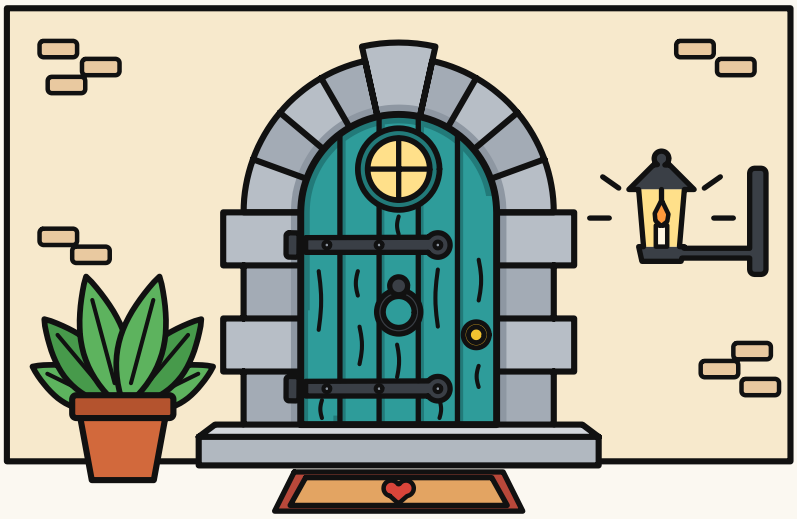
How to Draw a Door

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

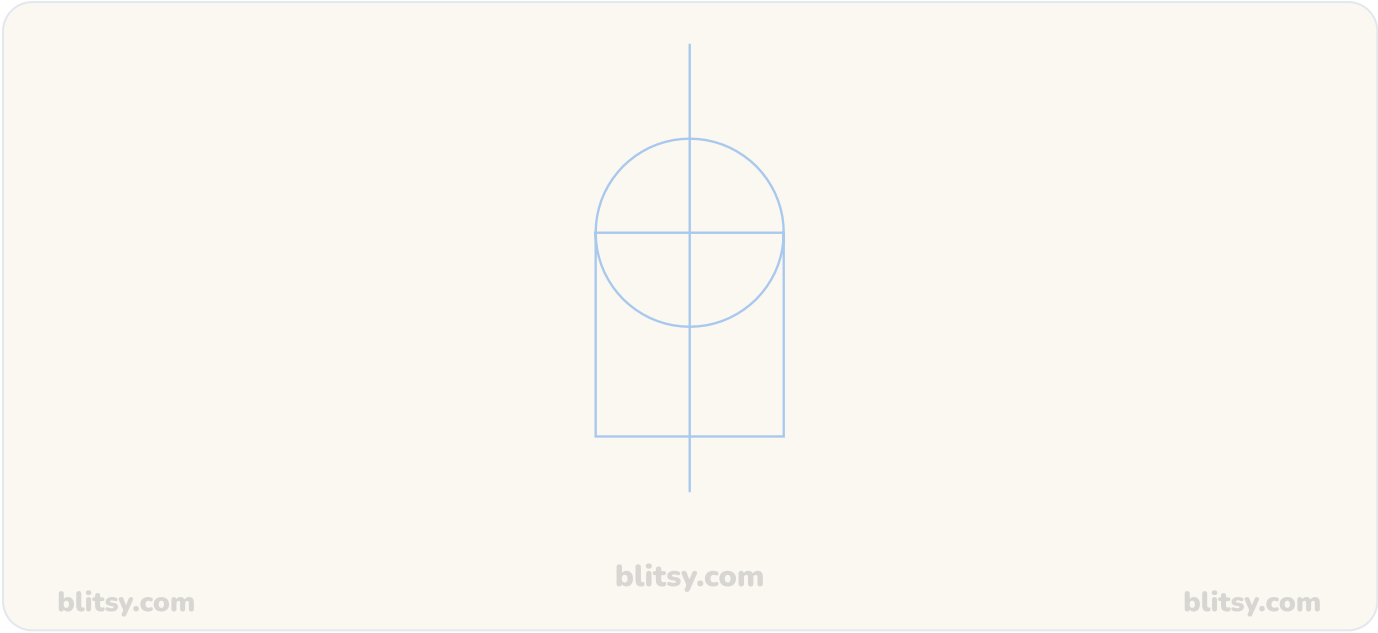
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A ruler
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils

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 →

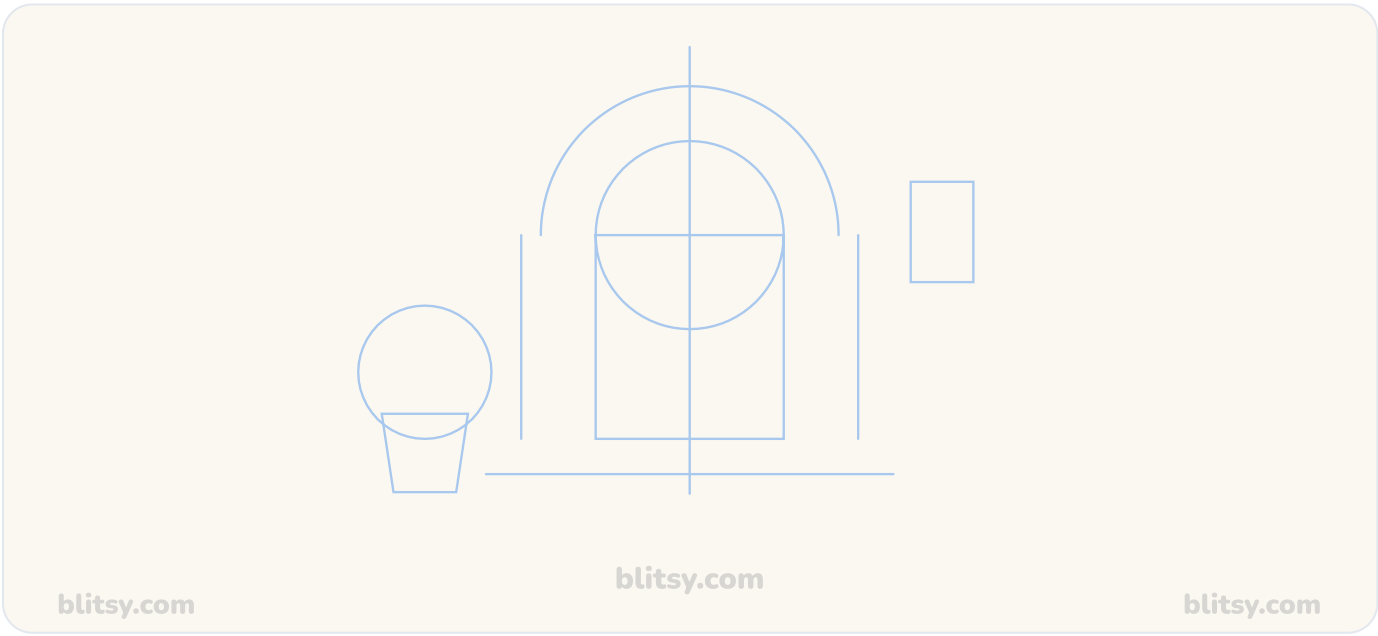
STEP 1 Draw a center line and the door box



Start with a light vertical line down the middle of your paper; everything mirrors around it. Across it, draw a rectangle a bit taller than it is wide, in the lower half of the page. Then put a circle on top, as wide as the box, with its middle on the box's top edge.

💡 **Tip:** Press so lightly that you can barely see the line; you'll erase all of it later.

