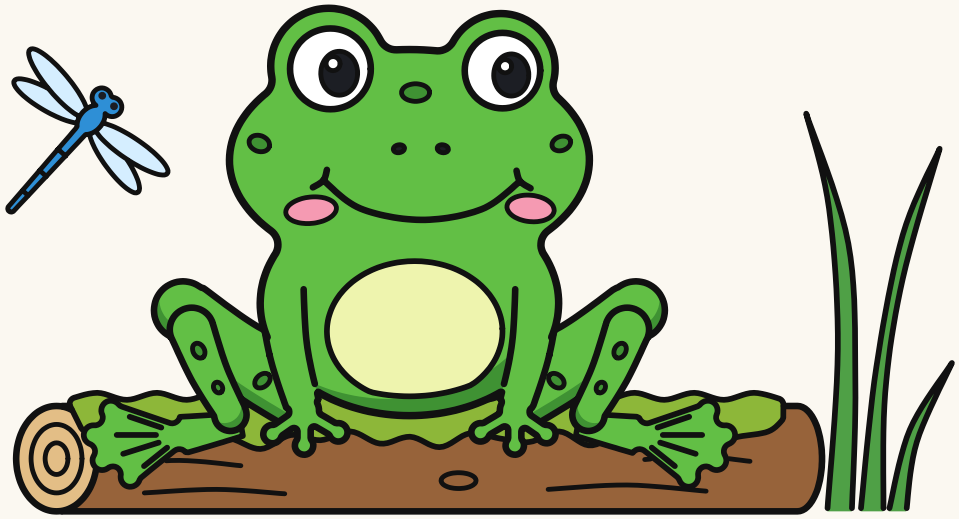
How to Draw a Frog

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

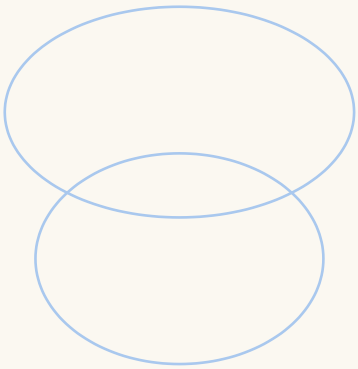
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils
- Plain paper

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 →

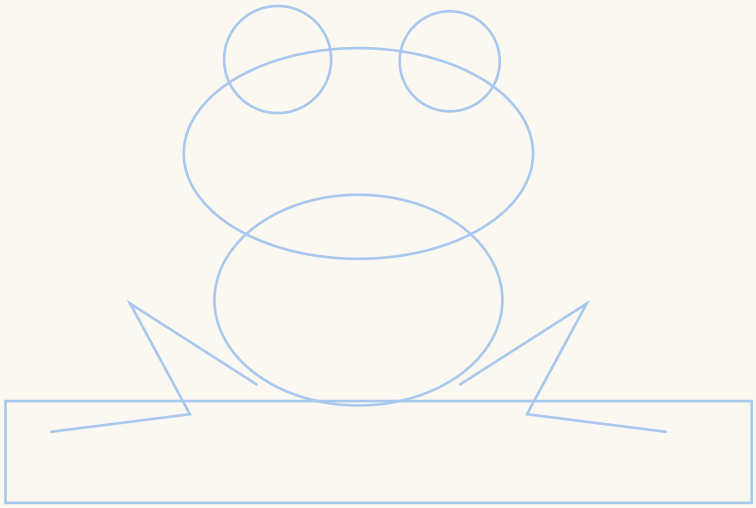
STEP 1 Sketch a head oval and a body oval



Draw a wide oval near the middle of the page for the head. Below it, draw a second oval that is a little narrower and overlaps the bottom of the head. Leave plenty of room on both sides, because the back legs will stick out wide later.

💡 **Tip:** Keep your pencil pressure feather light. You will erase both ovals.

