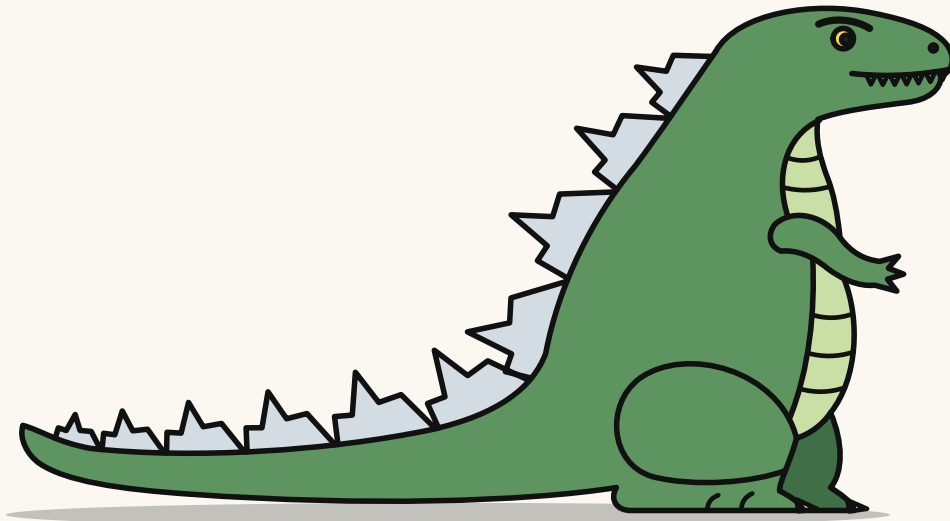


How to Draw Godzilla

10 easy steps for beginners



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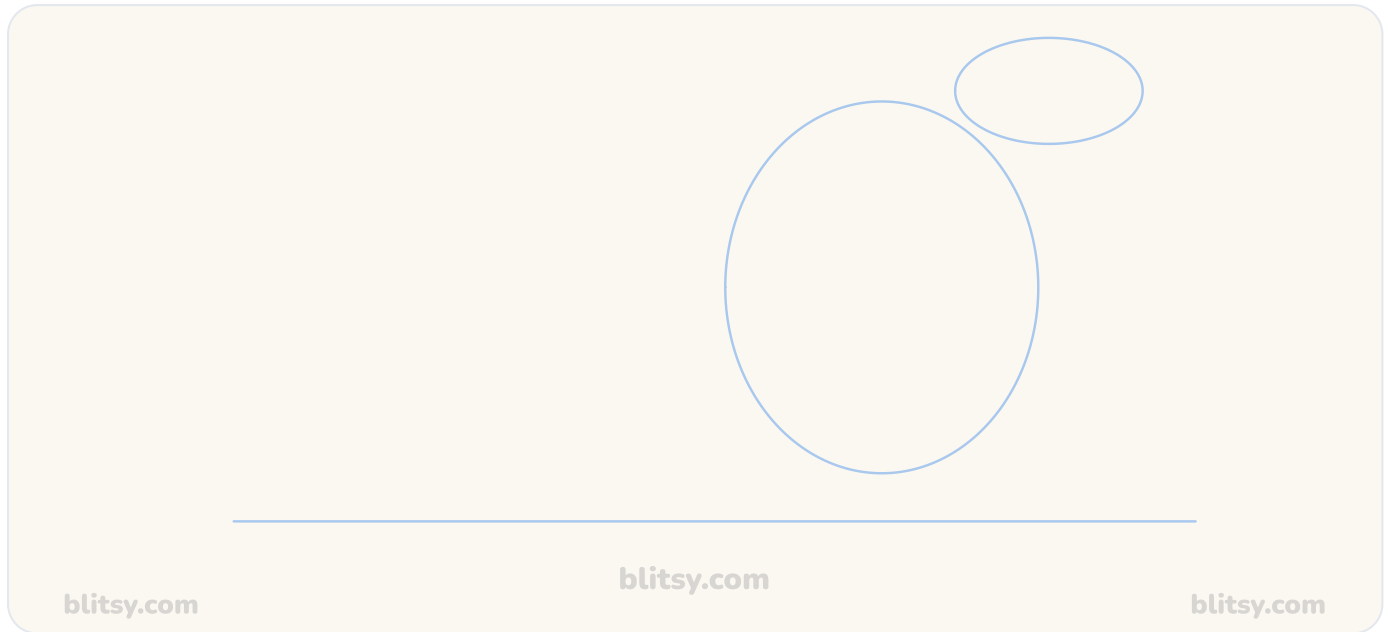
What you'll need

