



# DRAW CARTOON PEOPLE

in **4** Easy  
Steps

Then Write a Story

1



2



3



Stephanie LaBaff  
Illustrated by Tom LaBaff

## About this Book

### Get your pencils ready!

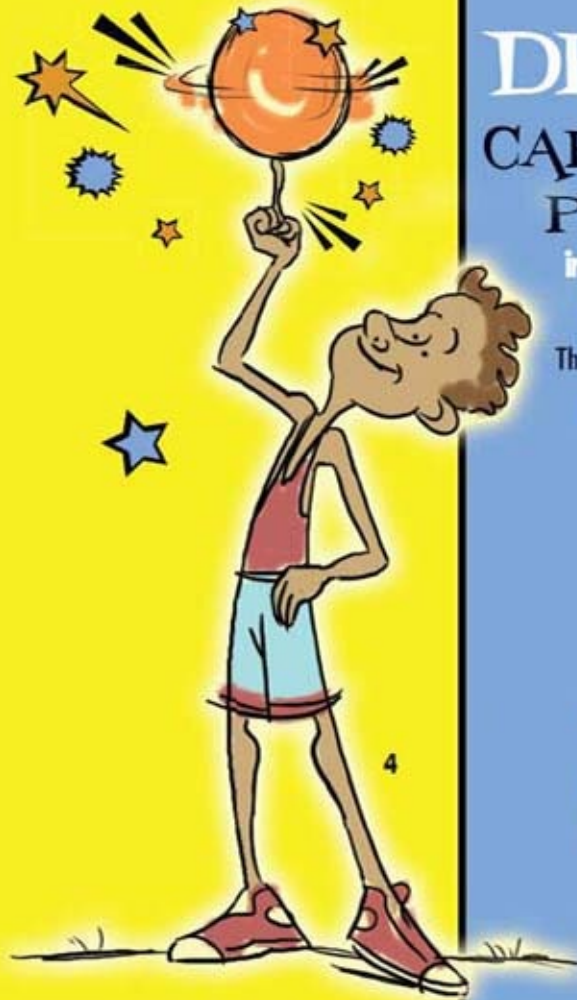
Have you always wished you could draw cartoon people? Professional artist Tom LaBaff shows you how in 4 easy steps! Then use your drawings to illustrate your very own story. A great way to combine art and writing!

*"These books are a fantastic entry into the world of drawing for a person of any age!"*

—Matthew Sochocki, MFA, Series Consultant

### About the Illustrator and the Author

TOM LaBAFF has illustrated over fifty children's books and has worked on many animated feature films, including *The Lion King*. STEPHANIE LaBAFF has her MS in elementary education. They live in Florida with their two animated children.



Stephanie LaBaff  
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# DRAW CARTOON PEOPLE

in **4** Easy  
Steps

Then Write a Story



Enslow Elementary

*an imprint of*

Enslow Publishers, Inc.

40 Industrial Road  
Box 398  
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922  
USA

<http://www.enslow.com>

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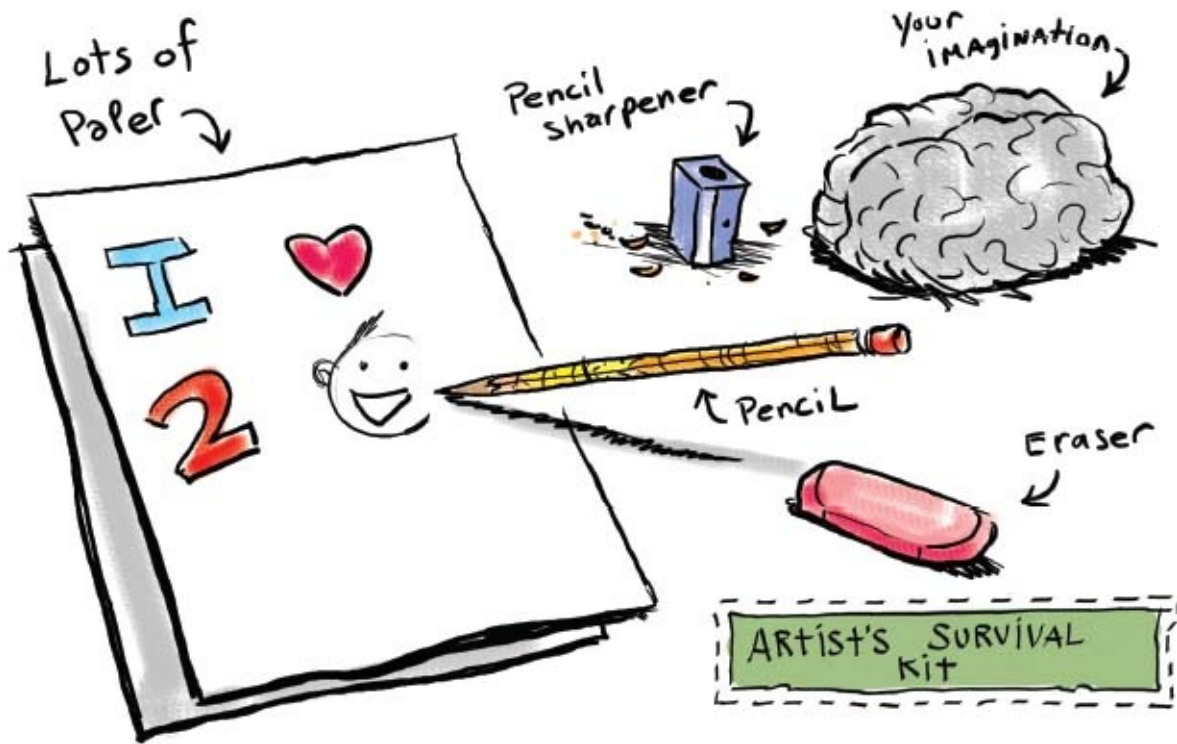
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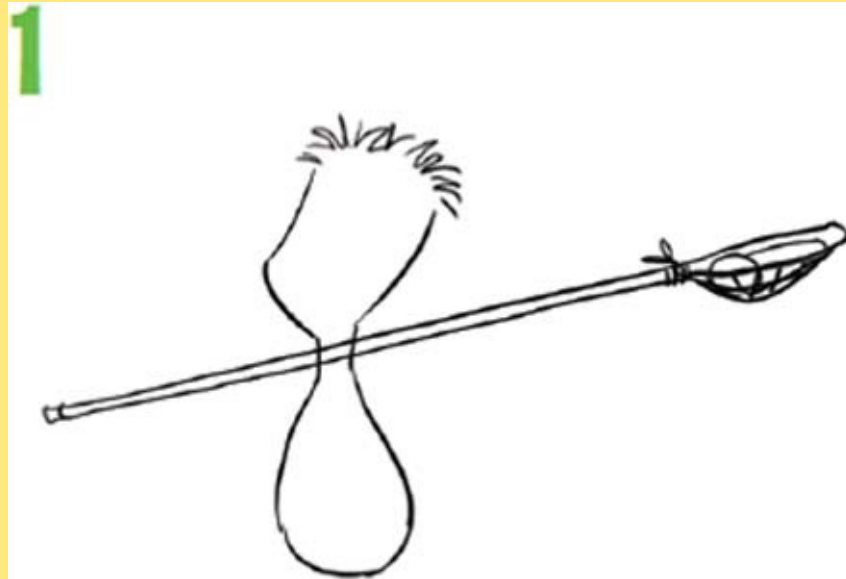
## Getting Started



Drawing cartoon people is as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4! Follow the 4 steps for each picture in this book. You will be amazed at what you can draw. After some practice, you will be able to make your own adjustments, too. Change a pose, move a leg, or draw a different face. There are lots of possibilities!



## Follow the 4 Steps



1. Start with big shapes, such as the body.



2. Add smaller shapes, such as the arms and legs. In each step, new lines are shown in red.



3. Continue adding new lines. Erase lines as needed.

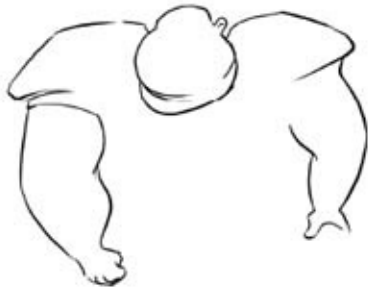


4. Add final details and color. Your cartoon will come to life!

# Chip

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



4



# Coach

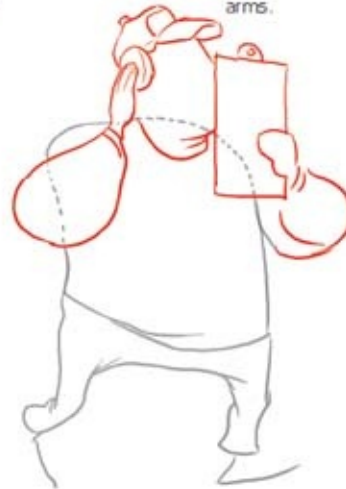
Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted lines at the shoulders and arms.



3



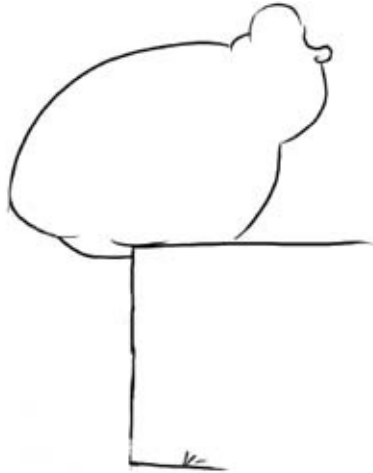
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# Policeman

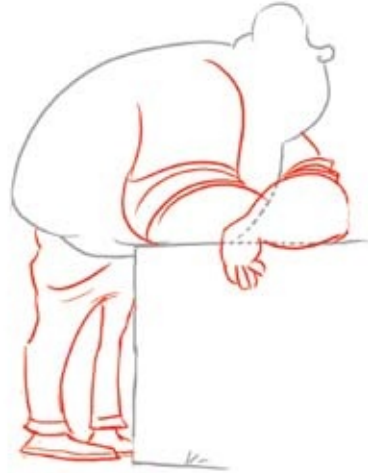
Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line under the arm.



3

Erase the dotted line behind the hat.



4



# Superfan

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



Erase the dotted line at the right arm.

3

Erase the dotted line at the left arm.



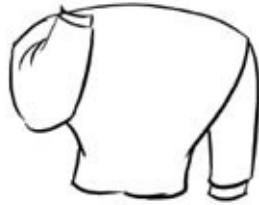
4



# Fred

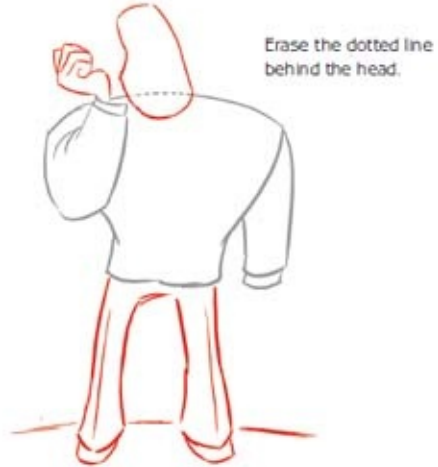
Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Cartoon tough guys usually have a huge upper body and skinny legs.



3



4





# Cheesehead

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

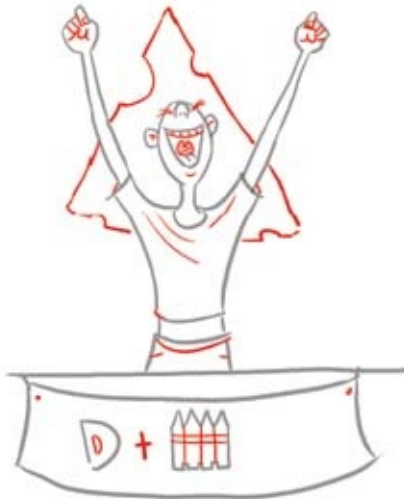
1



2



3



4



# Frannie

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



Put a shadow under her foot to show she's tiptoeing.

2



Erase the dotted line behind the legs.

