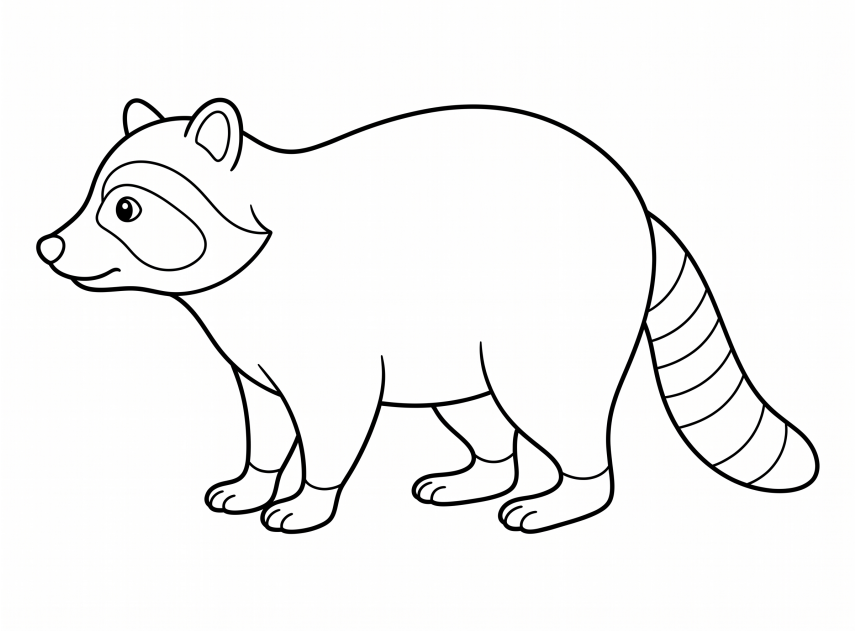
Draw a raccoon

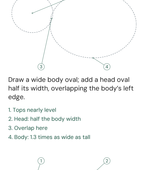
Draw a raccoon from simple shapes: connect the head and body, build overlapping feet, then shape and stripe the tail.



Finished artwork reference

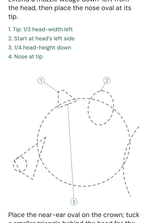
Use a pencil and eraser. Dashed lines are light guides; solid orange marks are new and black lines stay. Circled numbers match nearby labels for places to draw or guides to erase.

1. Place and connect the head



Draw a wide body oval; add a head oval half its width, overlapping the body's left edge.

1. Tops nearly level
2. Head half the body width
3. Overlap here
4. Body: 1.3 times as wide as tall



Extend a muzzle wedge down–left from the head, then place the nose oval at its tip.

1. Tip: 1/3 head-width left
2. Start at head's left side
3. 1/4 head-height down
4. Nose at tip



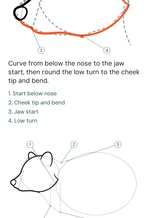
Place the near–ear oval on the crown; tuck a smaller triangle behind the head for the far ear.

1. Far: half the near-ear height
2. Near: a little under half-height
3. Hidden base



Mark the forehead turn at the upper–left edge, the jaw start at the wedge base, and the cheek tip at the lower–right edge. Join them lightly.

1. Turn: upper–left edge
2. Crown: top of oval
3. Bend: inset at middle
4. Jaw: wedge base
5. Low turn: oval bottom
6. Tip: lower–right edge



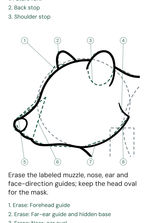
Round the forehead into the wedge, then round the far ear and stop at the head.

1. Stop at head
2. Follow the forehead turn



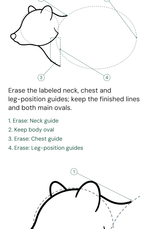
Round the near ear but leave its marked ends open, then round the nose oval.

1. Open end
2. Open end
3. Nose joins forehead



Curve from below the nose to the jaw start, then round the low turn to the cheek tip and bend.

1. Start below nose
2. Cheek tip and bend
3. Jaw start
4. Low turn



Set the fork left of the body tip and the shoulder right, at the labeled heights. Join the neck and chest turns.

