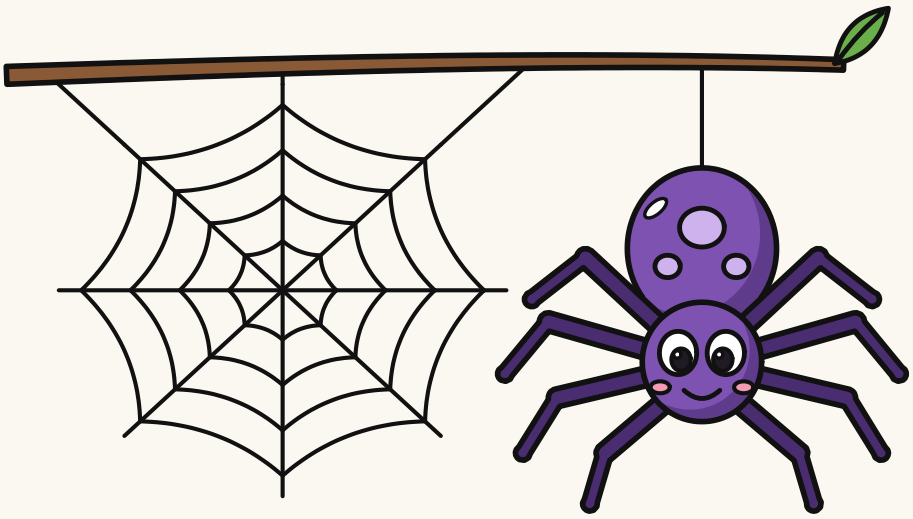
How to Draw a Spider

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

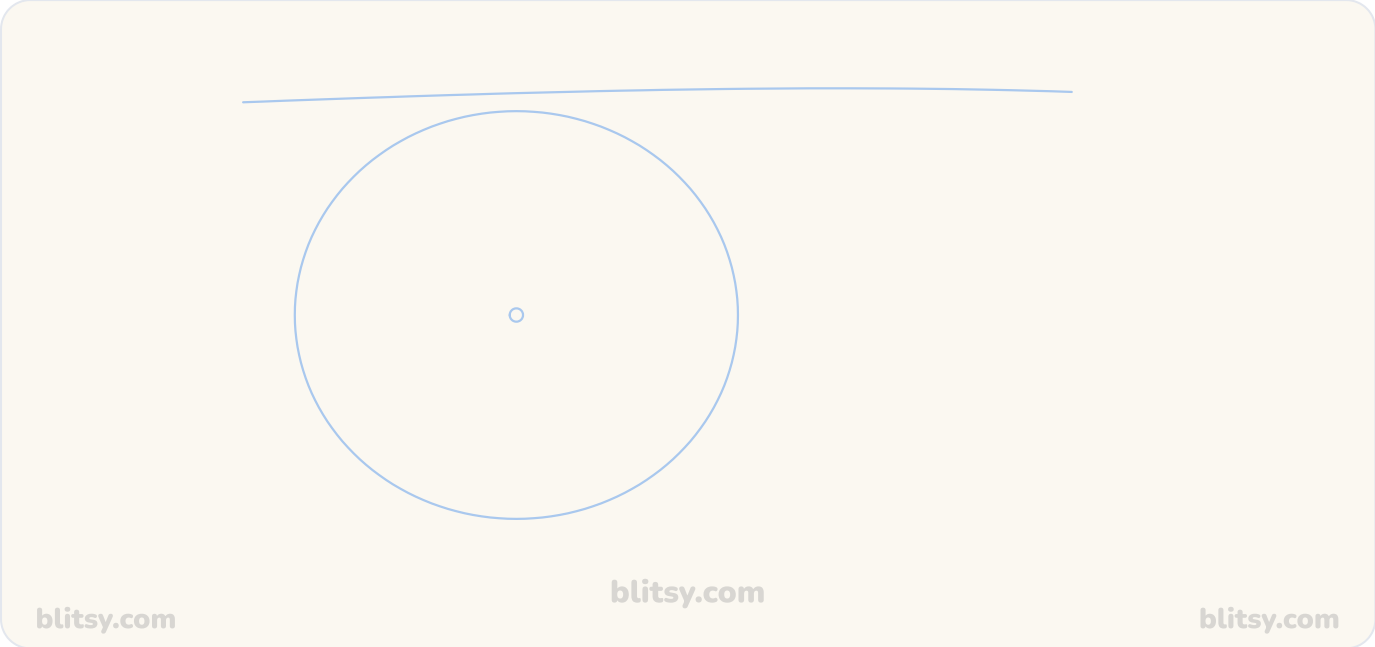
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils or markers
- Plain paper