3



4



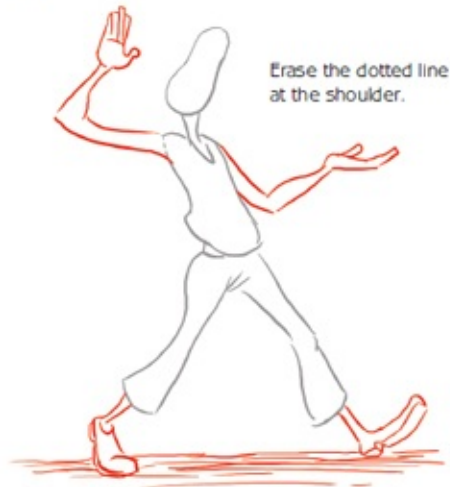
# Harry

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



4



# Joey

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



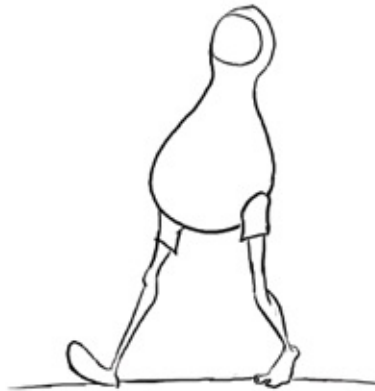
4



# Peanut

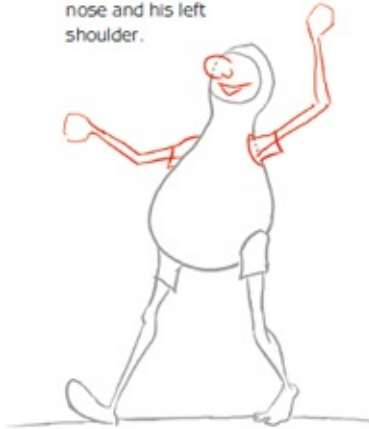
Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



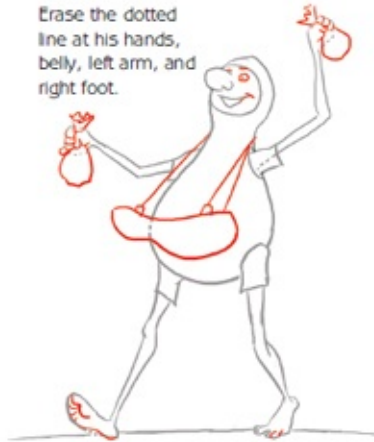
2

Erase the dotted line behind the nose and his left shoulder.



3

Erase the dotted line at his hands, belly, left arm, and right foot.



4



# Terry

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line at the right arm and leg.



3



4



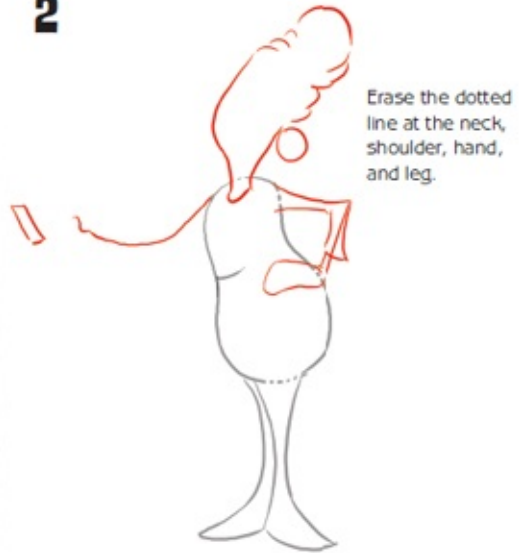
# Ticket Taker

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



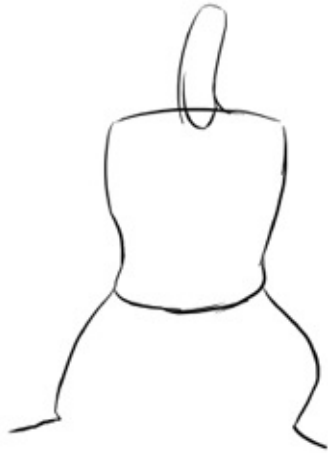
4



# Waterboy

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line at the neck, shoulder, hand, and foot.



3



4





# Duke

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



4



# Mascot

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



Erase the dotted line behind the beak and right arm.

3



4



# Archer Amy

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line at the shoulders and leg.



3

Erase the dotted line at the hands and fingers.



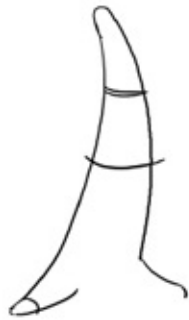
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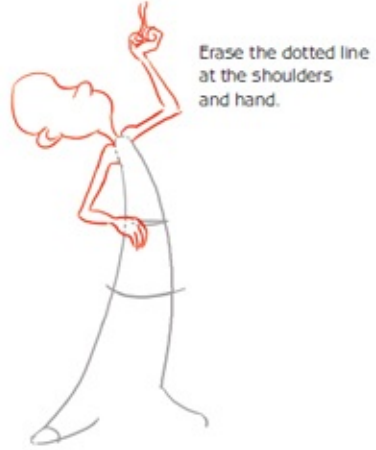
# Duncan

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



4



# Mega Meg

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line at the shoulders and legs.



3



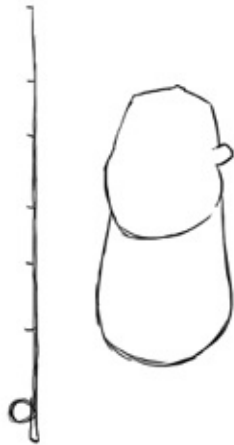
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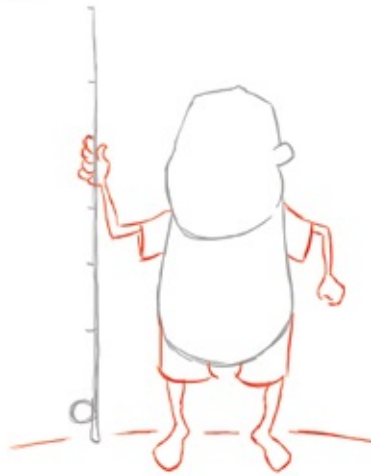
# Fishhook Frank

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



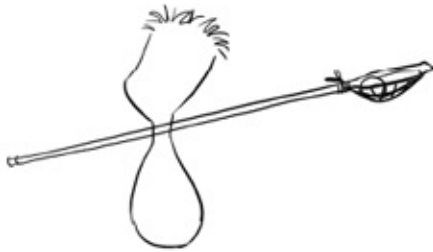
4



# Lax Larry

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line at the hands, neck, and legs.



3

Erase the dotted line at the nose.



4



# Ninja

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3

Erase the dotted line at the shoulder.



4





# Conehead

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line at the hand, shoulders, and legs.



3

Erase the dotted line at the leg.



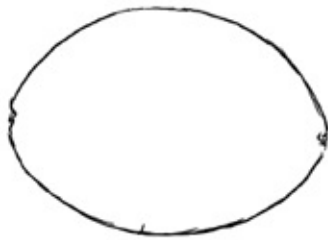
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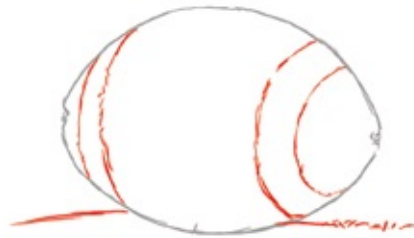
# Football

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3



4



# Popcorn

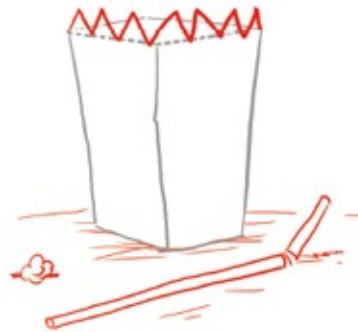
Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line behind the triangles.



3



4

Secret ops  
hi-tech security  
cameras.



# Trophy

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3

Erase the dotted line at the right leg.



4



# Worried

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



3

Worried expressions are all about making wide eyes and biting lips!

Sink the head into her shoulders.



4



# Laughing

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2



Throw his head back to make it look like he must have heard a very funny joke.

3



Add action lines.

4



# Sleepy

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

**1**

Droopy ears help show what he's feeling.



**2**



**3**



**4**

Sagging head and hair help make gravity look like his enemy!



# Thrilled

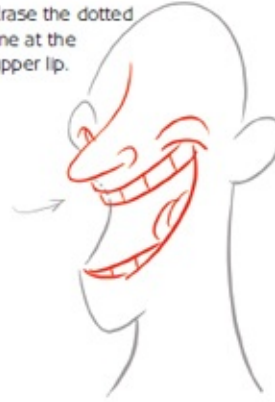
Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted line at the upper lip.



3

Don't be afraid to stretch out his expression. It's just a cartoon!



4





# Angry

Click [HERE](#) to view each step up close!

1



2

Erase the dotted lines under the hair.



3



4



# How to Write a Story

## *Write a Story in 5 Easy Steps*

Are you ready to write a story to go with your drawings? Maybe you have a story you want to illustrate. Follow these five simple steps to make your very own story with drawings.



## **Step 1: Prewriting**

Do you want to write about people? Maybe you have an idea for a story about people at a football game. Keep in mind the drawings you want to use and base your story around them.



One way to begin your story is to answer these questions: Who? What? Why?  
Where? When? How?

For example:

Who is the main character?

What happens to him in your story?

Why is the story interesting?

Where and when does he live?

How does he earn money?





Here is a good brainstorming exercise. Fold a paper into six columns. Write the words *Who?* *What?* *Why?* *Where?* *When?* and *How?* at the top of each column. Write down every answer that comes into your head in the matching column. Do this for about five or ten minutes. Take a look at your list and pick out the ideas that you like the best. Now you are ready to write your story.

## Cartoon Story Starters

Archer Amy had her arrow notched and ready to go . . .

The policeman saw the robbers as they ran down the dark alley . . .

Ninja came to the ladies' rescue just seconds before . . .

Superfan was there for every game until one Saturday when . . .

The team mascot was missing. What could have happened to him? . . .

Just when they were about to call the game. Mega Meg yelled . . .

## Step 2: Writing

Use the ideas from the list you made in Step 1. Write your story all the way through. Don't stop to make changes. You can always make changes later.



A story about cartoon people who sit and watch TV is not very interesting. What could happen to the people? What if they went to a football game? Your story will be more exciting if you don't make things too easy for your characters.



### **Step 3: Editing**

Read your story. Is there a way to make it better? Rewrite the parts that you can improve. You might want to ask a friend or teacher to help. Ask them for their ideas.

### **Step 4: Proofreading**

Make sure the spelling, punctuation, and grammar are correct.

#### ***Storyboarding***

It's time to see how your story works with your drawings. Find a table or other flat surface. Spread your drawings out in the order that goes with your story. Then place the matching text below each drawing. When you have your story the way you like it, go to Step 5. You can pick a way to publish your story.

### **Step 5: Publishing Your Book**

You can make your story into a book. There are many different forms your book can take. Here are a few ideas: **Simple book**

Staple sheets of blank paper together along their edges.

#### ***Folded book***

Fold sheets of blank paper in half, then staple on the fold.

### ***Hardcover book***

Buy a blank hardcover book. Then write your finished story in the book, leaving spaces to add your art.

### ***Bound book***

Punch a few holes along the edges of some pieces of paper. Tie them up or fill the holes with paper fasteners. There are many fun and colorful binding options at office supply stores.

### ***Digital book***

Create a digital book using your computer. There are some great programs available. Ask an adult to help you find one that is right for you.

## Our Story

You have finished the five steps of writing and illustrating a story. We bet you created a great story! Want to see ours? Turn the page and take a peek.

### Trophy Trouble



Brmmmp!! The two-minute warning sounded.

“That’s our cue!” whispered Chip to his partner, Birdman, as they hid near the locker room. “You know what to do!”

Birdman ran to the guard at the locker room door. He snatched the guard’s hat off his head and ran down the hall, cawing and flapping his wings. The furious guard chased after him.

As soon as they were gone, Chip made his move. He slipped into the locker room and snatched the Heisman Trophy from its case. “Mission accomplished!” he thought. But as he turned to make his getaway, he saw that he was not alone. Perched in a corner was Archer Amy, and her arrow was pointed at him! Before he could move, she let the arrow fly, pinning Chip’s shirt to the wall. She leaped over and grabbed the trophy.





“It’s a good thing I overheard your talk with Birdman,” she said. “I’ll make sure this gets back to its owner.” But as Amy headed for the door, in rushed Waterboy. He tackled her to the ground. Amy knew she didn’t stand a chance against the 300-pound Waterboy, so she hit the silent alarm button on her watch. Within moments, a shadow moved along the wall. Amy glanced up and saw her friend, Ninja. Amy tossed the trophy to her while continuing to wrestle Waterboy. Ninja caught the trophy and placed it safely aside. Then she pounced on Waterboy and touched his neck, causing him to collapse into a deep sleep.



