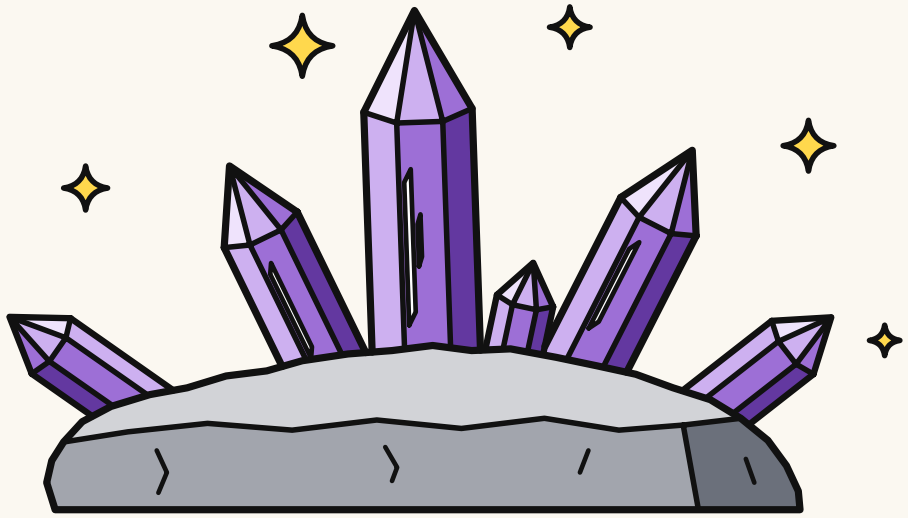
How to Draw a Crystal

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

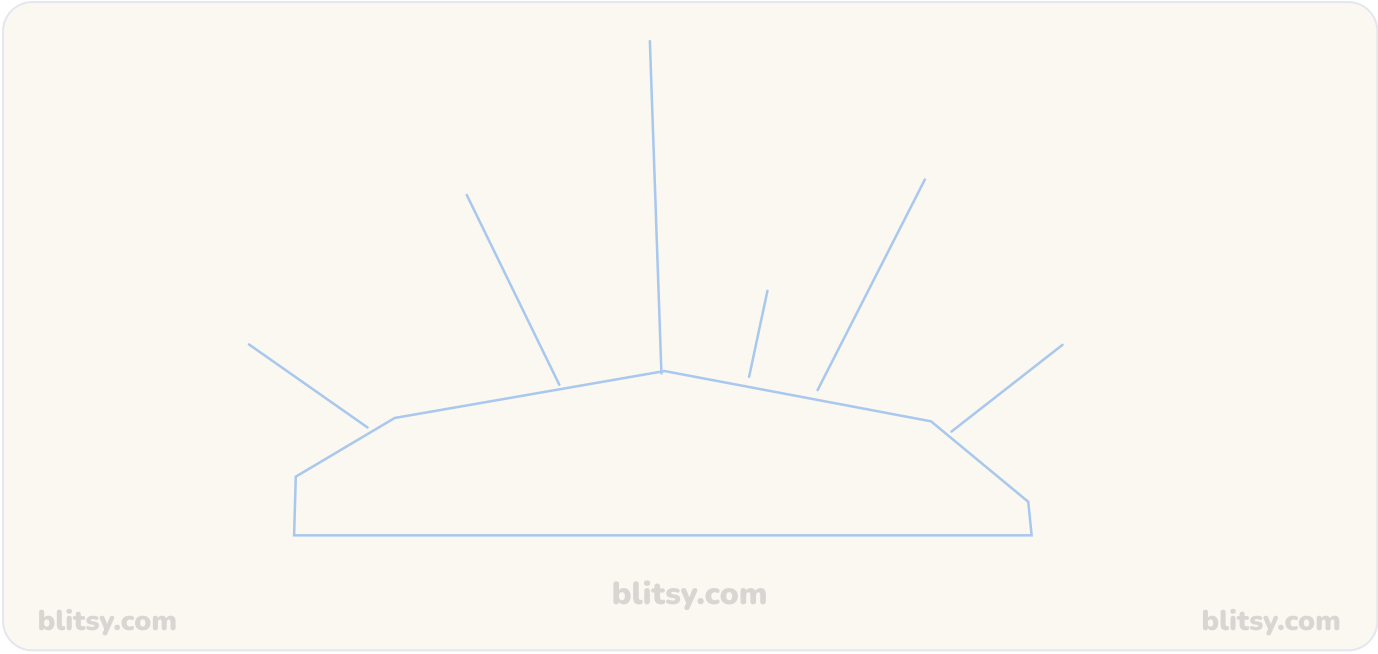
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A ruler
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils

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 →

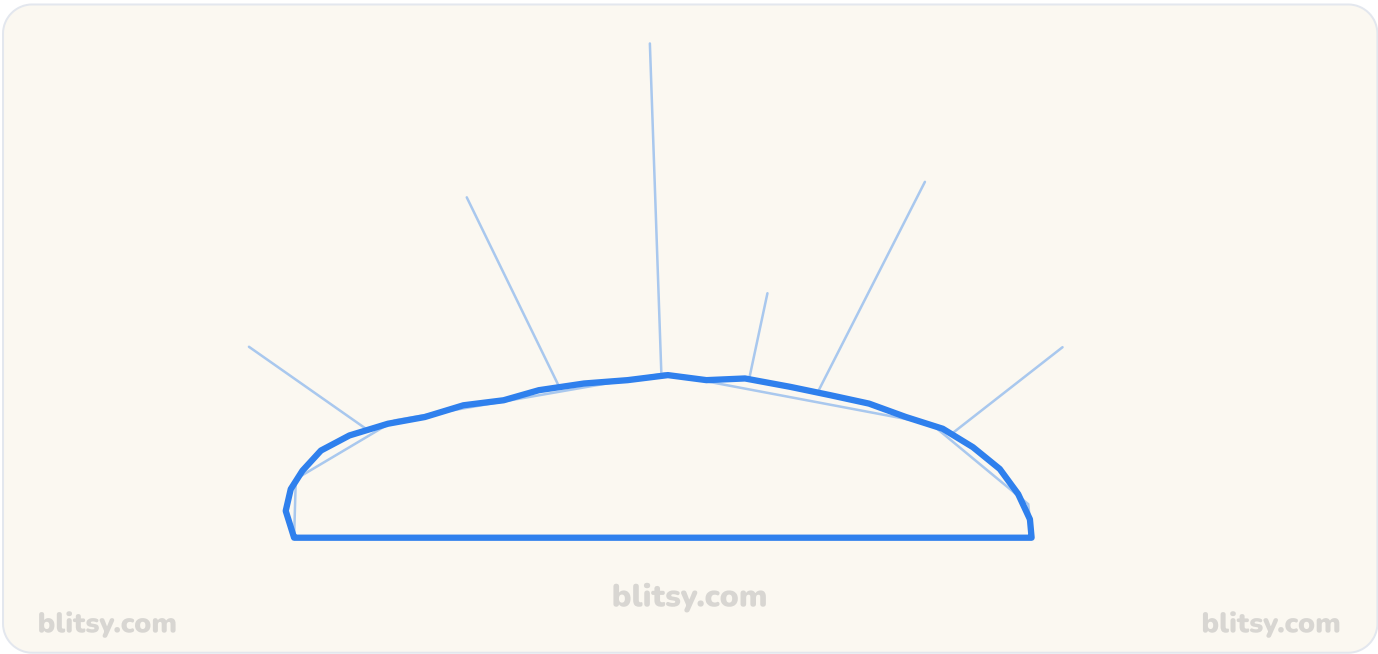
STEP 1 Sketch the rock and the lean lines



Draw a low, wide mound across the bottom half of the page with a flat base. Then add six light lines rising from its top: one straight up the middle, and the others fanning out to the sides at different angles. They set the direction of each point. I make the middle line the longest by far.

💡 **Tip:** Keep your pencil pressure feather light; these lines vanish later.