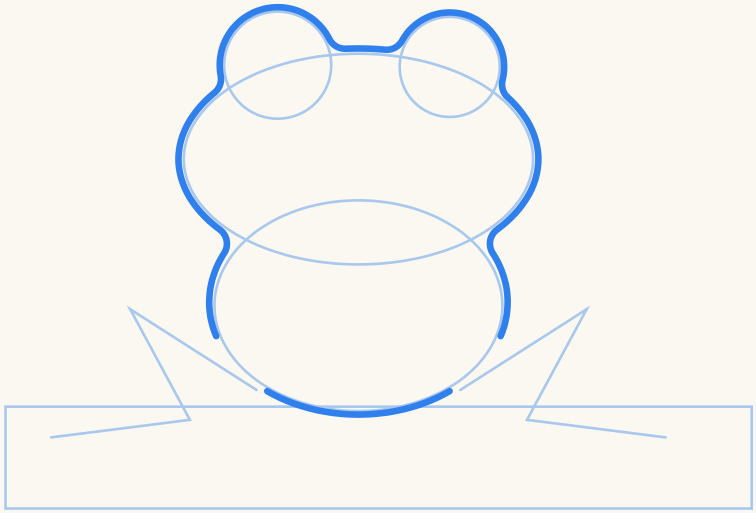
STEP 2 Add eye circles, leg zigzags and a log box



Sit two circles on top of the head oval, about halfway out of it, for the eyes. On each side, draw a zigzag: up and out from the bottom of the body to the knee, back down toward the body, then out to the side for the foot. Finish with a long box under the frog for the log.

💡 **Tip:** The zigzags are the secret to the legs. If they look like a Z, you're on track.

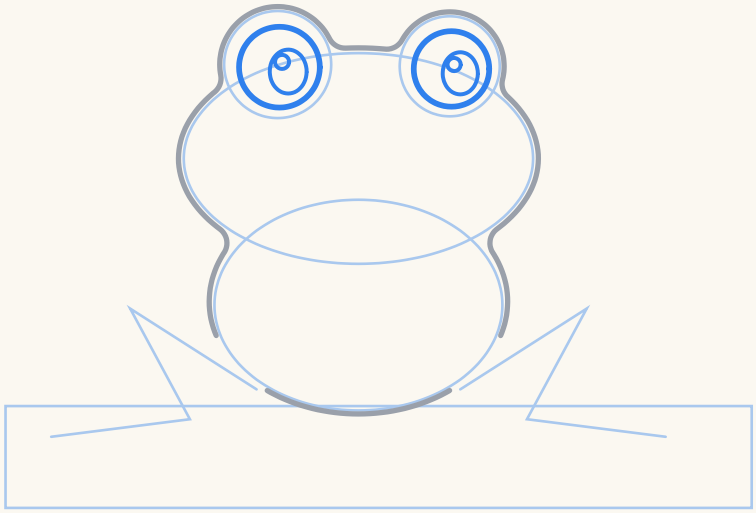
STEP 3 Draw the wide head and round body outline



Now trace one smooth line around both ovals and over the eye circles, so the eyes become bumps on top of the head. Between the eyes, let the line dip into a shallow valley. Where the head meets the body, pull it in just a little. I stop the line on the lower sides, where the front legs will go.

💡 **Tip:** Don't draw a neck. A frog's head flows straight into its body.

STEP 4 Add the big bulging eyes



Inside each eye bump, draw a circle for the white of the eye, leaving a thin green rim around it. Add a tall oval pupil in each one, nudged a little toward the right, plus a small circle near the top for the shine.

💡 **Tip:** Make the shine circles the same size and in the same spot in both eyes.