1. Body's left tip
2. Dip: just below ear join
3. Back stop: near body oval
4. Fork: above body bottom
5. Shoulder: near body bottom



Round the neck dip to the back stop, then follow the chest bends to the shoulder stop.

1. Future fork
2. Back stop
3. Shoulder stop

Erase the labeled muzzle, nose, ear and face–direction guides; keep the head oval for the mask.

1. Erase: Forehead guide
2. Erase: Far–ear guide and hidden base
3. Erase: Near–ear oval
4. Erase: Cheek guide
5. Erase: Nose guide
6. Erase: Muzzle guide
7. Erase: Jaw guide
8. Keep head oval

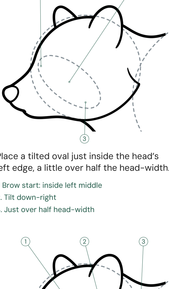
Erase the labeled neck, chest and leg–position guides; keep the finished lines and both main ovals.

1. Erase: Neck guide
2. Keep body oval
3. Erase: Chest guide
4. Erase: Leg–position guides

Check the connected head and neck; keep the two ovals for the next construction.

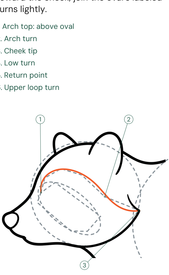
1. Future back connection
2. Future shoulder connection

2. Build the mask and face



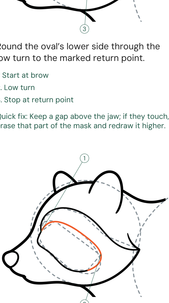
Place a tilted oval just inside the head's left edge, a little over half the head-width.

1. Brow start: inside left middle
2. Tilt down-right
3. Just over half head-width



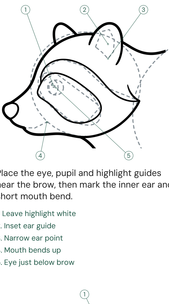
Mark the arch above the oval and its turns toward the cheek; join the oval's labeled turns lightly.

1. Arch top: above oval
2. Arch turn
3. Cheek tip
4. Low turn
5. Return point
6. Upper loop turn



Round the upper arch from the brow start through the marked turns to the cheek tip.

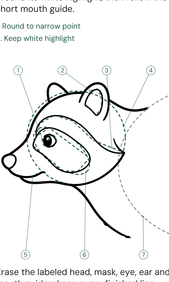
1. Brow start
2. Through arch turn
3. Meet cheek tip



Round the oval's lower side through the low turn to the marked return point.

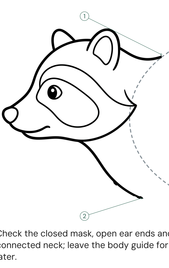
1. Start at brow
2. Low turn
3. Stop at return point

Quick fix: Keep a gap above the jaw; if they touch, erase that part of the mask and redraw it higher.



Curve around the oval's upper side to close the mask at the same brow start.

1. Close at same brow start
2. Round upper turn



Place the eye, pupil and highlight guides near the brow, then mark the inner ear and short mouth bend.

1. Leave highlight white
2. Inset ear guide
3. Narrow ear point
4. Mouth bends up
5. Eye just below brow

Round the eye and inner ear, fill the pupil around its white highlight, then follow the short mouth guide.

1. Round to narrow point
2. Keep white highlight

Erase the labeled head, mask, eye, ear and mouth guides; keep every finished line.

1. Erase: Eye/pupil/highlight guides
2. Erase: Inner-ear guide
3. Erase: Mask arch guide
4. Erase: Head oval
5. Erase: Mouth guide
6. Erase: Mask oval + turn frame
7. Keep body oval



Check the closed mask, open ear ends and connected neck; leave the body guide for later.

1. Future back connection
2. Future shoulder connection

3. Construct the front legs

Keep your drawing in this position.





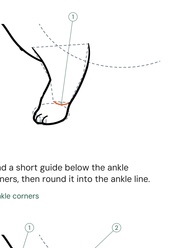
Set the leg starts a third of an oval-height below its left tip, a third of an oval-width apart. Narrow the frame toward the foot oval.

