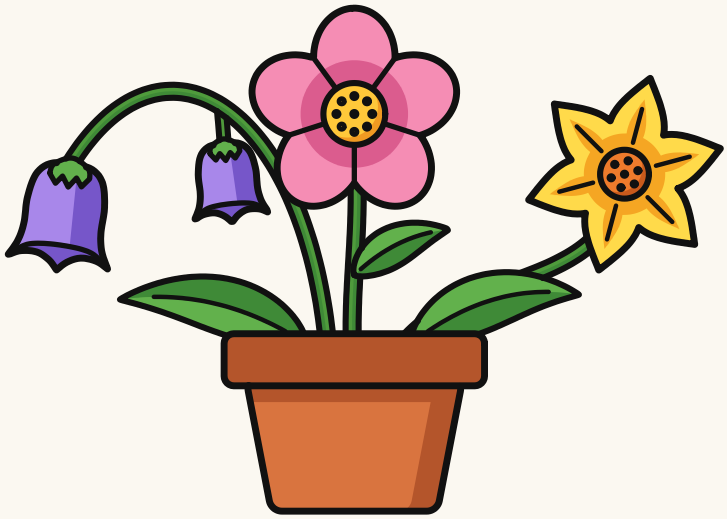
How to Draw a Flower

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

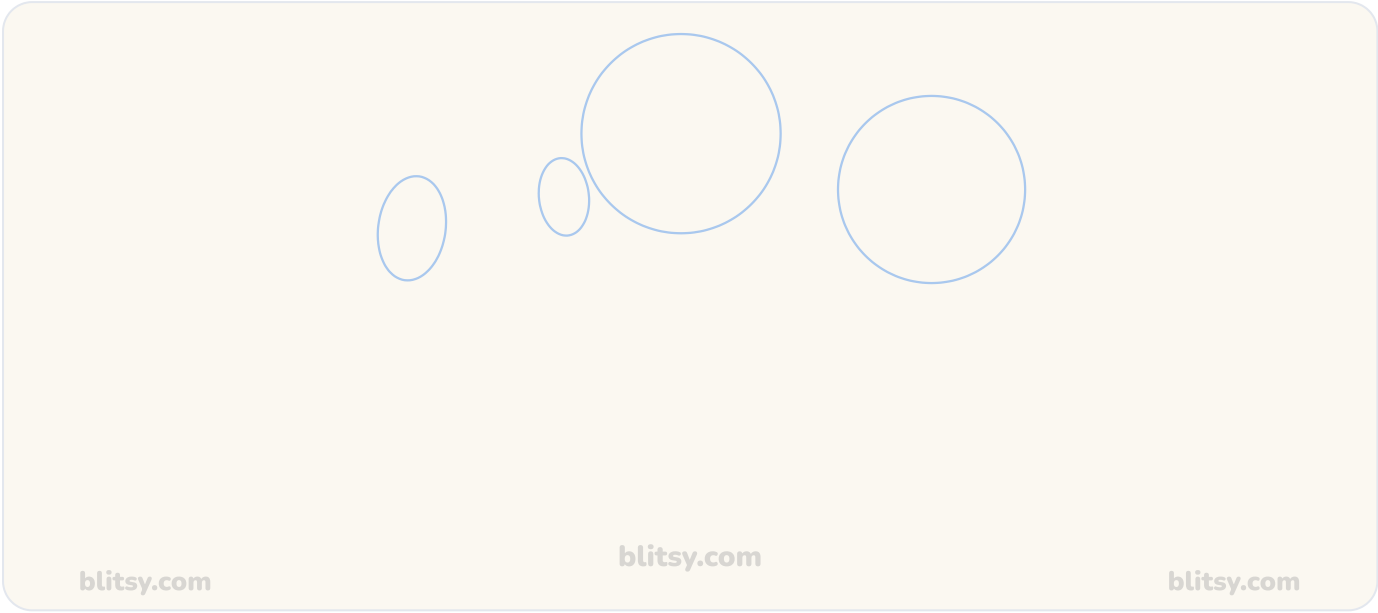
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils
- Paper

