

How to Draw Chalk Art

12 easy steps for beginners



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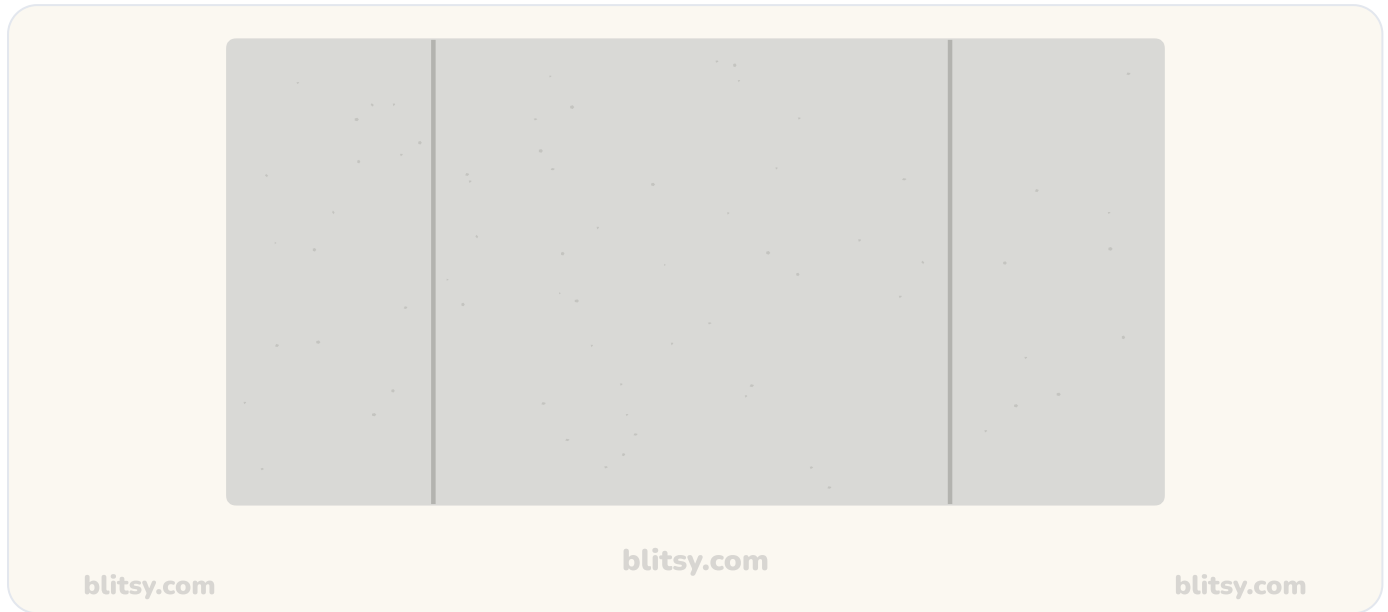
What you'll need

- Thick sidewalk chalk
- A light chalk for sketching
- A dark chalk for outlines
- A cup of water and a brush
- A damp sponge or rag
- A kneeling pad