1. Left start
2. Other bend
3. Right start
4. Halfway bend
5. Foot: 1/5 body width
6. Ankle: 2/5 body height below starts



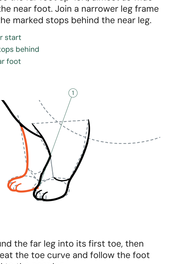
Mark the turn from the bend into the foot's left edge, then place two small toe ovals.

1. Turn
2. Bend
3. Toe ovals



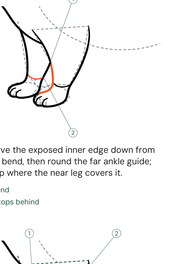
Round the left side through the bend and turn, then curve around the first toe oval.

1. Start
2. Bend
3. First toe



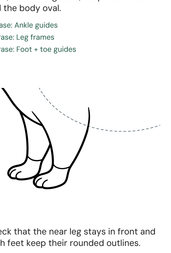
Round the other side down to the ankle, then follow the foot oval back to the first toe. Repeat the toe curve.

1. Ankle



Bend a short guide below the ankle corners, then round it into the ankle line.

1. Ankle corners



Place the far foot up–left, almost as wide as the near foot. Join a narrower leg frame to the marked stops behind the near leg.

1. Far start
2. Stops behind
3. Far foot

Round the far leg into its first toe, then repeat the toe curve and follow the foot oval to the near leg.

1. Stop at near leg

Curve the exposed inner edge down from the bend, then round the far ankle guide; stop where the near leg covers it.

1. Bend
2. Stops behind

Erase the labeled frames, foot and toe ovals, and ankle guides; keep both feet and the body oval.

1. Erase: Ankle guides
2. Erase: Leg frames
3. Erase: Foot + toe guides

Check that the near leg stays in front and both feet keep their rounded outlines.

4. Connect the body and rear legs

Keep your drawing in this position.



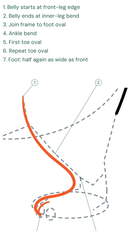
Join the neck stop to the oval's top with a light guide; mark both tail roots and the rump stop.

1. Neck stop
2. Top of body oval
3. Upper root: one-third down oval
4. Rump stop; below lower root
5. Lower root: three-quarters down



Round the back from the neck through the top and both roots to the rump stop.

1. Start at neck
2. Round over oval
3. Stop here for the rear leg



Set the inner start just right of body center, halfway toward the bottom; join the marked bends lightly.

1. Body center
2. Inner start: below and right
3. Hip turn: level with front-leg bend
4. Foot turn: far-front–ankle level
5. Outer bend below rump stop



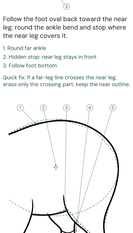
Place a foot oval half again as wide as the front foot, with level bottoms. Join the frame to the oval, then add toe, ankle and belly guides.

1. Belly starts at front-leg edge
2. Belly ends at inner-leg bend
3. Join frame to foot oval
4. Ankle bend
5. First toe oval
6. Repeat toe oval
7. Foot: half again as wide as front



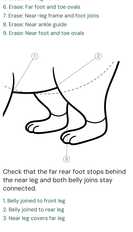
Round the inner leg through the hip turn, follow the foot oval's left edge and curve around the first toe.

1. Inner start
2. Through hip turn
3. Round first toe
4. Turn toward foot



Round the rump stop into the foot, meet the first toe, then repeat its curve and round the ankle bend.

1. Round ankle bend
2. Continue from rump stop
3. Meet first toe
4. Repeat toe curve



Round the belly between the near legs. Place the far foot up-left and join its frame to the marked belly and hidden stops.

1. Far start below belly middle
2. Belly joins both near legs
3. Bend above far foot's right half
4. Hidden stop behind near hip
5. Far foot: almost the same width
6. Half a foot–height higher
7. Foot: three-quarters width left

Round the far leg from the belly into the first toe, then repeat the small toe curve.

1. Start at belly
2. Round the bend
3. First toe
4. Repeat toe

Follow the foot oval back toward the near leg; round the ankle bend and stop where the near leg covers it.

1. Round far ankle
2. Hidden stop: near leg stays in front
3. Follow foot bottom

Quick fix: If a far-leg line crosses the near leg, erase only the crossing part; keep the near outline.