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 →

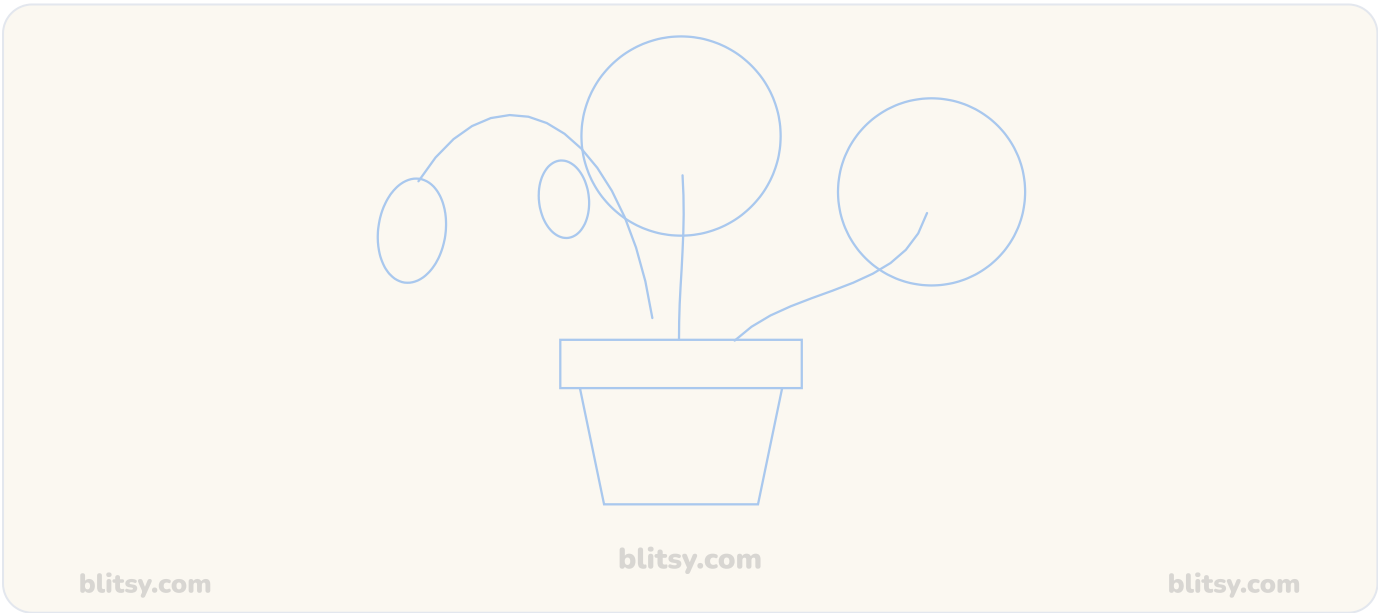
STEP 1 Sketch light shapes for the three blooms



Start at the top of the page. Draw a large circle in the middle for the main flower and a slightly smaller circle to its right, set a bit lower. On the left, add two small upright ovals at different heights for the bluebells. Placing the flowers at three different heights gives the bouquet a relaxed look instead of a stiff row.

💡 **Tip:** Hold the pencil far back from the tip so your guides come out pale.