How to use this guide

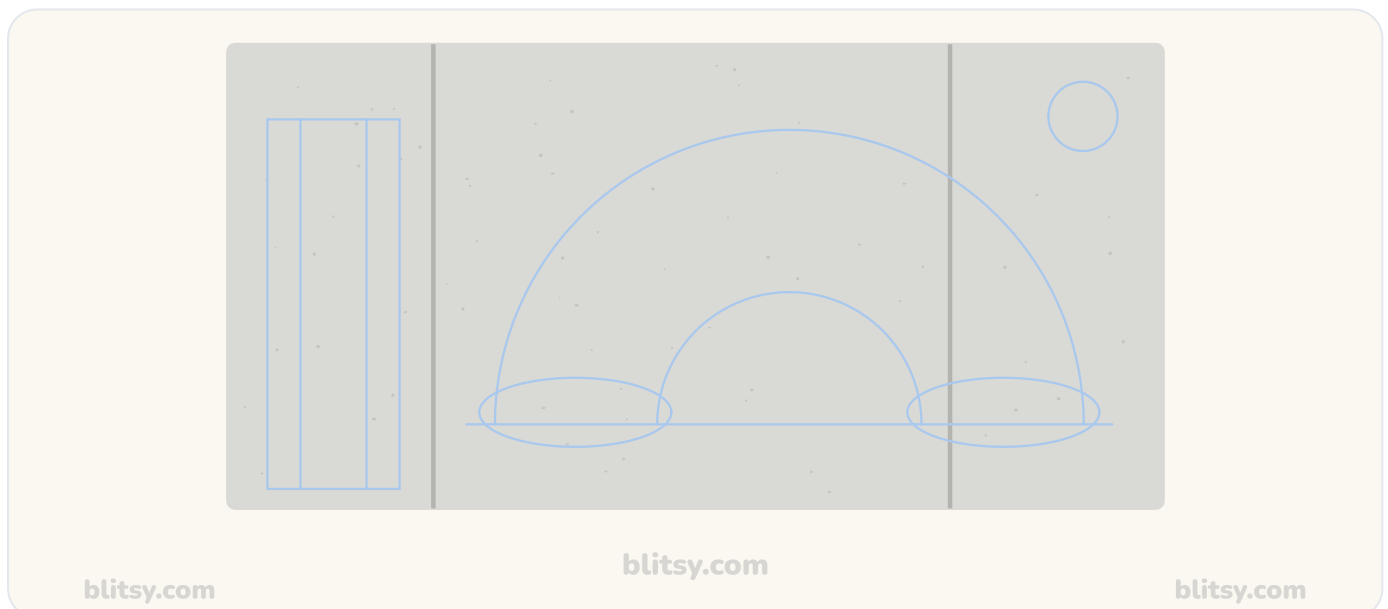
New lines for each step are shown in **blue**; lines you already drew are gray. Draw lightly first, then ink and erase near the end.

[Read the full tutorial online →](#)

STEP 1 Choose a safe, shady square

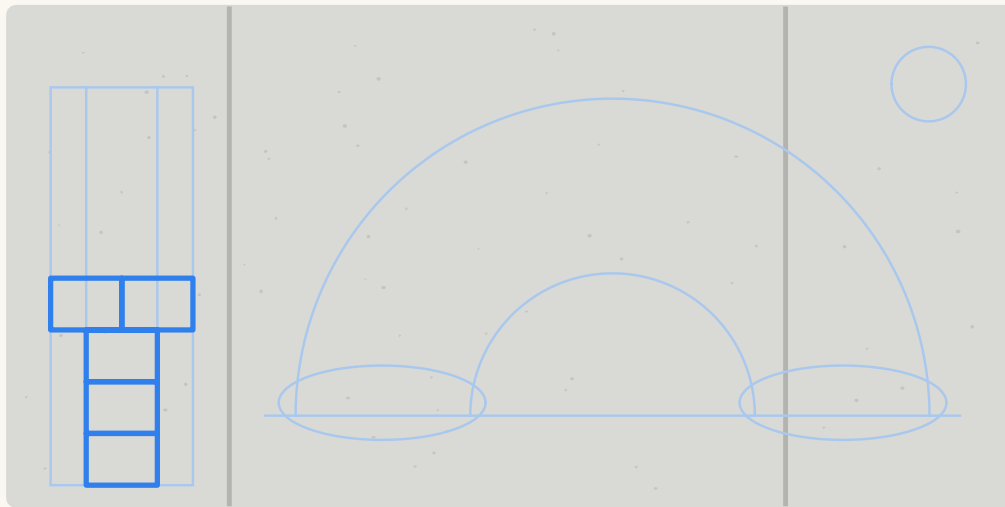
Before any chalk comes out, ask an adult where you're allowed to draw. A driveway, patio or quiet path at home is ideal; streets and spots where cars back out are not. I also look for shade, because hot concrete burns knees and dries wet chalk before you can blend it. Sweep away grit first.