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

How to use this guide

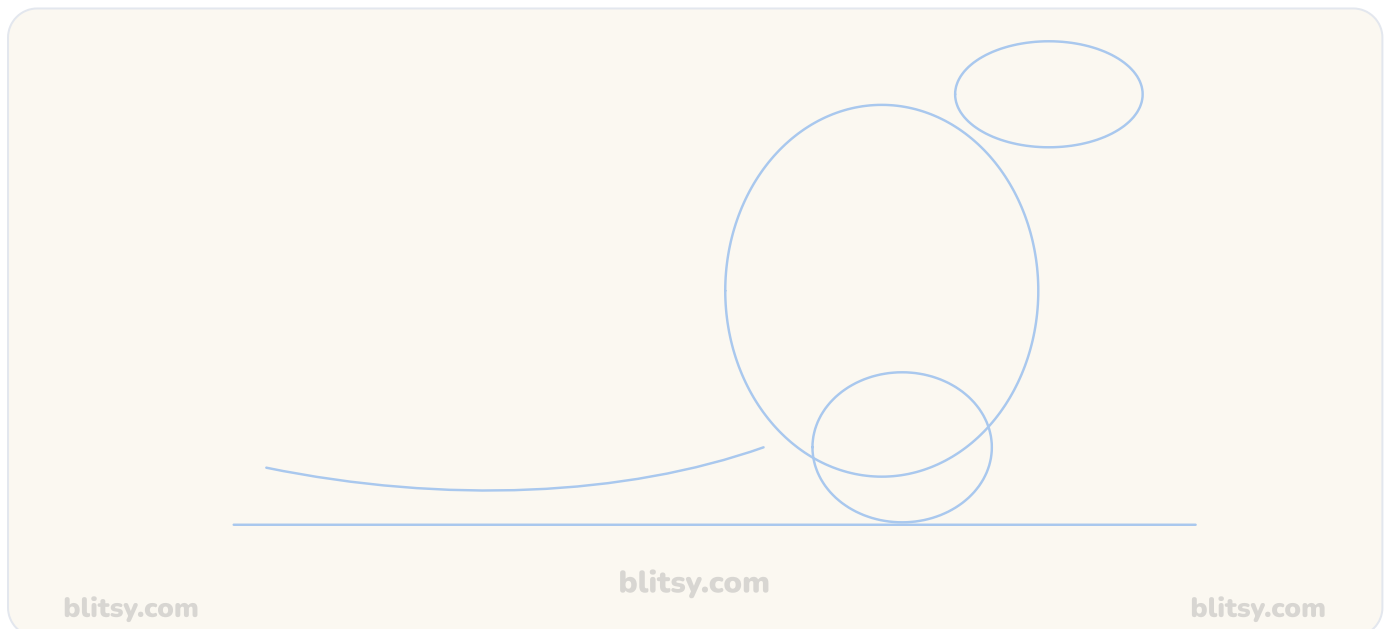
New lines for each step are shown in **blue**; lines you already drew are gray. Draw lightly first, then ink and erase near the end.

[Read the full tutorial online →](#)