“Thanks for coming so fast!” said Amy as she stood and wiped herself off. Just then, two men rushed into the room. One wore a dark suit and sunglasses; the other was dressed as a peanut.



“Oh no, not more of them!” Amy cried.

“Don’t worry, we’re on your side!” said the man in the suit. “I’m Fred, FBI agent, and this peanut man is an undercover agent. We’ve been after these thieves for months. They’ve been stealing valuable sports memorabilia.” He looked at Chip pinned to the wall and Waterboy on the floor. “It looks like you’ve done our job for us. Thank you!”

Amy smiled and pointed to the trophy, now back in its case. “No problem. But from now on, you might want to put a better lock on that thing.”

# Chip

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



**2**



3



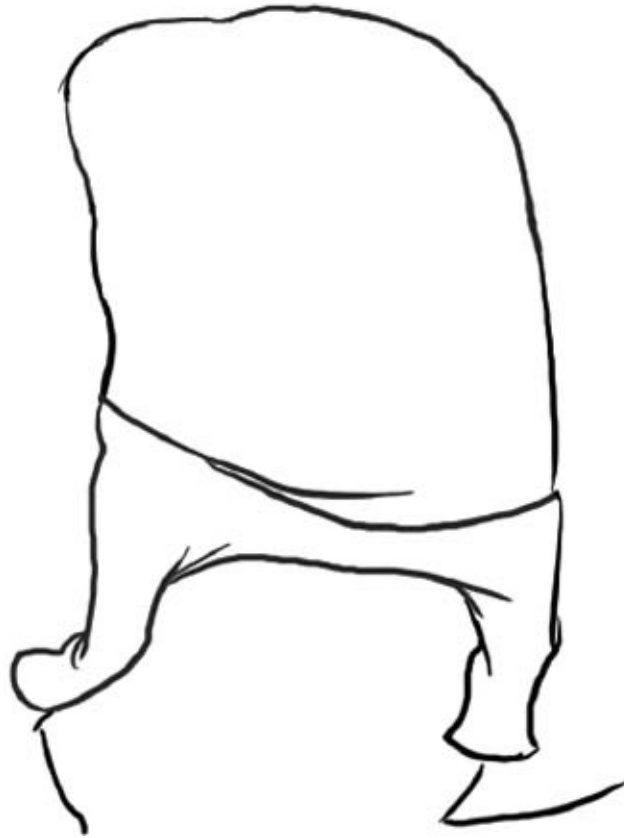
4



# Coach

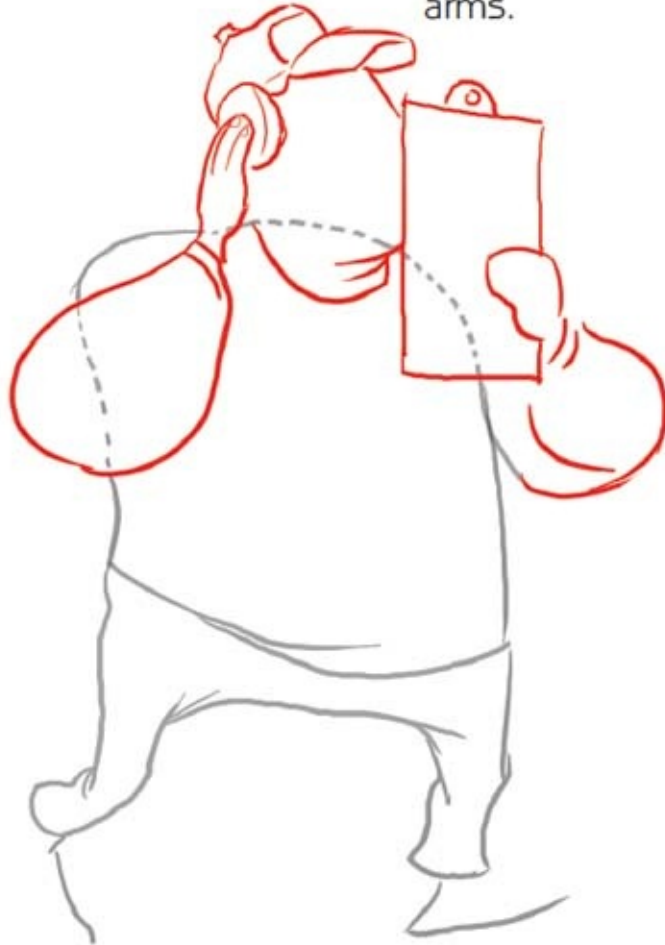
Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



2

Erase the dotted lines  
at the shoulders and  
arms.





3



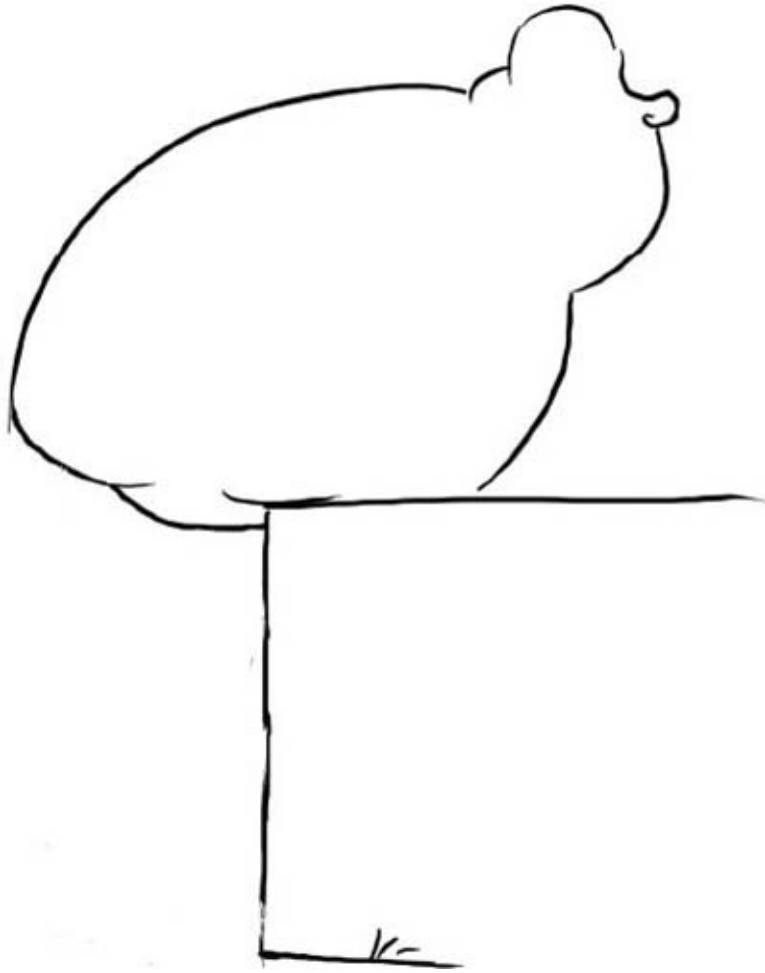
4



# Policeman

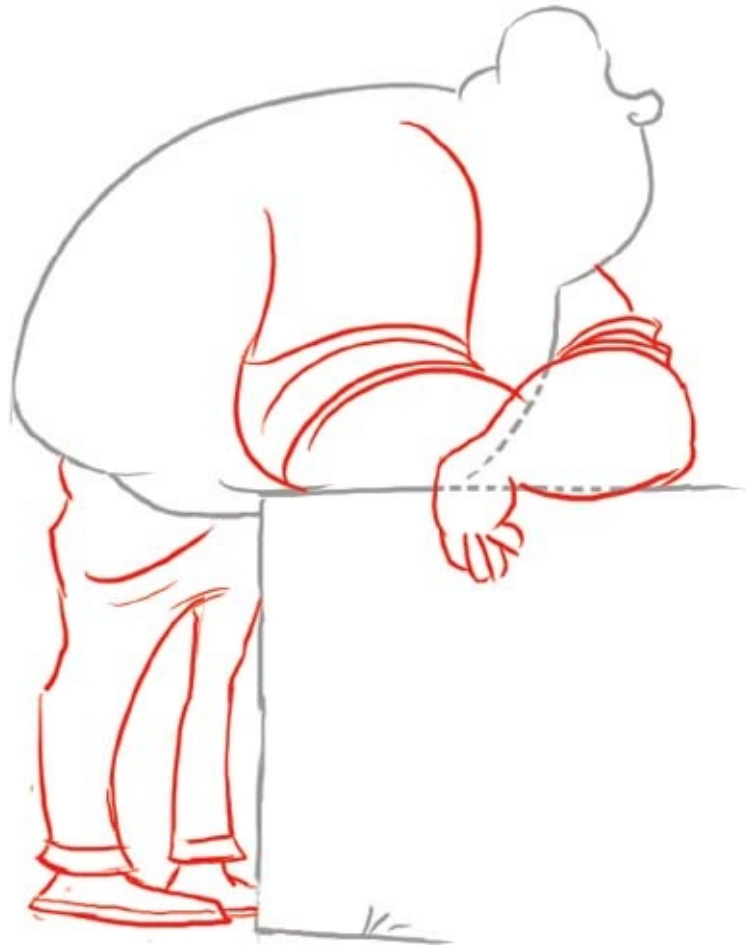
Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**

Erase the dotted  
line under the arm.



**3**

Erase the dotted  
line behind the hat.



4



# Superfan

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1





2



Erase the dotted line  
at the right arm.

**3**

Erase the dotted  
line at the left arm.



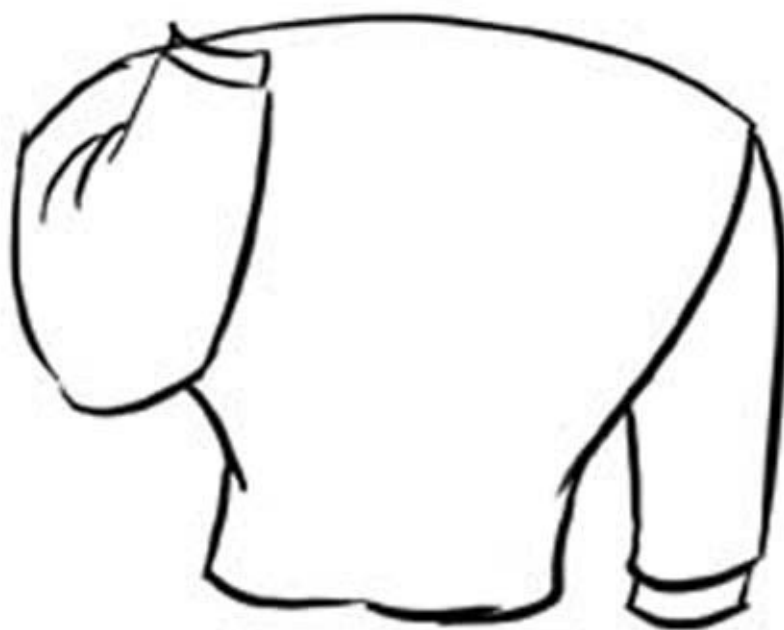
4



# Fred

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



**2**

Cartoon tough  
guys usually have  
a huge upper body  
and skinny legs.



Erase the dotted line  
behind the head.