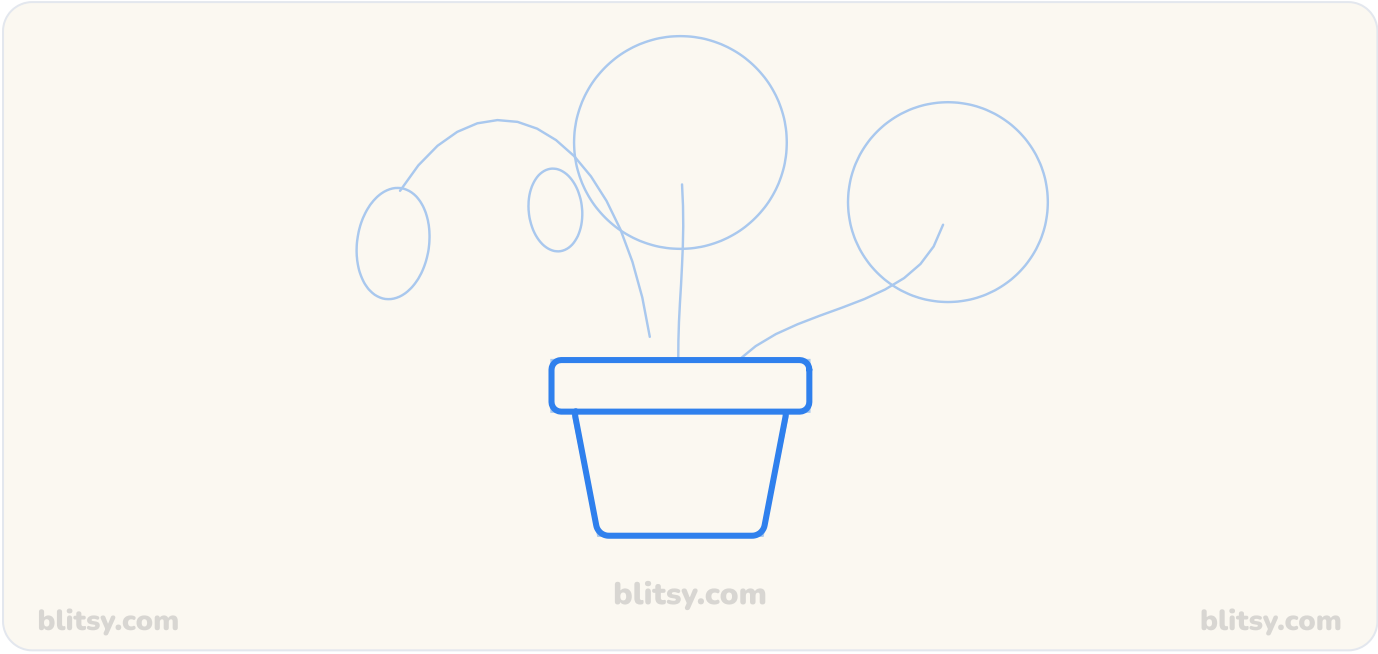
STEP 2 Add a pot box and the stem curves



Below the circles, draw a long, flat rectangle for the pot rim and a tapered box under it. Then curve a line from the pot up to each flower. The bluebell stem rises high, arches over and drops down to the bigger oval like a shepherd's crook. I start all three stems close together so they seem to grow from the same soil.

💡 **Tip:** Check that the pot is about as wide as the middle circle; a tiny pot makes the flowers look top-heavy.

