How to Draw a Baby

10 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

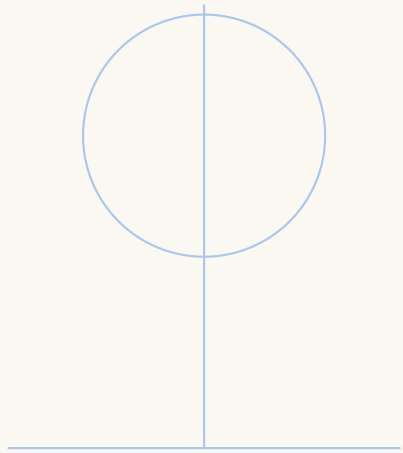
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black fineliner or marker
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Plain paper

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 →

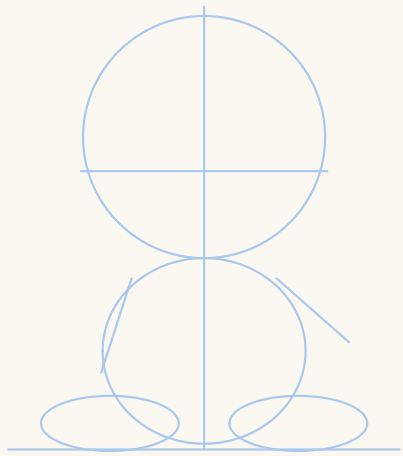
STEP 1 Draw a big head circle on a center line



Start with a flat ground line near the bottom of the page and a straight line rising from its middle. Up near the top, draw a large circle on that center line. It should take up roughly the top half of the whole drawing. I always tell people to make it bigger than feels right, because a baby's head is huge compared to the rest of the body.

💡 **Tip:** Hold the pencil farther back from the tip. Your lines will come out lighter without you trying.

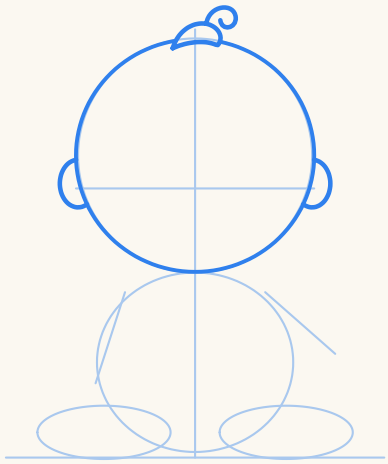
STEP 2 Add a low eye line and the body guides



Cross the head with a line a little BELOW the middle of the circle. That's where the eyes go, and placing them low is what makes the face read as a baby instead of a child. Under the head, draw a body oval that is slightly narrower than the head and touches the ground. Add two flat ovals at the bottom for the legs and two slanted lines for the arms.

💡 **Tip:** Compare the two big shapes. If the body oval is wider than the head, shrink it.

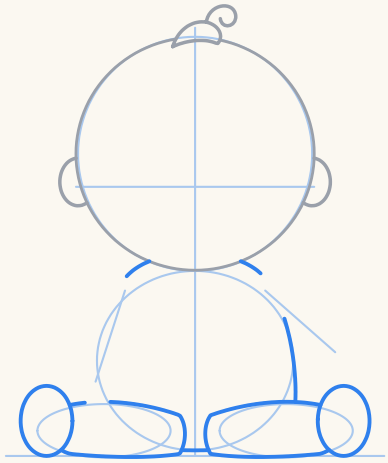
STEP 3 Trace the head and add ears with a curl of hair



Go over the head circle with a firmer line. On each side, draw a small C shaped ear that sits on the eye line, half hidden behind the head. Then put a tiny tuft of hair on top: a short leaf shape lying on the head, with a little loop curling up out of it.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the ears small. Big ears pull the eye away from the face and make the head look narrow.

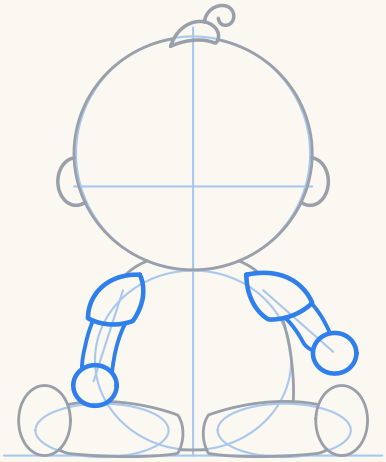
STEP 4 Shape the onesie body and the round legs



Follow the body oval to draw a soft pear shape, narrow at the neck and widest near the bottom. Now the legs: each one is a short, fat tube lying along the ground and pointing outward, so the baby looks like it's sitting with its legs apart. Finish each leg with a tall oval foot standing upright, as if we're looking at the soles. The legs cover the bottom of the body, so stop the body line where they begin.

💡 **Tip:** Let the bottom edge of each leg rest flat on the ground line. That's what makes the baby look seated and steady.

