

How to Draw Eyes From the Side

By Darlene Nguyen - March 23, 2016

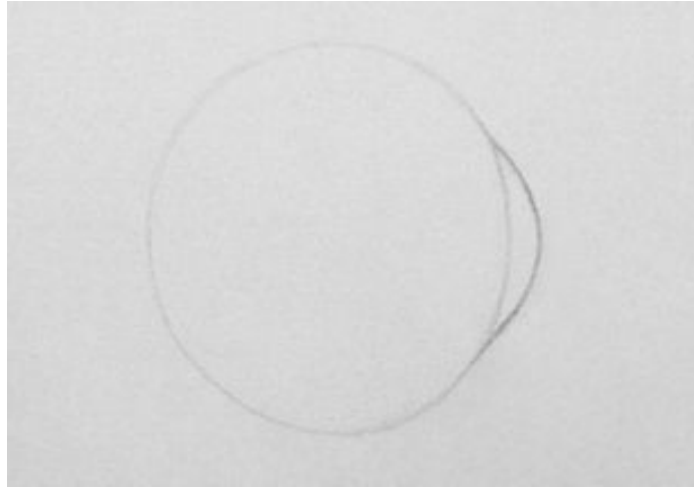


If you landed on this page first, you may want to check out my [previous tutorial](#) on drawing faces from the side.

Tools I Used ([You can find all my recommended tools here](#)):

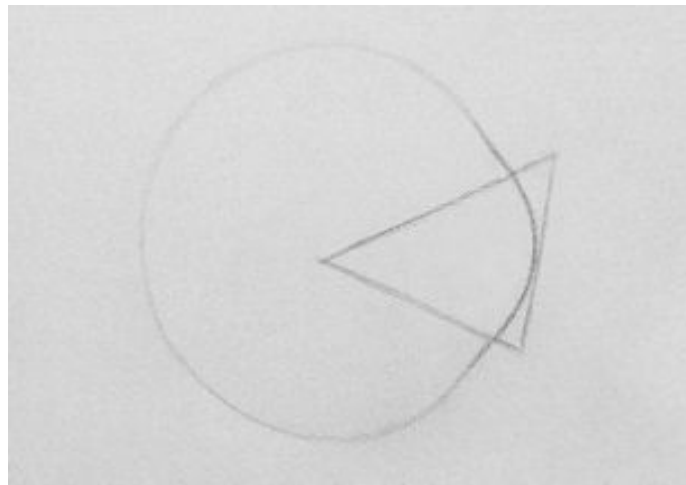
- Derwent Graphic Pencils – HB, 4B, 6B (H optional)
- 0.5mm Mechanical Pencils – HB and 4B
- Blending Stump
- Canson Sketch Paper (I really need to get myself more bristol paper. This sketch paper was quite difficult to work with)
- Prismacolor Kneaded Eraser

Step 1: Eyeball



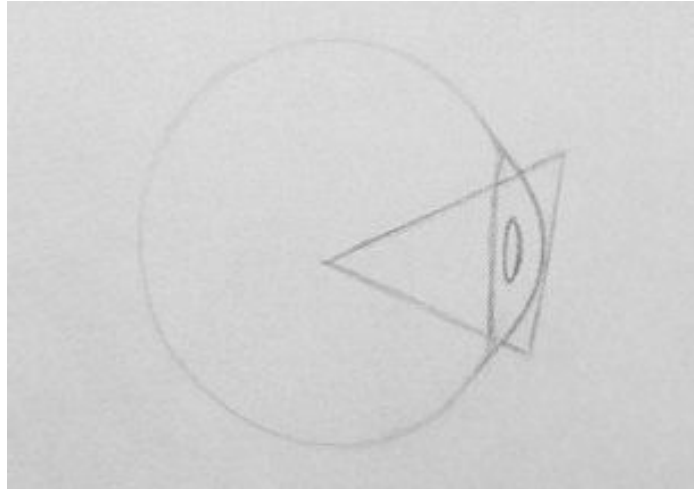
Use your HB pencil to draw a circle with a small bump (cornea) on one side.

Step 2: Triangle



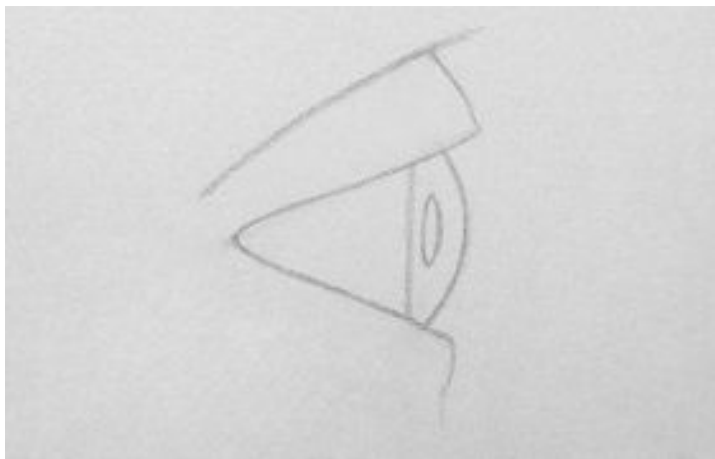
Starting from roughly the center of the eyeball, draw an obtuse triangle. Make sure the cornea fits inside this triangle.