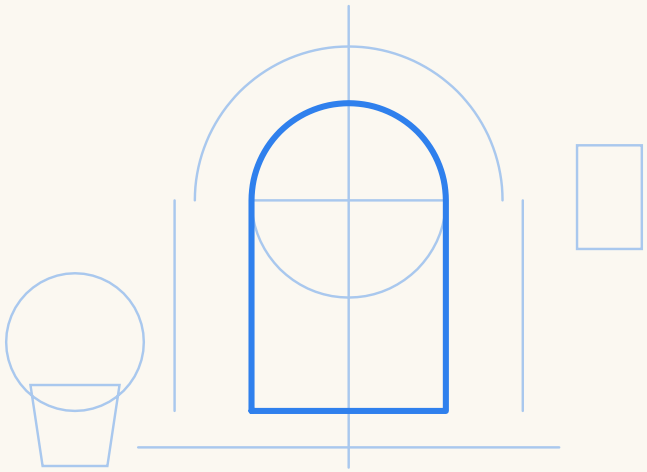
STEP 2 Sketch guides for the frame, lantern and plant



Draw a bigger half circle around the first one, leaving a gap about a third of the door's width for the stones. Drop a straight line from each end and add a ground line just under the box. On the left, sketch a circle over a small bucket shape for the plant. On the right, a little upright rectangle marks the lantern.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the plant and lantern guides at different heights, which balances the picture better than a matching pair.

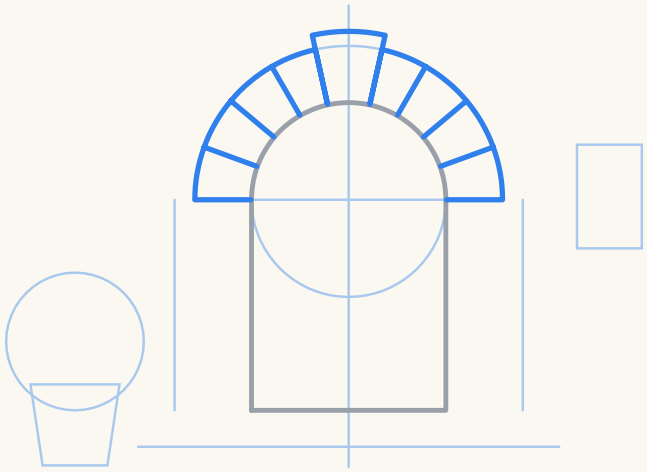
STEP 3 Outline the arched door



Now press a little harder. Trace the top half of the small circle, then run straight down both sides of the box and close the bottom. I always do the two sides with a ruler, because a door that leans even a little looks like it's about to fall over.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the arch in two halves, from each side up to the top, so both curves meet evenly.

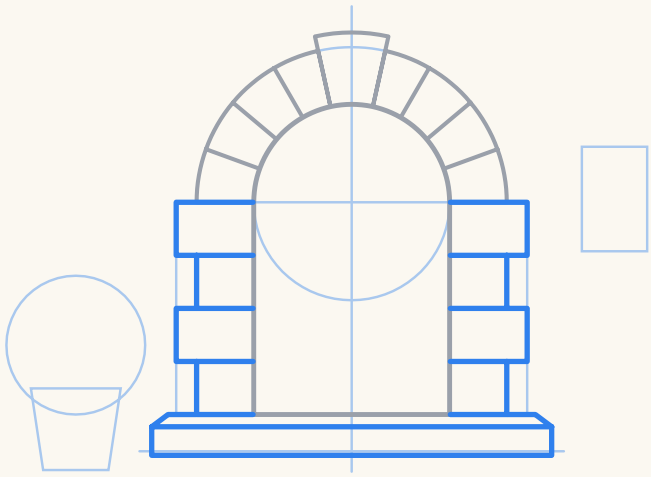
STEP 4 Fill the arch with wedge stones



Between the door's curve and the outer half circle, draw lines that point toward the arch's center, like spokes on a wheel. Make the wedge at the very top a little wider and taller than the rest. That's the keystone, the stone that locks the arch in place. I fit four wedges on each side of it.

💡 **Tip:** Line your ruler up with the arch's center point for each spoke and the stones will fan out evenly.

