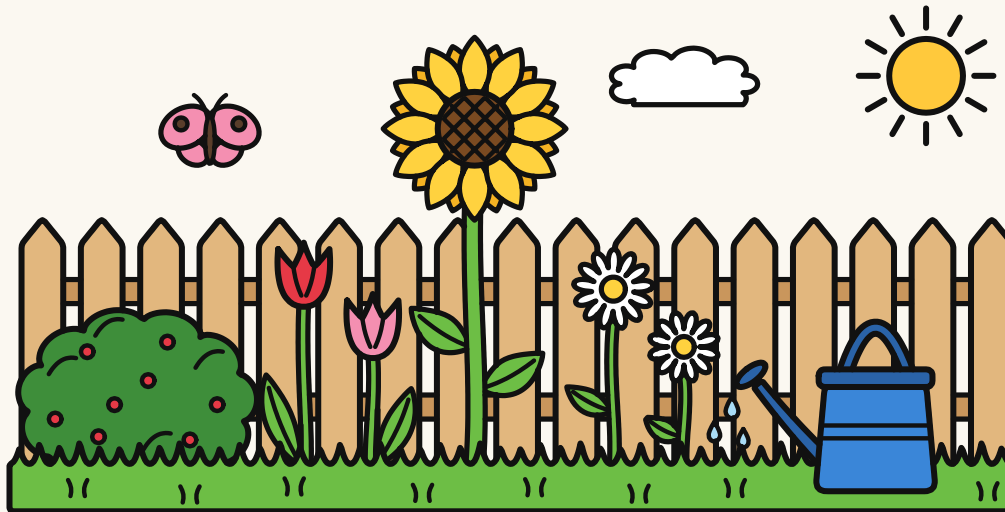


How to Draw a Garden

12 easy steps for beginners



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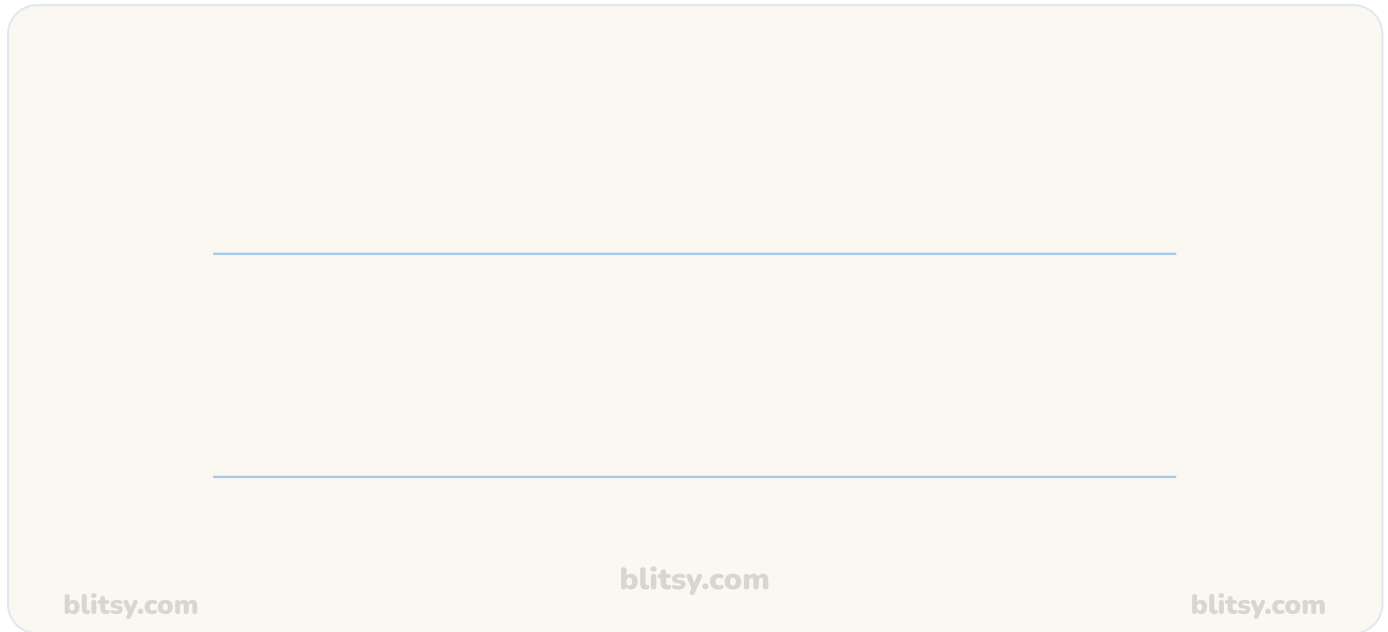
What you'll need

- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black marker
- Colored pencils
- Paper turned sideways

How to use this guide

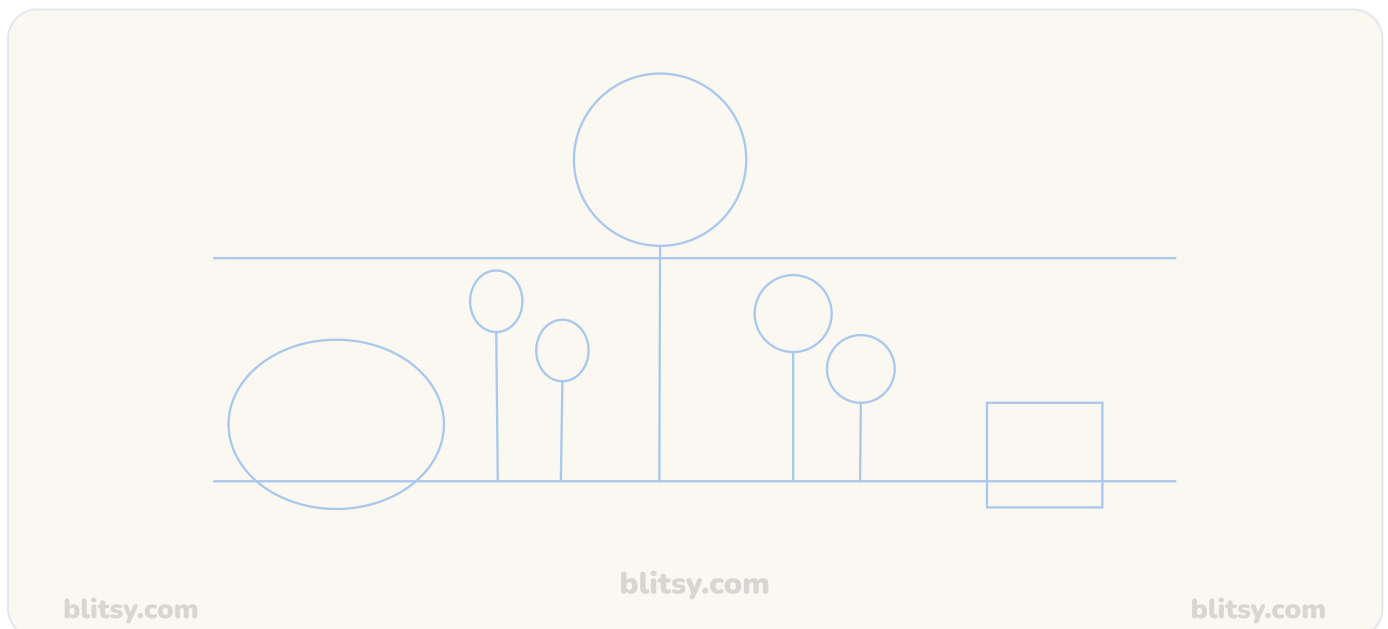
New lines for each step are shown in **blue**; lines you already drew are gray. Draw lightly first, then ink and erase near the end.

[Read the full tutorial online →](#)

