Line Drawing a Seated Man: Gesture and Proportion Checks

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.

Line Drawing a Seated Man: Gesture and Proportion Checks

Worked example / complete source key

Draw a seated man from a side view using a gesture line and proportion checks. Use a head length of 2 x-heights, torso length of 3 x-heights, thigh length of 2.5 x-heights, and lower leg length of 2 x-heights. These are hypothetical examples. Show the gesture line, landmarks, and final contour.

Answer: Start with a light gesture line from head top to seat contact. Mark head top, chin, shoulder, hip, knee, and foot. Measure all vertical positions above the baseline in x-heights. Head length is 2 x-heights; place chin 2 x-heights below head top. Shoulder is 3 x-heights below chin. Hip is 3 x-heights below shoulder. Knee is 2.5 x-heights forward of hip. Foot is 2 x-heights below knee. Seat contact is level with hip. Draw contours: head and neck, torso, arms, legs. Check shoulder width about 2 head lengths (4 x-heights). Final line drawing shows a seated man with natural gesture and plausible proportions.