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 →

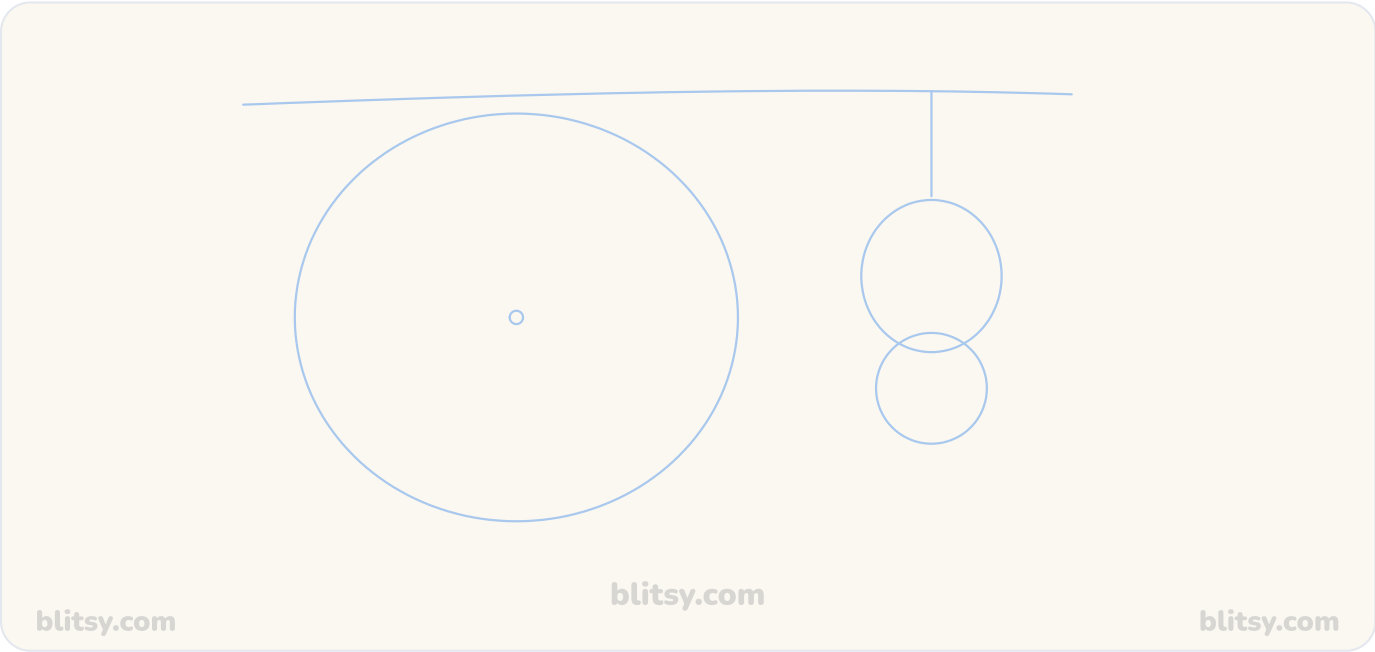
STEP 1 Sketch a twig line and a web oval



Draw a long, gently curved line across the top of your paper. That's the twig everything hangs from. Below it, on the left half, sketch a big oval that almost touches the twig, and mark a small dot in its middle. The oval shows how big the web will be, and the dot is where every spoke meets.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the dot in the true middle of the oval, or the web will look lopsided later.