Step 3: Iris and Pupil Outlines



Draw a curved line to connect the top and bottom parts of the cornea to form the iris. Add a thin oval inside the iris to form the pupil.

Step 4: Eyelids



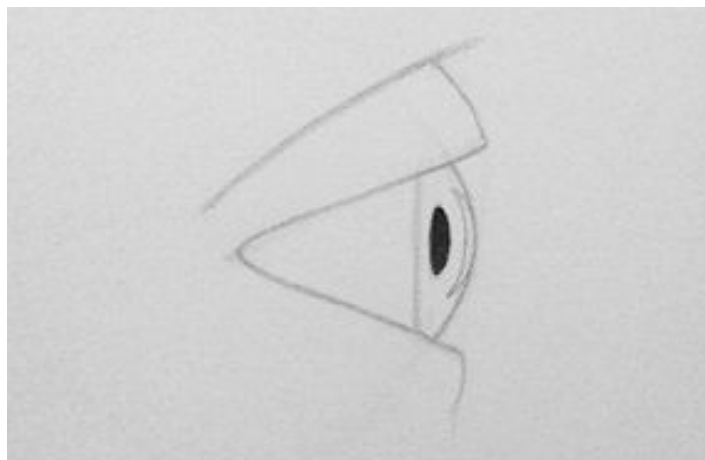
Erase everything outside of the triangle as well as the triangle's right side. Give the remaining sides of the triangle a more natural contour. Then draw the upper and lower eyelids.

Step 5: Highlight



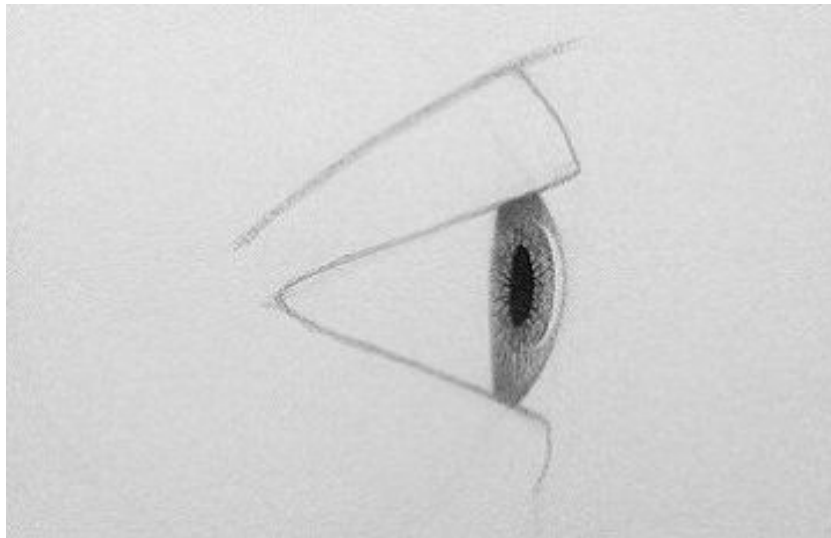
Using your HB **mechanical** pencil, draw an outline of the glare in the eyeball. This can be any shape and size you want. Keep this area as clean as possible.

Step 6: Pupil



Shade the pupil using a 6B pencil.

Step 7: Spokes



Use a dirty blending stump to shade the iris, making sure not to smudge the pupil. Grab your HB **mechanical** pencil to draw spokes in the iris. Start from the center of the pupil and work your way out so the starting point of each ray remains consistent.

You can curve the base of each spoke to add more depth.

Go over some of your spokes again with a 4B mechanical pencil, draw a wave-like pattern around the pupil, and/or add small slits randomly in between some of the spokes.

Step 8: Shade



Use a blunt HB pencil to shade the white area of the eyeball. Depending on where your light source is coming from, you can draw some cast shadows from the upper or lower eyelids. You can add some subtle veins using a sharp H pencil. Then, soften your shading with a tissue.

Use a 4B pencil to shade the upper and/or lower parts of the iris to add more depth.

Follow up by using a blunt HB pencil to shade the skin around the eye in light circular motions. Use a tissue to blend the skin. When shading around the cornea, use a mechanical pencil to keep your drawing as sharp as possible.

You can make the fold of the upper eyelid deeper by going over it with a 6B pencil.

[Click here to learn how to shade!](#)

Step 9: Eyelashes



Use your sharpened 6B pencil to draw the eyelashes starting from the root of each hair. Press and flick your strokes to make the roots thick and the ends nice and thin. You may need to sharpen your pencil every 2 or 3 lashes. For lashes that are close to the corner of the eye, use an HB pencil to draw them in lightly.

[Click here for an in depth tutorial on how to draw eyelashes](#)

Step 10: Eyebrows



Draw the eyebrow using a mechanical HB pencil and a lighter flicking motion. Follow along the brow bone and arc the eyebrow around the eye. Avoid pressing too hard at the beginning of your strokes to keep the root of each hair fairly thin. Lighten your strokes as you approach the eyebrow's tail.

[For a more detailed tutorial on how to draw eyebrows, click here.](#)

If you enjoyed this tutorial on how to draw eyes from the side, please share it with your friends using the share buttons! If you have any questions, please let me know in the comments below!

Want more? Click here to learn **[how to draw an eye from the front!](#)**