# Contour Line Drawing of Dogs Across Breeds

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a hypothetical greyhound silhouette in a box 50 mm tall and 60 mm wide. Use an x-height of 5 mm as a hypothetical unit. Plan a dog 10 x-heights tall and 12 x-heights long. Start at the nose, trace the outer silhouette, and finish at the tail tip without lifting the pencil.

Answer: The dog is 50 mm tall and 60 mm long, filling the box. The top of the head is at the top edge, the ground line at the bottom edge, and the tail tip at the right edge. The line is continuous from nose to tail with no lifts.

Reason: The box dimensions match the planned x-height units, so the silhouette fills the frame. A greyhound is long and deep-chested, so the overall nose-to-tail span equals the box width; the shoulder-to-hip body length is a separate, shorter feature and the chest depth reaches the lower bands.

Check: Count pencil lifts; check that the nose starts at the left edge and the tail tip ends at the right edge; confirm the dog is 10 x-heights tall and 12 x-heights long using the recorded unit.

Task 2

Draw a hypothetical bulldog silhouette in a box 40 mm tall and 40 mm wide. Use an x-height of 5 mm. Plan a dog 8 x-heights tall and 8 x-heights long. Include one internal contour line for the ear edge. Do not shade.

Answer: The overall dog silhouette is 40 mm tall and has a 40 mm nose-to-tail span, filling the box. The silhouette is low and wide, with a short body and deep chest. One internal contour line describes the ear edge. No shading is added.

Reason: A bulldog is compact, so equal height and length fit the square box. The internal ear line is a single contour, not a shaded area.

Check: Check that the drawing fills the box, that only one internal contour line is used, and that no shading appears. Count pencil lifts.

# Contour Line Drawing of Dogs Across Breeds

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Make a four-feature table for three hypothetical breeds: one tall and narrow, one low and wide, and one square. Use the features body length, chest depth, ear set, and tail carriage. Then draw one silhouette from the table in continuous contour line.

Answer: The table lists each breed with short, medium, or long body length; shallow, medium, or deep chest; high, medium, or low ear set; and upright, level, or low tail carriage. The drawn silhouette matches the table entries and is continuous.

Reason: The table forces a comparison before drawing. The drawing is checkable against the table entries.

Check: Compare each table entry to the drawing; confirm the line is continuous and that no shading or fur texture is present.

Task 4

Trace a simple dog outline guide three times: once with your finger, once with a light pencil, and once with a continuous line. Record the number of pencil lifts for each attempt. Use a start dot at the top of the head and finish at the tail tip.

Answer: The finger trace has no pencil-lift count because no pencil is used; record it as not applicable. For the light pencil trace, record the number of lifts while you learn the path. For the continuous-line trace, record the number of lifts; if a lift occurs, note where it happened and return to that point on the next attempt. Record the lift count for each pencil attempt and compare them; note where lifts occurred and whether the continuous-line attempt improved or stayed the same. There is no required lift count; the comparison is for observation. The start dot and finish point should match each time.

Reason: Repeated tracing trains eye-hand coordination. Counting lifts gives a simple, checkable measure of contour control.

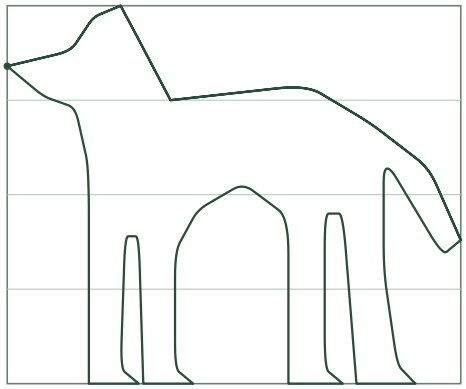
Check: Compare the recorded lift counts across the three attempts; confirm the start dot and finish point are the same each time.

# Contour Line Drawing of Dogs Across Breeds

Task 1 / answers

Continuous hypothetical dog guides / dimensions refer to the OVERALL silhouette, not shoulder-to-hip

START nose / FINISH tail



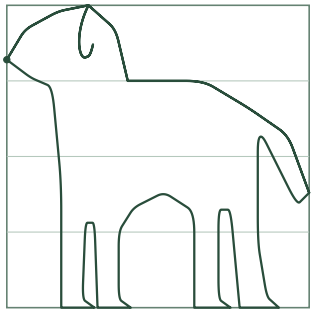
Overall frame 60 x 50 mm; hypothetical x-height unit 5 mm. Four bands are 12.5 mm each. The figure includes head, body, four legs and tail; internal ear tracing, where specified, enters and returns on one visible edge. The complete route may follow an existing outer edge again to finish at the tail, without a pen lift. Your own contour and lift observations remain yours.