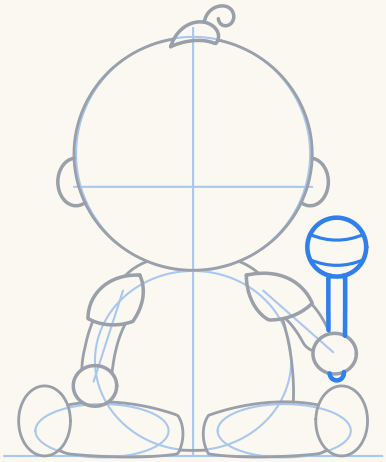
STEP 5 Draw the arms with short sleeves



The left arm hangs down and the hand rests on top of the leg. The right arm bends out to the side, ready to hold something. Draw each arm as a soft, slightly bent tube following your guide lines. Cap the shoulders with puffy sleeve shapes, then finish each arm with a round hand about the size of the feet's width.

💡 **Tip:** Draw baby hands as simple circles. Fingers make them look older and are hard to get small enough.

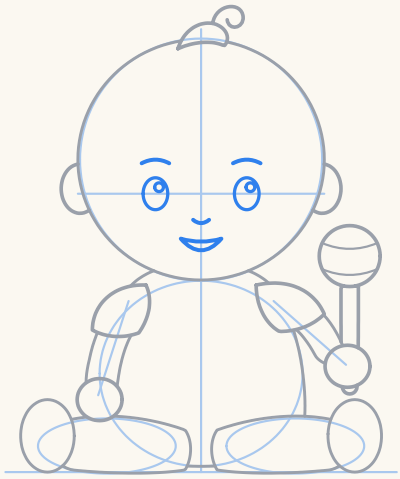
STEP 6 Give the baby a rattle



From the raised hand, draw a narrow handle going straight up, with a little rounded end peeking out under the fist. On top of the handle, add a ball about a quarter the width of the head. Two curved bands across the ball make it look round instead of flat. Leave a clear gap between the rattle and the cheek so the two shapes don't merge.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the ball first and the handle after. It's easier to line up a stick with a circle than the other way around.

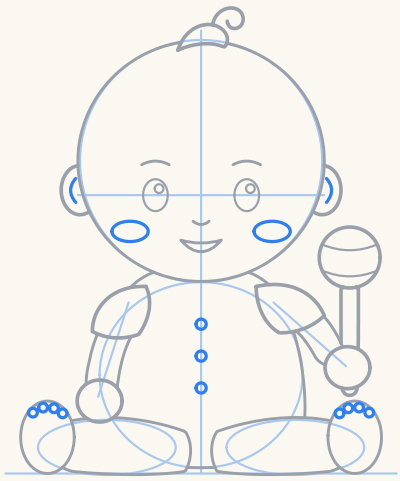
STEP 7 Place the face low on the head



Sit two small oval eyes right on the low eye line, spaced wide, with about three eye widths between them. Inside each, draw a small circle near the top for the shine. A short curved eyebrow floats well above each eye. The nose is just a tiny smile shaped curve on the center line, and the mouth is a small half moon below it. Notice how much empty forehead is left above the eyes. That space is the secret to a baby face.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the eyes small and dark. Huge sparkly eyes start to look like a doll or an anime character.

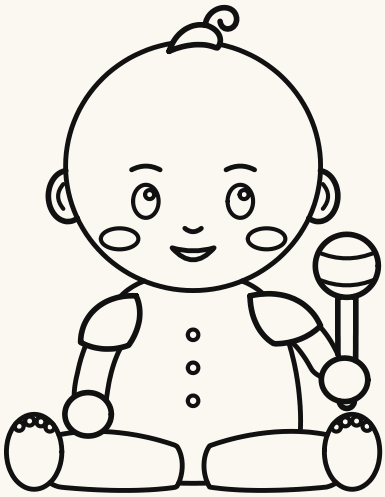
STEP 8 Finish the small details



Two flat ovals on the lower cheeks, just outside the eyes, make the face warm and chubby. Draw a short curve inside each ear. On the front of the onesie, stack three small snap buttons down the center line. Finish with four tiny circles along the top of each foot for toes.

💡 **Tip:** Make the toes the smallest circles in the whole picture, and let them overlap a little.

STEP 9 Ink the lines and erase the guides



Trace every final line with the black pen. I like to ink the face first while my hand is fresh, then the body and legs. Leave out the guide circles, the eye line and the center line. Once the ink is completely dry, rub out all the pencil so the outline is clean.

💡 **Tip:** Turn the paper as you ink the round shapes. Curves are much smoother when your wrist doesn't have to twist.

STEP 10 Color your baby



Use peach for the face, ears, arms, hands, legs and feet, pressing lightly so it stays soft. Color the onesie and sleeves light blue but keep the buttons white. The hair tuft is brown, the rattle ball pink and its handle yellow. Finish with rosy cheeks, a red mouth and dark brown eyes with the shine dots left white, plus a soft gray shadow under the baby.

💡 **Tip:** Color the skin first, before any darker color touches the page, so it stays clean and even.