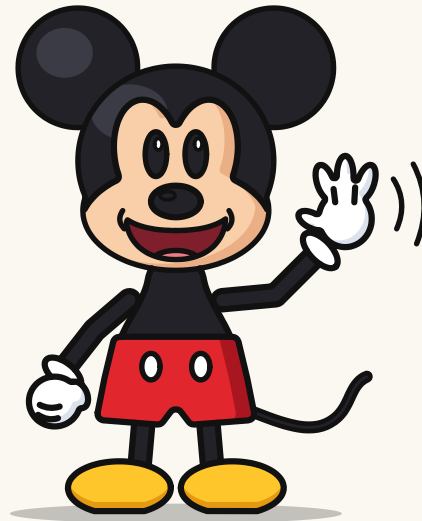


How to Draw Mickey Mouse

12 easy steps for beginners



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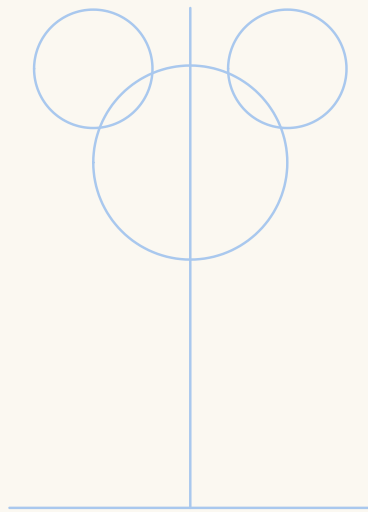
What you'll need

- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black marker
- Colored pencils or markers
- White 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 Draw the head circle and two ear circles

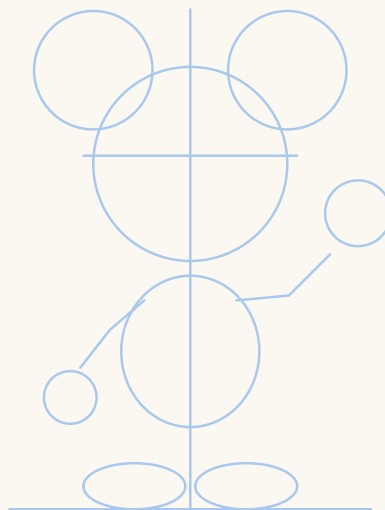
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Start with a vertical center line and a flat ground line near the bottom of the page. Draw a circle for the head in the upper third, then two circles of about the same size for the ears, sitting up and out at the top corners. Each ear should overlap the head a little. Press lightly; these are only helpers.

 **Tip:** Trace a coin or a bottle cap for the ears if freehand circles keep coming out egg-shaped.

STEP 2 Sketch the body guide plus arm and foot lines

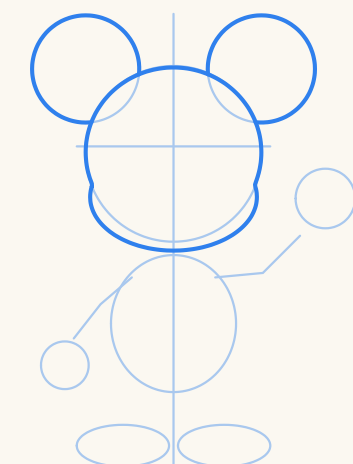
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Mark an eye line straight across the middle of the head. Below the head, add a tall oval for the body that's narrower than the head. Now the arms: one stick line bends down to a small circle beside the hip, and the other rises to a bigger circle up by his cheek. Finish with two flat ovals on the ground line for the shoes.

 **Tip:** Keep the waving hand circle a hand's width away from the head so the glove has room.

STEP 3 Outline the round head and big ears

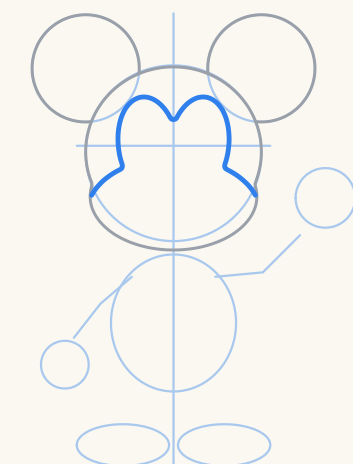
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Press a bit harder now. Go around the head circle, but let the bottom swell out slightly into soft, full cheeks; that small bulge makes him look friendlier. Then trace both ears, stopping each line where it meets the head. I always leave the ears perfectly round, since any flat spot reads as a different animal.

Tip: Turn the paper as you trace each ear so your hand curves naturally instead of fighting the circle.