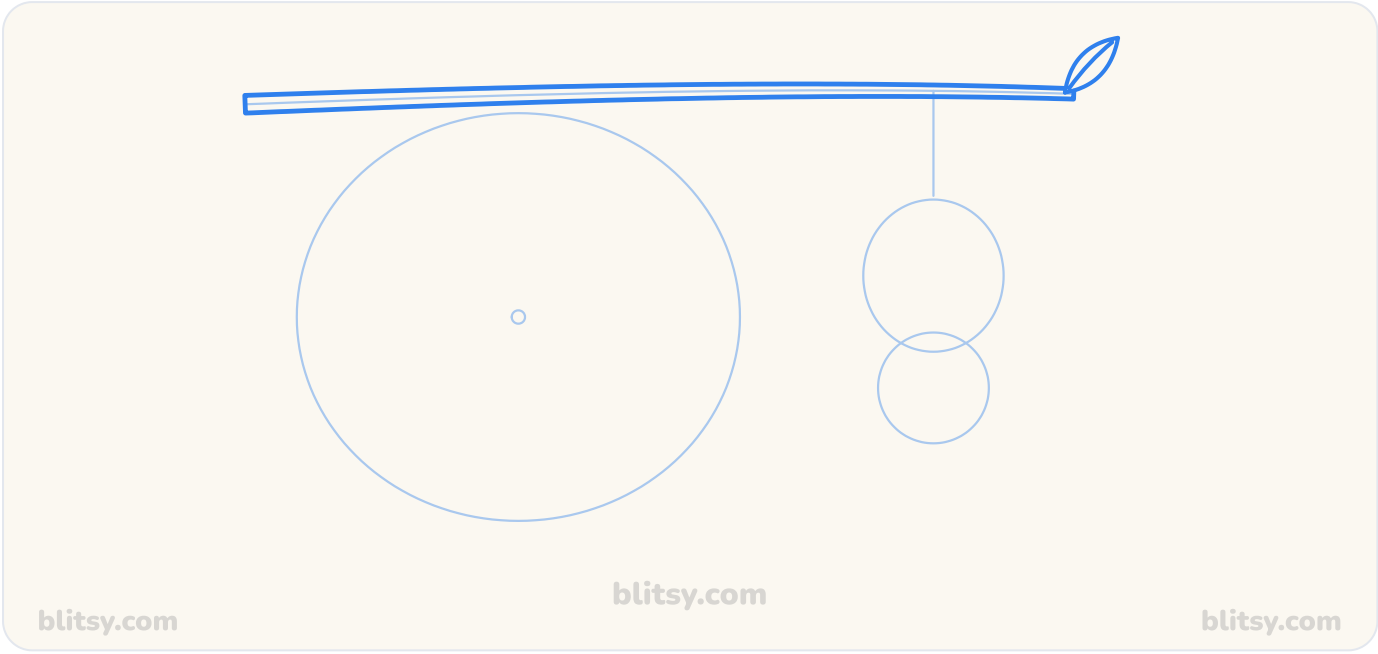
STEP 2 Add the thread and two body circles



On the right side, drop a short straight line down from the twig. At its bottom, draw a slightly tall circle for the abdomen, which is the spider's back body part. Right underneath, overlapping it a little, add a smaller circle for the front body part, where the face goes. Real spiders have exactly two body parts, so two circles is all you need.

💡 **Tip:** Make the lower circle about three quarters the size of the upper one.