 **Tip:** The lines between sidewalk slabs make handy borders. Fit each part of the scene inside one slab.

STEP 2 Sketch light guide shapes

With white or pale yellow chalk and very light pressure, mark a tall rectangle on the left for the hopscotch. Add two half circles for the rainbow on one flat line, a circle in the corner for the sun and two flat ovals where the rainbow ends. Light chalk vanishes under the colors later, so mistakes cost nothing.

 **Tip:** Stand up and look at your sketch from a few steps away. Sizes on the ground are hard to judge from your knees.

STEP 3 Outline hopscotch boxes 1 to 5

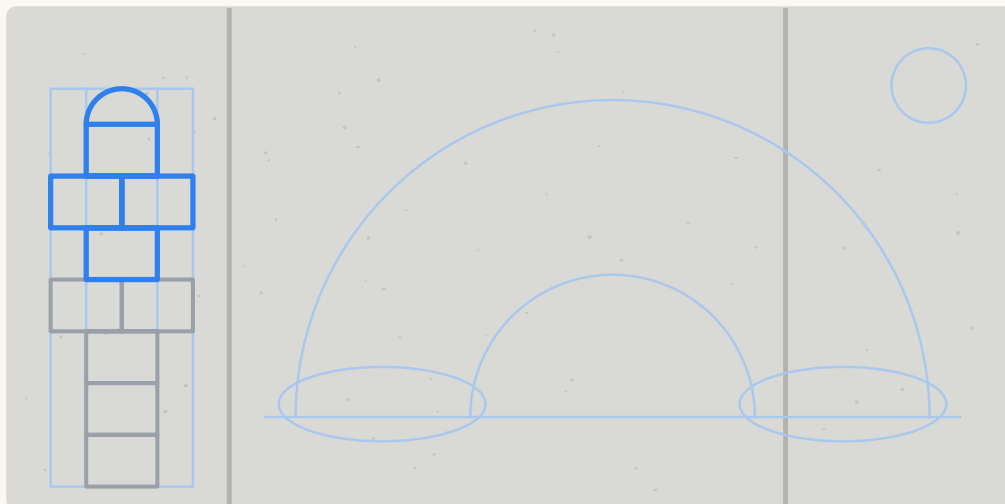
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Start at the bottom with three single boxes stacked up, then two side by side for 4 and 5. Real boxes need room for a child's foot, so about a foot and a half across works well. Press firmly and keep the lines straight; a wobbly edge makes it hard to tell who stepped on the line.

 **Tip:** Use a jump rope or a long stick as a ruler and run the chalk along it.

STEP 4 Add the top boxes and the 10

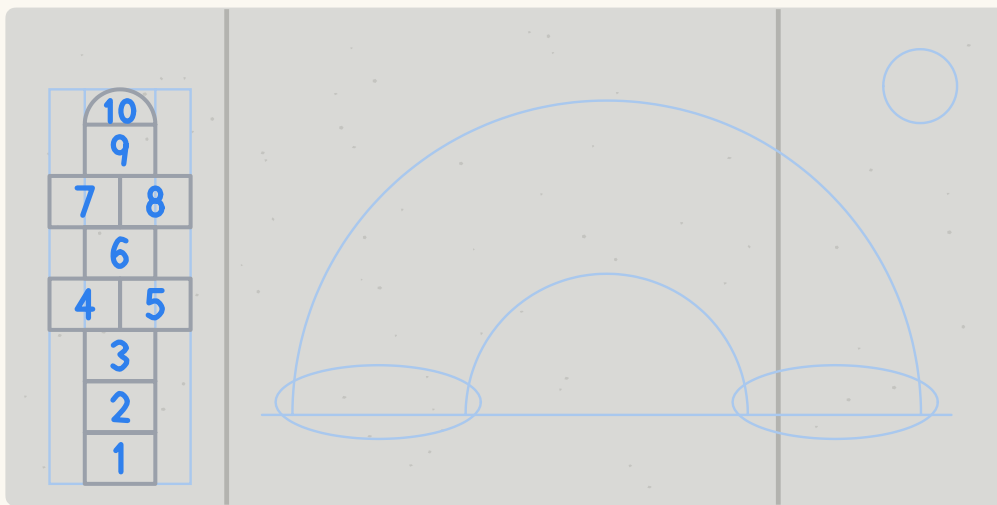
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Above the pair, draw a single box for 6, a pair for 7 and 8, and a single box for 9. Cap it with a half circle for 10, often called home, where players turn around. Most beginners let the top boxes shrink, which makes the last jumps cramped, so match the size of the ones below.