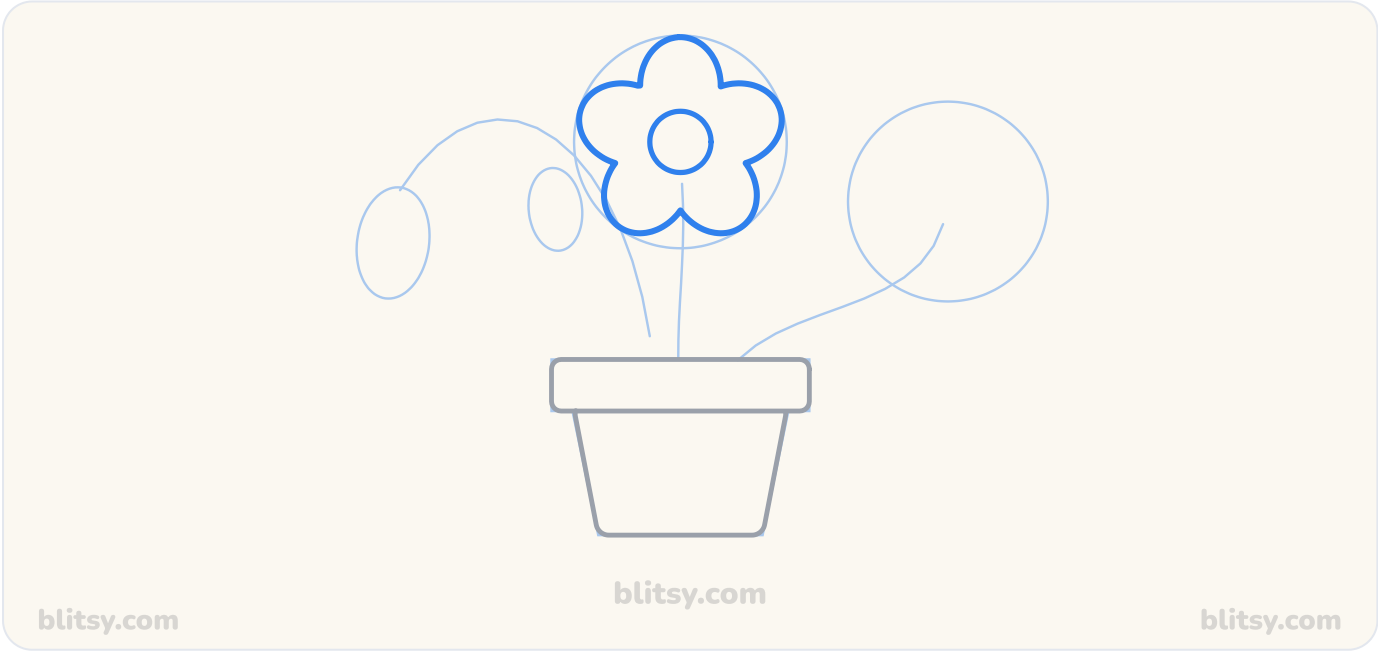
STEP 3 Draw the flower pot



Trace the rim box with slightly rounded corners. Under it, draw the two slanted sides of the pot and a flat bottom with soft corners. The rim sticks out past the body on both sides, just like a real clay pot. Drawing the pot this early gives you a fixed base, so the flowers have something to line up with.

💡 **Tip:** Use a ruler for the rim if your straight lines wobble; nobody will know.

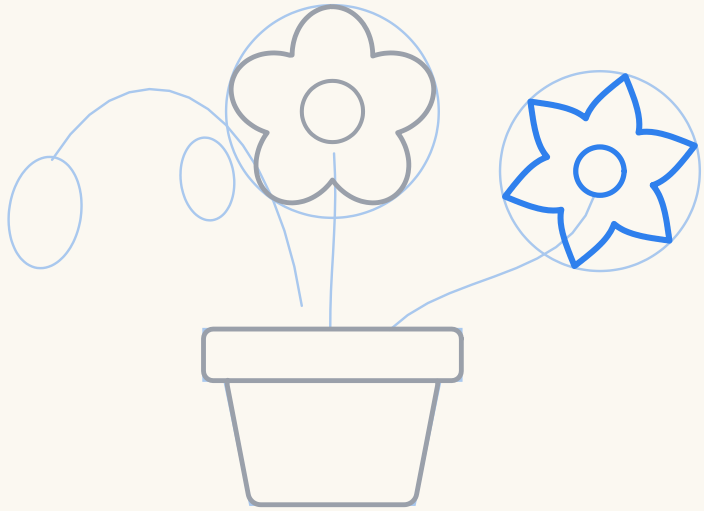
STEP 4 Draw a round flower with five petals



Put a small circle in the center of the big guide for the flower's middle. Then draw five rounded petals around it, one pointing straight up and the others spaced evenly. Neighboring petals should touch and make a small dip where they meet. Picture a clock face if the spacing feels hard.

💡 **Tip:** Place the top petal first and the two bottom petals last; spacing goes easier that way.