STEP 1 Draw the ground line and the fence line

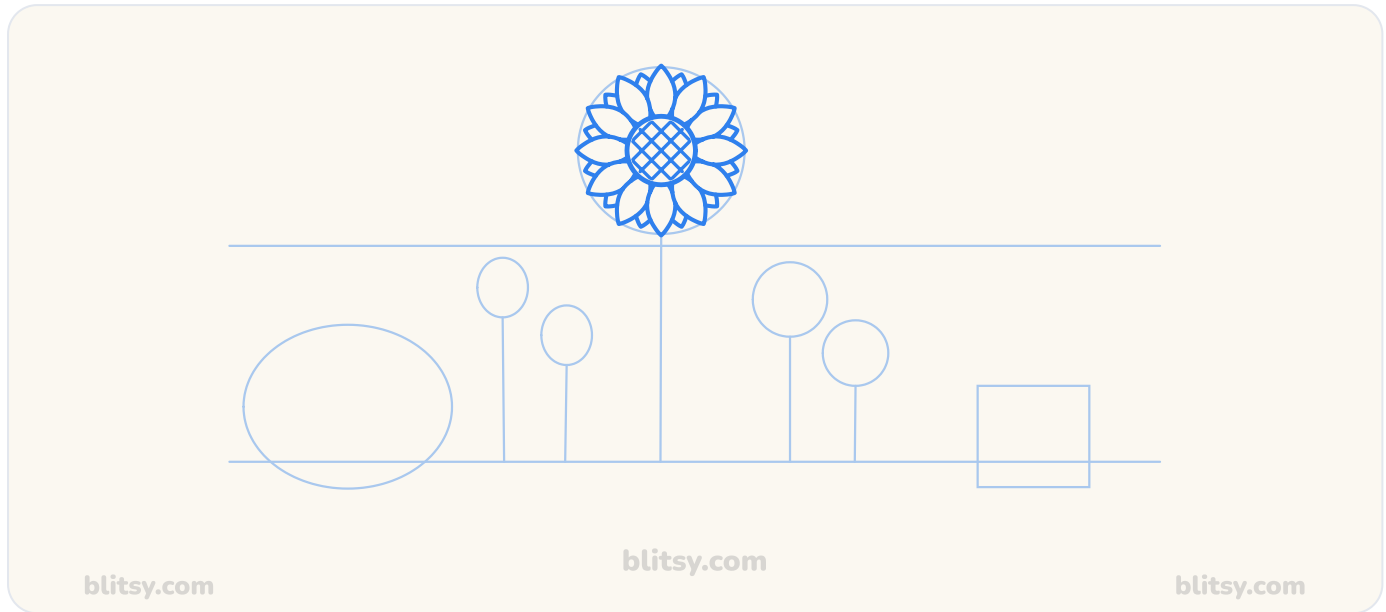
Turn your paper sideways and draw a long, light line about a fifth of the way up from the bottom, where the grass begins. A second line a little above the middle marks the tops of the fence pickets. Keep both level, since they hold the whole scene together.

 **Tip:** Make a small dot at each end first, then join the dots in one smooth pull of the pencil.

STEP 2 Place circles, ovals and a box

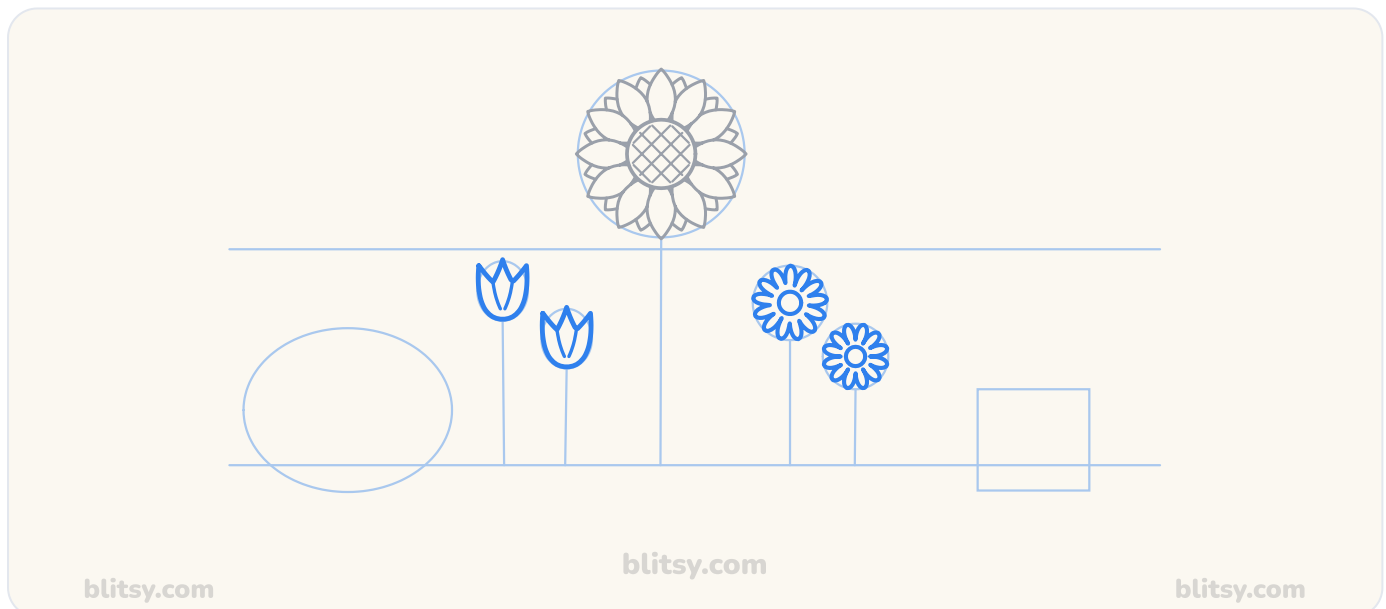
Now plan where every plant will stand. Draw a big circle in the middle, rising above the fence line, for the sunflower head. Add two small ovals on its left for tulips and two circles on its right for daisies. On the far left sketch a wide oval for the bush, and on the right a box for the watering can. Finish with a stem line from each flower down to the ground.

