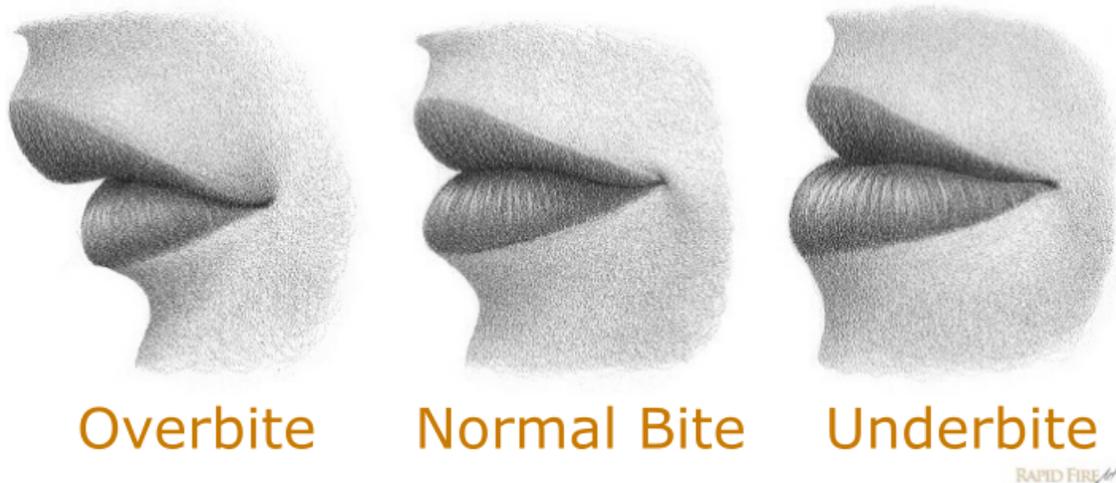


# How to Draw Lips From the Side

By Darlene Nguyen - October 15, 2016

This tutorial has 3 examples for you to draw from: Overbite, Normal Bite and Underbite. When going through the tutorial, please pick only 1 example to follow instead of drawing all 3 lips at the same time.



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

- Kneaded Eraser
- Derwent HB, 2B pencils
- Mechanical pencil with 4B Ain lead by Pentel
- Canson Sketch Paper (I find sketch paper so much harder to work with. I much prefer working on Canson Bristol. Unfortunately out of bristol paper at the moment.)

## Step 1



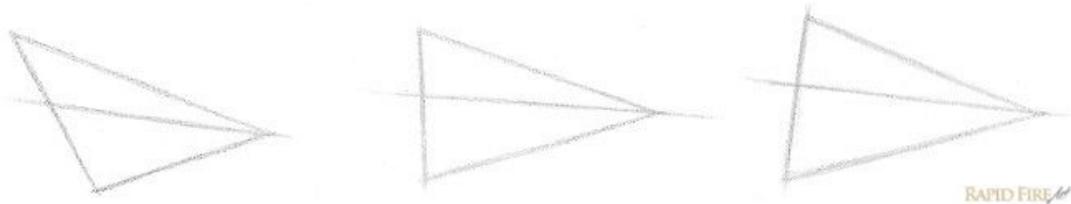
This first stroke will determine if you draw an overbite, normal bite or underbite.

## Step 2



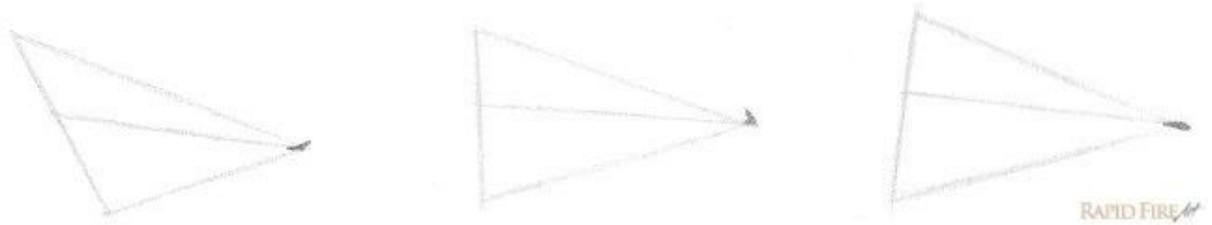
This second stroke will determine the thickness of the top and bottom lip and whether the corner of the mouth with angle up or down.

