How to Draw a Nose from the Front

By Darlene Nguyen - May 9, 2013

Here is a very simple step by step tutorial on how to draw a nose from the front view. Below is a diagram of a nose broken down into 3 separate parts: the bridge, the nostrils and the ball or tip. Breaking things down into sections will make drawing noses a breeze! We will first use simple shapes/forms as guidelines to construct the shape of the nose and to maintain symmetry.
Tools I Used (You can find all my recommended tools here):

- Mechanical Pencil with 0.5 mm HB lead by Ain
- Kneaded Rubber Eraser
- Blending Stump (Learn how to use one here)
- Canson Bristol Paper (smooth side)

Step 1:

Draw a circle for the ball of the nose and 2 curved lines on each side for the bridge. Keep the strokes light so they can be erased in later steps.

Step 2:

Draw a horizontal line through the middle of the circle and a diamond-like shape around it for the nostrils.
Step 3:

Shade around the outer part of the bridge and around the inner part of the circle, making a long "U" shape. You will notice the shading is thicker at the top of the bridge. That is because the bridge of the nose leads into the brow bones. Don't worry if the guidelines you created earlier didn't blend in with your shading. We will darken the drawing later.

Click here for a tutorial on how to draw a nose from the side

Step 4:

Follow the diamond shape to create the nostrils. Now it's starting to come together!
Step 5:

Shade the nostrils and remember to leave some areas untouched so you can do some highlighting later.

If you're having difficulties shading, click here!

Step 6:

Shape and contour the bridge and ball of the nose. You can shade around the top of the circle to make the nose look pointer or shade the middle of the circle to give it a flatter look. Use the eraser to dab areas which appear too dark, any lines that show through or areas you want to highlight.
Step 7 Final Step:

Next, you want to use a blending stump (learn how to use a blending stump here) to gently blend out the skin and give it a softer look. Add some touch-ups and go over your highlighted areas once more with a kneaded eraser. You can try different diamond shapes as well as circles to create more unique nose shapes. Experiment with shading to achieve longer, flatter, or more defined noses and so on. Click here to check out my tutorial on how to draw a nose step by step from the side.

If you want to know where to place the nose on a face with correct proportions, check out my tutorial on drawing faces!
Nose drawings sent in by you guys

Check out RFA's reader submitted art gallery!