 **Tip:** Give every flower a different height. A row of heads at one level looks like a fence of lollipops.

STEP 3 Draw the sunflower head

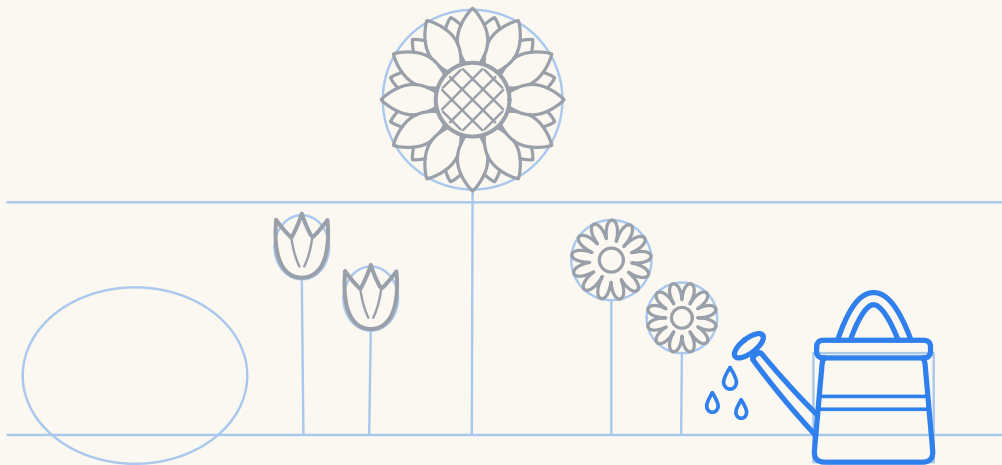
Draw a smaller circle in the center of the big guide for the seed middle. Add twelve pointed petals around it, like the numbers on a clock, then tuck short petal tips into the gaps for a second row behind. A crisscross pattern fills the middle. I draw the sunflower first because it sits in front of the fence, so no fence lines ever cross it.

Tip: Place the top and bottom petals first, then the two side ones. The other eight fill in easily between them.

STEP 4 Add the tulips and the daisies

Turn each tulip oval into a cup: a round bottom and three points on top, with the middle point a little taller. Two short curves inside show the front petal. For each daisy, draw a small center circle, then go around it with rounded petals that dip in close to the middle.

Tip: Count as you go around a daisy. Twelve or thirteen petals looks full without getting crowded.

STEP 5 Draw the watering can

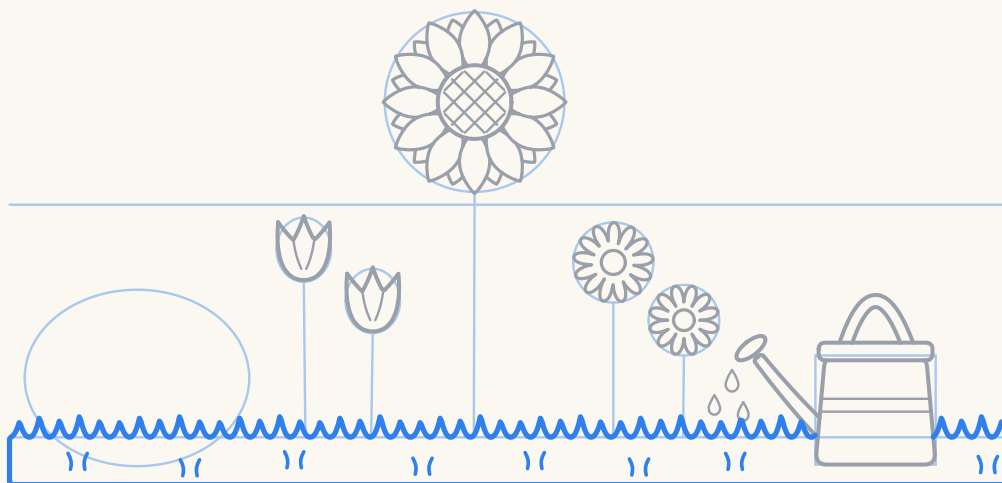
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Use the box as your guide and draw a can body slightly wider at the bottom than the top. Lay a flat rim across the top and an arched handle above it. The spout leaves the lower left side and angles up to a small oval sprinkler. Add a stripe and three falling teardrops.