 **Tip:** Count the boxes out loud as you draw. It's easy to skip a pair when you're kneeling.

STEP 5 Number every box

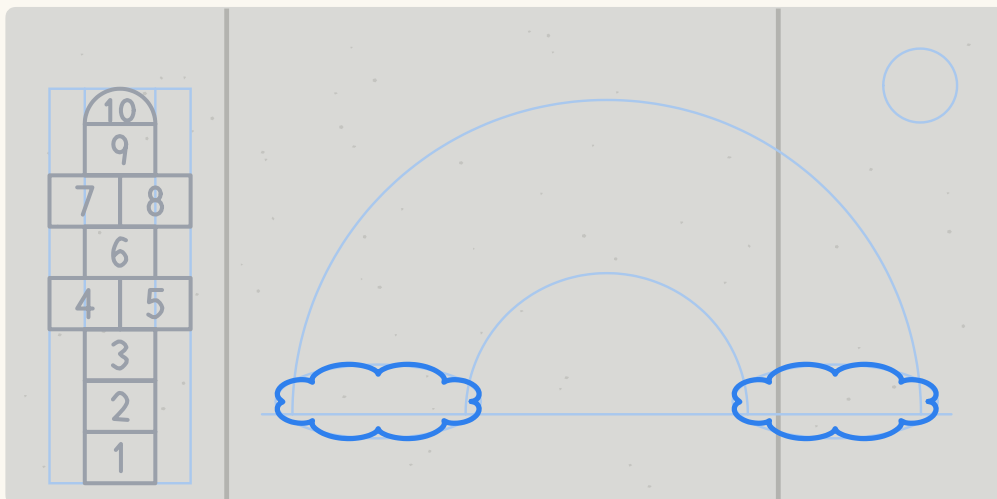
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Write 1 to 10 in the middle of each box, starting at the bottom. Make the numbers big and simple so they read from standing height. Leave a small gap between each number and the box lines, because numbers touching the edges blur once the boxes are colored.

Tip: Kids learning their numbers can trace over yours with a second chalk color.

STEP 6 Draw two puffy clouds

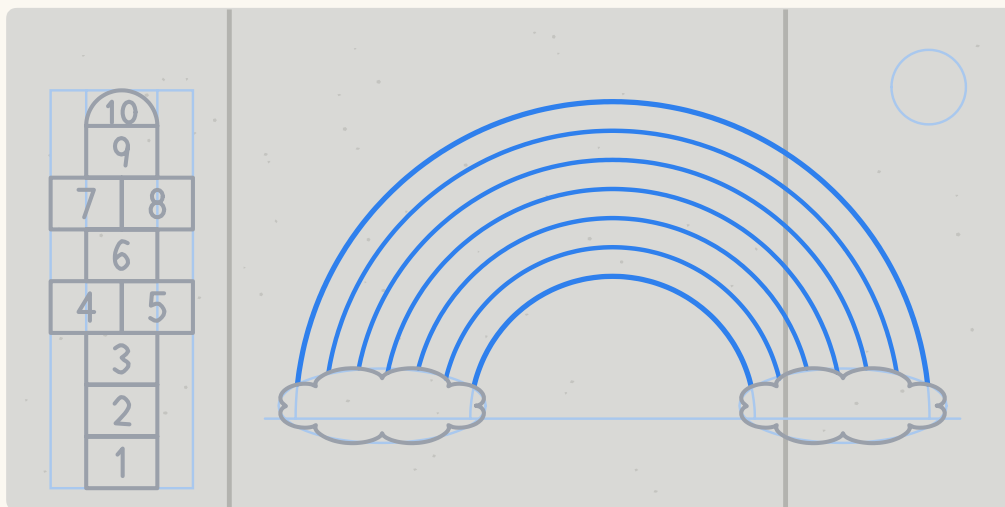
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Go over the oval guides with a bumpy line, like joined half circles. The clouds sit in front of the rainbow, so I draw them first. That way you know exactly where each rainbow line stops, and you won't scrub out arcs that run behind them.