STEP 1 Sketch the body and head ovals

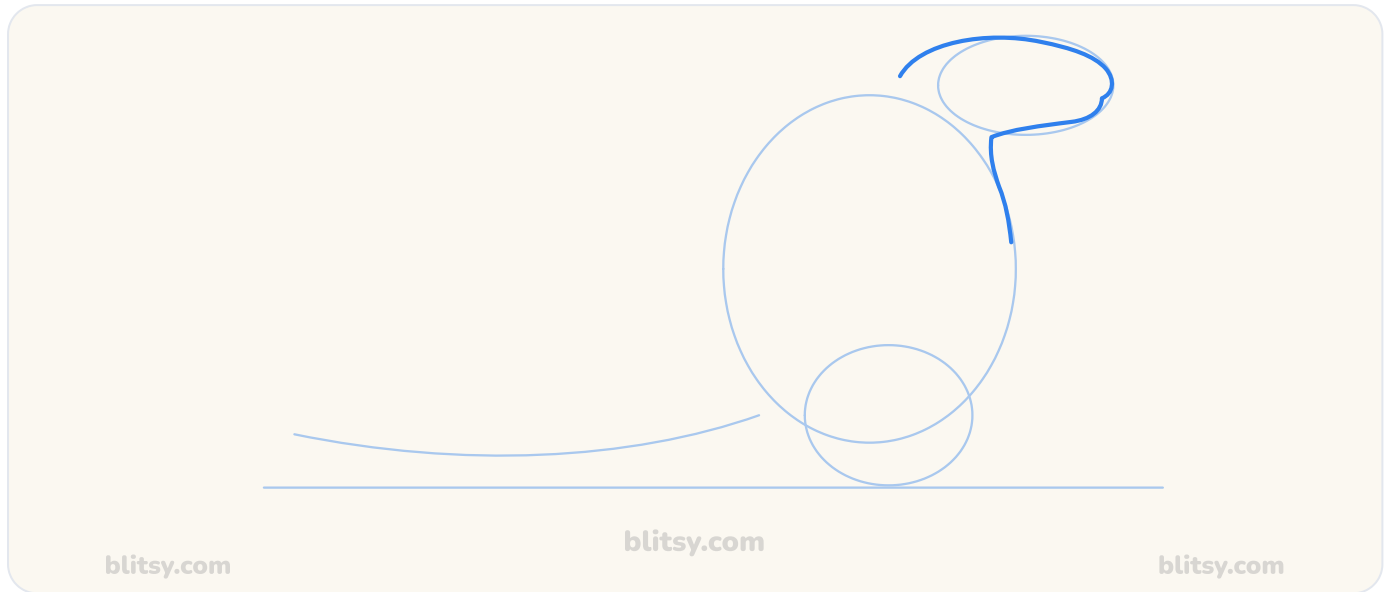
Draw a light ground line near the bottom of the page. Just above it, slightly right of center, sketch a tall oval for the body. Then add a smaller, wider oval up at the top right for the head. I place the head oval so it overlaps the corner of the body oval only a little, because Godzilla carries his head forward, not perched straight on top.

 **Tip:** Sketch so lightly you can barely see it. Every one of these lines gets erased later.

STEP 2 Add the leg circle and tail line

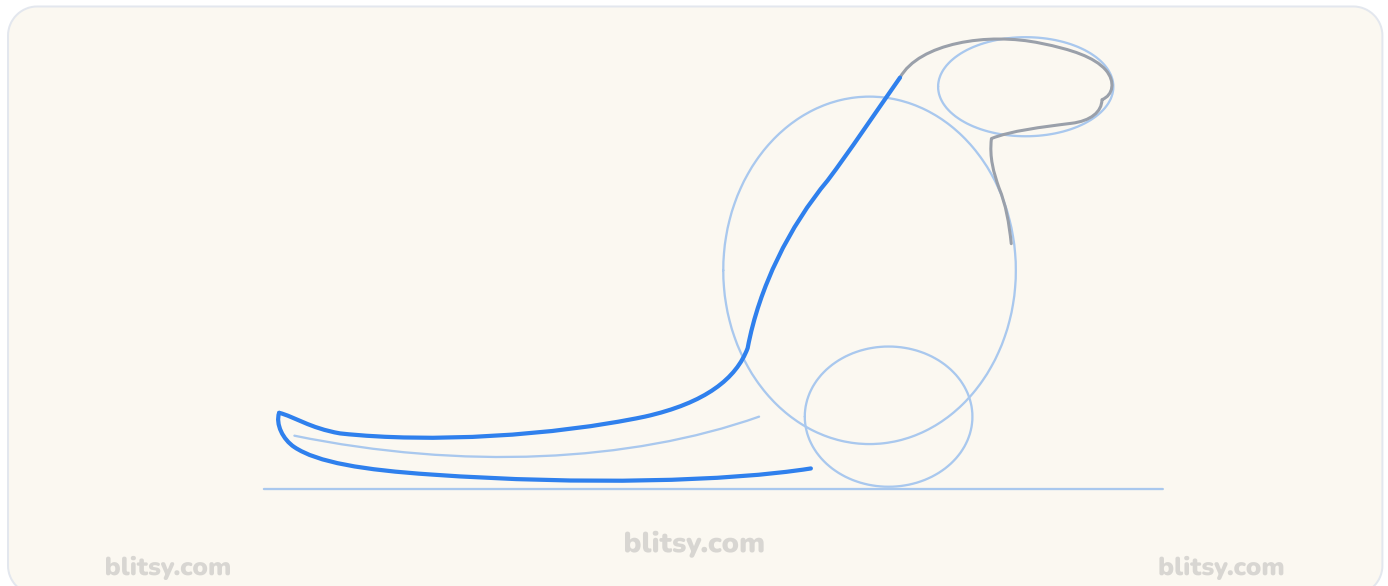
Put a circle at the bottom of the body oval, resting on the ground line. That's the big thigh. Next, run one long, gently curved line from behind the leg all the way to the left side of your paper. This is the center of the tail, and it should be almost as long as the whole body is tall.