Erase the labeled leg, foot, toe, ankle, belly, back and center guides; keep the body oval and tail-root guide.

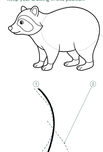
1. Erase: Back guide
2. Erase: Center mark
3. Erase: Belly guide
4. Erase: Far ankle guide
5. Erase: Far-leg frame
6. Erase: Far foot and toe ovals
7. Erase: Near-leg frame and foot joins
8. Erase: Near ankle guide
9. Erase: Near foot and toe ovals

Check that the far rear foot stops behind the near leg and both belly joins stay connected.

1. Belly joined to front leg
2. Belly joined to rear leg
3. Near leg covers far leg

5. Attach and stripe the tail

Keep your drawing in this position.





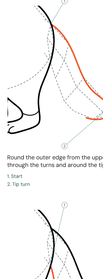
Set the tip two-fifths of a body-width right of the rump, level with the far front ankle. Bend the centerline at the marked thirds.

1. Upper root
2. 1/3 down
3. 2/3 down
4. Tip: far front ankle level



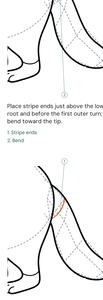
Mark a quarter-body-width across the first bend; make the next pair slightly narrower and the tip pair half as wide.

1. Width: 1/4 body
2. Slightly narrower
3. Half width



Connect the width marks into a bent wedge, extending both roots a little behind the rump.

1. Hidden roots
2. Outer turn
3. Rounded end



Round the outer edge from the upper root through the turns and around the tip.

1. Start
2. Tip turn



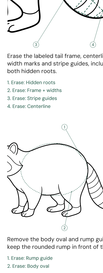
Round the inner edge from the lower root to meet the tip; stop both roots at the rump.

1. Lower root
2. Meet here



Place stripe ends just above the lower root and before the first outer turn; mark a bend toward the tip.

1. Stripe ends
2. Bend



Curve the first stripe through its bend, stopping at the rump and outer tail edge.

1. First stripe

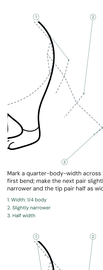


Space six more endpoint pairs down the tail and join each pair with a light guide.

1. Six guide pairs

Bow each stripe toward the tip, repeating the first curve between its marked ends.

1. Stop at outline



Erase the labeled tail frame, centerline, width marks and stripe guides, including both hidden roots.

1. Erase: Hidden roots
2. Erase: Frame + widths
3. Erase: Stripe guides
4. Erase: Centerline

Remove the body oval and rump guide; keep the rounded rump in front of the tail.

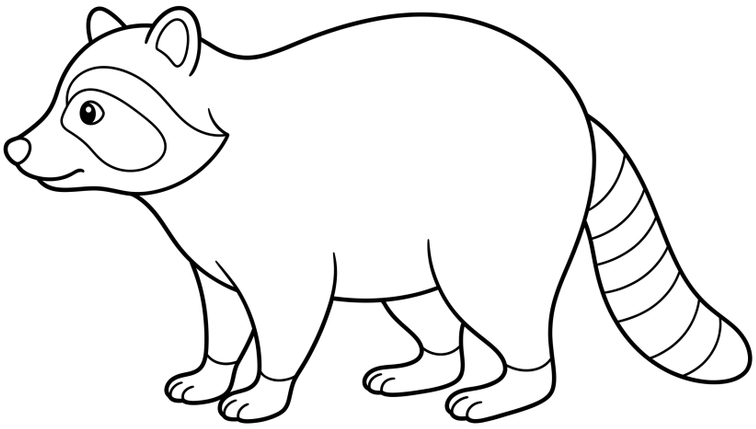
1. Erase: Rump guide
2. Erase: Body oval

Check the complete raccoon: four connected feet, a closed face mask and seven tail separators.

1. Closed face mask
2. Both tail roots meet rump
3. All four feet connected

Try it again from shapes

Your raccoon is complete. Check the closed face mask, four connected feet and seven tail separators.



Try drawing it again from the shape pictures; use the connection and cleanup views when you need them.

Keep the same construction and choose whether to leave the mask uncolored or add your own colors.

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