Tip: Odd numbers of bumps look more natural. Six identical bumps start to look like a caterpillar.

STEP 7 Draw the rainbow arches

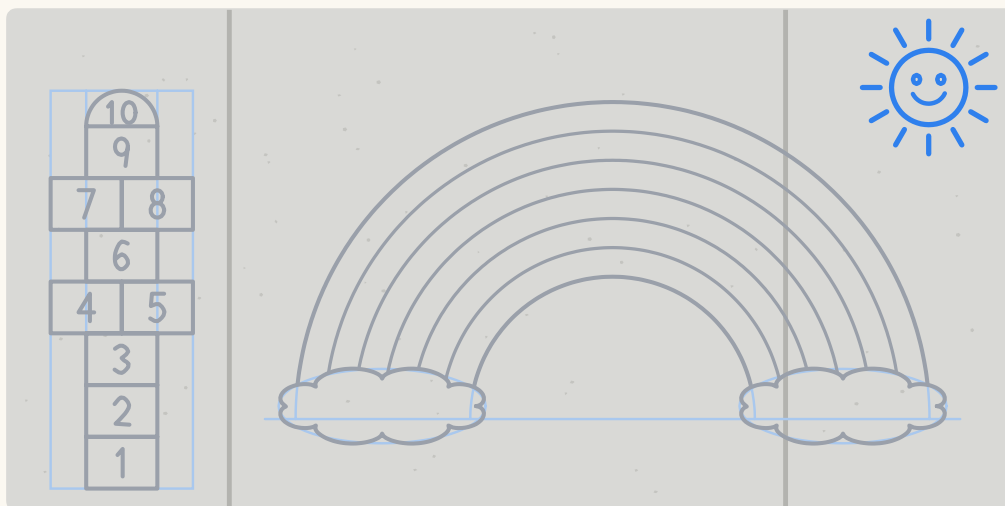
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Follow the big guide with your first arch, stopping at each cloud. Fit five more inside it, evenly spaced, until the last lands on the small guide, giving six bands. I sweep each arch with my whole arm in one slow motion, because short choppy strokes leave a bumpy curve.

 **Tip:** Mark the spacing with small dots on both ends before you draw. Even bands look far tidier.

STEP 8 Add a smiling sun

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Trace the sun circle, then draw short rays all around it with a small gap before each ray. Add two oval eyes and a wide smile. Keep the face small and high; a mouth that reaches the edge makes the sun look like it's shouting.