 **Tip:** Start the spout low on the can. Near the top, it looks like a teapot.

STEP 6 Add pointy grass along the bottom

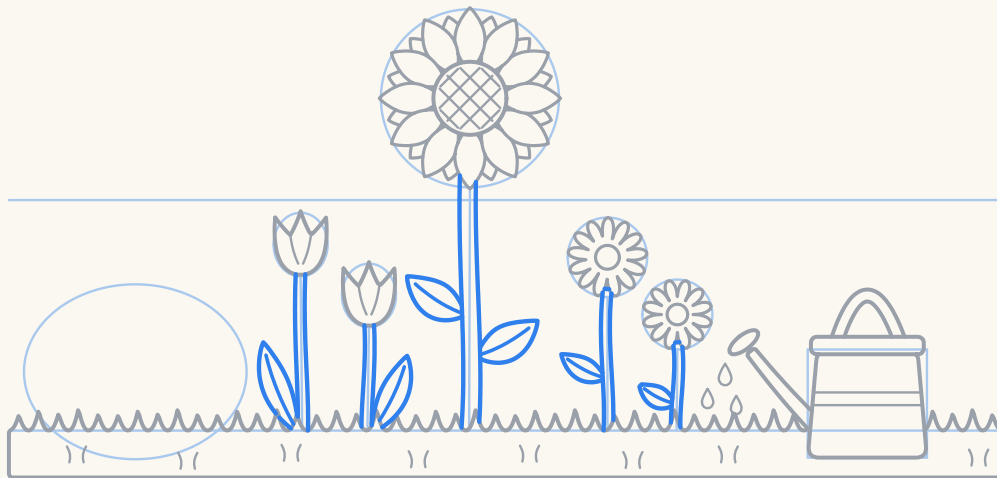
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Along the ground line, draw a zigzag of little grass points across the page, some taller than others. Stop the grass where it meets the watering can, because the can stands in front of it. Close the band with a straight line near the bottom and add a few small tufts inside.

 **Tip:** Draw the zigzag in short bursts of five or six points. Long runs drift and wobble.

STEP 7 Draw stems and leaves

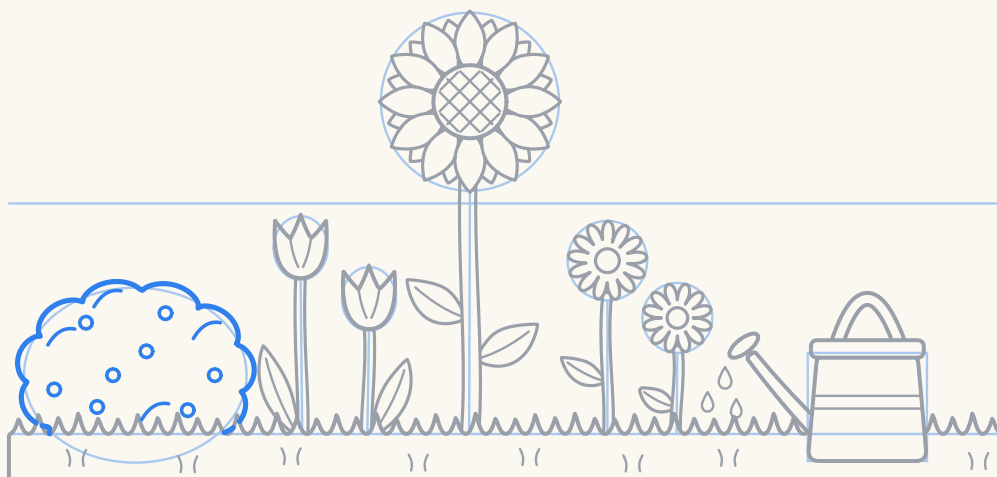
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Go over each stem guide with two close lines, making the sunflower stem the thickest. Every stem starts under its flower and disappears into the grass. Add pointed leaves: two wide ones on the sunflower, a long blade beside each tulip and a small leaf on each daisy, each with a center vein.