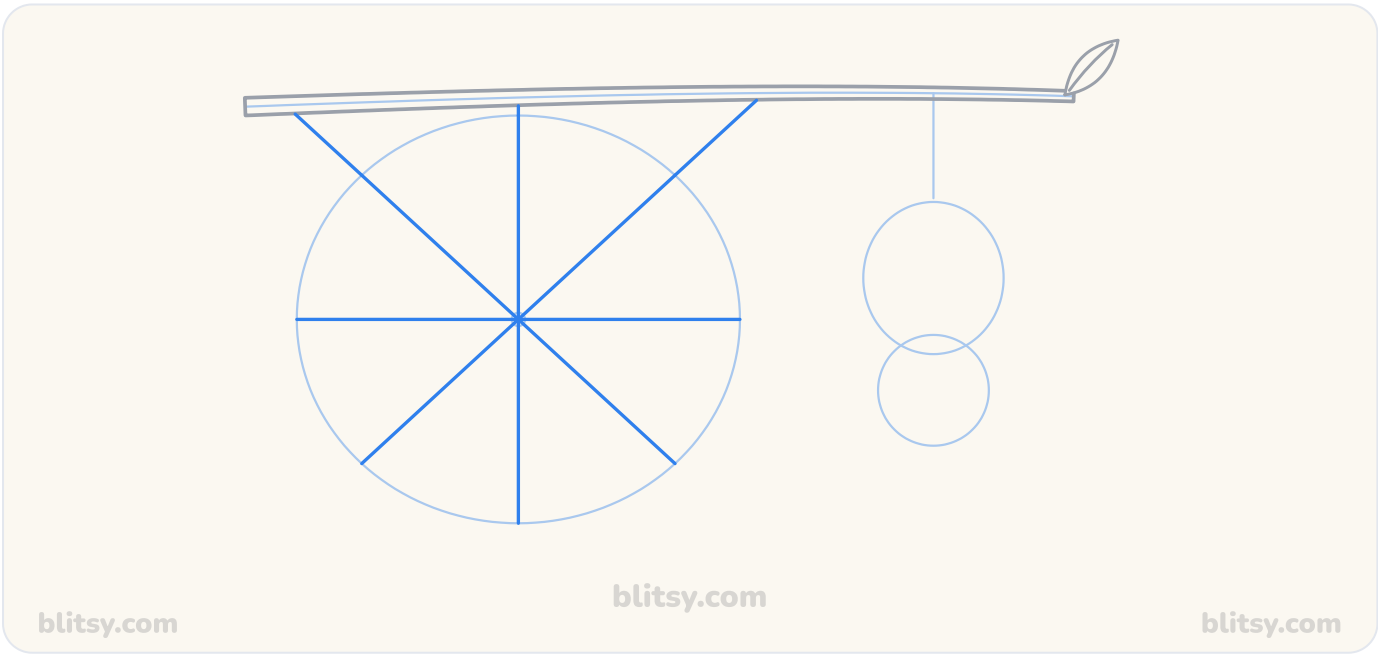
STEP 3 Outline the twig and a small leaf



Trace the twig guide with two lines, a little thicker on the left and thinner toward the right tip, the way a real branch tapers. At the right end, add a pointed leaf that tilts up, with one curved line down its middle for the vein. The leaf is optional, but it tells the eye where the twig ends.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the leaf's two edges as matching curves, like a pair of parentheses.