 **Tip:** Draw the four main rays first, up, down, left and right, then fill in between them.

STEP 9 Add flowers and a few stars

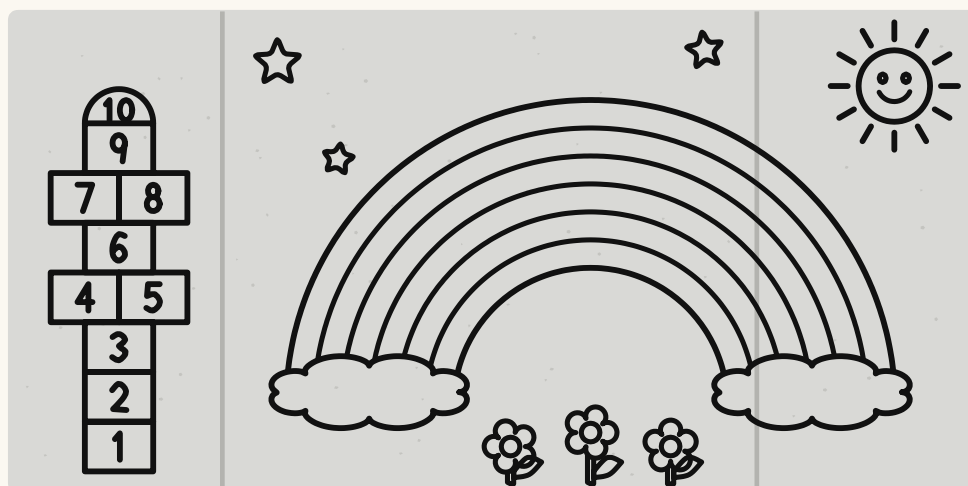
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Under the rainbow, draw three small flowers, each a wavy five-petal shape around a round center, on a short stem with one leaf. Sprinkle three stars of different sizes in the empty pavement above. These extras fill the bare gray gaps so the scene feels finished.

Tip: Draw stars as one continuous line without lifting the chalk, then round off the points with your finger.

STEP 10 Go bold and wipe the guides

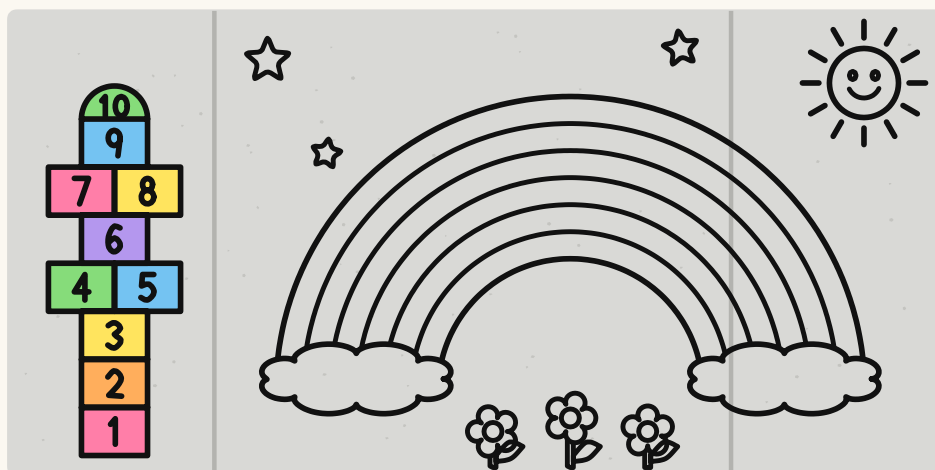
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Trace every keeper line with a dark chalk, pressing hard so the outline stays crisp under the color. The pictures use black for clarity, but on pavement I like dark purple or navy. Wipe stray guide marks outside the shapes with a dry rag or a barely damp sponge.

Tip: Dip the outline chalk in water first. A wet tip gives a darker, smoother line that grips rough concrete.

STEP 11 Fill the hopscotch boxes

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Snap a chalk stick in half, lay it on its side and rub it back and forth inside a box. The flat side covers ground quickly and fills the little holes in the concrete. Give each box its own color and work from the top down, so your knees don't smear finished boxes.

Tip: Go over each box twice in two directions. The second pass fills the speckles the first one skipped.

STEP 12 Color the rainbow and the sky

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Fill the bands from the outside in: pink, orange, yellow, green, blue, then purple. Where two bands meet, rub the seam with a fingertip, or dab it with a damp sponge for a smoother blend. Color the sun and stars yellow and the clouds white. Brushing water over a dry layer makes the colors pop even more.

Tip: Wipe your blending finger on a rag before each new band, or the purple will sneak into the yellow.