# Contour Line Drawing of Dogs Across Breeds

## Task 2 / answers

Continuous hypothetical dog guides / dimensions refer to the OVERALL silhouette, not shoulder-to-hip

START nose / FINISH tail



Overall frame 40 x 40 mm; hypothetical x-height unit 5 mm. Four bands are 10 mm each. The figure includes head, body, four legs and tail; internal ear tracing, where specified, enters and returns on one visible edge. The complete route may follow an existing outer edge again to finish at the tail, without a pen lift. Your own contour and lift observations remain yours.

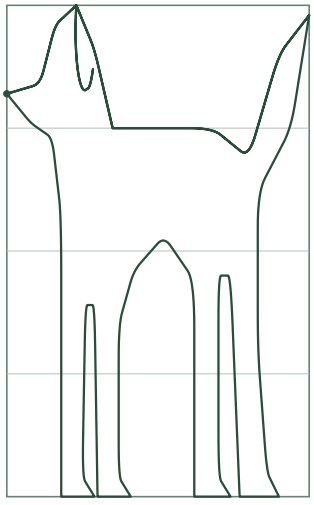
# Contour Line Drawing of Dogs Across Breeds

## Task 3 / answers

Continuous hypothetical dog guides / dimensions refer to the OVERALL silhouette, not shoulder-to-hip

| Hypothetical form | Body length | Chest depth | Ear set | Tail carriage |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tall A | short | deep | high | upright |
| Low B | long | shallow | low | low |
| Square C | medium | medium | medium | level |

START nose / FINISH tail



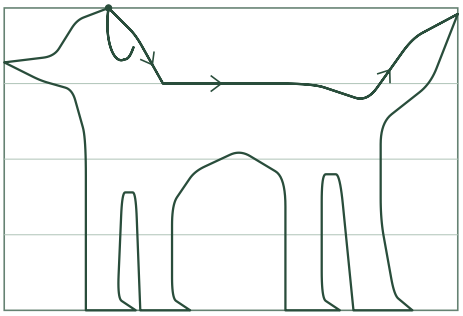
Only the selected Tall A model is pictured here: a short shoulder-to-hip span, deep chest, high ear and upright tail. Other hypothetical rows are alternative plans, not measured real breed claims. In your task, choose one row and make its silhouette match your entries.

# Contour Line Drawing of Dogs Across Breeds

Task 4 / answers

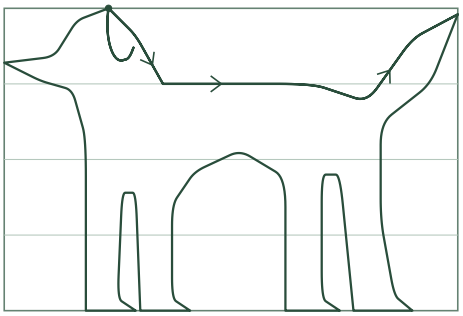
Continuous hypothetical dog guides / dimensions refer to the OVERALL silhouette, not shoulder-to-hip

START head / FINISH tail



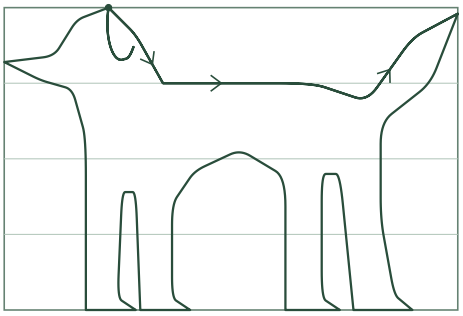
START head / FINISH tail

FINGER / pencil lifts not applicable



START head / FINISH tail

LIGHT PENCIL / observed lifts: _____



CONTINUOUS / observed lifts: _____

One route closes the outside contour, enters and returns on the same ear edge, then follows the existing upper edge to the tail. Exact edge return adds no stray contour or pen lift. Record actual results, not an invented improvement.

# Contour Line Drawing of Dogs Across Breeds

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] The silhouette is drawn with a continuous contour line and few pencil lifts.
- [ ] The breed proportion is planned using at least three landmarks and matches the chosen breed features.
- [ ] No shading or fur texture is used; internal contours are single lines only.
- [ ] The x-height convention is defined on scrap paper and used consistently, with numerical examples labeled hypothetical.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if the line is continuous, the landmarks are checkable, and the breed comparison is clear.

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