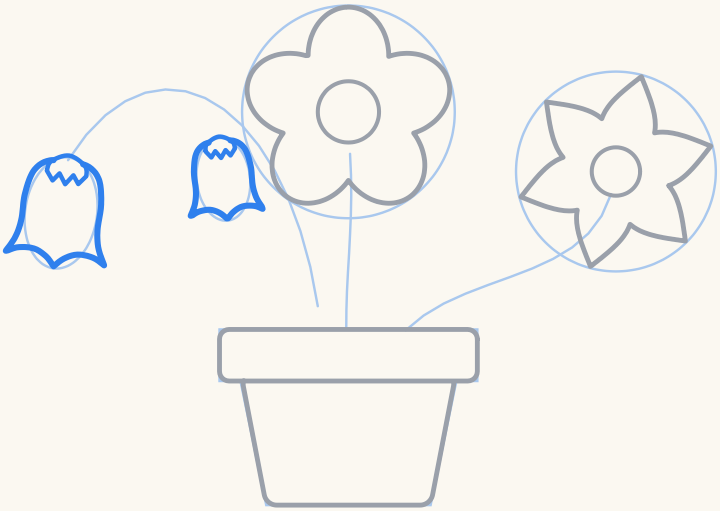
STEP 5 Add the pointed star flower



In the right-hand circle, draw a smaller center circle. Around it, draw six long petals that each come to a sharp point, tilting the whole flower a little. Each petal is widest near the middle and narrows to its tip. This shape is the opposite of the round flower, and that contrast keeps the pot interesting.

💡 **Tip:** Draw each petal as two curved lines that meet at the tip, not as one zigzag.

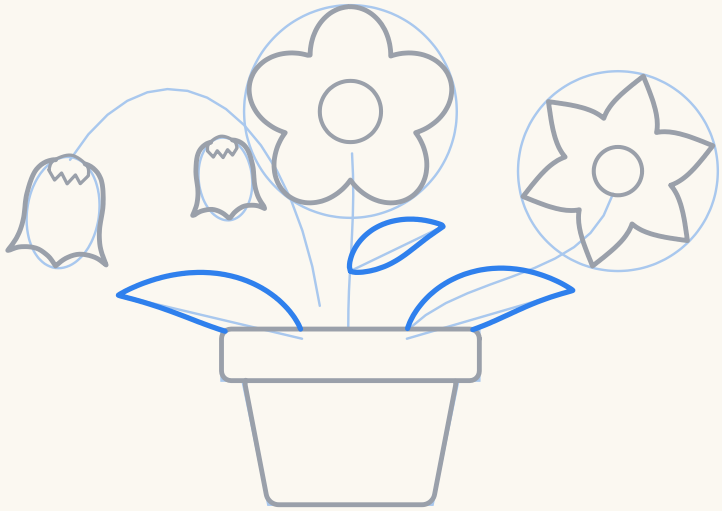
STEP 6 Draw two hanging bluebells



Turn each oval into a bell that hangs downward. Round the top, let the sides fall nearly straight, then flare them out near the bottom into three little pointed curls. Add a small green cap with jagged edges where each bell meets its stem. The left bell is bigger because it's the heavier flower at the end of the arch.

💡 **Tip:** Tip the bells slightly in different directions so they look like they sway.