Tip: Put leaves on opposite sides as you go up a stem. Leaves all on one side make the plant lean.

STEP 8 Round out the berry bush

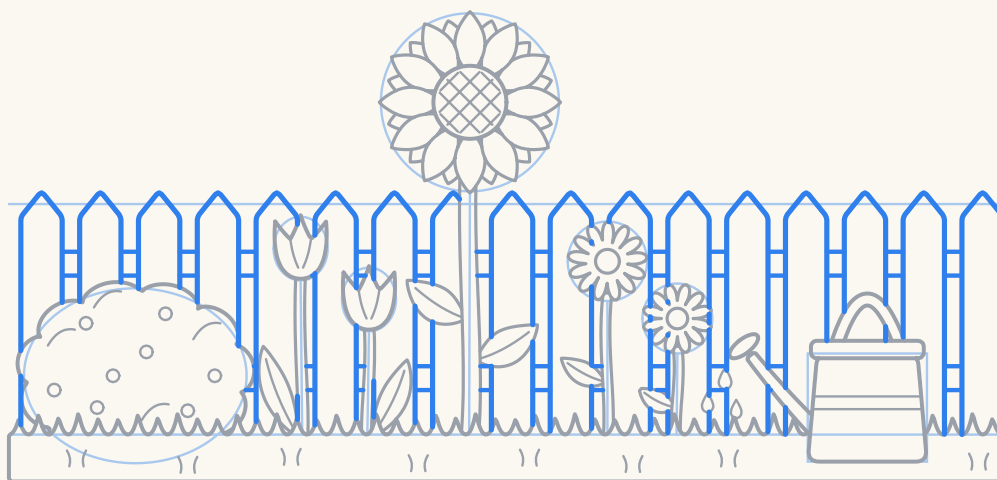
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Trace around the bush oval with a bumpy line, like the top of a cloud, and let the bottom sink behind the grass. Inside, draw a handful of small circles for berries and a few short curves for leaf clumps. I scatter the berries unevenly on purpose. In neat rows they look like buttons.

Tip: Vary the size of the bumps a little. Perfectly equal bumps start to look like a cloud again.

STEP 9 Draw the picket fence behind everything

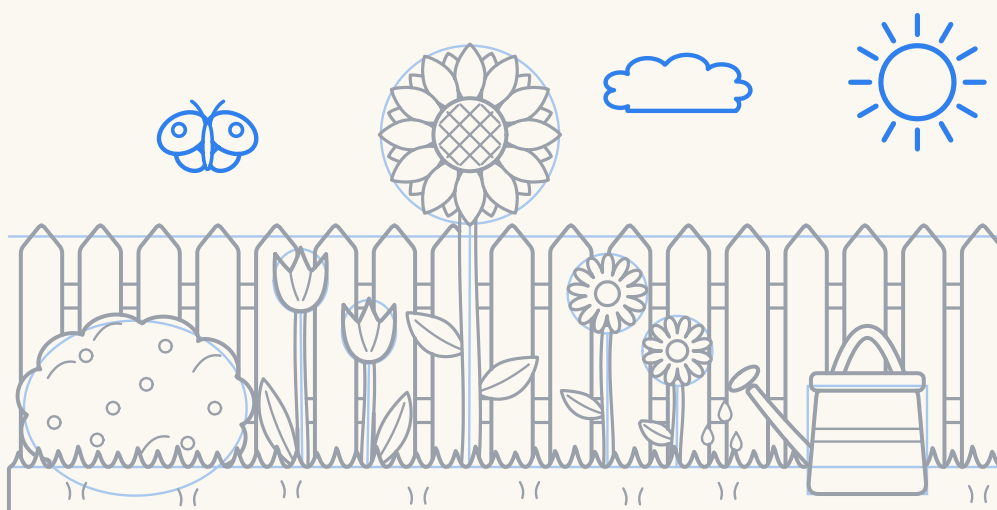
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This is where overlapping pays off. Draw tall pickets with pointed tops along the fence line, leaving a small gap between each. Whenever a picket reaches a flower, a leaf or the bush, stop the line and pick it up on the other side. Then add two flat rails, drawn as short pieces in the gaps.