**3**



4

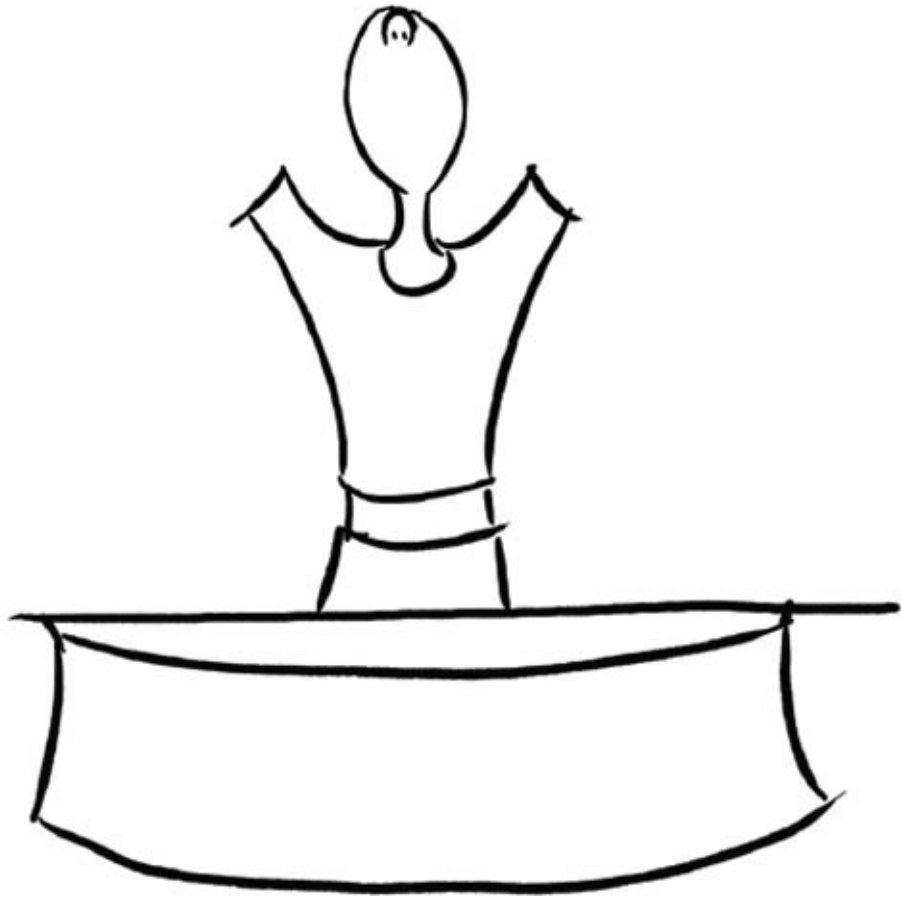




# **Cheesehead**

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



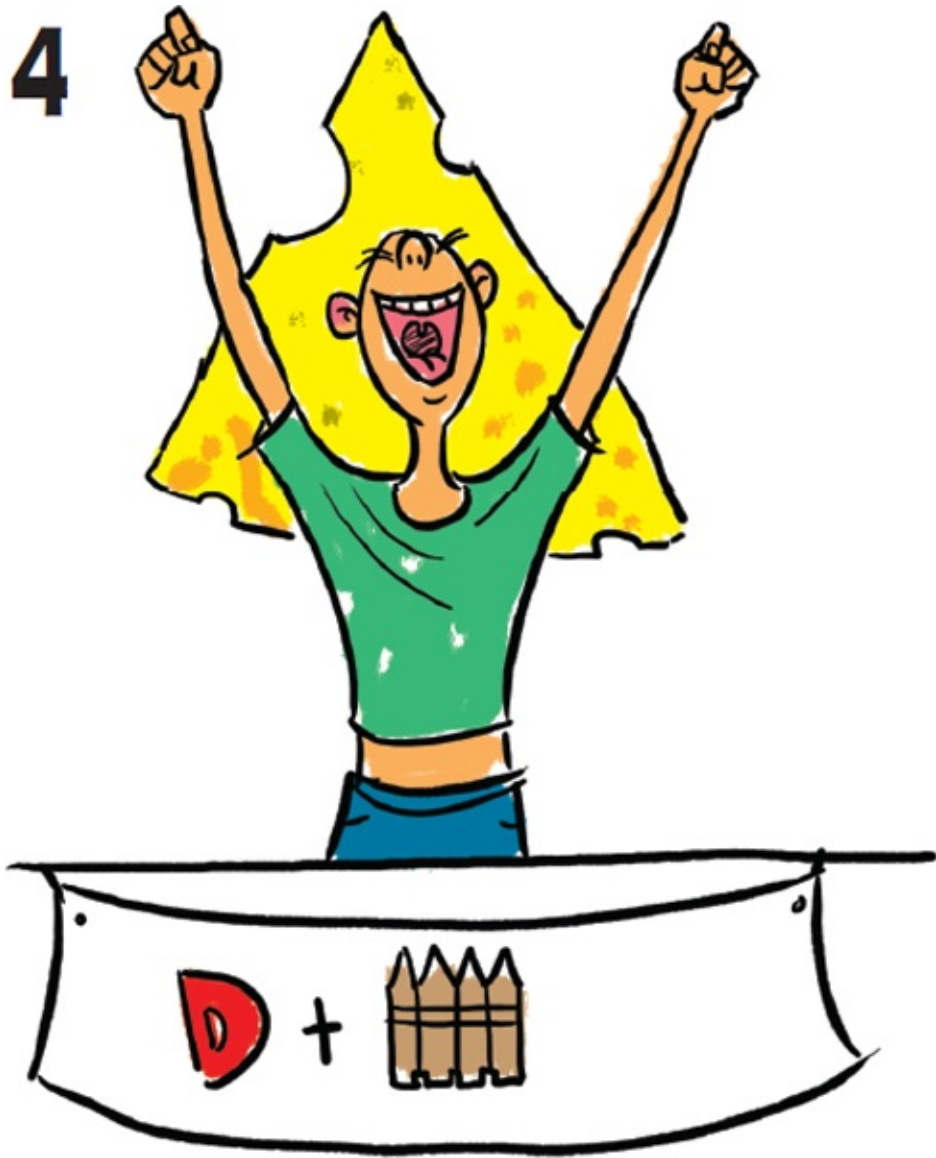
2



3



4



# Frannie

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



Put a shadow  
under her foot  
to show she's  
tiptoeing.

**2**



Erase the dotted line  
behind the legs.



**3**



4



# Harry

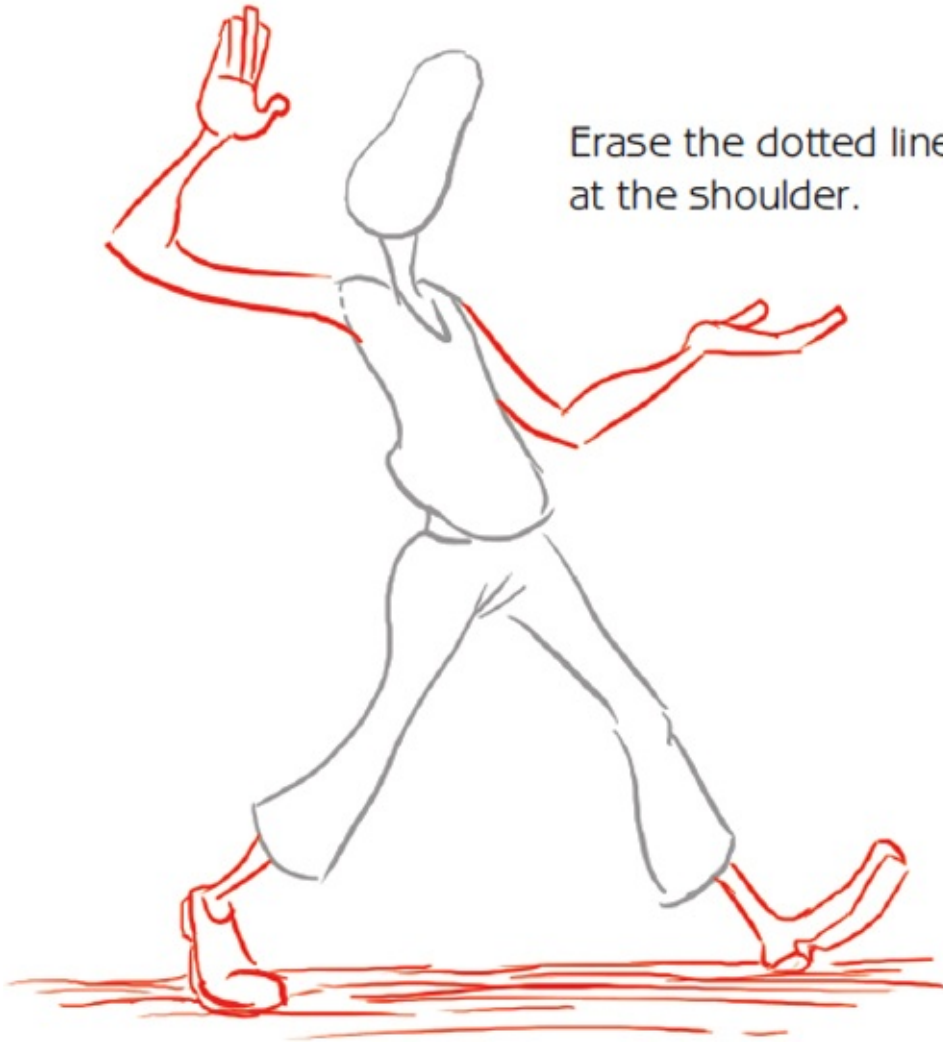
Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**

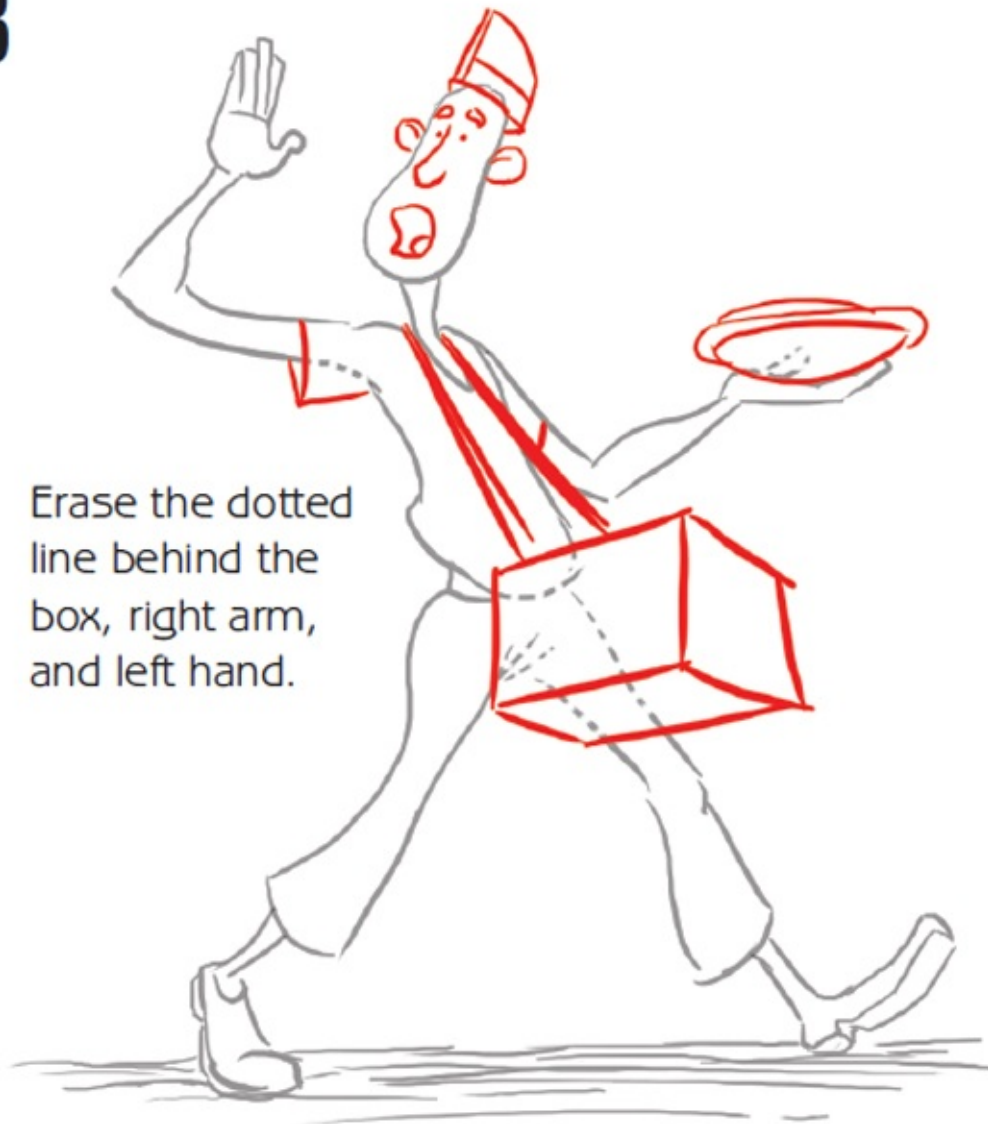


**2**

Erase the dotted line  
at the shoulder.



**3**



Erase the dotted line behind the box, right arm, and left hand.

