

How to Draw Asian Eyes

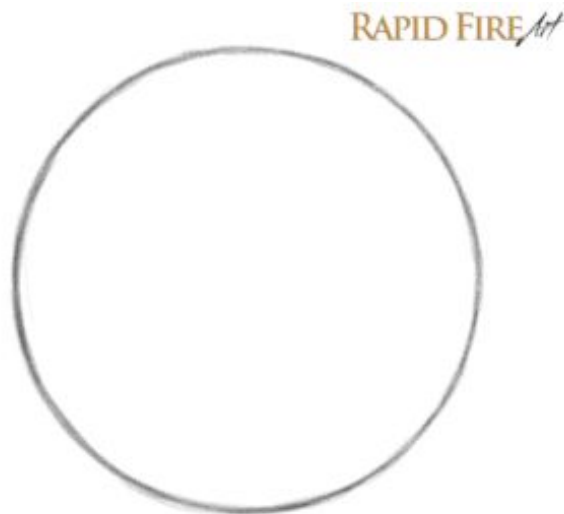
By Darlene Nguyen - April 12, 2019 - <http://rapidfireart.com/2019/04/12/how-to-draw-asian-eyes/>

One of the most distinctive features of southeast Asian eyes is that the eyelid crease is **tapered** instead of **parallel** with the top eyelid.



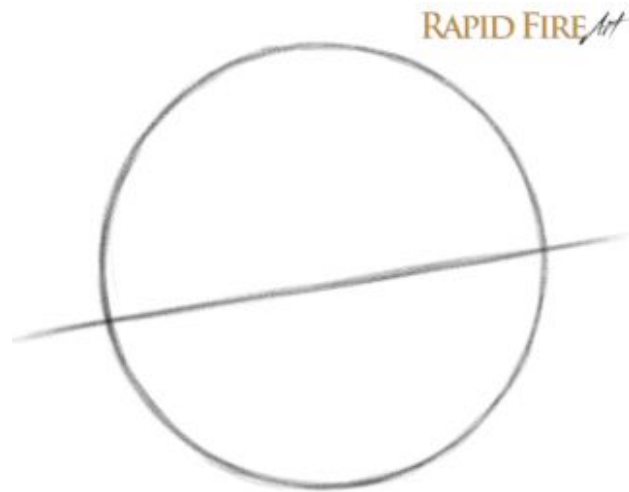
You can easily make any drawing of an eye go from, for example, Caucasian to southeast Asian by changing just a few aspects which we'll dive into as we go along. If you've already followed my other tutorials on drawing eyes, you can skip straight to step 4 because most steps are similar.

Step 1: Draw a Circle



Start by drawing a **faint** circle. This is the eyeball. It doesn't have to be perfect because we're going to completely erase it later.

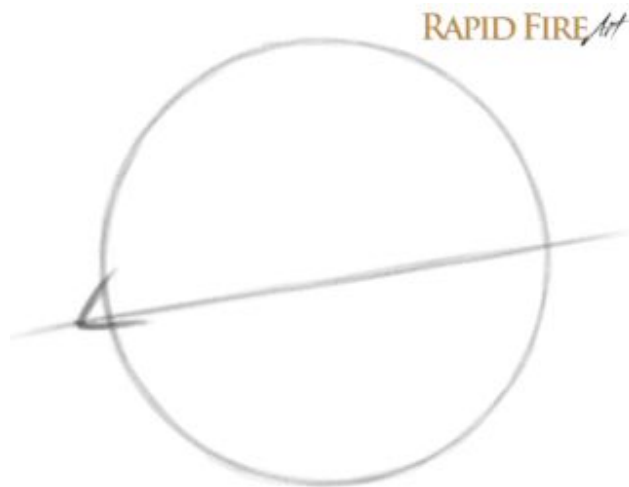
Step 2: Pick an Angle



Eyes can slant in a variety of ways. Choose how slanted you want your eye to be and draw a line going through the circle at the angle you prefer.