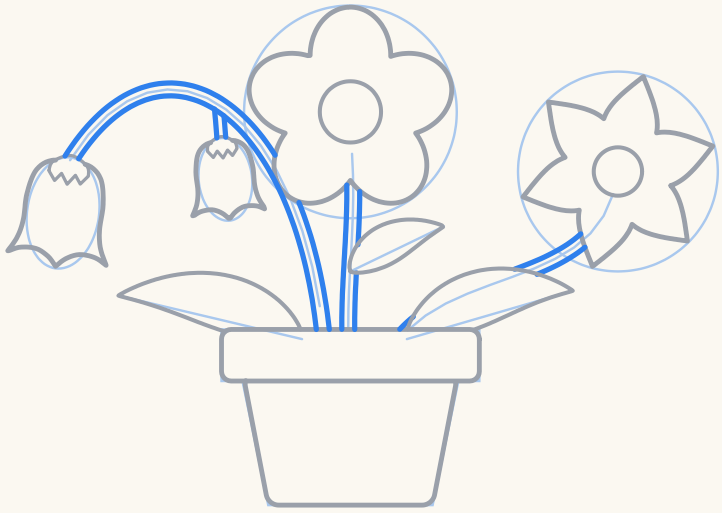
STEP 7 Draw three pointed leaves



Leaves come before stems here, and there's a reason. Draw two long leaves leaning out from the rim, each wide in the middle and pointed at the tip. Add a smaller leaf beside the middle stem guide. Because the leaves sit in front, drawing them first shows exactly where each stem line should stop.

💡 **Tip:** Bend each leaf upward a little at the end so it looks alive rather than wilted.

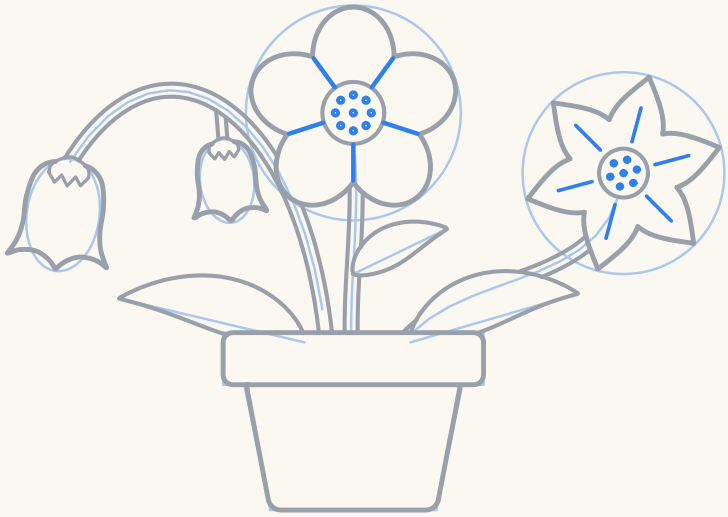
STEP 8 Draw a stem for every flower



Go over each stem guide with two parallel lines to make a thin tube. Stop every time you reach a leaf, a flower or the rim, and pick the line up again on the other side. Give the small bluebell its own short stalk that hangs from the arch. Most beginners make stems too thin, so I leave enough room between the two lines to color a clear green stripe.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the two sides of a stem the same distance apart from start to finish.

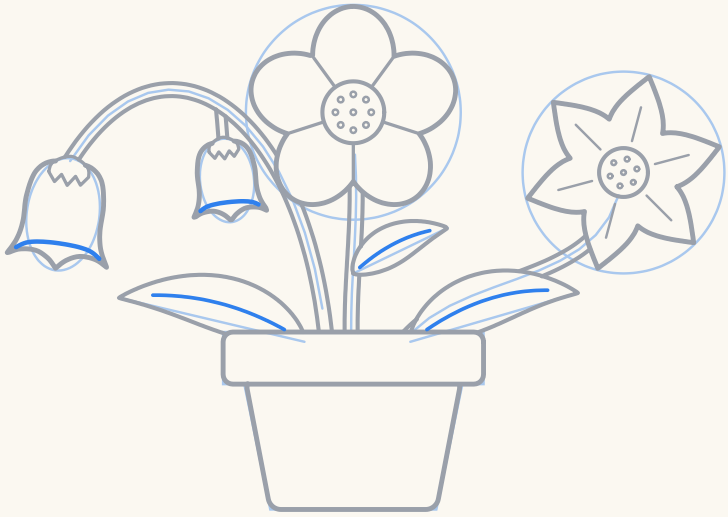
STEP 9 Add petal lines and seed dots



On the pink flower, draw a short line from each dip between petals in toward the center; now every petal reads as its own piece. On the star flower, draw a thin vein down the middle of each petal, stopping well before the tip. Fill both centers with small dots: a ring of dots plus one in the middle.