4

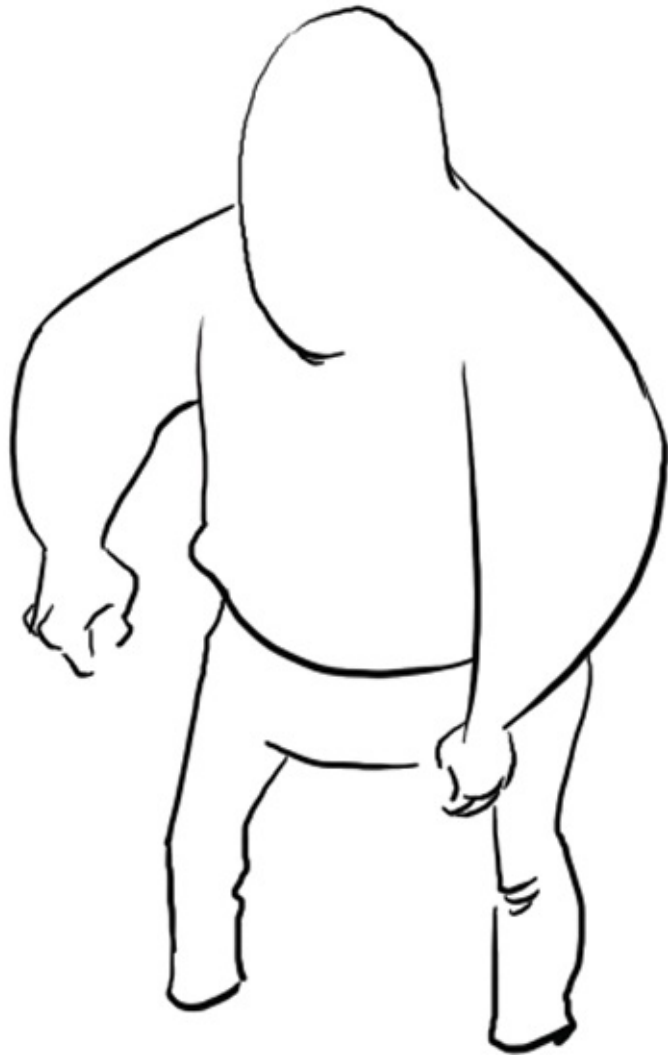


# Joey

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!



1



2

Erase the dotted line behind his right sleeve.



**3**

Erase the dotted line behind the broom and the dustpan.



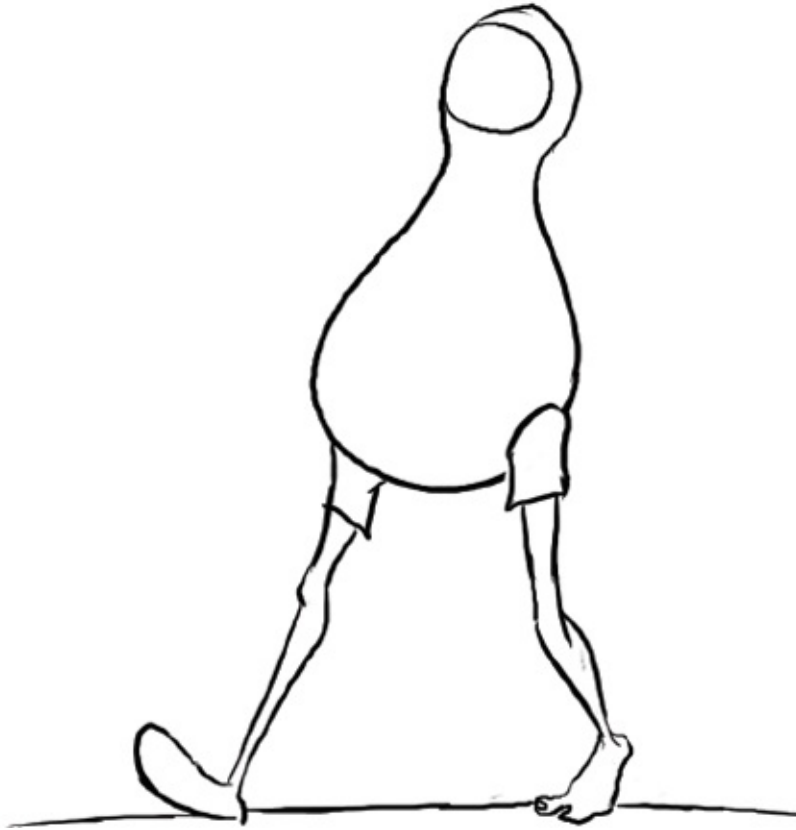
4



# Peanut

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



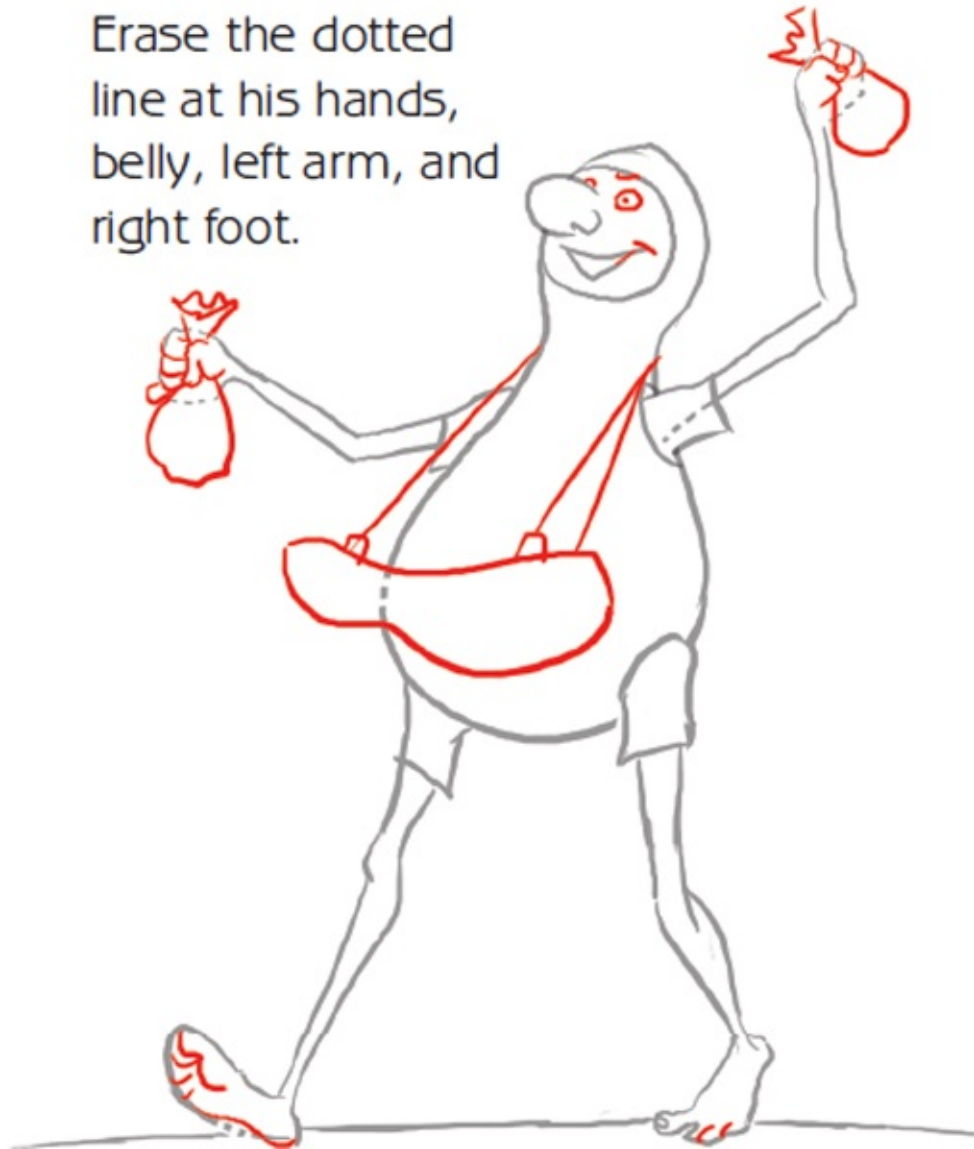
**2**

Erase the dotted line behind the nose and his left shoulder.



**3**

Erase the dotted line at his hands, belly, left arm, and right foot.





4



# Terry

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**

Erase the dotted line at the right arm and leg.



3



4



# Ticket Taker

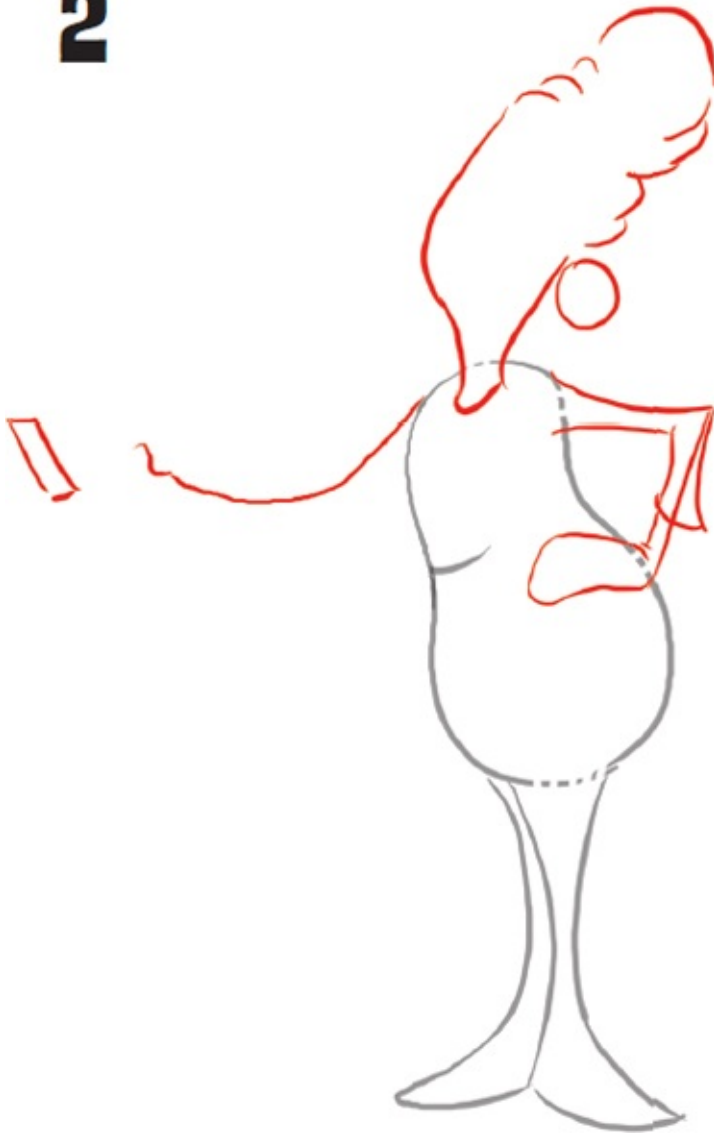
Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**





**2**



Erase the dotted line at the neck, shoulder, hand, and leg.

**3**



Erase the dotted  
line at her left  
sleeve.

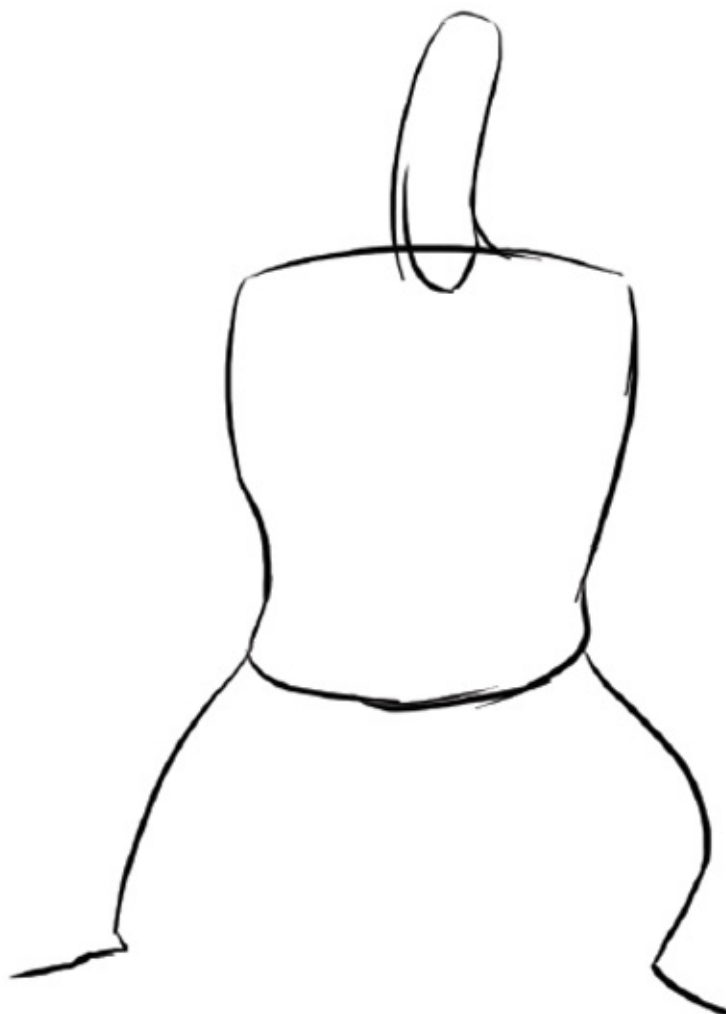
4



# Waterboy

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



**2**

Erase the dotted line at the neck, shoulder, hand, and foot.