 **Tip:** If the tail line hits the paper edge too soon, your body is too far left. Shift it now while it's cheap.

STEP 3 Draw the head and neck outline

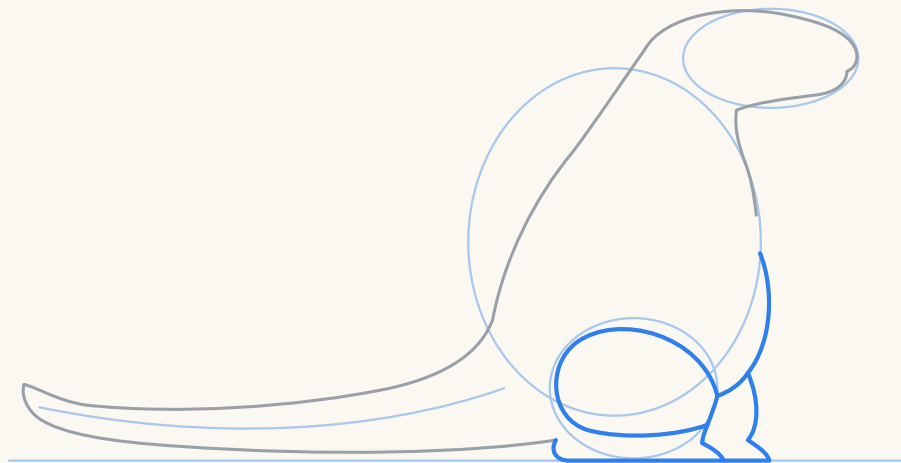
Start at the back of the head and draw a rounded top that flattens into a long snout. Curve down around the nose, tuck in under the chin, and run the line along the jaw. From there, drop a thick neck down the front of the body oval. Stop the line about halfway down the chest, since the arm will cover the next part.

 **Tip:** Keep the head small compared with the body. A big head makes him look like a baby dinosaur.

STEP 4 Shape the back and the long tail

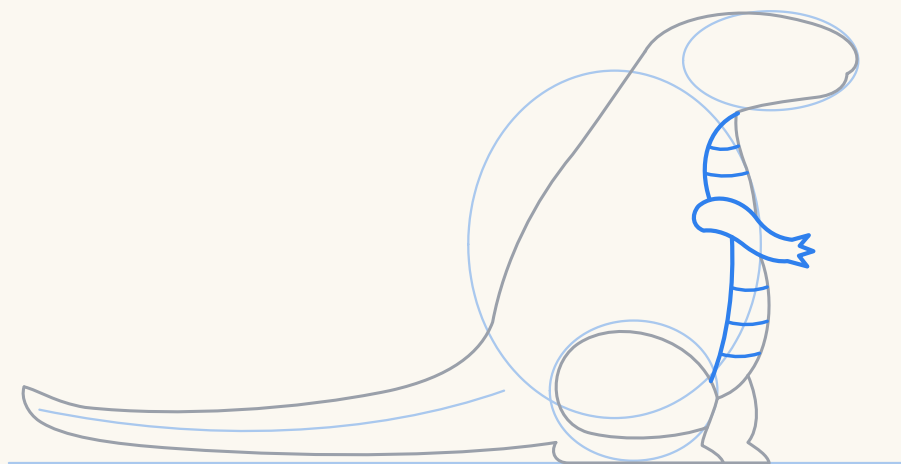
Begin at the tip of the tail, with a small upward flick, and draw along the top of your tail guide. As you reach the body, sweep the line up the back in one smooth curve until it meets the back of the head. Then go back to the tip and draw the underside of the tail, keeping it close to the ground line so the tail rests on the floor.