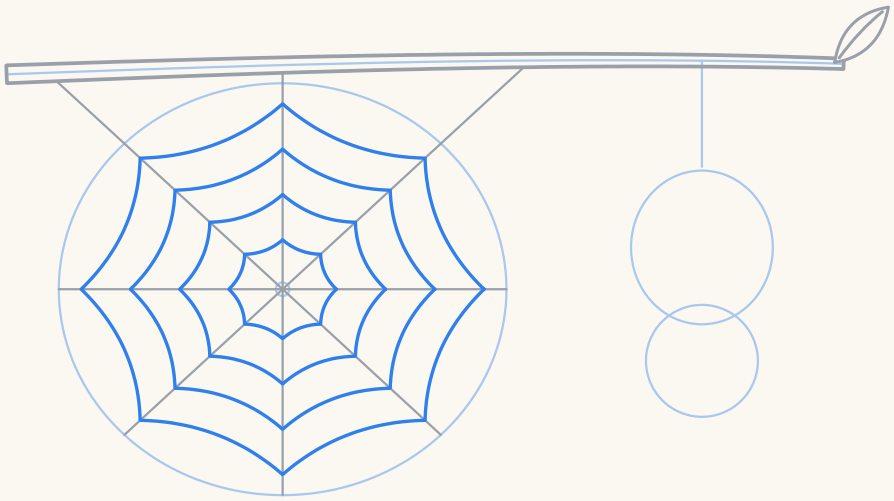
STEP 4 Draw eight straight web spokes



This is where the web comes together. Draw a plus sign through the centre dot, then an X through the same dot so it splits each gap in half. Now you have eight spokes, like a pizza cut into eight slices. Let the top spoke and the two upper diagonals run on to the twig. Those anchor threads hold the web up.

💡 **Tip:** Turn the page as you go so every spoke is drawn in the same comfortable direction.

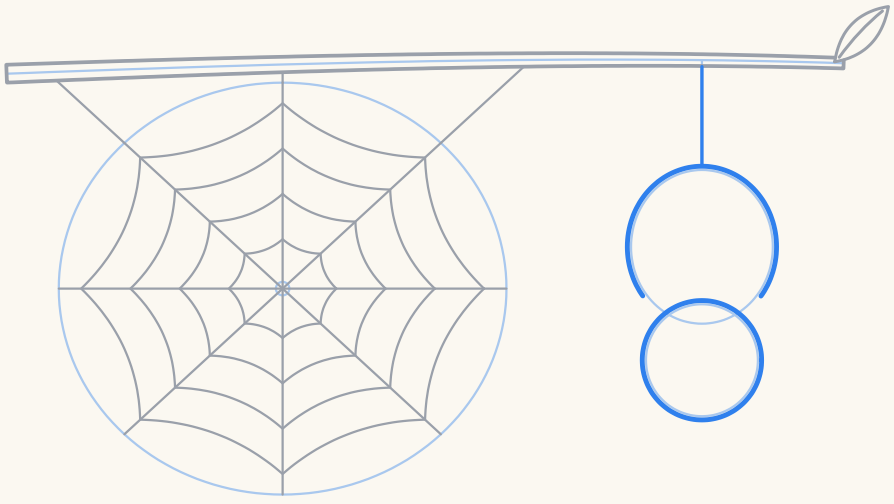
STEP 5 Connect the spokes with curved rings



Start near the centre. Hop from one spoke to the next with a short curve that dips slightly toward the middle, and keep going until the ring closes. Make four rings, each farther out, with similar gaps. I draw the inner rings first, because small ones are where spacing goes wrong.

💡 **Tip:** Curve each ring segment inward, not outward. That little sag is what makes it read as silk.

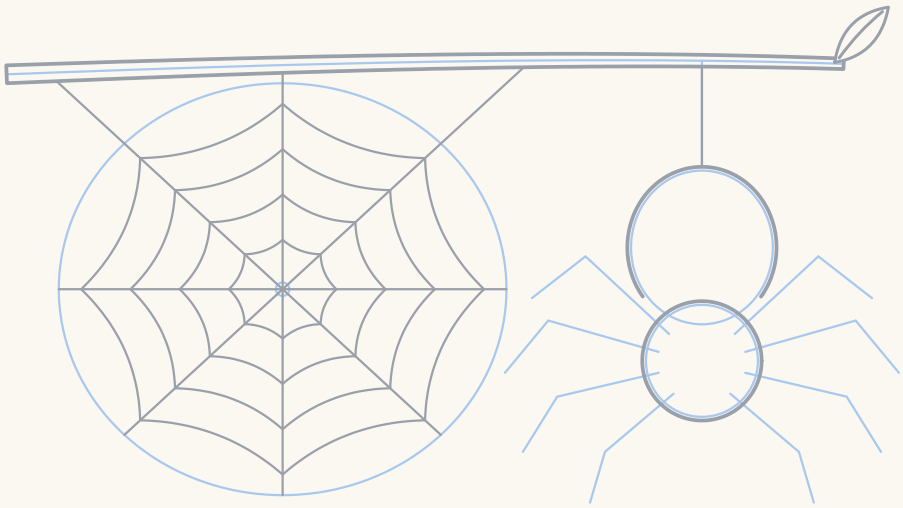
STEP 6 Outline the thread and both body parts



