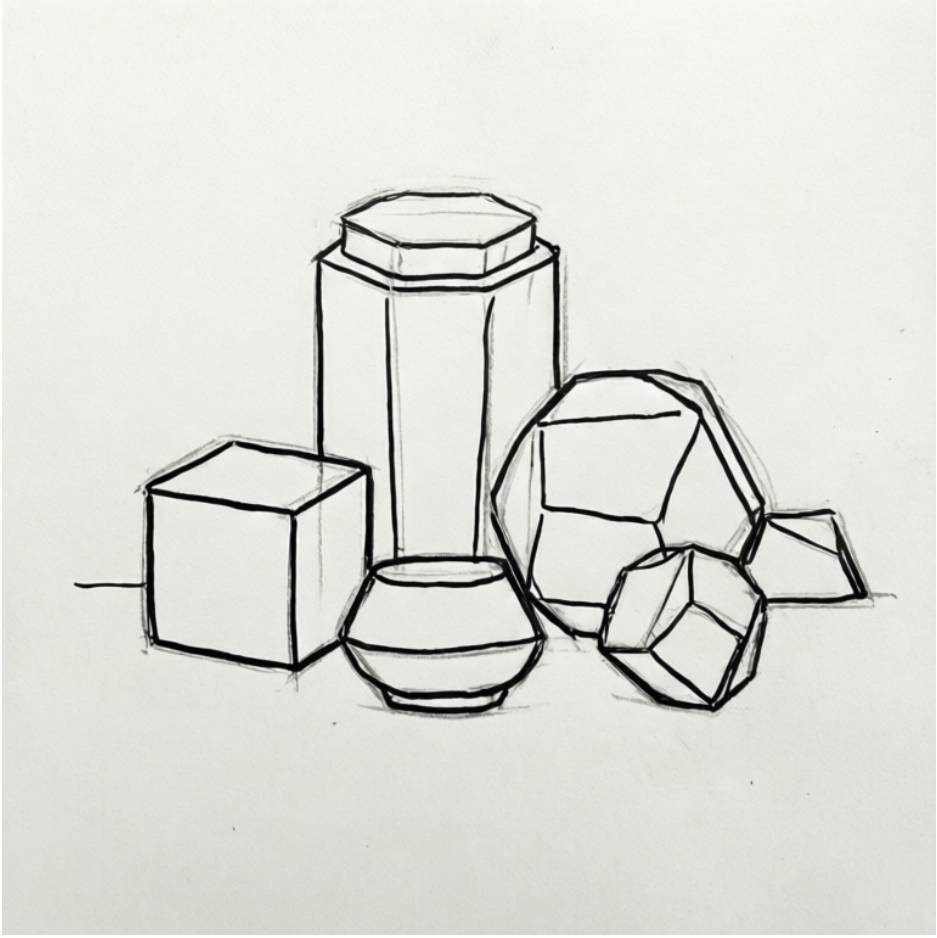
Still Life Drawing Exercises: Tonal, Edge, and Composition Drills

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



Still Life Drawing Exercises: Tonal, Edge, and Composition Drills

Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: Draw a 6 cm by 8 cm rectangle. Place a box and a sphere so the box is left of center and the sphere is right of center. Shade the box with a sharp edge on its left side and the sphere with a soft edge on its lower right. Use values 1, 3, and 5 from your scale.

Answer: The rectangle has a 1 cm margin, so the usable area runs from 1 cm to 5 cm across the 6 cm width. The center of the width is 3 cm. Place a 2 cm by 2 cm box with its left edge 1.5 cm from the left edge of the rectangle, so it spans 1.5 cm to 3.5 cm; its center is 2.5 cm, which is left of center. Place a 1 cm sphere centered at 4.5 cm from the left edge, so it spans 4.0 cm to 5.0 cm; its center is right of center. Both forms stay within the 1 cm to 5 cm usable area, and there is a 0.5 cm gap between the box's right edge at 3.5 cm and the sphere's left edge at 4.0 cm, so they do not overlap. The box left edge changes from value 3 to value 5 within 2 mm (sharp). The sphere lower right transitions from value 3 to value 1 over about 8 mm (soft). The background remains value 1. The layout is balanced because the darker box on the left balances the lighter sphere on the right.