💡 **Tip:** Space the seed dots in a loose ring; three dots alone can look like a face.

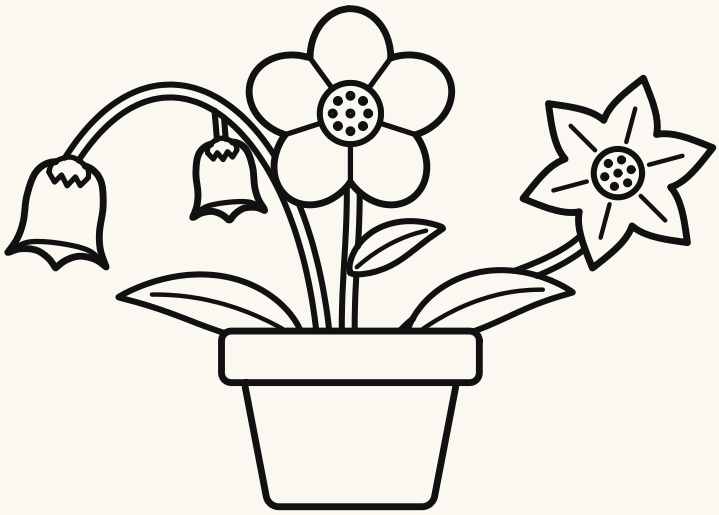
STEP 10 Add bell rims and leaf veins



Inside each bluebell, near the bottom, draw a curved line from one side to the other. That curve shows the opening of the bell, as if you're peeking slightly under it. Then run a soft line along the middle of each leaf, starting near the stem and ending before the point.

💡 **Tip:** Lighten your hand as each vein ends so the line tapers out.

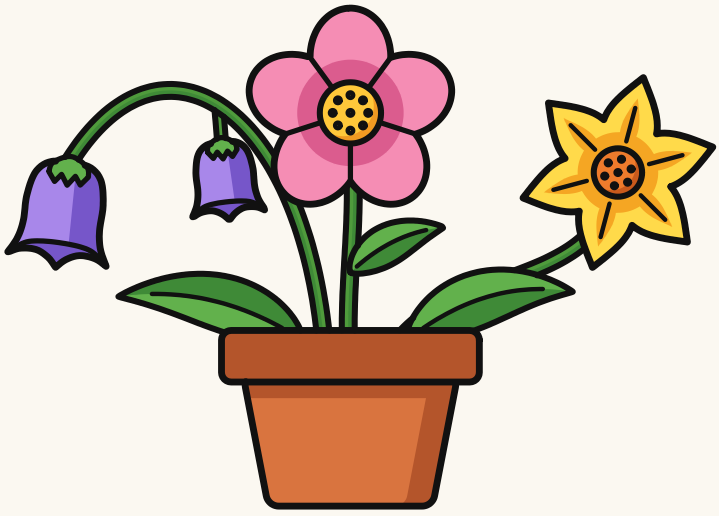
STEP 11 Ink the lines and erase the guides



Trace every finished line with your black pen. I begin with the pot, move up to the flowers and leave the small dots for last, since they smudge easily. Skip the circles, ovals, pot box and stem guides. Wait until the ink is fully dry, then erase all the pencil.

💡 **Tip:** Rest your hand on a scrap of paper while inking to protect the wet lines.

STEP 12 Color the potted bouquet



Color the round flower pink with a deeper pink ring around its yellow middle. Make the star flower yellow, with orange near the center. Bluebells get purple, darker on their right sides and in the openings. Use green for stems, caps and leaves, darkening one half of each leaf, then light brown for the pot and darker brown for its rim.

💡 **Tip:** Color in small circles inside large shapes like the pot to avoid streaky stripes.