Drawing Eyes on a Three-Quarter Face Grid: Offset Iris Alignment

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A grid has a brow line at 30 mm and an eye line at 44 mm. The near eye zone is 20 mm wide and the far zone is 12 mm wide. State the brow-to-eye gap and describe the eye shape placement.

Answer: Gap is 14 mm. Place brows 14 mm above the eye line. Draw the near eye 20 mm wide and the far eye 12 mm wide, both with baselines on the eye line.

Reason: Subtract the brow line value from the eye line value: 44 minus 30 equals 14 mm. Use the recorded zone widths and keep both baselines on the shared eye line.

Check: Re-measure the gap at the near inner corner, near outer corner, and far inner corner; each should be 14 mm within your tolerance.

Task 2

On a left-turning face, the near eye zone is 24 mm wide and the far zone is 16 mm wide. The iris offset is 4 mm left. Describe the iris placement and one alignment check.

Answer: Place both iris centers using the midline rule, then shift both 4 mm left. Check that a line through the two centers is parallel to the eye line.

Reason: Both irises must shift in the same direction by the same offset. The alignment check confirms the centers share a consistent height.

Check: Draw a light line through both iris centers and compare its distance from the eye line at each end; the distances should match within tolerance.

Task 3

A drawing shows the near brow 10 mm above the eye line and the far brow 16 mm above it. The chosen tolerance is plus or minus 2 mm. Is the placement acceptable, and what should change?

Answer: No. The far brow is 6 mm higher than the near brow, which exceeds the 2 mm tolerance. Move the far brow down so both gaps are within 2 mm of the recorded value.

Reason: Compare the two gaps: 16 minus 10 equals 6 mm, greater than the allowed 2 mm difference. Adjust the brow line rather than the eye line.

Check: Re-measure both gaps after adjustment and confirm the difference is 2 mm or less.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A grid has an eye line at 50 mm from the top, a brow line at 38 mm, and a midline (top of iris) at 44 mm. The iris centers are marked at 44 mm and 47 mm from the top. Using the midline rule, which iris breaks the convention and how do you fix it?

Answer: The iris at 44 mm breaks the convention. Under the midline rule the iris center is halfway between the eye line and the midline: (50 + 44) / 2 = 47 mm. Move the 44 mm iris up to 47 mm so both centers match, then re-check the iris-center line.

Reason: The eye line is the baseline at 50 mm and the midline is at 44 mm, so the rule places the iris center at (50 + 44) / 2 = 47 mm. The iris marked at 47 mm already follows the rule; the one at 44 mm sits 3 mm too low and must move up to 47 mm.

Check: Measure each iris center from the eye line and confirm both are 3 mm above the eye line (50 minus 47 equals 3 mm), matching within your tolerance.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Both eye baselines sit on the eye line.
- [ ] Near eye zone is wider than far eye zone, and both widths are recorded.
- [ ] Brow-to-eye gap is measured at three points and stays within the chosen tolerance.
- [ ] Both irises are offset in the same direction by the recorded amount.
- [ ] The iris-center line is parallel to the eye line unless a deliberate tilt is stated.
- [ ] Labels and convention notes are present and consistent.

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