STEP 4 Draw the face mask with a pointed peak

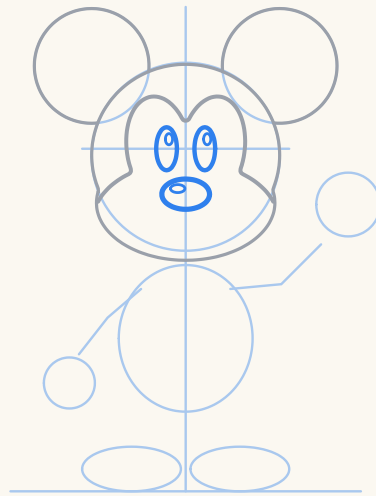
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This shape is what makes the drawing look like Mickey. Draw two tall rounded bumps above the eye line, one over each eye area, so they meet in a little point in the middle like a widow's peak. From the outer side of each bump, curve down and out until the line touches the head outline near the cheeks.

Tip: Sketch the two bumps a tiny bit taller than they are wide; short bumps make the face look squashed.

STEP 5 Add the oval eyes and a big nose

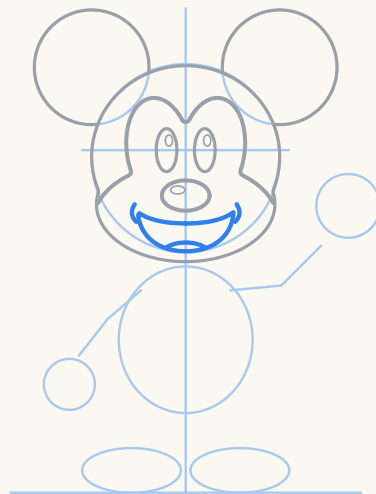
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Inside each bump, right on the eye line, draw a tall narrow oval. Place them close to the center, nearly touching the peak's sides. Just below the eye line, draw a wide oval nose, roughly as wide as the gap between the outer edges of both eyes. Add a small shine to each eye and one on the nose.

 **Tip:** Put every shine on the upper left so the light seems to come from one place.

STEP 6 Draw a wide, happy smile

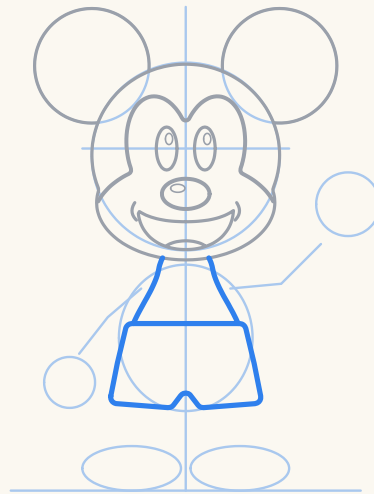
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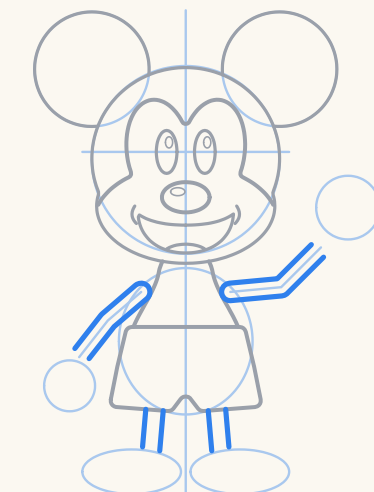
His grin starts just under the nose and stretches almost to the edges of the mask. Draw a gentle curve for the top lip, then a deep U underneath for the open mouth. A small curved tongue sits at the bottom. Finish with a short cheek line at each corner, which pushes the cheeks up the way a real smile does.

 **Tip:** Stop the mouth before it reaches the chin; leave a finger of space or the face looks crowded.

STEP 7 Shape the small body and puffy shorts

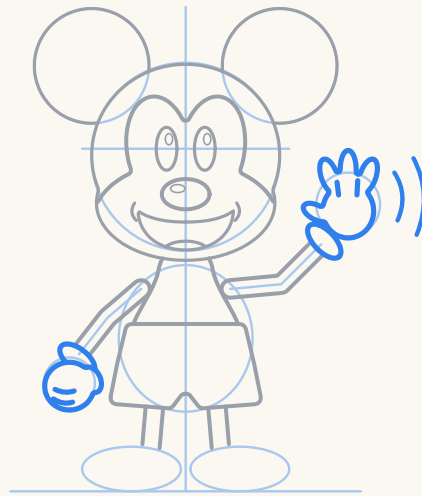
Follow the body oval to draw a little pear shape, narrow at the neck and wider at the hips. Over the lower half, draw his shorts as a rounded box with a short notch between the legs. Most beginners make the body too long here. Keep it short, about half the height of the head, and he stays cartoon cute.

