

# Discover Simple Techniques for Drawing a Variety of Figures and Portraits



**Art of Drawing People: Discover simple techniques for drawing a variety of figures and portraits (Collector's Series)** by Walter Foster

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Drawing is an expressive art form that allows us to capture the world around us. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced artist, mastering the art of drawing figures and portraits can open up endless possibilities for creative expression.

In this comprehensive guide, we will explore simple yet effective techniques for drawing a variety of human figures and portraits. We will cover everything from understanding the basics of human anatomy to capturing the nuances of expression and emotion.

## **Understanding Human Anatomy for Drawing**

Before you start drawing figures and portraits, it's important to have a basic understanding of human anatomy. This will help you create accurate and

believable drawings.

Here are some key anatomical landmarks to keep in mind:

- **Head:** The head is divided into two main sections: the cranium (skull) and the face. The cranium is the bony structure that protects the brain, while the face is made up of muscles, skin, and other soft tissues.
- **Neck:** The neck is a flexible structure that connects the head to the body. It is made up of seven vertebrae (bones) and several muscles.
- **Torso:** The torso is the central part of the body. It is made up of the chest, abdomen, and pelvis.
- **Limbs:** The limbs include the arms, legs, hands, and feet. They are made up of bones, muscles, and joints.

Once you have a basic understanding of human anatomy, you can start practicing drawing simple figures and poses.

## **Step-by-Step Instructions for Drawing Figures**

Here are some step-by-step instructions for drawing a variety of human figures:

### **Standing Figure**

1. Start by drawing a vertical line for the spine. This will be the central axis of your figure.
2. Add a circle for the head at the top of the spine.
3. Draw two lines for the arms, extending from the shoulders.

4. Draw two lines for the legs, extending from the hips.
5. Sketch in the details of the body, such as the muscles, clothing, and hair.

### **Sitting Figure**

1. Start by drawing a vertical line for the spine. This will be the central axis of your figure.
2. Add a circle for the head at the top of the spine.
3. Draw two lines for the arms, extending from the shoulders.
4. Draw two lines for the legs, extending from the hips.
5. Bend the legs at the knees and draw the feet flat on the ground.
6. Sketch in the details of the body, such as the muscles, clothing, and hair.

### **Action Figure**

1. Start by drawing a vertical line for the spine. This will be the central axis of your figure.
2. Add a circle for the head at the top of the spine.
3. Draw two lines for the arms, extending from the shoulders.
4. Draw two lines for the legs, extending from the hips.
5. Pose the figure in an action stance, such as running, jumping, or throwing.
6. Sketch in the details of the body, such as the muscles, clothing, and hair.

## **Step-by-Step Instructions for Drawing Portraits**

Drawing portraits is a more challenging but rewarding endeavor. Here are some step-by-step instructions for drawing a variety of human portraits:

### **Frontal Portrait**

1. Start by drawing an oval shape for the head.
2. Divide the oval into thirds horizontally and vertically.
3. Draw the eyes, nose, and mouth on the horizontal lines.
4. Add the ears and hair.
5. Sketch in the details of the face, such as the wrinkles, shadows, and highlights.

### **Profile Portrait**

1. Start by drawing a vertical line for the nose.
2. Add a circle for the head.
3. Draw the eyes, mouth, and ears.
4. Add the hair.
5. Sketch in the details of the face, such as the wrinkles, shadows, and highlights.

### **Three-Quarter View Portrait**

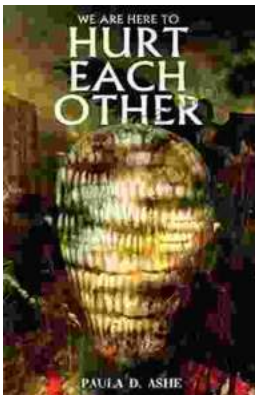
1. Start by drawing an oval shape for the head.
2. Divide the oval into thirds horizontally and vertically.
- 3.



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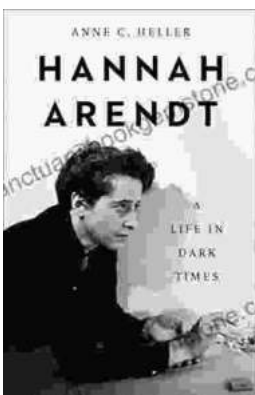
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