Go over the thread line with a firm, single stroke. Next, trace the abdomen circle, and stop the line where it disappears behind the head, since the smaller circle sits in front. Then trace the whole head circle. You should now see a snowman shape hanging upside down from the twig.

💡 **Tip:** Leave the overlap clean. Don't draw the hidden part of the big circle.

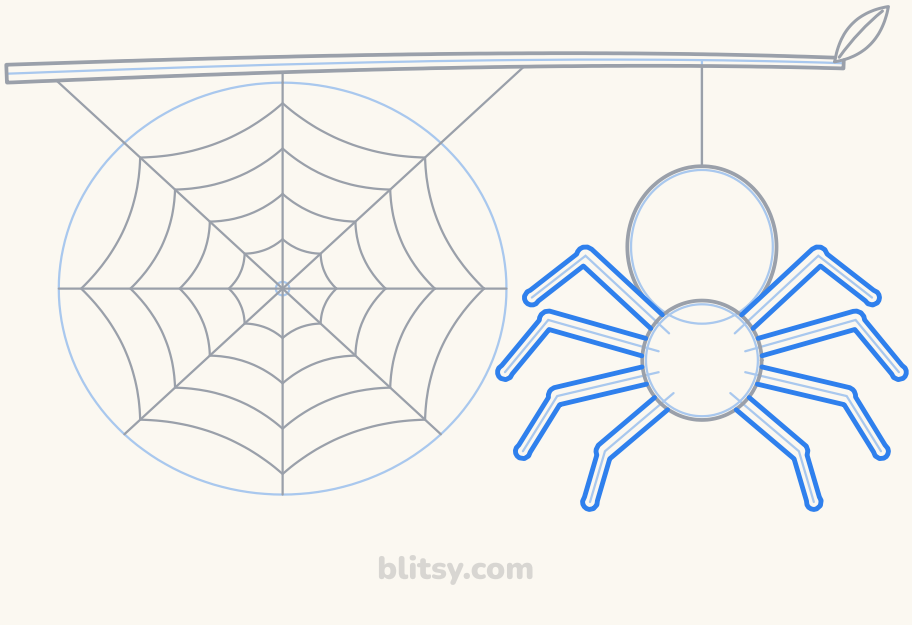
STEP 7 Place eight stick leg guides



Here's how I keep eight legs even. Every leg starts on the head part, never on the abdomen. Draw four sticks on the right, spread from the top of the head to the bottom, and bend each at a knee so it rises and then drops. Mirror the same four on the left. Four plus four makes eight.

💡 **Tip:** Put the knees of all four legs on one side in a gentle arc so they fan out neatly.