 **Tip:** Round the corners of the shorts generously so they look soft and puffy, not like a stiff box.

STEP 8 Add thin arms and legs

Mickey's arms and legs are thin tubes, like bendy straws. Draw two parallel lines along each arm guide, keeping the same gap all the way. Do the same for two short legs dropping from the shorts toward the shoe ovals. I leave the ends open at this point, because gloves and shoes will cover them.

 **Tip:** Use the width of your pencil tip as a measuring stick so all four limbs match.

STEP 9 Draw the four-finger gloves

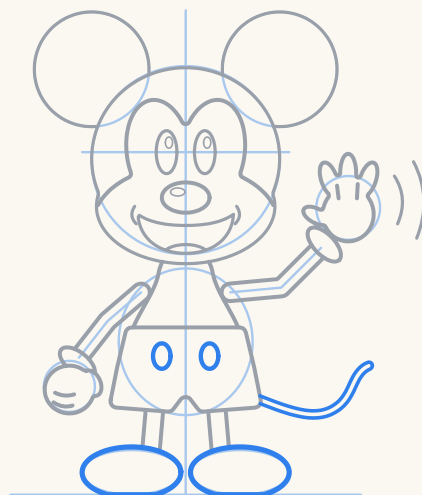
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Each glove begins with a flared cuff at the end of the arm. The low hand is a round fist with a small thumb and two short knuckle lines. The waving hand is open: a round palm, three fingers fanned on top and a thumb out to the side. Cartoon hands usually have four fingers in all, so don't add a fifth. Two curved lines beside it show the wave.

 **Tip:** Draw the middle finger first and tallest, then tuck one shorter finger on each side of it.

STEP 10 Add the shoes, buttons and tail

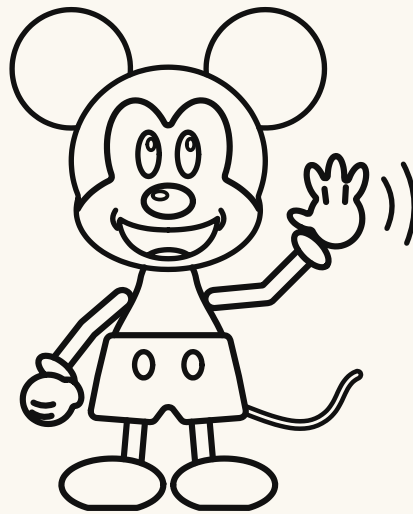
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Wrap each shoe oval into a big rounded shoe with a flat sole on the ground line. They should look almost too large; that's the classic cartoon look. Put two tall oval buttons on the front of the shorts. Last, curl a thin tail out from behind the shorts on the open side, ending in a small hook.

 **Tip:** Make the two shoes almost touch in the middle; that small gap keeps him planted and steady.

STEP 11 Ink the lines and erase the guides

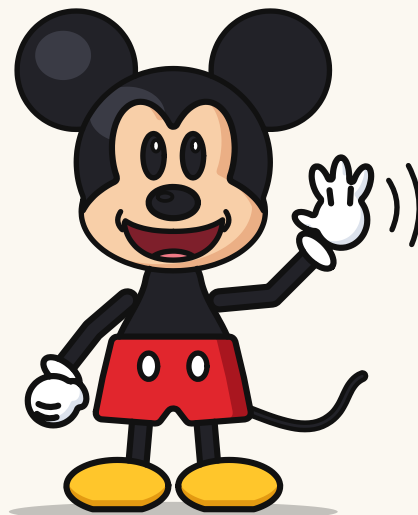
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Trace every keeper line with your black marker. I start with the face, because a shaky line there is the hardest to hide, then move outward to the hands and shoes. Leave the circles and stick lines alone. Wait a minute for the ink to dry, then erase all the helper shapes gently.

Tip: Use a heavier line for the outer outline and a lighter one for the eyes and fingers.

STEP 12 Color your Mickey

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Color the head and ears black, along with the body, the limbs and the tail, but keep the eyes' shines and nose shine white. The face mask is peach, the shorts are red and the shoes are bright yellow. Inside the mouth use dark red with a pink tongue. A slightly darker red on the right side of the shorts and a deeper yellow under the shoes add some roundness.

Tip: Color the big black areas last with a marker, so they don't smear onto the peach face.