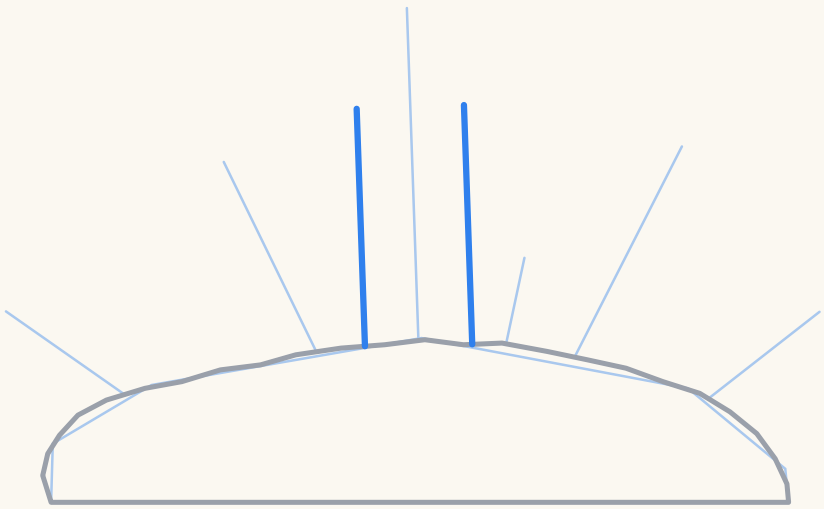
STEP 2 Draw the rough rock outline



Go around the mound with a firmer, bumpy line. Real stone is never smooth, so let the top edge wobble in short straight bits instead of one curve. I draw the rock before any crystal on purpose. It sits in front of their bases, so every point can simply start at this line, and you never have to erase a hidden piece.

💡 **Tip:** Little dips and steps along the top make the rock look rough and natural.

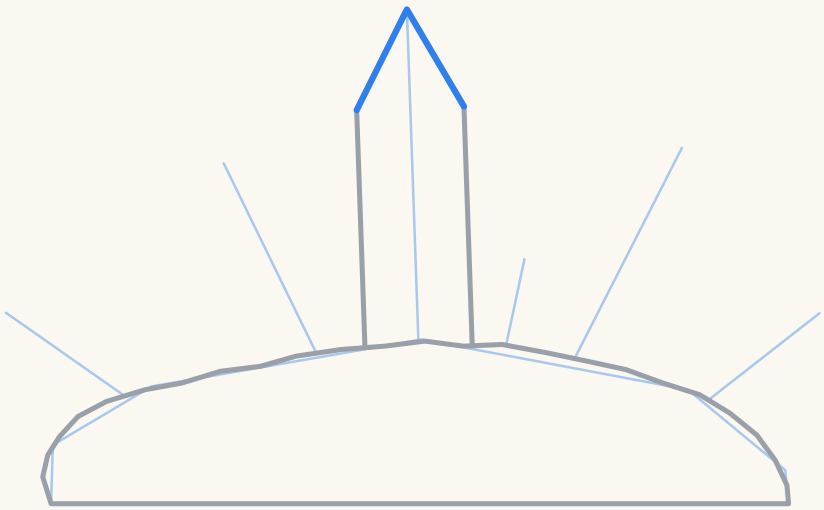
STEP 3 Draw a long central column



Along the middle lean line, draw two straight lines that run up from the rock. They must stay parallel, the same distance apart from bottom to top, because a quartz point is a six-sided prism and its long edges never get closer together. Stop both lines at the same height, roughly two thirds of the way up your guide.

💡 **Tip:** Lay a ruler along the guide and slide it sideways for each edge.