 **Tip:** Make the tail thick where it joins the body and thin at the tip. That taper is what makes it look heavy.

STEP 5 Draw the belly and strong legs

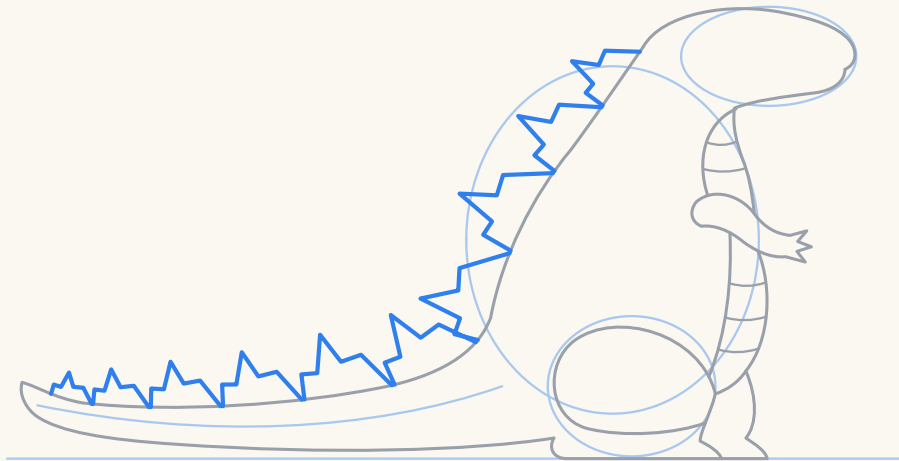
Continue the front line down past the arm area, bulging the belly out, and bring it into the front of the leg. Draw the foot flat along the ground and finish with a rounded heel. Inside, draw a large rounded thigh shape over your leg circle. Then add the second leg peeking out just in front of the first, so you can tell he has two.

Tip: Keep the bottom of both feet sitting exactly on the ground line, or he will look like he is tipping over.

STEP 6 Add the small arm and belly

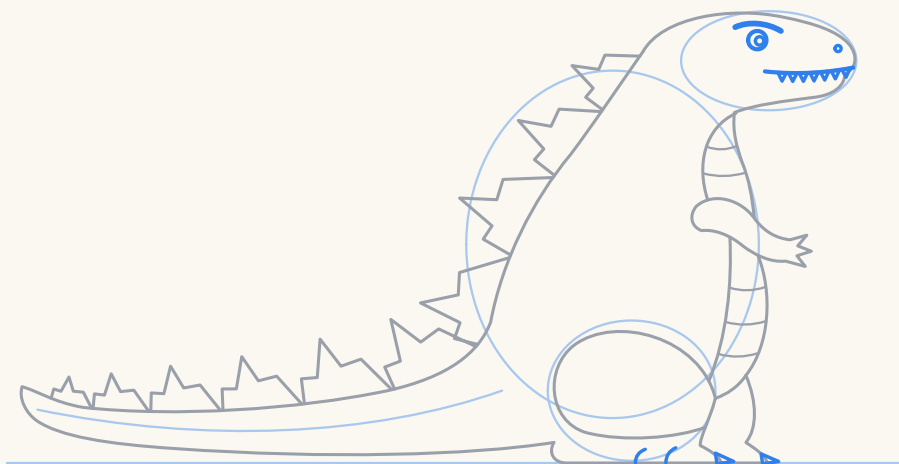
Godzilla's arms are short for his size, which is part of his charm. Draw one arm starting at the shoulder, bending forward, with three pointed fingers at the end. Now draw a curved line inside the front edge, from under the jaw down to the thigh, skipping the part behind the arm. Add a few short curved stripes across that strip for the belly scales.

Tip: Space the belly stripes evenly, with the same gap each time, and they'll read as scales instead of scribbles.