## Step 3



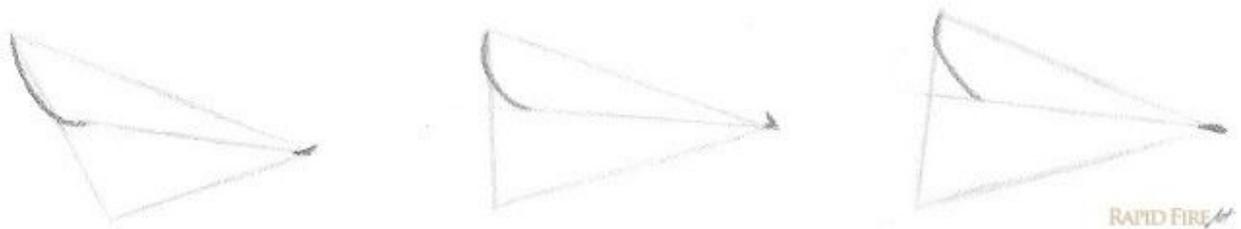
Turn your sketch into a triangle. The longer your triangle is, the wider the lips will be.

## Step 4



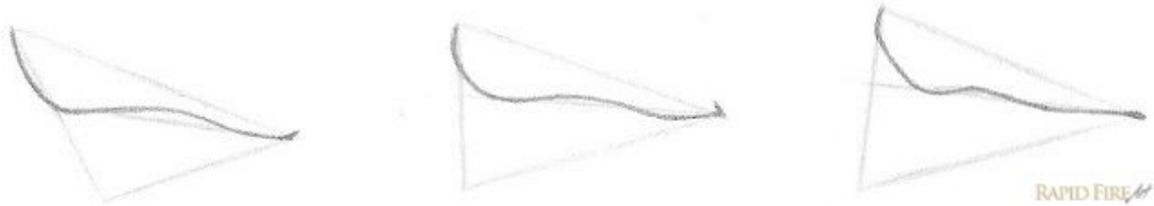
Draw the corner of the mouth. This can be a simple dot, bracket, raindrop shape, triangle etc.

## Step 5



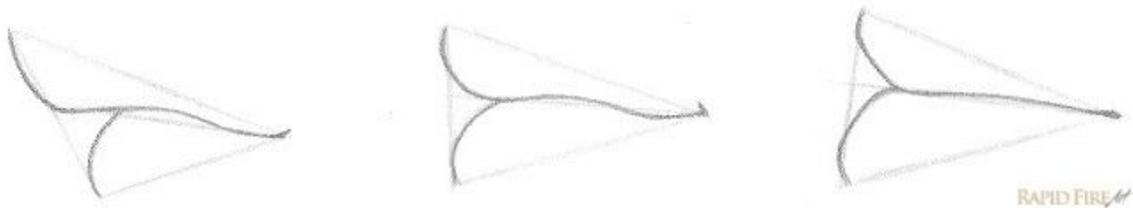
You can start with the top or bottom lip. For this tutorial, I'm starting with the top. Draw a curve that starts at the **top left corner** of the triangle. This curve can roughly follow the shape of the triangle, jut out or be drawn well inside the boundaries. It's all up to you.

## Step 6



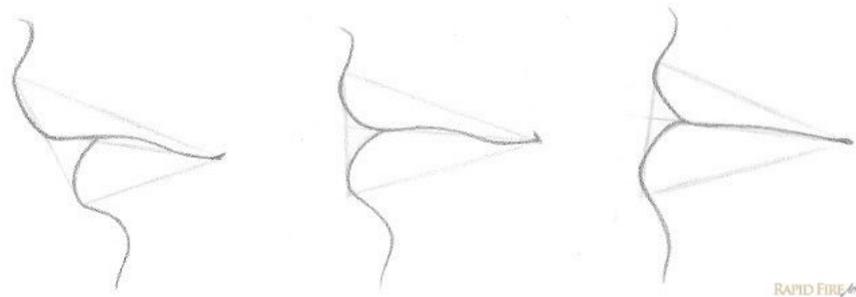
Connect the curve you just drew to the corner of the mouth. Avoid drawing a straight line across. It's better to draw a slightly curved line than a completely straight one.

