Drawing Cat Paw Prints from Top, Side, and Angled Views

Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

On a grid where one square equals 1 cm, draw a top-view print with a main pad 3 cm wide and 2 cm tall and four toe ovals 1 cm wide and 1.5 cm tall. Describe your spacing.

Answer: A centered rounded triangle main pad 3 cm by 2 cm, with four toe ovals in an arc above, spaced about 0.5 cm apart.

Reason: The top view uses the fullest shape; even spacing keeps the arc clear.

Check: Count grid squares to confirm main pad and toe sizes, and check spacing is even.

Task 2

Draw a side-view print about 4 cm wide and 1 cm tall on the same grid. Explain why it is flatter than the top view.

Answer: A shallow arc main pad with four small bumps along the top edge, total height about 1 cm.

Reason: The side view shows the print edge-on, so vertical height shrinks.

Check: Measure height against the grid; it should be about 1 cm, much less than the top view.

Task 3

Draw an angled-view print tilted about 45 degrees. Make the main pad 3 cm wide and 1.5 cm tall along the tilt, with four compressed toe ovals. Describe how you showed foreshortening.

Answer: A squashed rounded triangle main pad and a compressed toe arc along a tilted baseline.

Reason: Foreshortening reduces vertical distance while horizontal spacing stays similar.

Check: Compare vertical height to the top view; it should be shorter, and the tilt should be visible.

Task 4

Create a small reference sheet with all three views side by side on one grid. Label each view using your own lettering at least one x-height tall. List two checks you used.

Answer: Three prints on one grid: top, side, and angled, each labeled consistently. Checks include even toe spacing and correct relative heights.

Reason: A side-by-side sheet makes perspective differences easy to compare.

Check: Verify toe count is four in each view and that side view is flattest.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Main pad is a rounded triangle in top and angled views, and a shallow arc in side view.
- [ ] Four toe pads are present and evenly spaced in all views.
- [ ] Side view is visibly flatter than top view; angled view shows foreshortening.
- [ ] Claw marks, if used, are short and tapered.
- [ ] Labels are readable and consistently sized using the defined x-height convention.
- [ ] Valid alternative lettering styles and minor shape variations are accepted if the convention is followed.

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