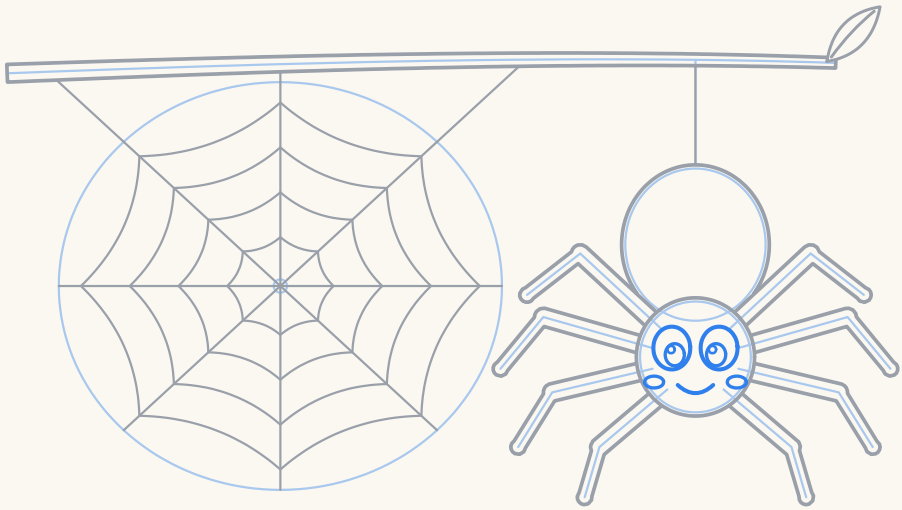
STEP 8 Turn the sticks into jointed legs



Draw a narrow tube around each stick, following the bend at the knee, and finish every leg with a small rounded foot. Start each tube at the edge of the head and leave out any line inside it. Where a top leg crosses the abdomen, stop the abdomen line at the leg.

💡 **Tip:** Keep all eight legs about the same thickness so none of them looks like an extra arm.

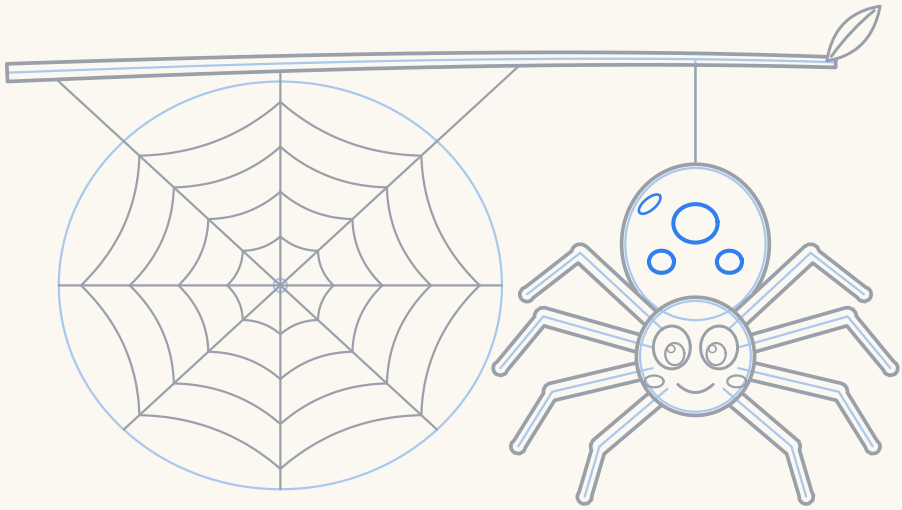
STEP 9 Give it big eyes and a smile



Draw two large ovals side by side in the upper half of the head. Inside each, add a round pupil toward the bottom and a tiny shine circle. A short curved smile and a small oval on each cheek finish the face. Most real spiders have eight small eyes, but two big ones look much kinder.

💡 **Tip:** Put both shine dots on the same side of the pupils so the eyes look straight at you.