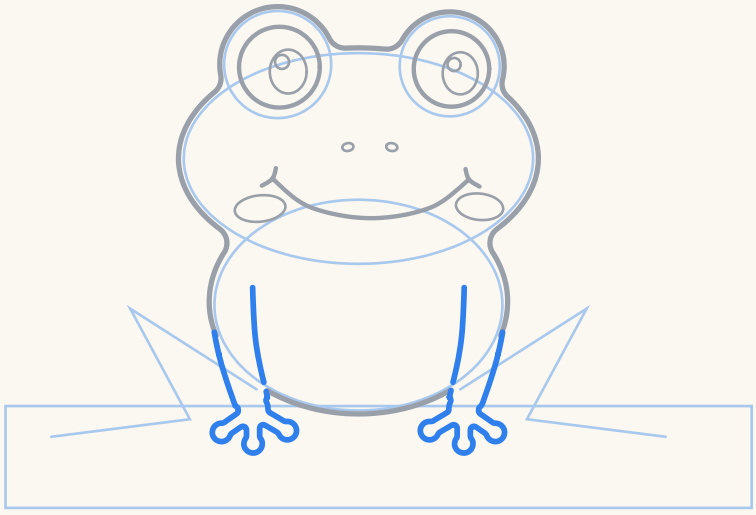
STEP 5 Draw the smile, then the nostrils and cheeks



A frog's mouth is very wide, so let the smile run almost from one side of the head to the other, dipping in a gentle curve. Tick a tiny line at each end like a dimple. Place two small dots for nostrils halfway between the eyes and the mouth, and two flat ovals under the smile corners for cheeks.

💡 **Tip:** I keep the nostrils tiny. Big holes turn the face into a pig.

STEP 6 Draw the front legs and toe pads



Each front leg drops nearly straight down from the side of the body, getting slimmer toward the bottom. At the end, split it into three short fingers that spread out like a fan. Put a round pad on the tip of every finger. Those pads are what tree frogs use to grip leaves.

💡 **Tip:** Let the outer edge of each leg become part of the body outline.

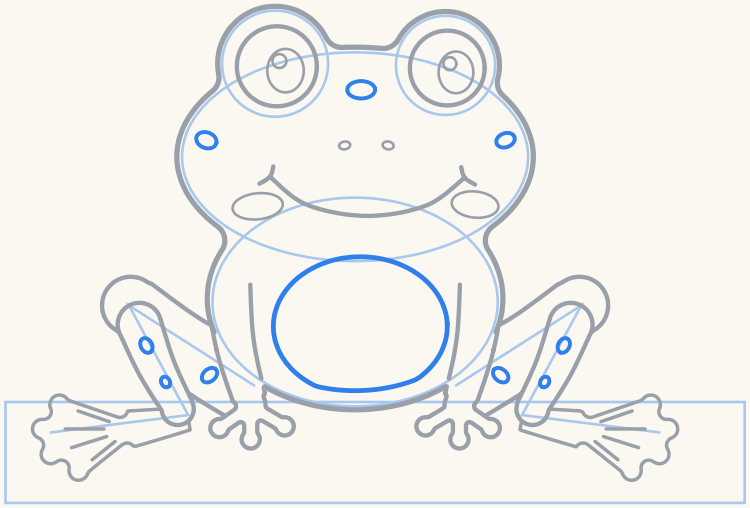
STEP 7 Fold the back legs and add webbed feet



Follow your zigzag guides. Draw the big thigh first, rising from the bottom of the body to a rounded knee. Then draw the shin in front of it, coming back down from the knee to the ankle. From the ankle, a long foot reaches outward and ends in four toes with round pads, joined by curved webbing. Add a few short lines on the foot for the toe bones.

💡 **Tip:** Curve the webbing inward between toes, like the scalloped edge of a shell.