Tip: Use a strip of scrap paper as a spacer so every gap between pickets comes out the same width.

STEP 10 Add the sun, a cloud and a butterfly

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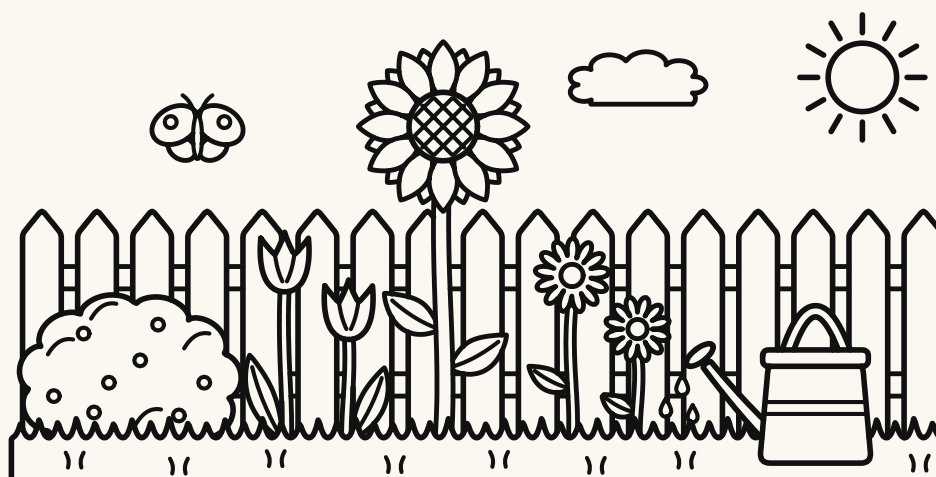
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In the top right corner, draw a circle with short rays for the sun. Put a small cloud with a flat bottom between the sun and the sunflower. Above the bush, add a butterfly: a thin body, two big top wings, two smaller bottom wings and curly antennae.

Tip: Keep the sky items small. A huge sun pulls the eye away from the flowers.

STEP 11 Ink the lines and erase the guides



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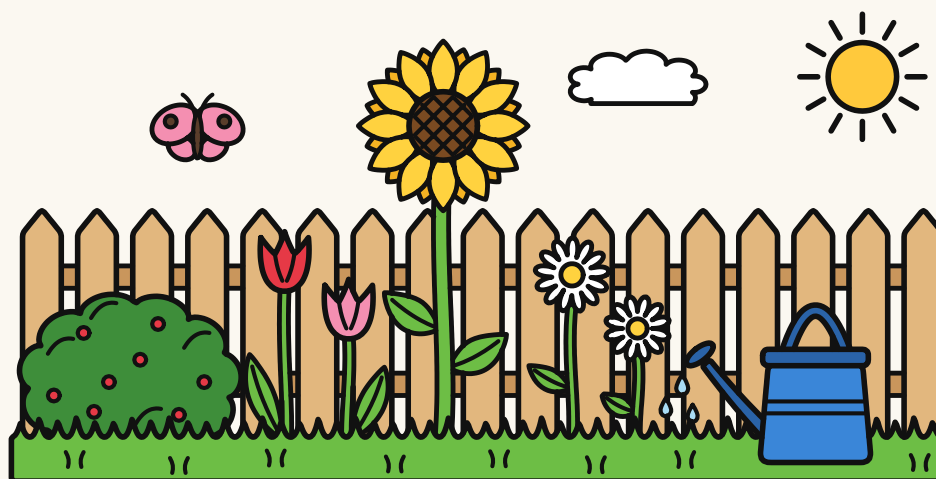
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Trace every line you want to keep with the black marker, working from top to bottom so your hand doesn't smudge fresh ink. Let it dry for a minute. Then erase the two guide lines and all the helper shapes.

Tip: Rest the side of your hand on a scrap of paper while inking. It keeps oils and smears off the page.

STEP 12 Color the garden



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Color the fence light brown, pressing harder on the rails so they look shadier. Use dark green for the bush and red for its berries. A brighter green covers the grass and every stem and leaf. Give the sunflower yellow petals with a brown middle, one tulip red and one pink, and the daisies yellow centers. Finish with a blue can, a yellow sun and a pink butterfly.

Tip: Color the light parts first. Yellow goes muddy if you color it next to wet marker or dark pencil.