STEP 5 Stack the side stones and add a doorstep

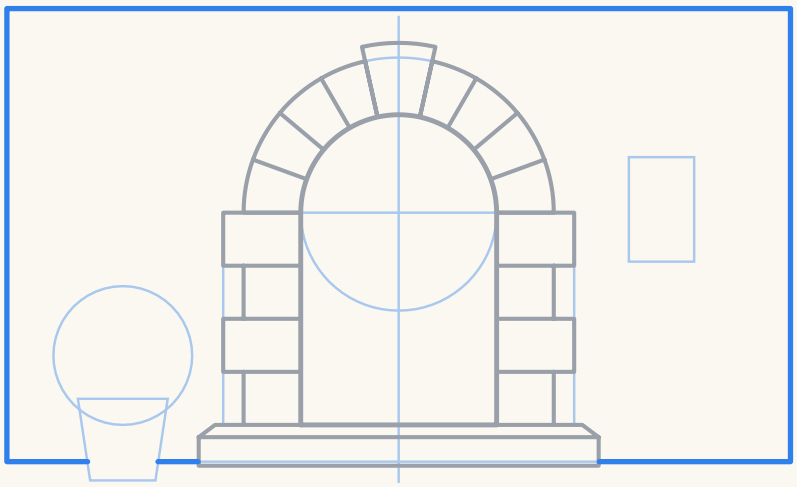


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Below the arch, stack four blocks on each side of the door, down to the ground line. Alternate them long then short, so the outer edge zigzags the way real cottage stonework does. Under the door, draw a flat slab: a thin top strip that tilts slightly inward and a thicker band in front.

💡 **Tip:** Make the doorstep wider than the stone frame so it looks solid enough to stand on.

STEP 6 Frame everything with a cottage wall

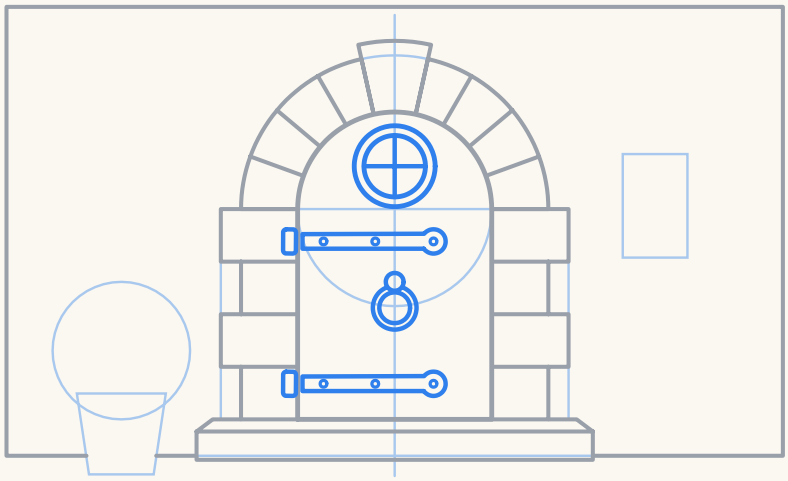


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Draw a big rectangle around the door and both side guides. Its bottom edge is the ground line, and its top should stay well clear of the keystone. Without this wall, the stones and lantern seem to float in empty space.

💡 **Tip:** Leave about the same space left and right of the stone frame.