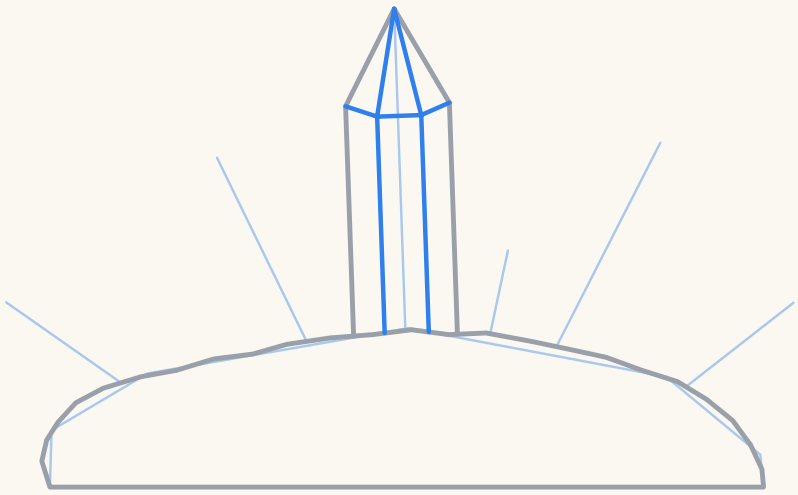
STEP 4 Add a pointed tip on top



From the top of each side line, draw a slanted line up to a single point on the center guide. You've made a tall pencil shape. Keep the tip fairly short, about a third of the column's height or less. A long, needle-like tip is the most common reason a crystal looks like a rocket instead of a stone.

💡 **Tip:** Mark the tip point first, then aim both slanted lines at that dot.

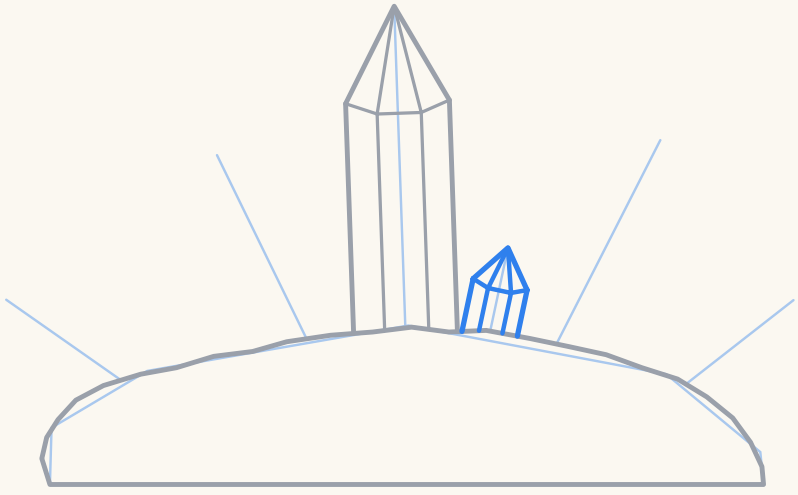
STEP 5 Split the column into faces



Draw two long lines inside the column, parallel to the outside edges: one close to the left side and one a little right of the middle. That gives you a narrow left face, a wide front face and a narrow right face. Carry both lines up to the tip point, then join the tops of all four edges with a shalloww zigzag.

💡 **Tip:** If the front face is the widest of the three, it will look turned toward you.

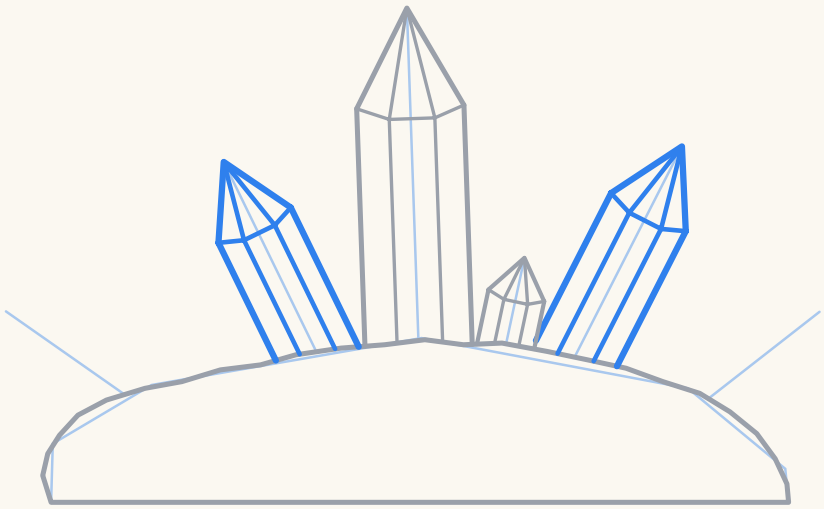
STEP 6 Draw a short point in front



To the right of the tall column, draw a much smaller crystal leaning just slightly right. It uses the exact same recipe: two parallel sides, a short tip, two inner edges and the zigzag ring. Because this one stands in front, its lines are complete. The bigger points you add next will simply stop where they meet it.