## Step 7



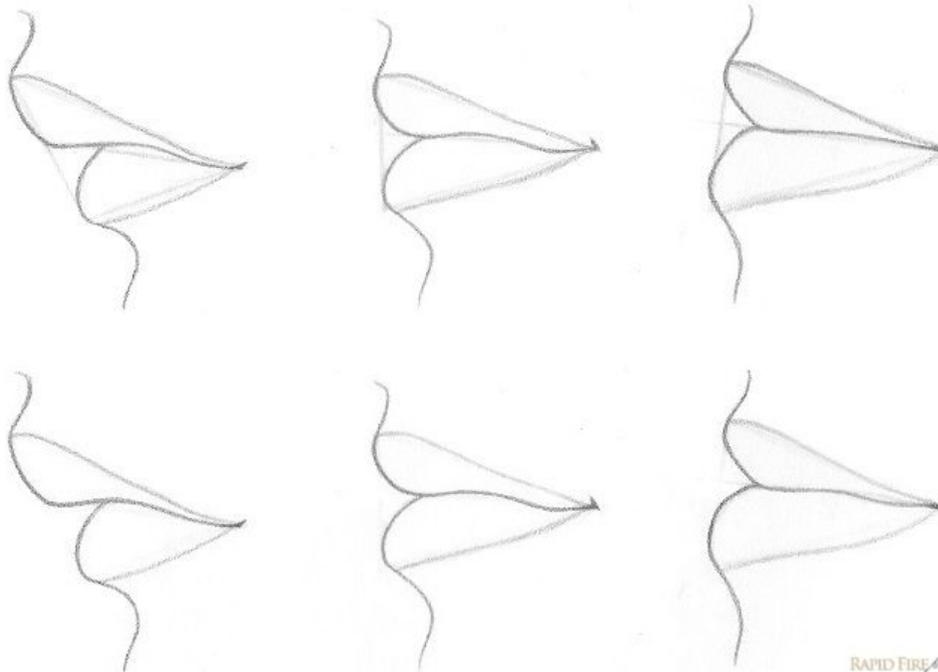
To draw the bottom lip, start your stroke from the **bottom left corner** of the triangle and wrap it up until it touches the top lip.

## Step 8



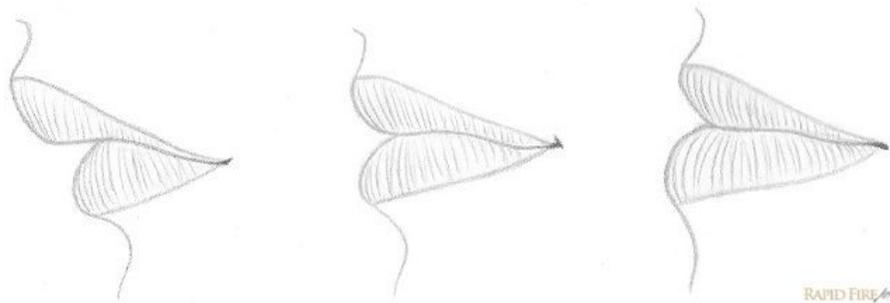
Draw the *upper lip*. Be careful not to extend your line too far. The upper lip should be roughly the same thickness as the top lip or more. When drawing the lower lip/chin for underbites, make sure the curve is less pronounced. The bottom set of teeth push the bottom/lower lip forward, reducing a lot of curvature.

## Step 9



Using an HB pencil with as little pressure as possible, draw the rims around each lip. Then erase your guidelines.