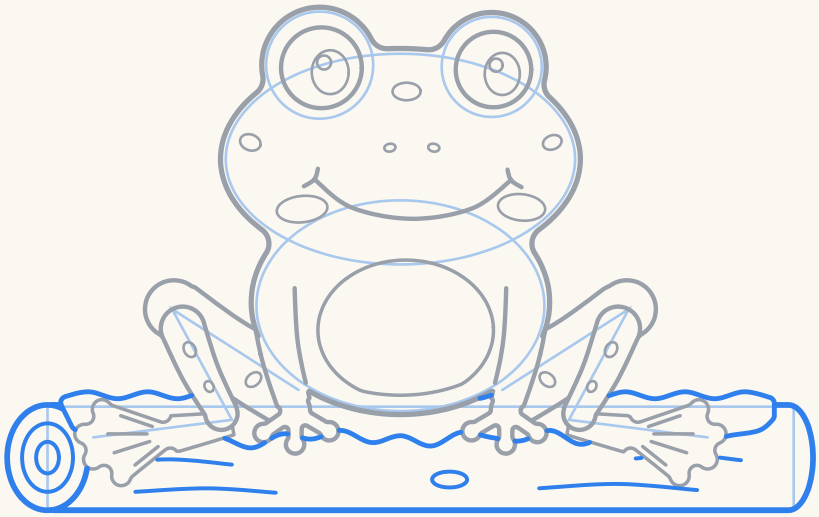
STEP 8 Add the belly and the spots



Draw a big oval on the front of the body for the pale belly, between the two front legs. Then sprinkle a few small ovals around for spots: one between the eyes, one on each side of the head, and two or three on every back leg.

💡 **Tip:** I keep spots away from the outline, so they don't look like holes.

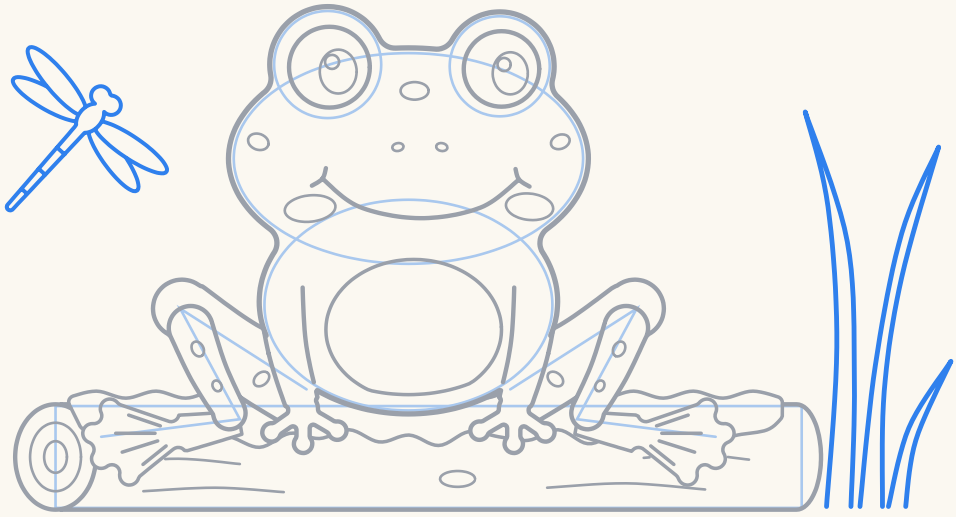
STEP 9 Draw the mossy log



Use the box guide to draw a long log under the frog. On the left end, draw an upright oval for the cut end and add two rings inside it. The right end just gets a rounded edge. Along the top, sketch a bumpy strip of moss with a wavy, dripping lower edge, and add a few bark lines plus a small knot.

💡 **Tip:** Stop every log line where it meets the frog's feet. The frog sits in front.