3



4

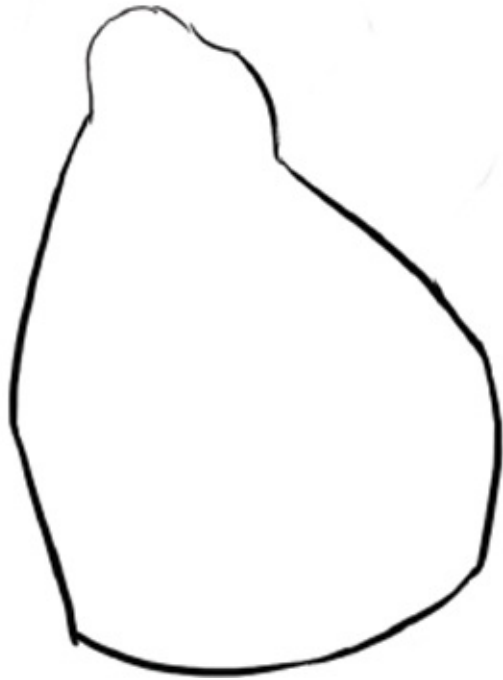




# Duke

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**

Erase the dotted line  
at the shoulders.



3



4



# Mascot

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



2



Erase the dotted  
line behind the  
beak and right arm.



3



4



# Archer Amy

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



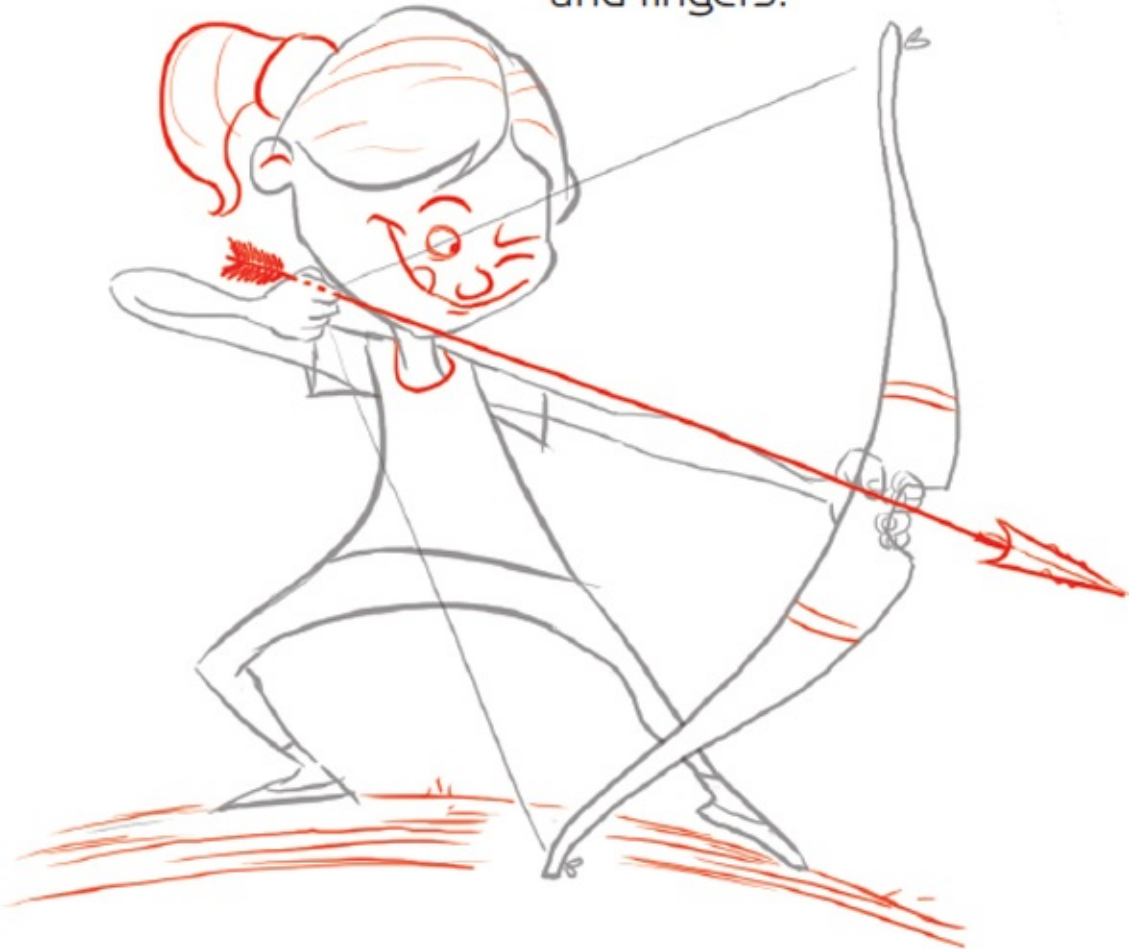
**2**

Erase the dotted line  
at the shoulders  
and leg.



**3**

Erase the dotted  
line at the hands  
and fingers.



4

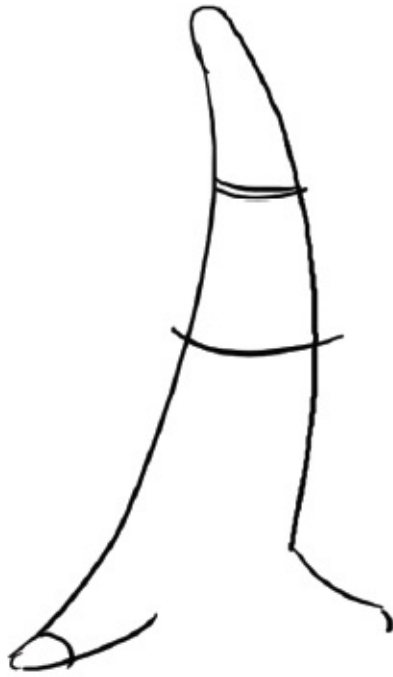


# Duncan

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!



**1**



**2**



Erase the dotted line  
at the shoulders  
and hand.

**3**



Erase the line  
behind the hairline.

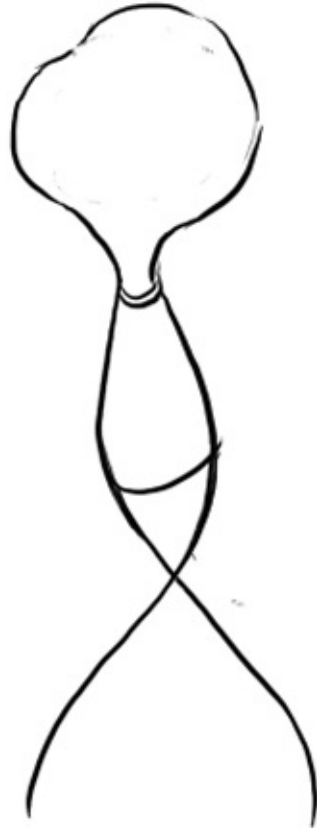
4



# Mega Meg

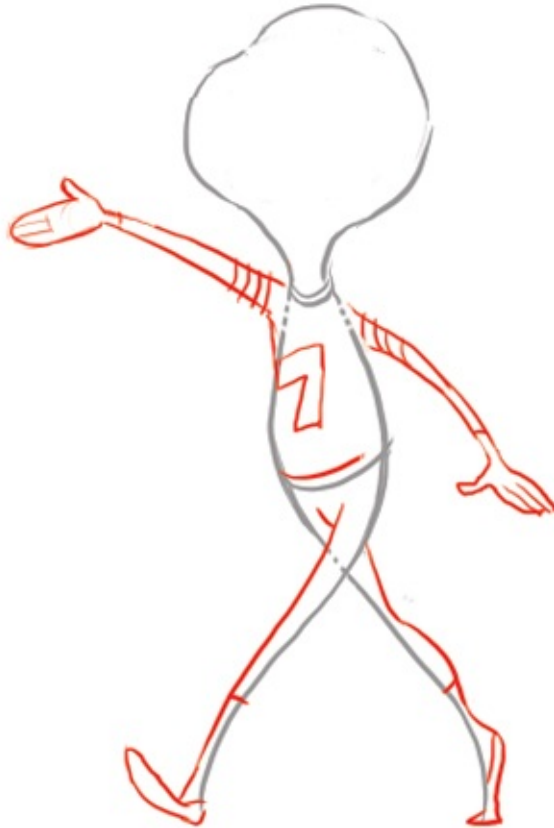
Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**

Erase the dotted line at the shoulders and legs.



**3**





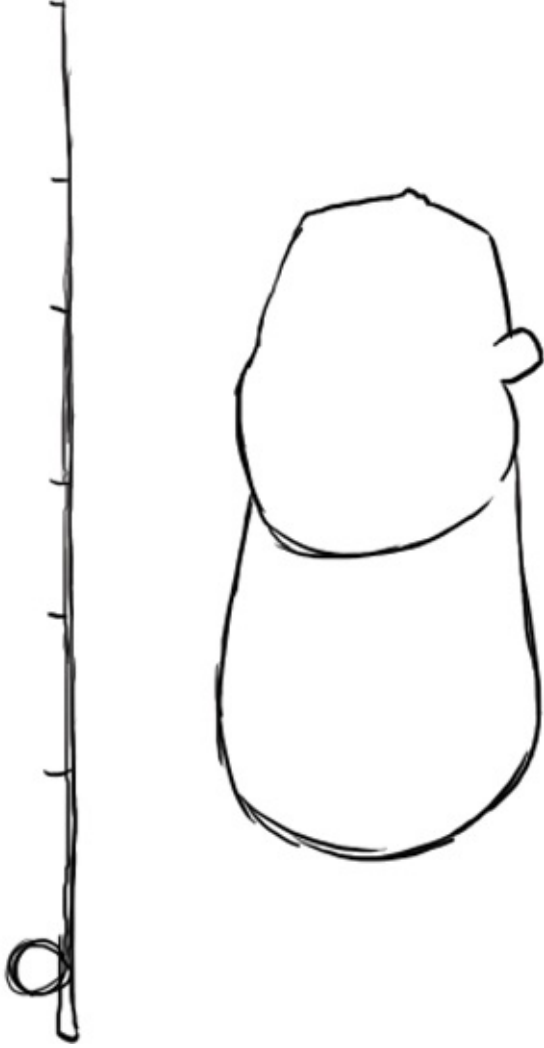
4



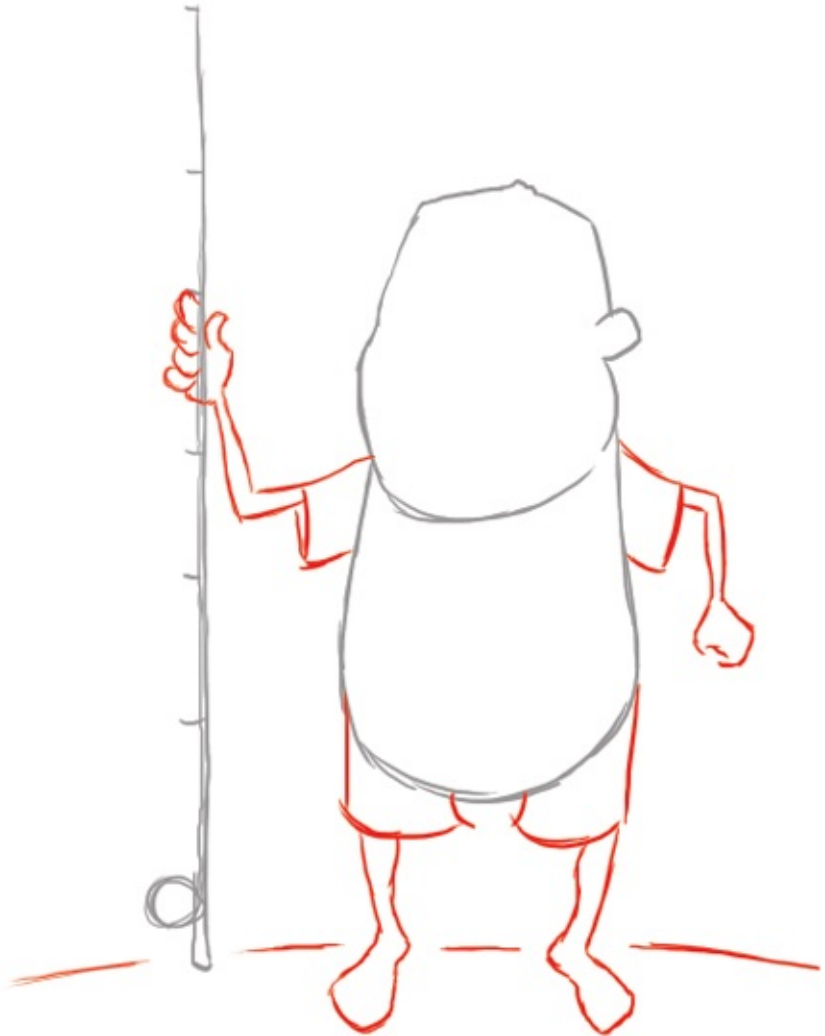
# Fishhook Frank

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



2



**3**

Erase the dotted line at the brim of the hat.



