Contour Drawings of Hair: Silhouette and Strand Edges

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 head outline is given. Draw a loose-hair contour with three overlap gaps: one at the left shoulder, one at the right shoulder, and one near the crown. Use one line weight and no shading. State the overlap order at each gap.

Answer: Silhouette: a wide, irregular closed contour from the crown around both sides to the shoulders, with gaps where hair meets the face. Inner edges: three major strand groups fan outward. At the left shoulder, the front lock crosses the back lock; the back line stops at the front line, leaving a gap. At the right shoulder, the front lock crosses the back lock in the opposite direction; the rear line stops. Near the crown, a short front strand crosses a longer back strand; the back line stops. All lines use the same weight. No shading. Overlap notes: left shoulder front-over-back; right shoulder front-over-back; crown front-over-back. Check: intended gaps = 3, drawn gaps = 3, missing = 0.