Casting Hand Poses: Construction-Line Drawing Practice

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Describe how to construct a casting pose with the palm facing up and fingers gently curled toward the viewer. Include palm block, knuckle points, direction lines, finger cylinders, and wrist axis.

Answer: Block a palm box tilted so its top edge faces up and toward the viewer. Place four knuckle points along the leading edge and one thumb point on the side. Draw direction lines rising and curving slightly toward the viewer. Add short finger cylinders that curve inward at the tips, with the middle finger longest. Place the thumb cylinder alongside the palm. Draw the wrist axis dropping straight down from the palm base.

Reason: The upward tilt and curled direction lines create the cupped gesture. Short cylinders suggest foreshortening toward the viewer.

Check: Cover the fingers and confirm the palm block and wrist axis alone suggest an upward cupped cast. Then confirm the middle cylinder is longest.

Task 2

A student draws a side push but every finger cylinder is fully visible and the palm looks wide. Identify the construction error and describe the fix.

Answer: The palm block is not edge-on enough, so fingers do not overlap. Narrow the palm block until it reads as edge-on, then redraw knuckle points along the leading vertical edge. Draw the nearest finger cylinder fully and let farther cylinders peek out behind it. Angle the wrist axis diagonally to show rotation.

Reason: Overlap is the readability cue for an edge-on palm. A wide palm block prevents natural overlap.

Check: Confirm at least two finger cylinders overlap and that the palm block is narrower than in the forward cast.

Casting Hand Poses: Construction-Line Drawing Practice

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Invent a casting pose where the hand pushes diagonally down and left. Describe the palm block tilt, knuckle placement, direction lines, cylinder lengths, and wrist axis.

Answer: Block a palm box tilted diagonally down and left, seen partly edge-on. Place knuckle points along the lower-left leading edge. Draw direction lines angling down and left, fanning slightly. Make the outer finger cylinders shorter to show foreshortening. Place the thumb cylinder pointing down along the side. Draw the wrist axis angling up and right from the palm base toward the forearm.

Reason: The diagonal palm tilt and matching direction lines create the push. Partial edge-on view produces overlap and foreshortening.

Check: Cover the fingers and confirm the palm block and wrist axis alone suggest a diagonal downward-left push. Then confirm at least one overlap.

Task 4

Explain why the wrist axis should be drawn before the final outline, using the forward cast as an example.

Answer: The wrist axis confirms how the hand aligns with the arm. In the forward cast, the axis runs straight back from the palm base slightly below center. If the final outline is drawn first, the wrist may contradict the palm tilt and the gesture will look disconnected. Drawing the axis early lets you adjust the palm block before committing to outlines.

Reason: Construction layers must agree before outlining. The wrist axis is the arm-connection check.

Check: Confirm the wrist axis was drawn before any final outline and that it aligns with the palm block's base direction.

Casting Hand Poses: Construction-Line Drawing Practice

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Palm block is drawn first and clearly shows the gesture's facing direction.
- [ ] Knuckle points are placed on the palm block edge before finger cylinders.
- [ ] Finger cylinders follow direction lines and vary in length where foreshortening applies.
- [ ] Wrist axis connects the palm base to the forearm direction consistently.
- [ ] Overlaps appear naturally in edge-on poses such as the side push.
- [ ] Final outline respects the construction layers without contradicting them.
- [ ] Valid alternative hand shapes and finger styles are accepted if construction logic holds.

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