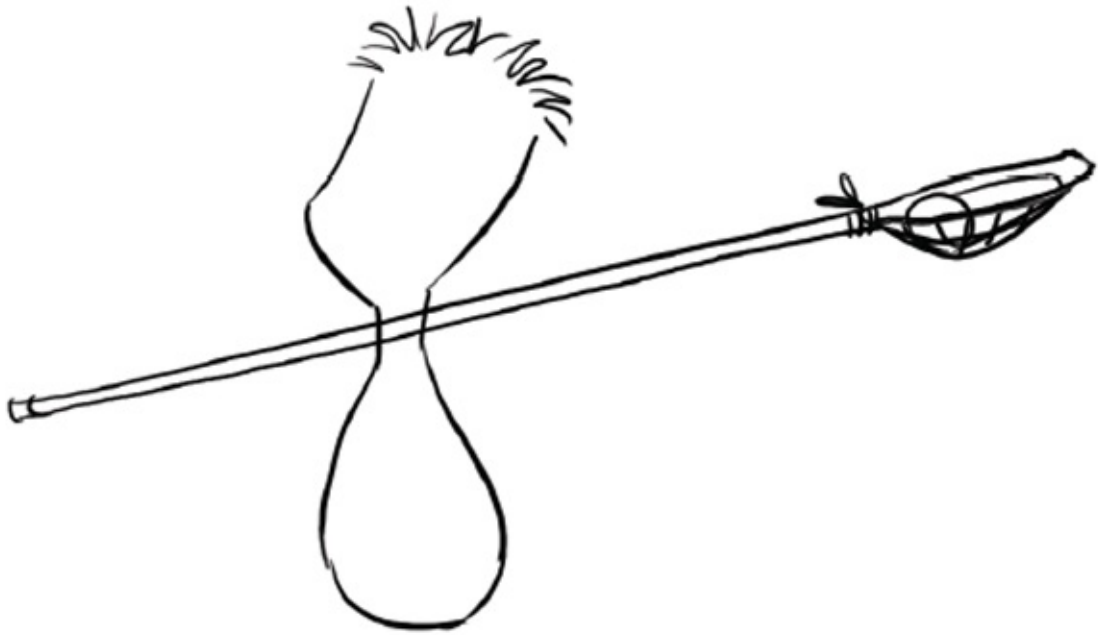
4



# Lax Larry

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1





2

Erase the dotted  
line at the hands,  
neck, and legs.



**3**

Erase the dotted  
line at the nose.



4



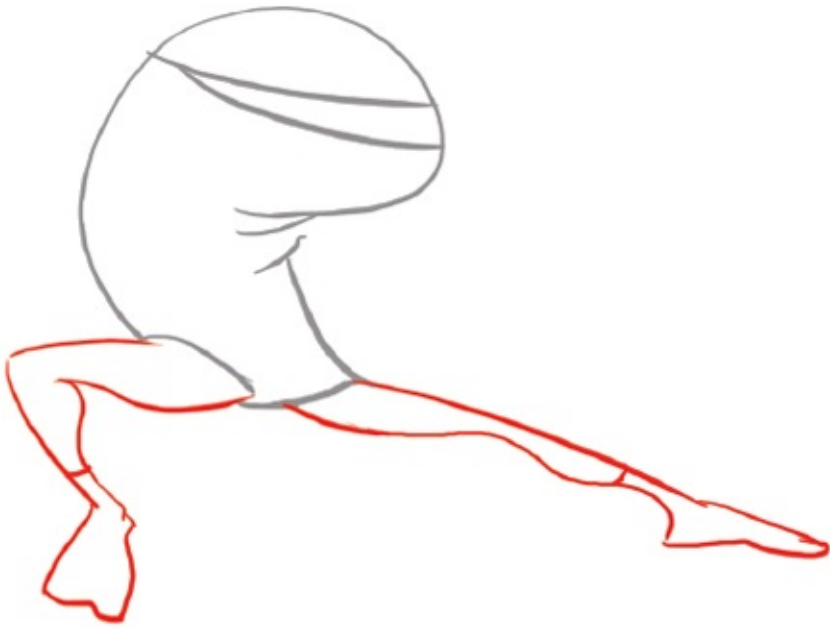
# Ninja

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**



**3**

Erase the dotted line  
at the shoulder.



4

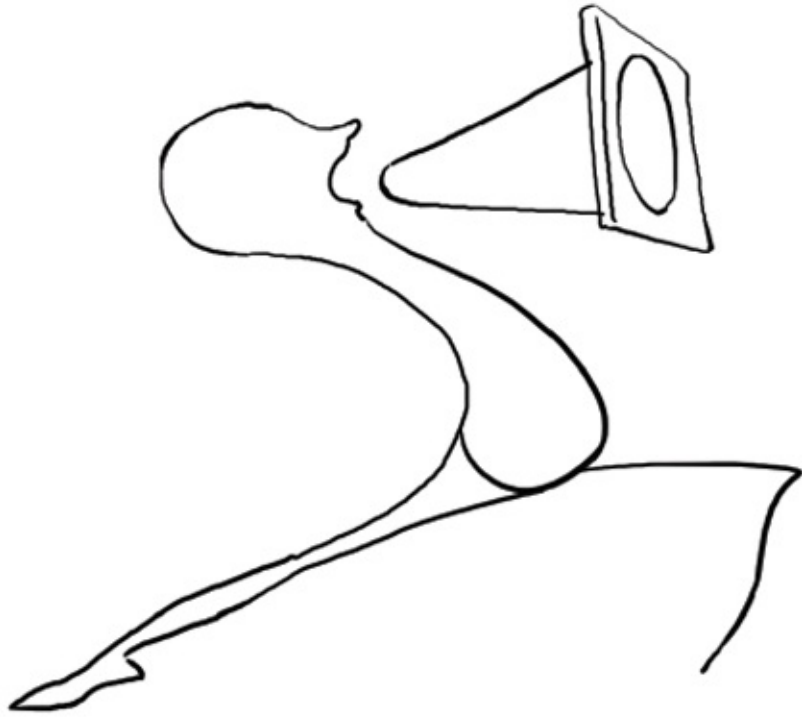




# Conehead

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



**2**

Erase the dotted  
line at the hand,  
shoulders, and  
legs.



**3**



Erase the dotted  
line at the leg.

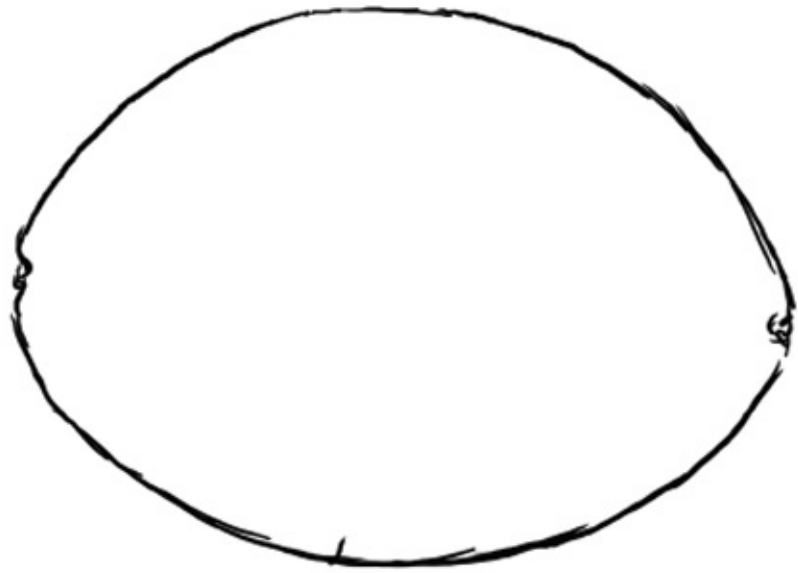
4



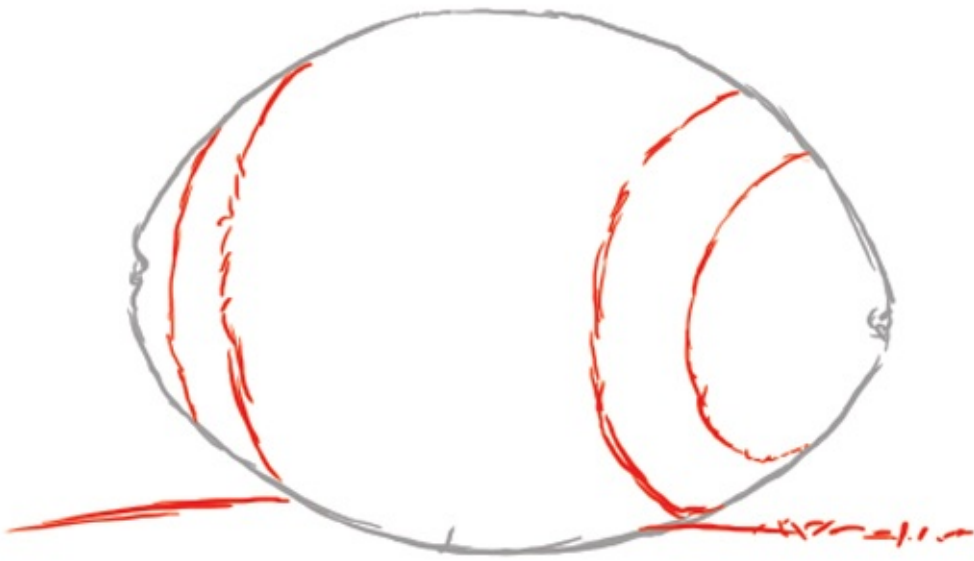
# Football

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**





**3**



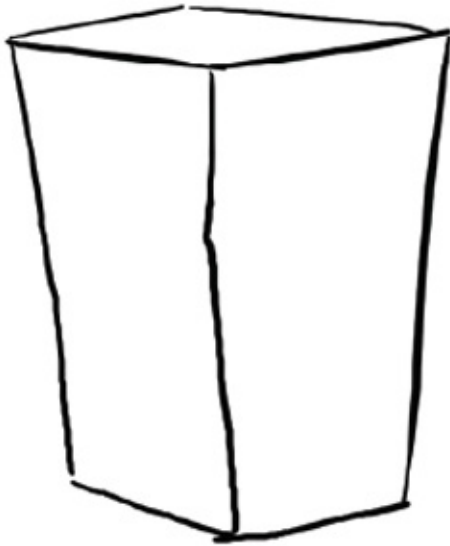
4



# Popcorn

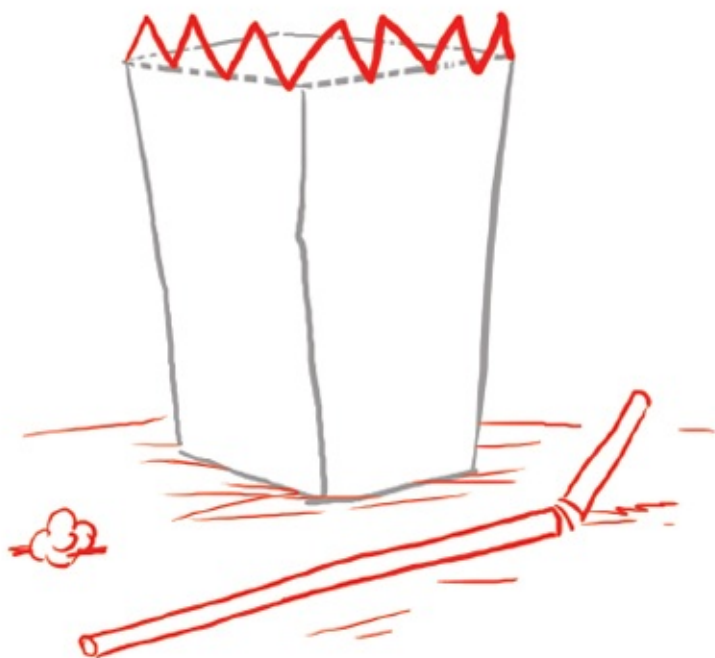
Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1

