Reptile Scale Overlay on a Human Arm: A Drawing Guide

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

An arm outline is 8 cm wide at the forearm. Using a hypothetical scale width of 1 cm, plan one row across the near side and state how many scales fit if the row covers the full width.

Answer: Eight scales fit across the full 8 cm width at 1 cm each. Near the center line, draw them at full width; toward the edges, compress them to about half width, so the row still reads as eight positions but the outer scales appear narrower.

Reason: The arithmetic is 8 divided by 1 equals 8. Compression at the edges is a drawing convention for cylinder wrapping, not a change in the planned count.

Check: Measure the row's total width and divide by the chosen scale width. Confirm the count matches and that edge scales are visibly narrower than center scales.