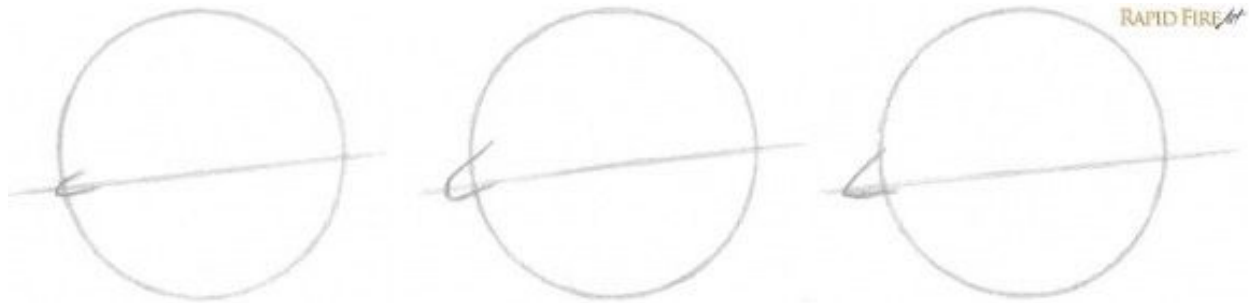
Note: For this tutorial, the left side of my circle is going to be the inner side of the eye.

Step 3: Draw the Inner Corner of the Eye

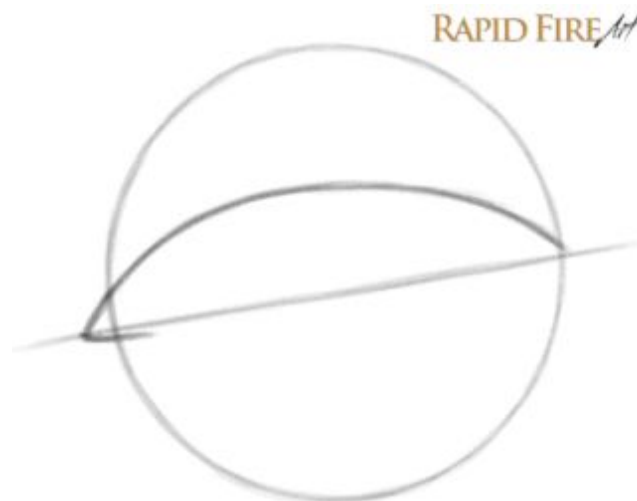


You can use a wide variety of shapes for the inner corner of the eye. I drew a deep V shape, but you can also draw a U or a mix of the two, etc. It can be narrow, wide, shallow, deep, small or large.

Here are a few examples:



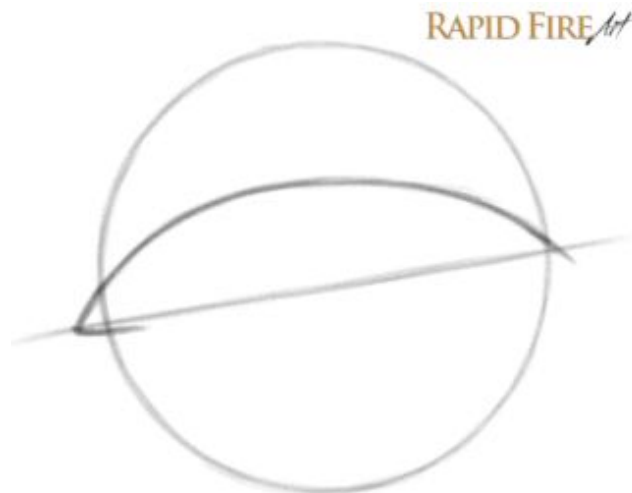
Step 4: Draw the Top Lid



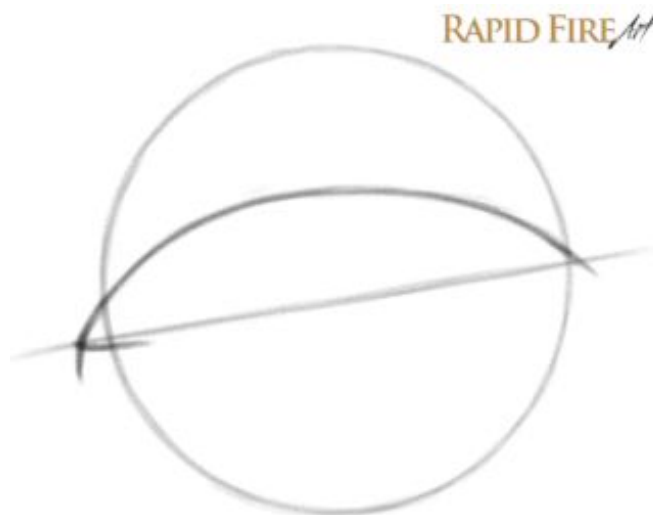
While staying within the boundary of your circle, draw the top eyelid. It can take on a variety of shapes. A high arch will give you a large eye. I'm going for a medium sized one.

While you're drawing it, picture the eyelid hugging the spherical eyeball.

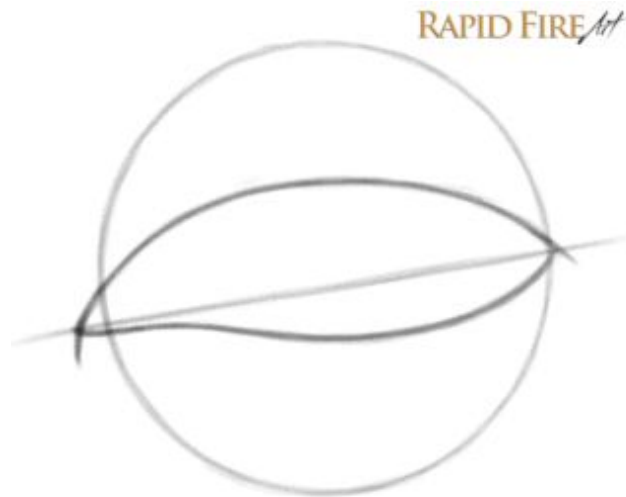
When drawing caucasian eyes, I like to **end** my stroke at the intersection of the circle and straight line, but for an Asian eye, I like to **extend** my stroke just a little further:



I also like to do the same thing with the inner corner of the eye. It makes the skin look as though it's in tension:



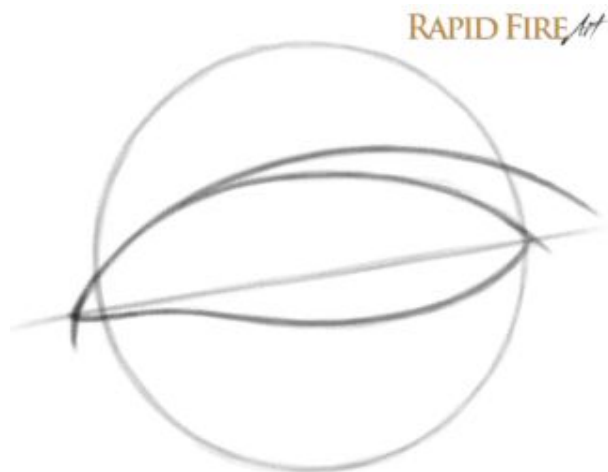
Step 5: Draw the Bottom Lid



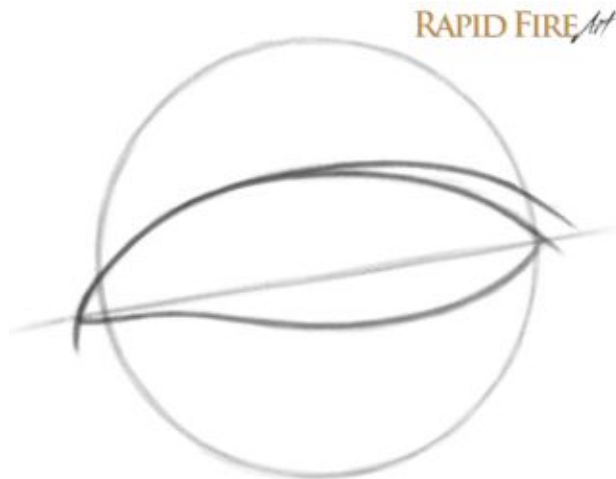
Now let's draw the bottom lid. Try to keep it close to the line we drew in step 2. The bottom lid should appear a lot less curved than the top one, but not completely flat/straight.

