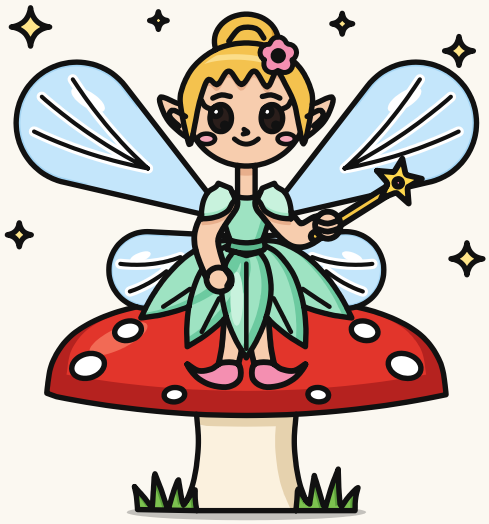
How to Draw a Fairy

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

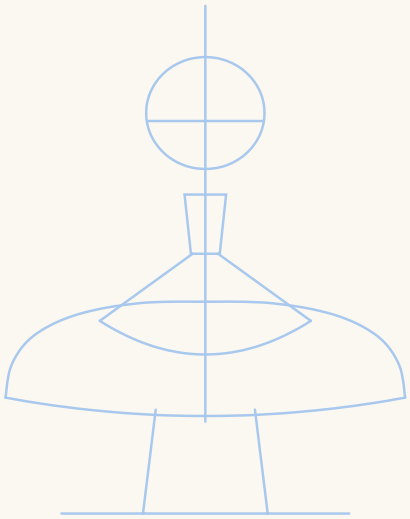
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils or markers
- Paper

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 →

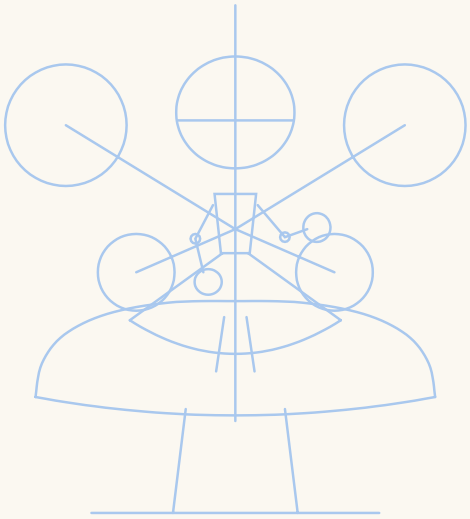
STEP 1 Sketch the head, body and toadstool guides



Start with a straight line down the middle of your page and a circle near the top for the head. Under it, draw a small box for her top and a wide fan shape for the skirt. Then add a big dome for the toadstool cap, two slanted stem lines and a ground line.

💡 **Tip:** Use the side of the pencil tip and barely touch the paper; these lines are temporary.

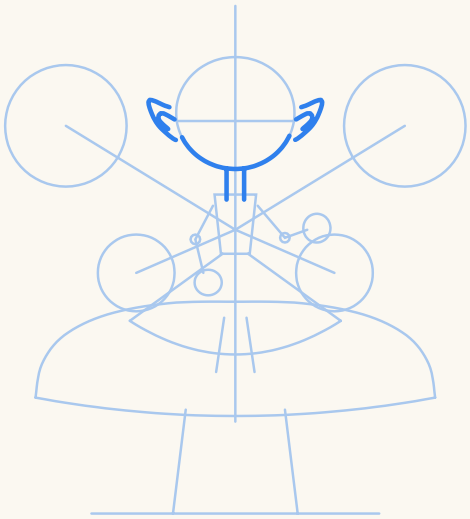
STEP 2 Add the wing and arm guides



Wings are easier when you plan them as circles first. Draw two big circles beside the head and two smaller ones lower down, then connect each one to her back with a straight line. For the arms, I use stick lines with a dot at each elbow.

💡 **Tip:** Check that the left and right wing circles sit at the same height before you go on.

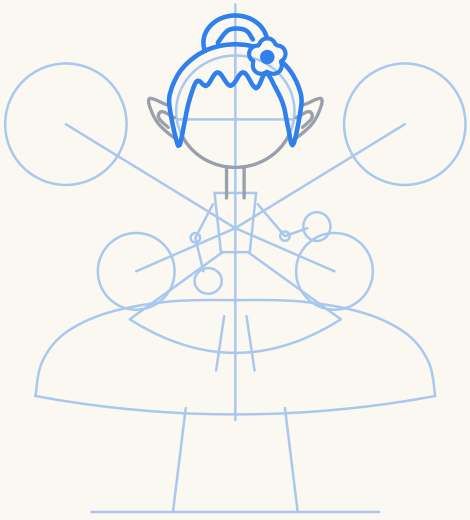
STEP 3 Draw the face, pointy ears and neck



Trace around the bottom of the head circle for a round, soft chin. Add a small pointed ear on each side at eye level, like a leaf tipped upward, with a curved line inside. Finish with two short lines for a thin neck. Those little ears are what tells people she's a fairy and not just a girl with wings.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the ears small; big ones pull attention away from her face.