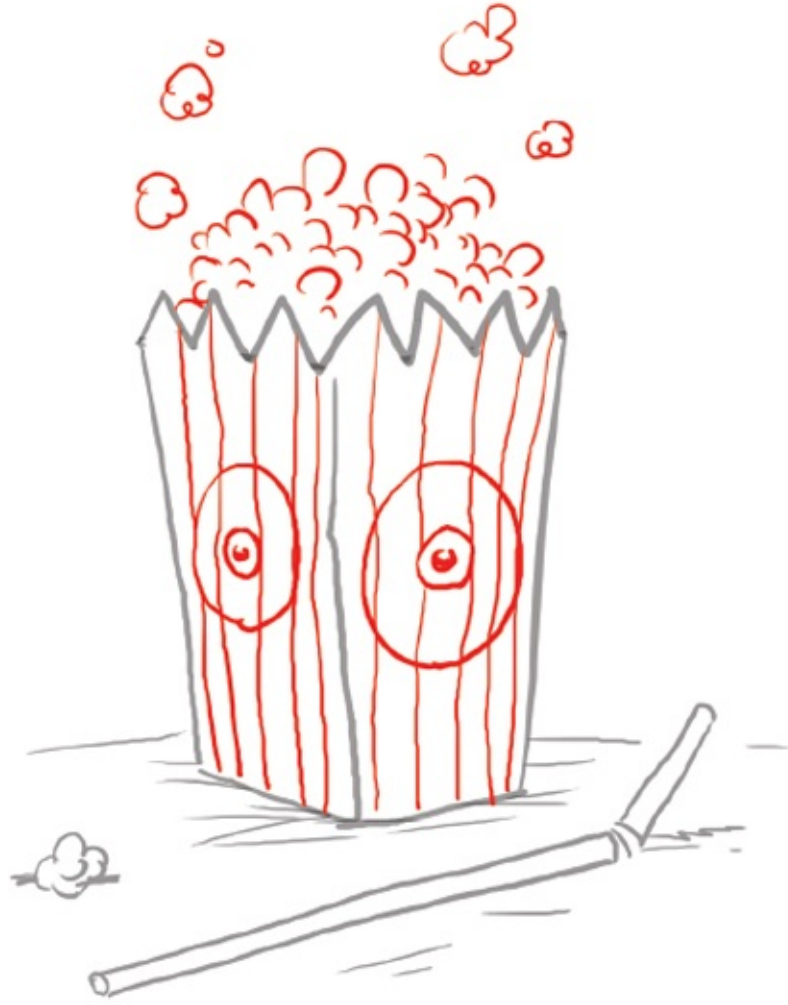


**2**

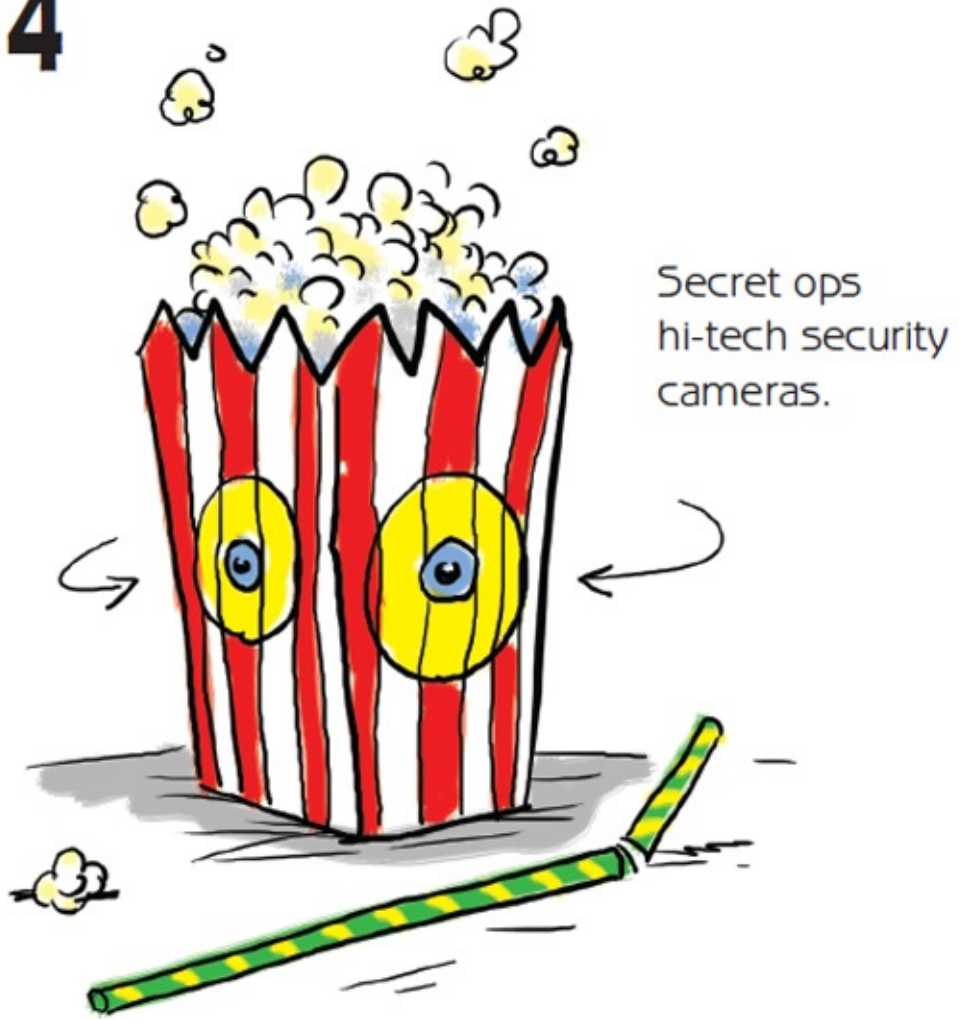
Erase the dotted  
line behind the  
triangles.



3



4



Secret ops  
hi-tech security  
cameras.

# Trophy

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!



1



2



**3**

Erase the dotted  
line at the right leg.



4



# Worried

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**



**3**

Worried expressions are all about making wide eyes and biting lips!

Sink the head into her shoulders.





4



# Laughing

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1



**2**

Throw his head  
back to make it  
look like he must  
have heard a very  
funny joke.



**3**



Add action lines.

4



# Sleepy

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**

Droopy ears help  
show what he's  
feeling.





**2**



**3**



4

Sagging head and hair help make gravity look like his enemy!



# Thrilled

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

**1**



**2**

Erase the dotted  
line at the  
upper lip.



**3**



Don't be afraid  
to stretch out  
his expression.  
It's just a  
cartoon!

4

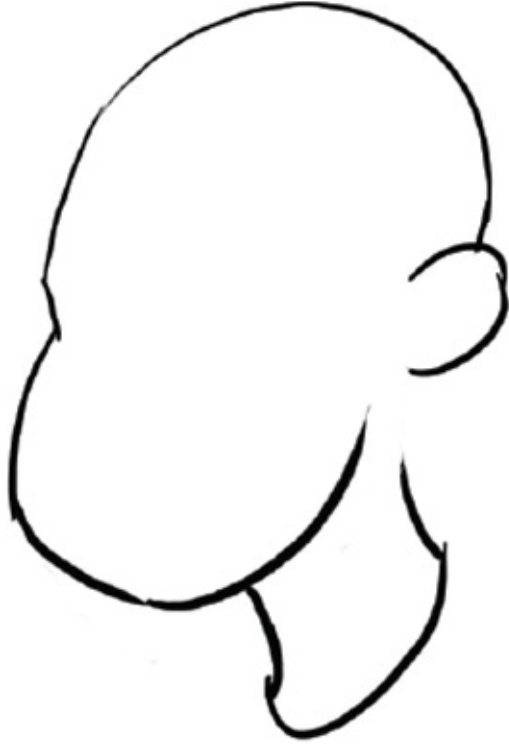




# Angry

Click [HERE](#) to see all 4 steps together!

1

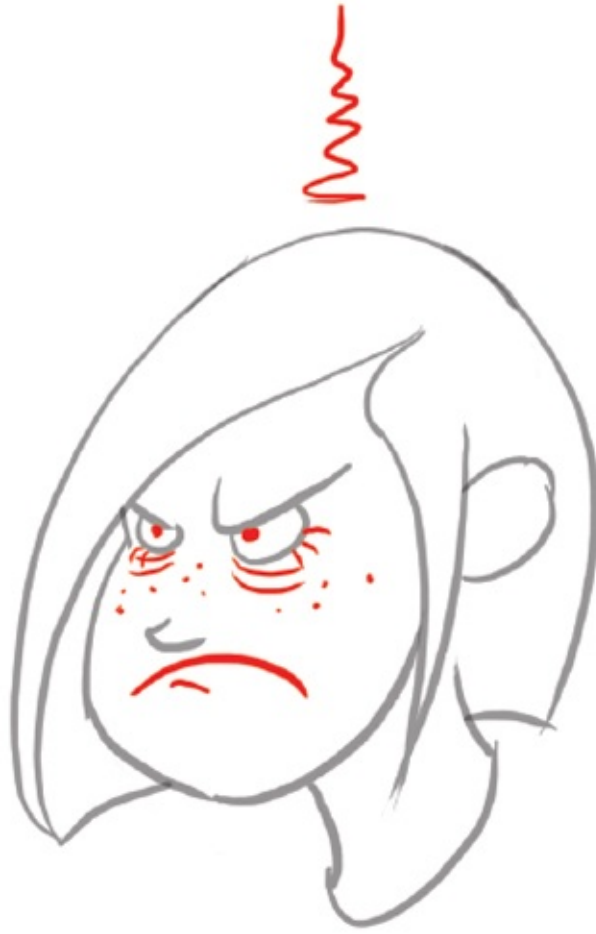


**2**

Erase the dotted lines  
under the hair.



3



4



# Further Reading

## Books

Artell, Mike. *Funny Cartooning for Kids*. New York: Sterling Publishing, 2006.

Bergin, Mark. *How to Draw Cartoons*. New York: Rosen Publishing, 2010.

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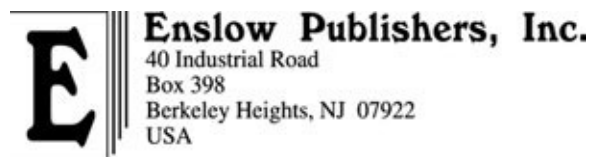
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**Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data** LaBaff, Stephanie.

Draw cartoon people in 4 easy steps : then write a story / Stephanie LaBaff.

p. cm. — (Drawing in 4 easy steps)

Includes index.

Summary: “Learn to draw people, objects, and faces and how to write a story about them, with a story example and story prompts”—Provided by publisher.

ISBN 978-0-7660-3843-1

1. Human beings—Caricatures and cartoons—Juvenile literature. 2. Cartooning—Technique—Juvenile literature. 3. Drawing—Technique—Juvenile literature.

4. Comic books, strips, etc.—Authorship—Juvenile literature. I. Title. II. Title:

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NC1764.8.H84L33 2012

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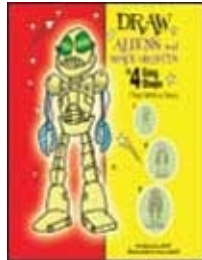
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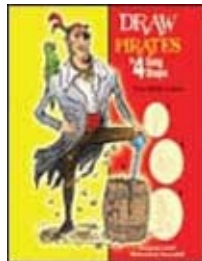
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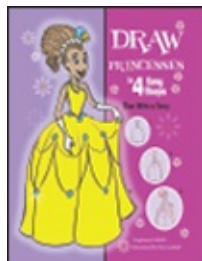
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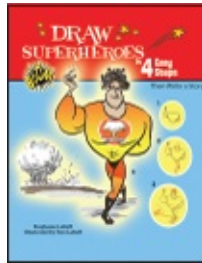


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