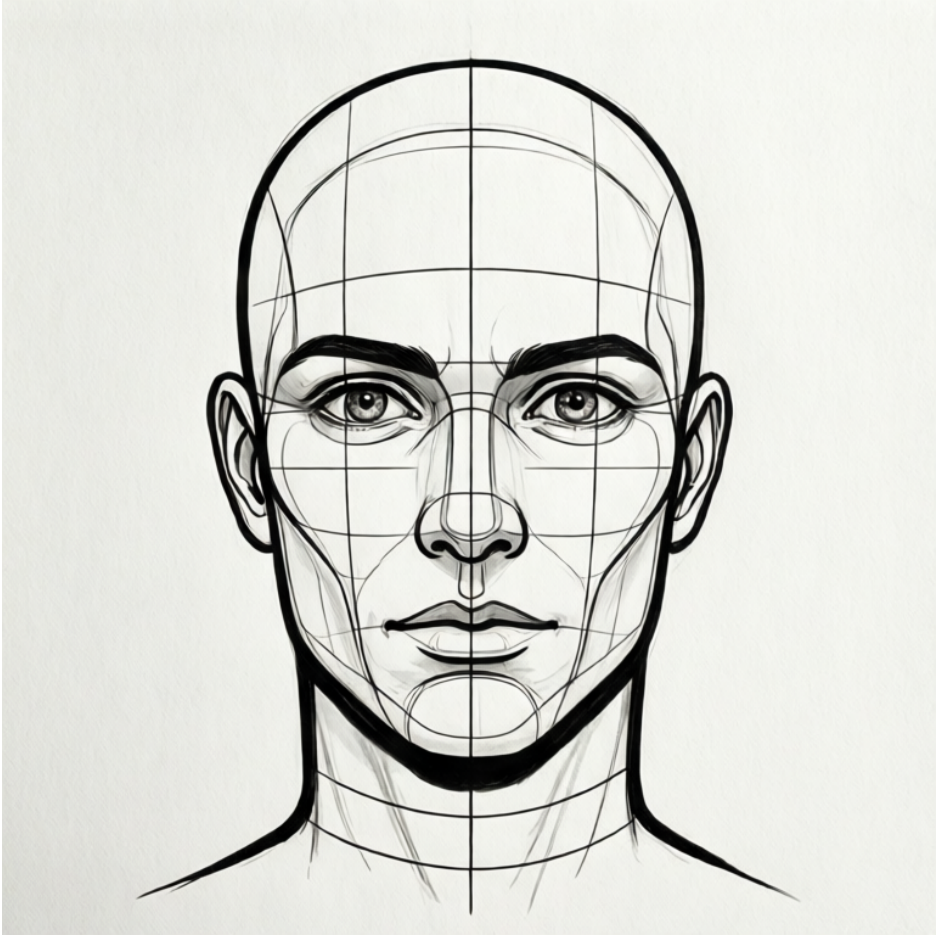
How to Draw a Head with a Grid: Proportion and Feature Placement

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.

How to Draw a Head with a Grid: Proportion and Feature Placement

Worked example / complete source key

A student draws a head 20 cm tall and 14 cm wide on a grid. Calculate the eye-line, nose-line, and mouth-line positions from the crown, and the five-part eye division width. Then state where the nose tip and mouth center should be placed.

Answer: Head height 20 cm. Eye-line at half: 10 cm from crown. Nose-line at three-quarters: 15 cm from crown. Mouth-line one-eighth of 20 cm below nose-line: 2.5 cm below 15 cm, so 17.5 cm from crown. Head width 14 cm divided by five: 2.8 cm per part. The five parts are outer margin 2.8 cm, eye 2.8 cm, gap 2.8 cm, eye 2.8 cm, outer margin 2.8 cm. The nose tip sits at 15 cm from the crown on the center line. The mouth center sits at 17.5 cm from the crown on the center line. Check: 10 + 5 = 15, and 15 + 2.5 = 17.5, which is less than 20, so the mouth is above the chin line.