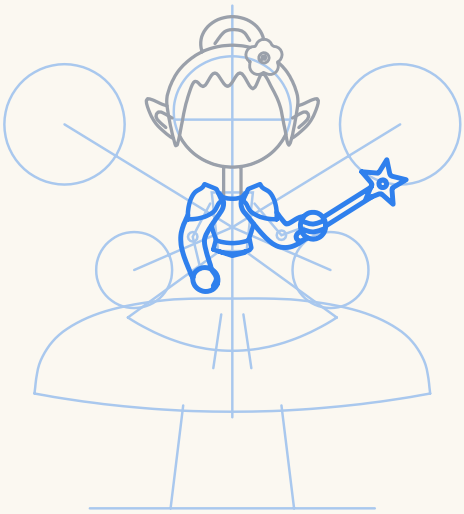
STEP 4 Shape the hair, the bun and a flower



Draw the hair as a cap that sits just outside the head circle, with a wavy row of bangs across the forehead and short locks over the ears. On top, add a round bun with one curved line inside it. Tuck a small five-petal flower against the side of the bun so it overlaps the hair a little.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the flower center first, then put five equal round petals around it like a clock face.

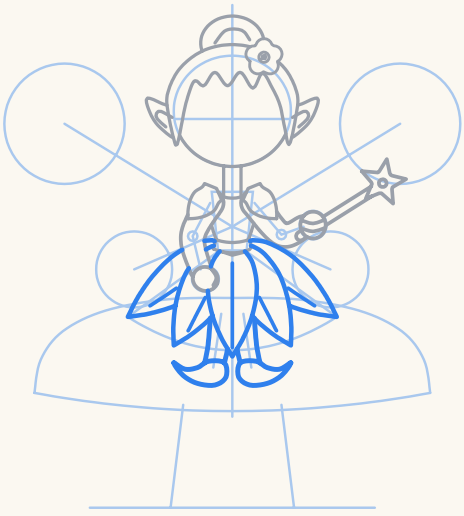
STEP 5 Draw the petal top, soft arms and a wand



Her top has a gentle scoop neck, slightly curved sides and a thin band at the waist, with a pointed petal on each shoulder as a sleeve. Wrap two lines around each arm stick so the arms are soft and fairly thick. One mitten hand rests on her lap; the other holds a thin wand with a star.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the hand over the wand first, then the stick poking out on both sides of the fist.

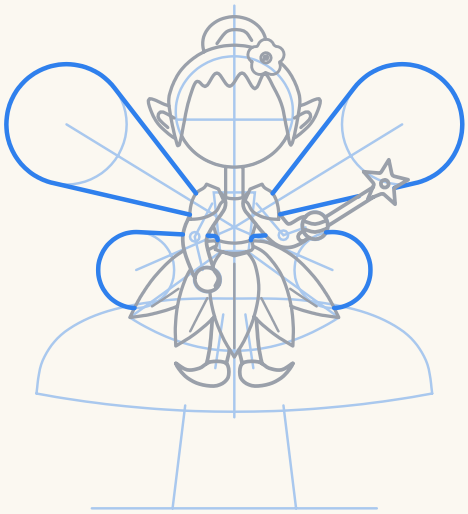
STEP 6 Draw the petal skirt and little slippers



This is my favorite part of the lesson. Five pointed petals fan out from the waist band: one straight down the middle, two angled outward and two lying almost flat on the toadstool. Overlap them so the middle petal sits in front. Add a center line on each petal, then two short legs below the skirt and pink slippers with curled toes.

💡 **Tip:** Make every petal widest about a third of the way down, then taper it to a sharp point.

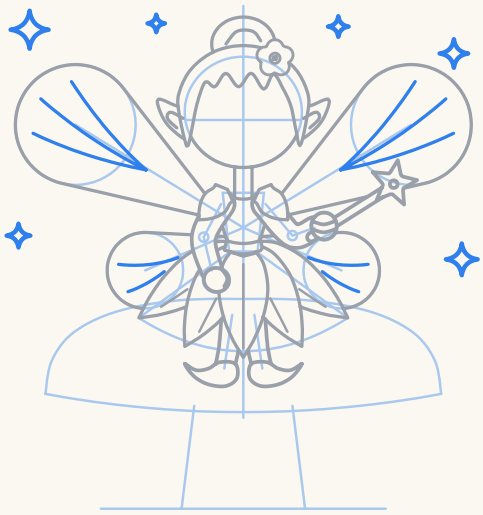
STEP 7 Outline two pairs of wings



Go around each wing circle on the outside, then run its edges in toward her shoulders so every wing becomes a rounded teardrop. The lower pair is about half the size of the upper pair. Stop each line where it meets her arm, dress or hair, because the wings sit behind her.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the upper wing on one side, then copy it on the other side before you move on.