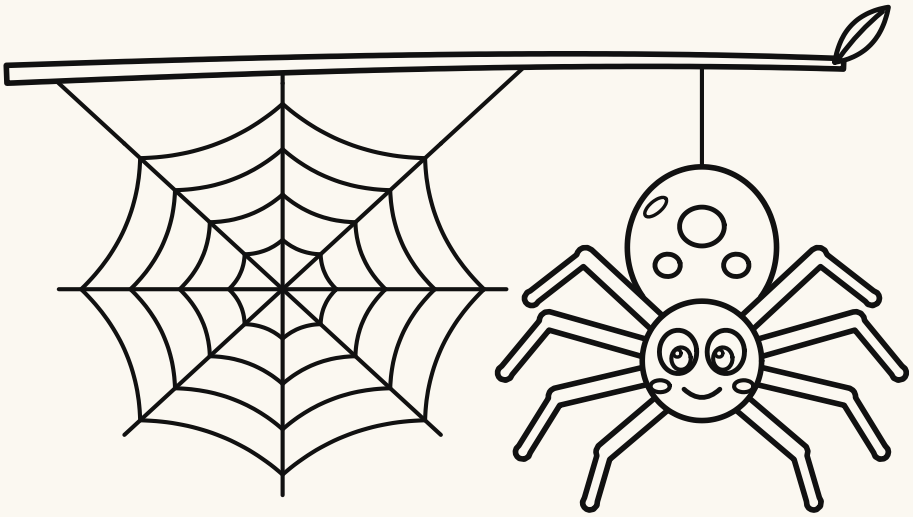
STEP 10 Add spots to the abdomen



Draw one larger oval spot near the middle of the abdomen and two smaller ones below it, one on each side, like a little triangle. Then add a thin tilted oval near the upper left edge as a shine mark. The spots give the body a simple pattern without turning it into a busy one, and kids can swap them for stripes.

💡 **Tip:** Space the two small spots evenly from the centre line so the pattern feels balanced.

STEP 11 Ink everything and erase the guides

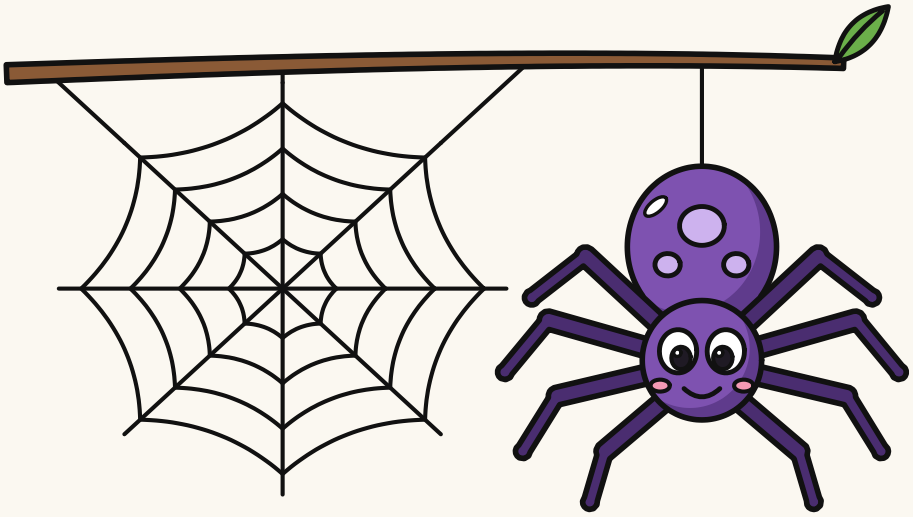


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Trace every final line with your fineliner: twig, leaf, spokes, rings, thread, body and legs. Ink the long web lines in one smooth pull rather than many short strokes. Once the ink is dry, erase the oval, the stick legs and the guide circles. The web should stand on its own now.

💡 **Tip:** Ink from the centre of the web outward. Your hand won't drag through wet lines.

STEP 12 Color your spider



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Color the twig brown and the leaf green. Use purple for the abdomen and head, with darker purple along their lower right edges for shading. The legs are dark purple, the spots lavender and the cheeks pink. Leave the eyes and shines white, then go over the web lightly in gray.

💡 **Tip:** Color in small circles on the body. It hides the strokes and looks smoother.