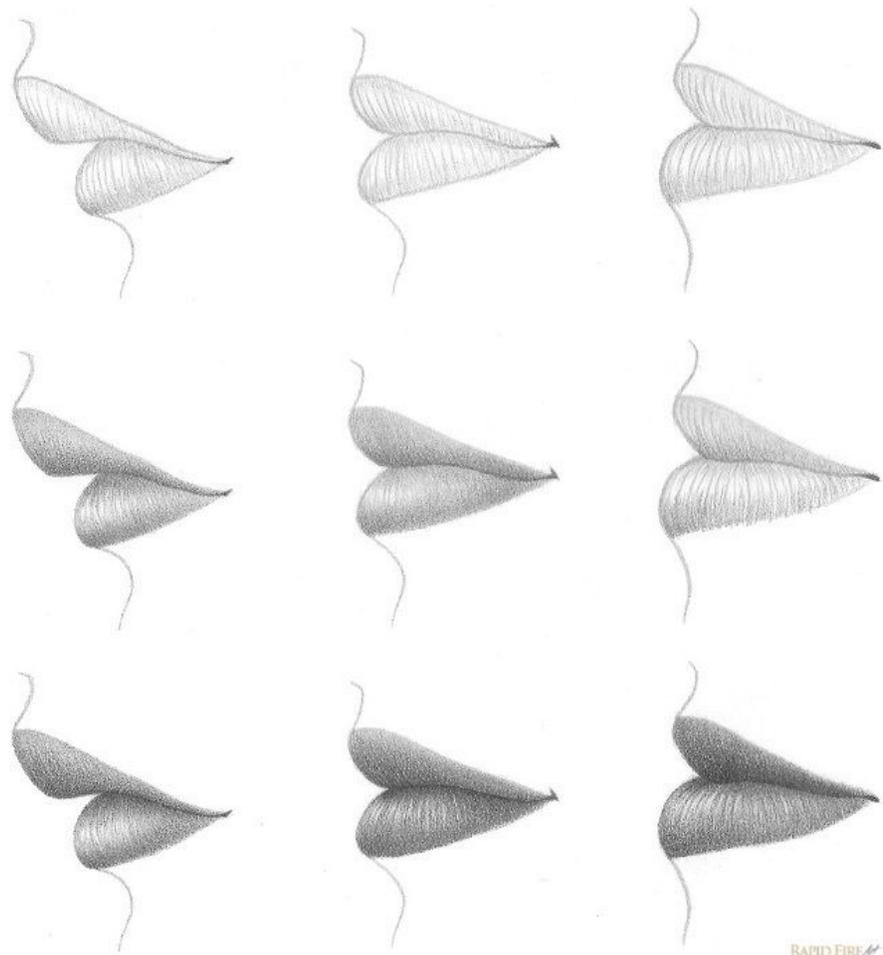
## Step 10



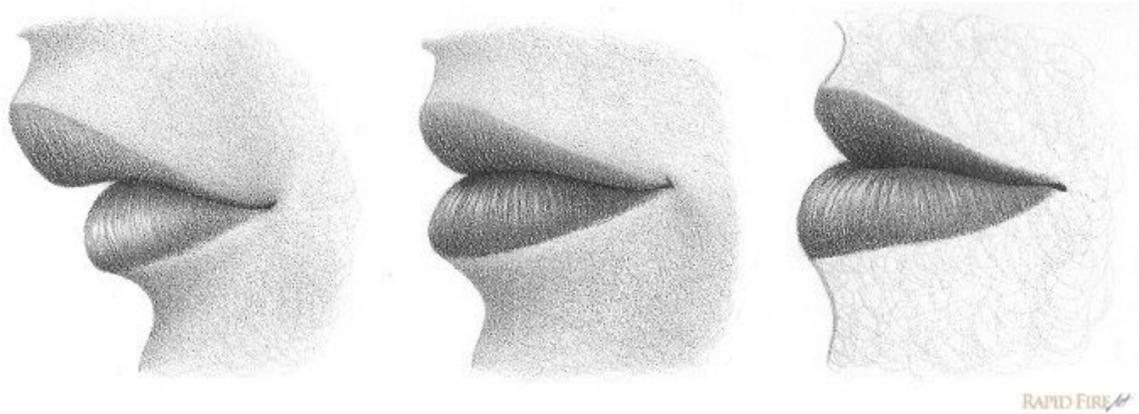
Time to shade! If you think your lines are too dark, use your kneaded eraser to pick up 1 layer of graphite from your drawing. Then use a sharp HB pencil to lay down your contour lines.

## Step 11

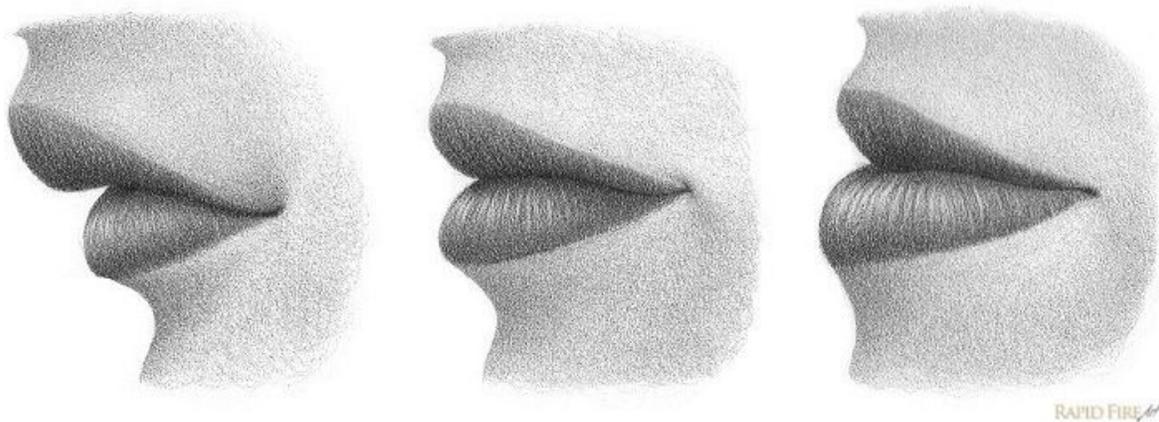
Start building up more contour lines using your HB, 2B, then 4B pencils. Around the rim of each lip, soften your edges so they don't appear too harsh.



## Step 12



For this tutorial, I used circulism to shade the skin around the lips. I used a blunt HB pencil and built up layers and layers of circles. Then used a 2B to shade darker areas.



I shaded areas such as the lower lip, cheek, corner of the mouth and skin directly under the nose a bit darker. If you still see a lot of white space, use your HB pencil to go over the skin with even more layers. Don't press too hard or your circles will be very visible!

Like this tutorial style? Hate it? Let me know in the comments below!