💡 **Tip:** Small and simple wins here; fewer than ten lines is plenty.

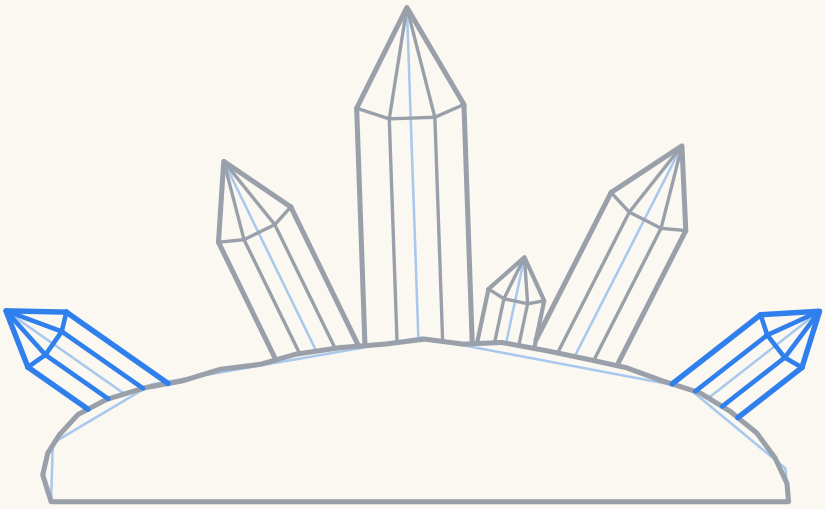
STEP 7 Add two leaning side points



Follow the second and third lean lines to draw two medium crystals, one tipping left and one tipping right. Their sides still run parallel to their own lean line, not straight up. Make them clearly shorter than the middle point but taller than the little one in front, so your eye reads three different sizes. Add their faces and tips the same way.

💡 **Tip:** Turn the paper so each leaning point feels upright while you draw it.

STEP 8 Draw small points at the edges



The last two crystals lean far out over the rock, almost lying down. Real clusters grow in many directions from the same base, which is why these steep ones make the drawing feel natural. I like the left one slightly bigger than the right; perfect symmetry looks stiff.

💡 **Tip:** Check that every tip still has its three facets meeting at one dot.

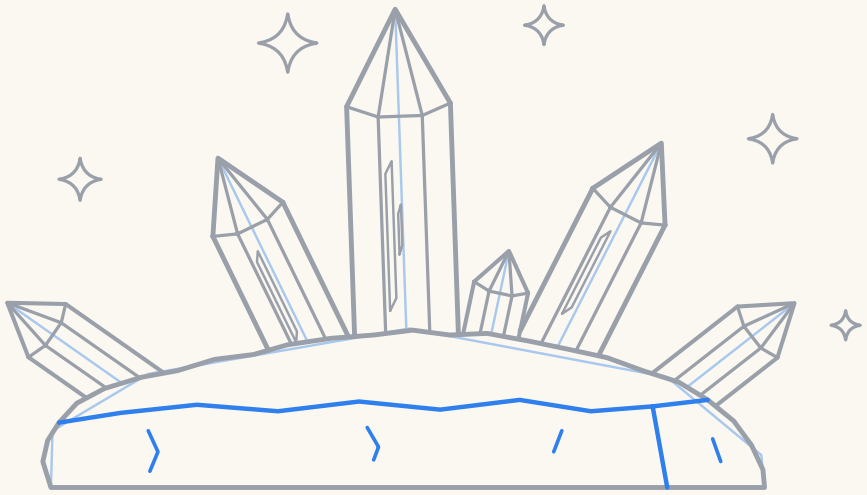
STEP 9 Add shine streaks and sparkles



Inside the front faces of the three tallest points, draw thin slanted slivers running the same direction as the edges. These stay white to look like light bouncing off glassy stone. Around the cluster, add five four-point sparkles of mixed sizes in the empty spaces, each made of four points joined by inward curves.

💡 **Tip:** Put shine streaks on the left side of a face, nearest the light.