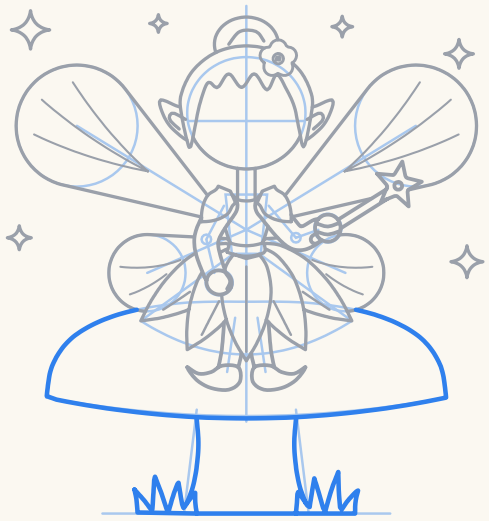
STEP 8 Add wing veins and sparkles



Inside each upper wing, draw three thin curved lines that fan out from the narrow end toward the round edge. The small wings get two. I keep these lines lighter and thinner than the outline, because heavy veins make the wings look like a leaf instead of something see-through. Then scatter a few four-point sparkles in the empty space around her.

💡 **Tip:** Stop the veins before they touch the wing edge; the gap keeps them delicate.

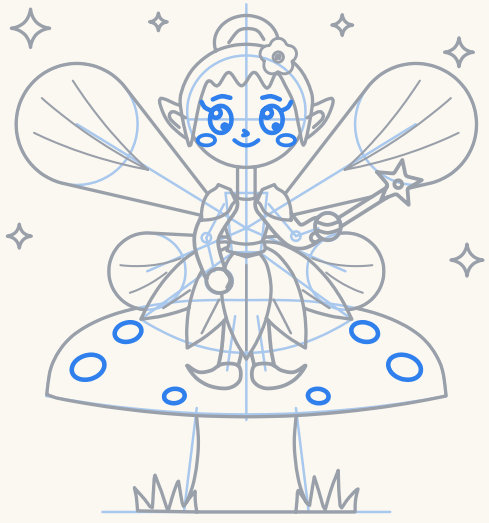
STEP 9 Draw the toadstool cap and stem



Follow the dome guide for the cap, but only where her skirt, legs and wings don't cover it. The bottom of the cap curves down a little in the middle. Under it, draw a stem that gets slightly wider toward the ground, and add two small tufts of pointed grass at its base so it looks planted.

💡 **Tip:** Make the cap much wider than the fairy; a tiny toadstool makes her look like a giant.

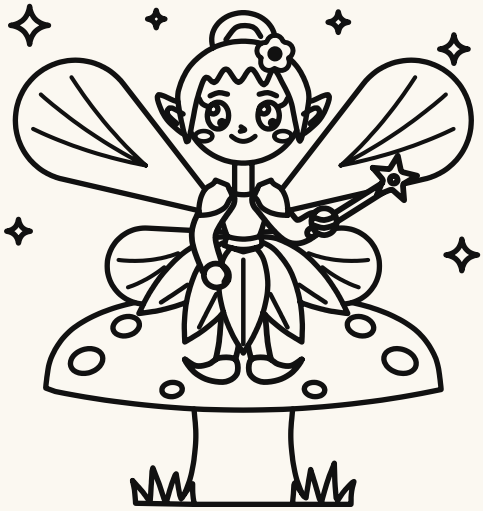
STEP 10 Give her a sweet face and spot the cap



Now her face. Place two tall oval eyes on the eye line, leaving a small white circle in each for a shine. Add short brows, a lash flick at each outer corner, a tiny nose, a simple curved smile and oval cheeks. On the cap, draw white spots, flatter near the edges so they wrap around the dome.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the smile small and well above the chin; a wide mouth changes her whole mood.

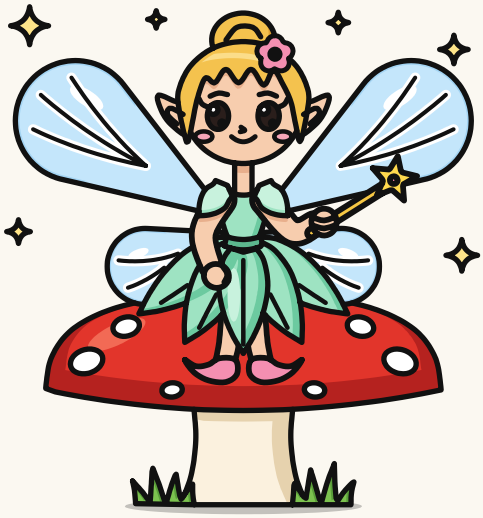
STEP 11 Ink the lines and erase the guides



Go over every line you want to keep with the black pen, slowly, in short smooth strokes. The wings and petals have long curves, so turn the paper as you work. Leave out the circles, the stick lines and the center line. After the ink has dried for a minute, erase all the pencil underneath.

💡 **Tip:** Ink the face first, while your hand is fresh, since it's where a wobble shows most.

STEP 12 Color your fairy



Color her hair and bun golden yellow and her skin peach, then make the petal dress mint green with a slightly darker green on one side of each petal. The wings get a very light blue; leave white streaks beside the veins and a white shine near each round end so they look like glass. Finish with a red cap, white spots, a cream stem, green grass and yellow sparkles.

💡 **Tip:** Press softly on the wings so the blue stays pale and airy.