STEP 7 Add the round window, hinges and knocker

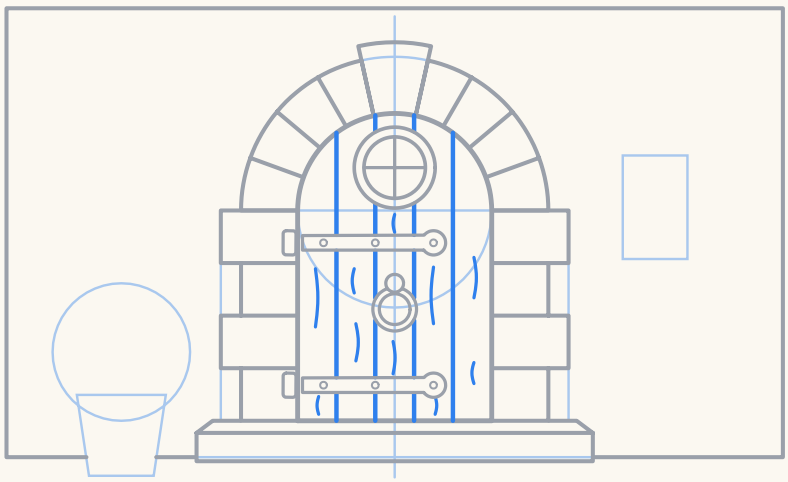


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High on the door, centered, draw two circles, one inside the other, and cross the inner one with a plus sign. Next come two iron strap hinges starting at the left edge, each ending in a round disc, with tiny rivet dots. Hang a ring knocker from a small circle in the middle. I draw these before the planks on purpose, so the plank lines can simply stop at them.

💡 **Tip:** Put one hinge near the top and one near the bottom, never both in the middle.

STEP 8 Draw the planks and some wood grain

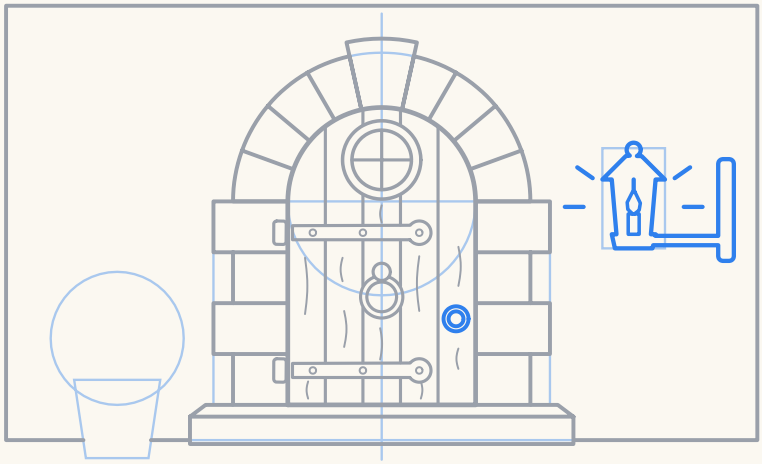


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Split the door into five equal strips with four vertical lines, stopping each one at the window, a hinge or the knocker. Add one or two short, gently curving grain lines per plank. Covering every board with squiggles makes the door look scratched instead of wooden.

💡 **Tip:** Mark the plank spacing with dots along the bottom edge before you draw a single line.

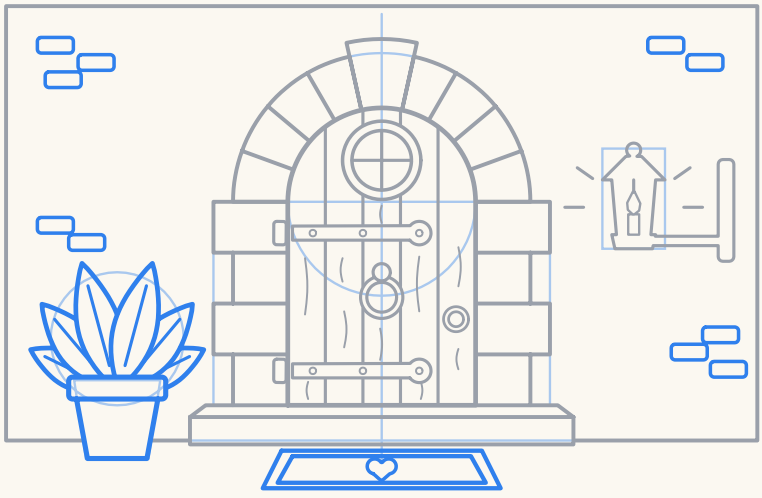
STEP 9 Place the doorknob and the wall lantern



On the right, about halfway down, draw a small circle inside a slightly bigger one for the knob. Then build the lantern in its guide: a little roof with a ball on top, a glass box that narrows downward, a base and a bracket arm to a wall plate. Add a candle with a teardrop flame and four short dashes to show it's shining.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the knob on the side away from the hinges, since that's the side a door opens from.

