Contour Drawing: Hand Gripping a Phone

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

A left hand holds a phone vertically. The phone's right edge is visible. The thumb crosses the phone face from the lower-left to the middle-right. The index finger wraps around the top-right corner. Describe the order of contour lines you would draw, starting with the phone edge.

Answer: Draw the phone's right edge from top-right corner downward. At the top-right corner, draw the index finger's outer contour from knuckle to fingertip, returning to the phone edge below the finger. Continue the phone edge downward to the bottom-right corner. Then draw the thumb's outer edge from the lower-left of the phone face to where it meets the middle-right, stopping at the phone edge. No screen detail is added.

Reason: The phone edge provides the rigid frame. Finger crossings are junctions where the phone edge pauses and the finger contour is drawn. The thumb is drawn last because it overlaps the phone face rather than the side edge.

Check: Verify that the phone edge is broken at exactly two junctions (index finger and thumb meeting the edge) and that the thumb line stops at the phone edge without continuing into the screen area.

Task 2

A right hand grips a phone horizontally. The phone's top edge is visible. Three fingers wrap over the top edge: index, middle, and ring. Each finger creates a small bump above the phone edge. Describe how to draw the top edge and the three finger bumps as a continuous contour.

Answer: Draw the phone's top edge from left to right. At the first finger crossing, stop the phone edge and draw a small convex bump upward for the index finger, then return to the phone edge. Continue to the middle finger crossing, draw a second bump, and return. Continue to the ring finger crossing, draw a third bump, and return. Finish the top edge to the right corner. The bumps are gentle curves, not sharp peaks.

Reason: Each finger crossing interrupts the straight phone edge with a rounded bump. Keeping the line continuous where possible trains edge awareness and junction control.

Check: Count three distinct bumps above the top edge. Confirm each bump returns to the phone edge at the same level and that no bump is drawn as a sharp angle.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

A hand holds a phone at a slight angle. The phone's left edge is visible and tilted. The thumb rests on the near edge, and the index finger wraps around the top-left corner. The middle finger is hidden behind the phone. Describe the contour lines for the visible phone edge, the index finger, and the thumb, noting where lines stop.

Answer: Draw the tilted left edge from the top-left corner downward. At the top-left corner, draw the index finger's outer contour from knuckle to fingertip, returning to the phone edge below the finger. Continue the tilted edge to the bottom-left corner. Draw the thumb's outer edge where it meets the near edge, stopping at the phone edge. Do not draw the hidden middle finger.

Reason: Only visible edges are drawn in contour. The hidden middle finger is omitted because it does not contribute to the silhouette. The tilted phone edge is drawn as a single straight line at the observed angle.

Check: Confirm the phone edge is a single straight line at a consistent angle, that the index finger junction is at the top-left corner, and that no line represents the hidden middle finger.

Task 4

A hand holds a phone with the thumb crossing the screen diagonally from lower-left to upper-right. The phone's bottom edge is visible. The pinky finger wraps around the bottom-right corner. Describe the contour sequence for the bottom edge, the pinky finger, and the thumb, and state one junction to check.

Answer: Draw the phone's bottom edge from left to right. At the bottom-right corner, draw the pinky finger's outer contour from knuckle to fingertip, returning to the bottom edge. Continue the bottom edge to the right corner. Draw the thumb's outer edge diagonally from lower-left to upper-right, stopping where it meets the phone edge or screen boundary. Check the junction where the thumb meets the lower-left phone edge: the thumb line should stop cleanly at the edge without crossing into the phone face.

Reason: The bottom edge and pinky form one junction at the corner. The thumb crosses the face and meets the edge at a separate point. Checking that junction ensures the thumb does not incorrectly overlap the phone edge.

Check: Verify the pinky junction is at the bottom-right corner and the thumb junction is at the lower-left edge. Confirm the thumb line stops at the edge and does not continue across the phone face as a separate line.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Contour only: no shading, texture, or phone UI detail.
- [ ] At least three finger edges are visible and traced from knuckle to fingertip.
- [ ] Each finger-phone junction shows a clear meeting of two lines.
- [ ] Phone edge is drawn as a simple rounded rectangle or visible side edge.
- [ ] Line quality is consistent: smooth curves, deliberate strokes, minimal sketchiness.
- [ ] Thumb edge is included where it crosses the phone face or near edge.
- [ ] Drawing reads as a hand holding a phone from contour alone.

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