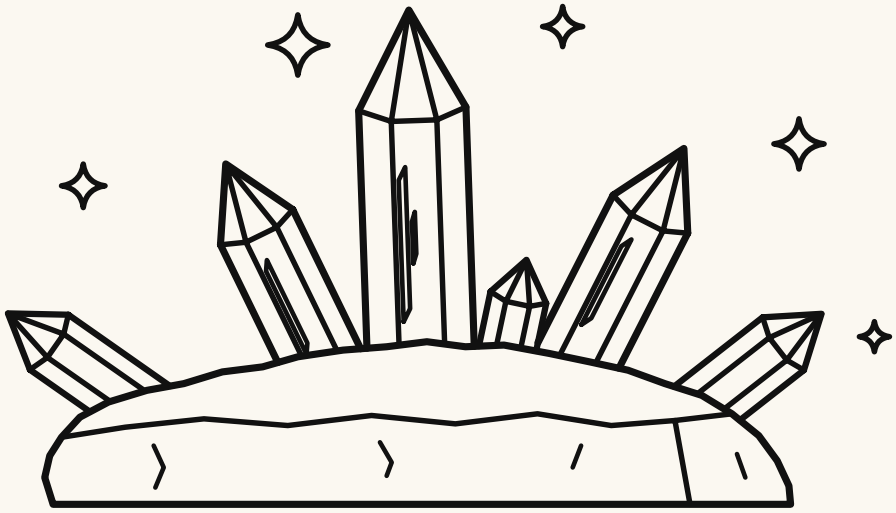
STEP 10 Mark the rock planes and cracks



A rock looks solid when you split it into flat sides. Draw a wavy line across the rock below its top edge to separate the top plane from the front, then a short line near the right end going down to the base. That right section becomes the shadow side. Finish with four tiny crack marks on the front and side.

💡 **Tip:** Short cracks look real; long ones make the rock look broken in half.

STEP 11 Ink the lines and erase the helpers

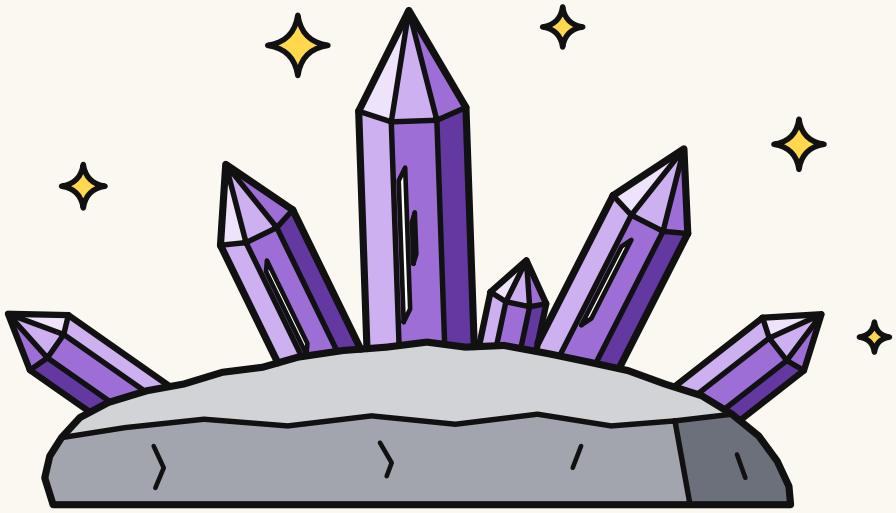


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Trace the keeper lines with your black pen: the rock, its planes and cracks, every crystal edge, the shine slivers and the sparkles. Skip the lean lines and the first rock sketch. Let the ink dry for a minute, then erase every pencil guide.

💡 **Tip:** A slightly thicker pen on outside edges makes each point stand apart.

STEP 12 Color the crystals and the rock



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Pick one light direction, upper left, and stick to it. On every point, the face turned toward the light gets lavender, the front face purple and the face turned away dark purple. Give the tip facets one shade lighter than the face below each. Then color the rock top light gray, its front gray and the right side dark gray, and make the sparkles yellow.

💡 **Tip:** Leave the shine streaks as bare white paper; don't color over them.