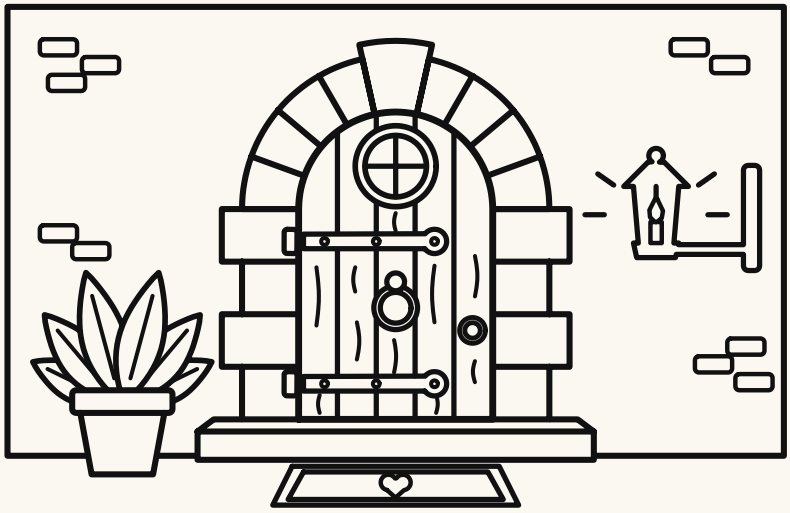
STEP 10 Grow a plant and lay the welcome mat



Inside the circle guide, fan out six long, pointed leaves from one spot, tallest in the middle, with a line down each. Below them goes the pot: a rim band over a shape that narrows toward the bottom. In front of the step, draw a mat with an inner border and a tiny heart. Finally, scatter a few bricks where the plaster has worn off.

💡 **Tip:** Group the bricks in twos and threes near the corners and keep them away from the door.

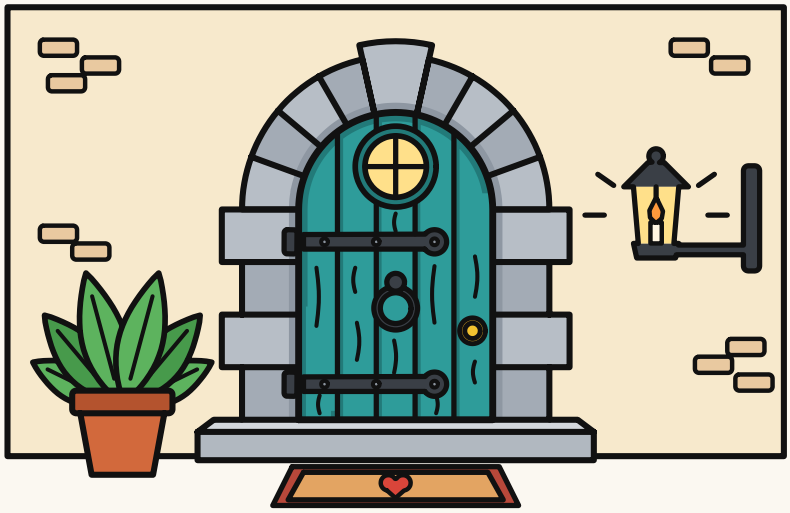
STEP 11 Ink the lines and erase the guides



Trace every line you want to keep with the black fineliner. Go slowly on the arch stones and the round window, since those curves show every wobble. Let the ink dry for a minute, then erase the center line, the circles and the guide boxes.

💡 **Tip:** Ink from the top of the page down so your hand never rests on wet lines.

STEP 12 Color your cottage door



Color the door teal, then go over the right edge of each plank and the area under the arch with darker teal so the boards look deeper. Swap two grays from stone to stone. The iron parts are black and the glass turns warm yellow. Finish with a cream wall, a green plant, an orange pot and a red mat.

💡 **Tip:** Leave a tiny white spot on the gold knob so it looks shiny.