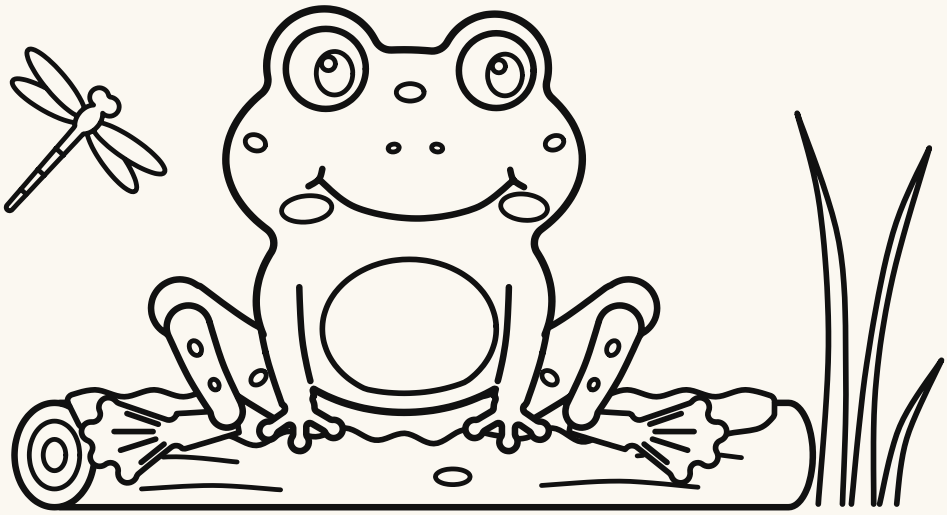
STEP 10 Add reeds and a dragonfly



On the right, draw three tall, pointed blades that lean in different directions; they peek out from behind the log. Up on the left, draw a dragonfly: two little eye circles, a short body, a long thin tail with a few stripes, and two pairs of slim wings.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the back wings a bit shorter than the front ones. It makes the dragonfly look real.

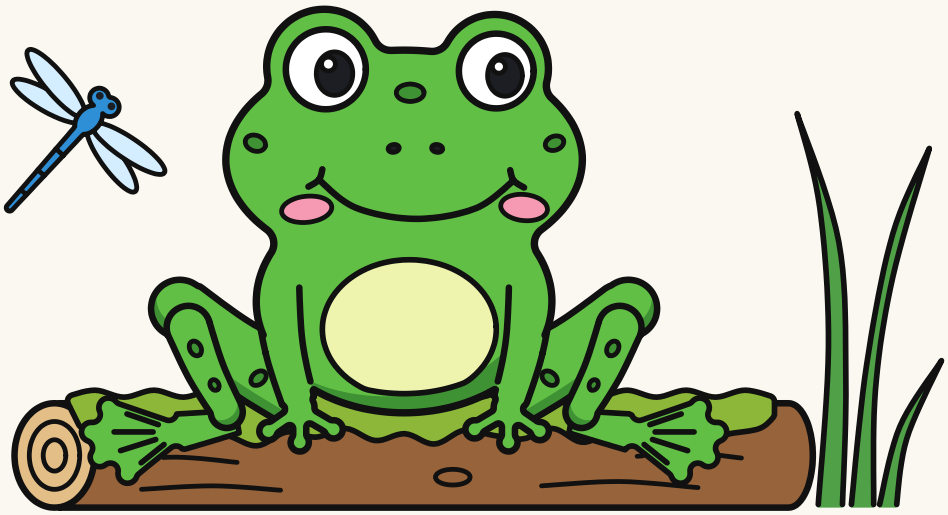
STEP 11 Ink your lines and erase the guides



Go over every line you want to keep with the black pen, slowly. I like to ink the face first, then the legs, the log and the extras last. Wait until the ink is completely dry, then erase all the guide shapes.

💡 **Tip:** Rest the side of your hand on a scrap of paper so the ink doesn't smudge.

STEP 12 Color your frog



Color the frog bright green and the belly pale yellow, and give the cheeks a soft pink. Use dark green for the spots and for a little shading under the belly and along the bottom of each leg. The log is brown with a tan cut end, the moss is yellow-green, and the dragonfly is blue with very light wings.

💡 **Tip:** Leave the eye shines white. They make the frog look friendly.