Step 6: Add a Crease

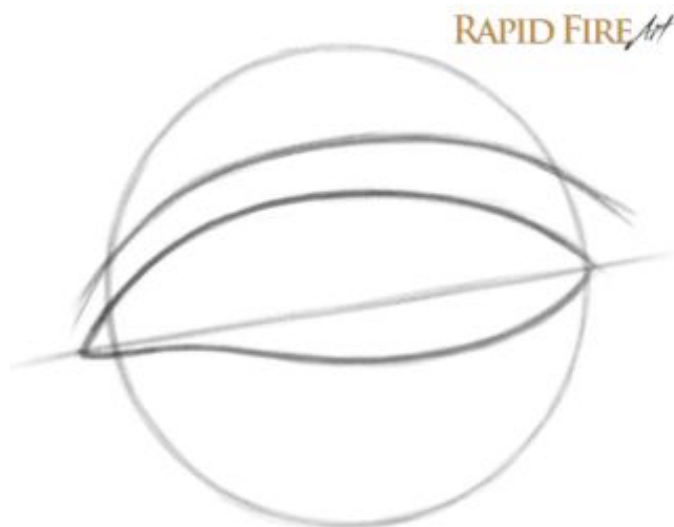
Here's where we can make the eye look Asian or Caucasian. We're going to draw a crease that runs above the top eyelid.



To make the eye appear Asian, **taper** your pencil stroke at the inner corner of the eye. The degree you taper it is up to you – In the example below, the eyelid crease is only visible at the very end.



For some southeast Asians, the crease may not be visible at all, and for others, it may even run **parallel** to the top eyelid instead of being **tapered** on one end. Here's an example of a parallel crease, which is common amongst people of Caucasian descent.



Step 7: Erase Outlines



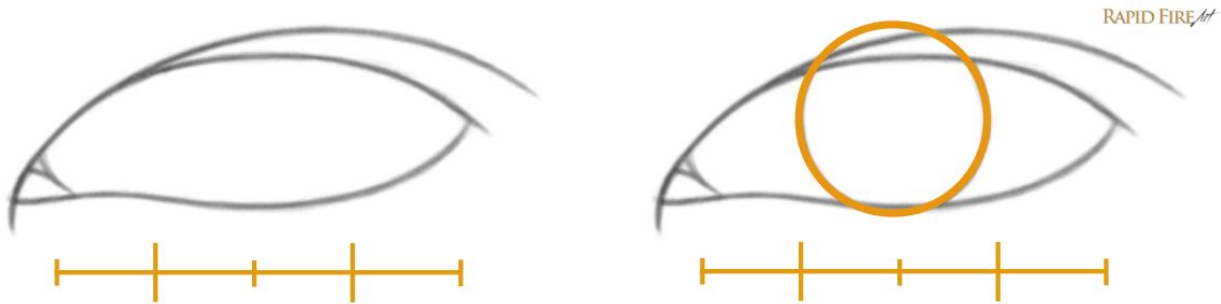
Carefully erase all your construction lines: the circle and straight line.

Step 8: Add Some Details



Located at the inner corner of the eye is an area called the caruncula. It's a soft pink bit of flesh that is separate from the eyeball. You can draw a curve or two right there to indicate the transition between the two forms. In the video at the end of this post, I'll show you how to shade it.

To draw an iris of the right size, I like to measure the eyeball horizontally and divide the space into four. The iris will take up about $\frac{2}{4}$'s of the eyeball. For example:



To draw a realistic looking iris, draw a full circle and then erase parts that fall outside of the eyeball. This step should be drawn lightly. Once you work out the position and size you want, darken the iris outline.



Step 9: Shade Your Eyes

To learn how to shade an eye and more, please refer to this video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqNZ9df0tho>

- Iris detailing – 5:43
- Shading – 18:09
- Eyelashes – 30:50

Learn how to draw more eye shapes here:
<http://rapidfireart.com/2017/01/19/how-to-draw-different-eye-shapes/>

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