How to Draw Snake Scales on a Curved Gourd Surface

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

A hypothetical gourd has guide rings at 300 mm, 260 mm, and 220 mm circumference. Your convention uses a 10 mm scale width plus 2 mm gap. Estimate scales per row and explain the stagger.

Answer: Divide each circumference by 12 mm. The 300 mm ring fits about 25 scales; the 260 mm ring fits about 21.7, rounded to 22; the 220 mm ring fits about 18.3, rounded to 18. Offset each row by half a scale width so scales sit between those below. The decreasing counts are expected because the gourd narrows; scale size stays constant.