STEP 7 Draw the spiky back plates

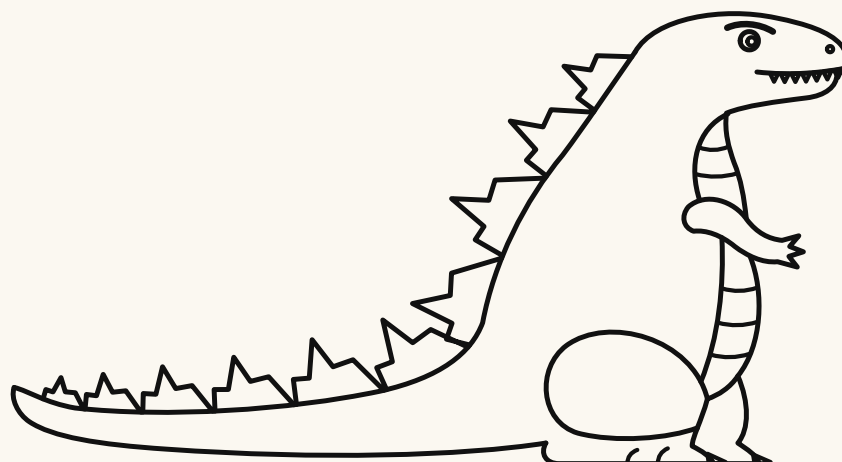
These plates are the part everyone recognizes, so take your time. Start at the neck with two medium plates, then draw the biggest ones over the middle of the back. Let them shrink as you move down the tail until they're tiny near the tip. Each plate is a tall point with one smaller point on each side, a bit like a pointy leaf, and each one leans slightly toward the tail.

Tip: Draw the tallest plate first, then size the rest from it. It's much easier than guessing one by one.

STEP 8 Add the face, teeth and claws

Place a small round eye near the top of the head, with a dot for the pupil and a thick, slanted brow line above it. That brow is what gives him a grumpy look. Add a tiny nostril at the end of the snout and a long mouth line underneath. Hang a row of small triangle teeth from the mouth line, then finish the feet with a couple of toe lines and little claws.

Tip: Tilt the brow down toward the snout for a fierce face, or keep it flat if you want a friendlier monster.

STEP 9 Ink the lines and erase the guides

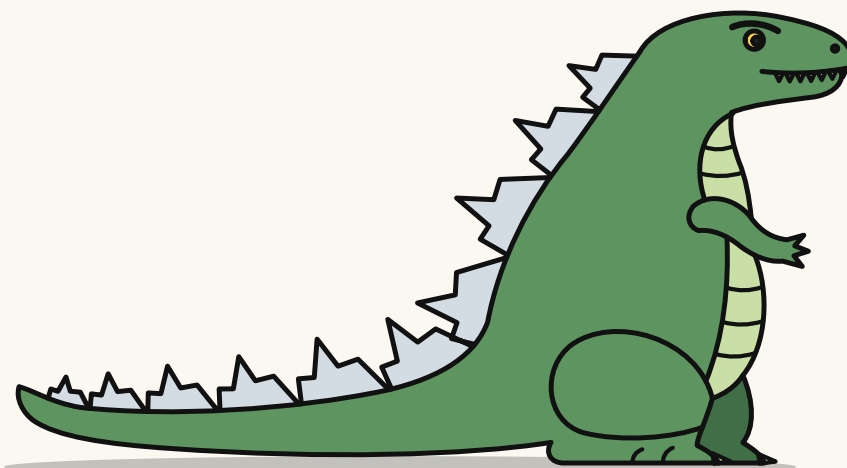
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Trace over every line you want to keep with a black fineliner. I go slowly on the back plates, because the corners look best when the pen stops at each point and then changes direction. Leave the ovals, the leg circle and the tail guide alone. Wait a minute for the ink to dry, then erase all the pencil underneath.

Tip: Rest the side of your hand on a scrap of paper while inking so you don't smudge the wet lines.

STEP 10 Color your Godzilla

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Color the body, tail and arm in a medium green, and use a darker green for the second leg so it stands apart. Give the belly a light green, and make the back plates pale gray. Yellow for the eye, white for the teeth and cream for the claws. A soft gray shadow under the feet and tail plants him on the ground.

Tip: Layer two greens on the body, pressing harder along the back, and you get easy shading without extra lines.