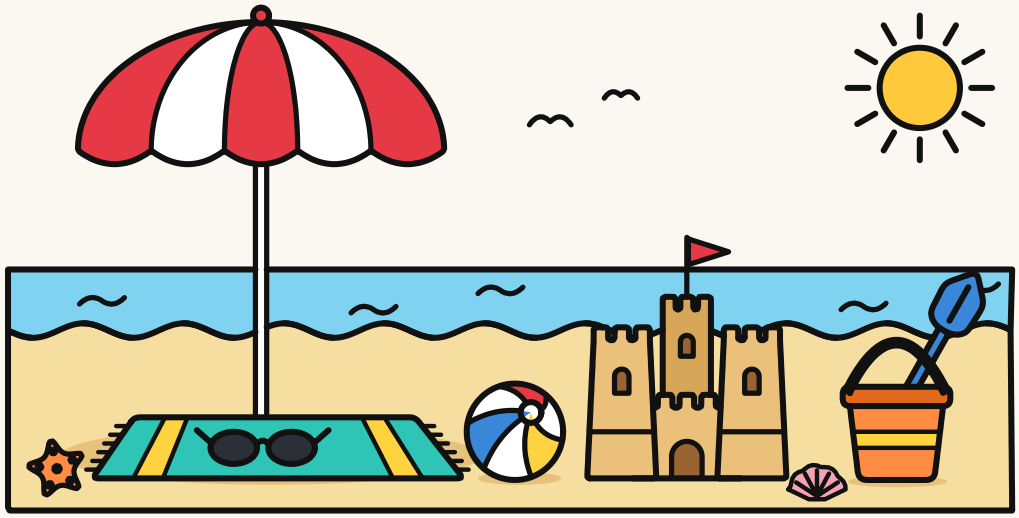
# How to Draw a Summer Beach Scene

12 easy steps for beginners




## What you'll need

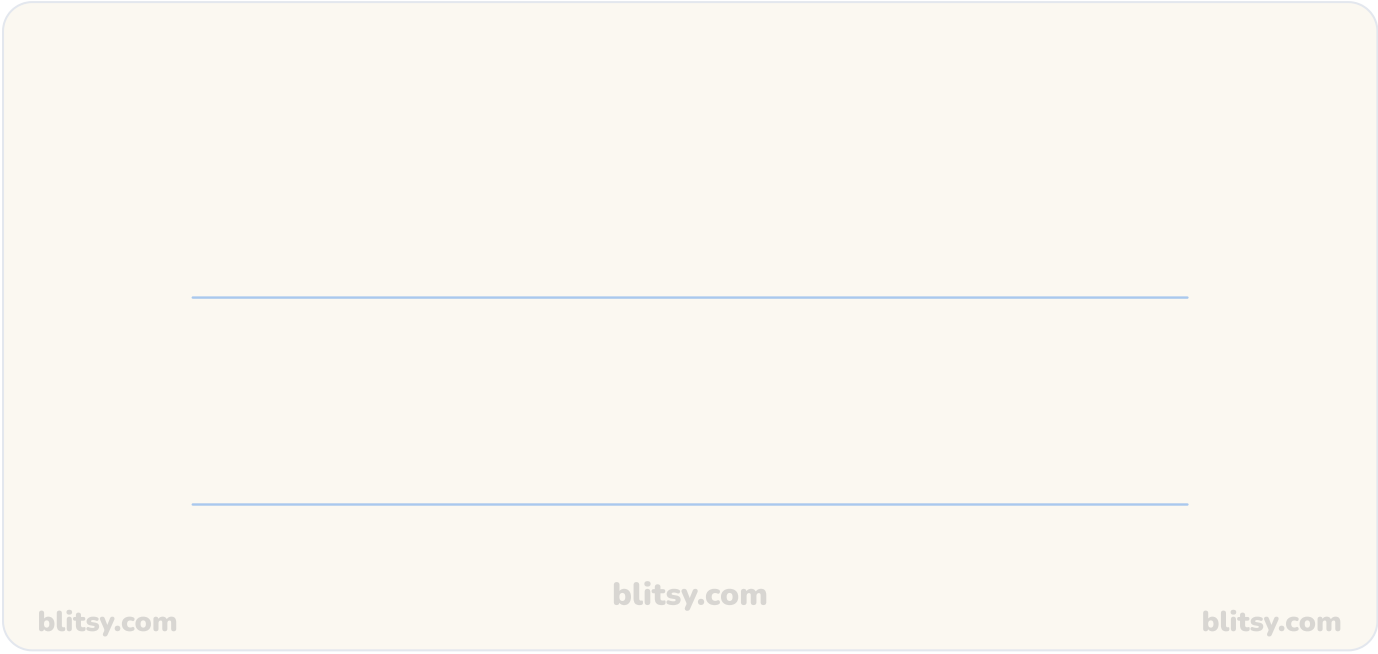
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black marker
- Colored pencils
- Paper turned sideways

## 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 →**

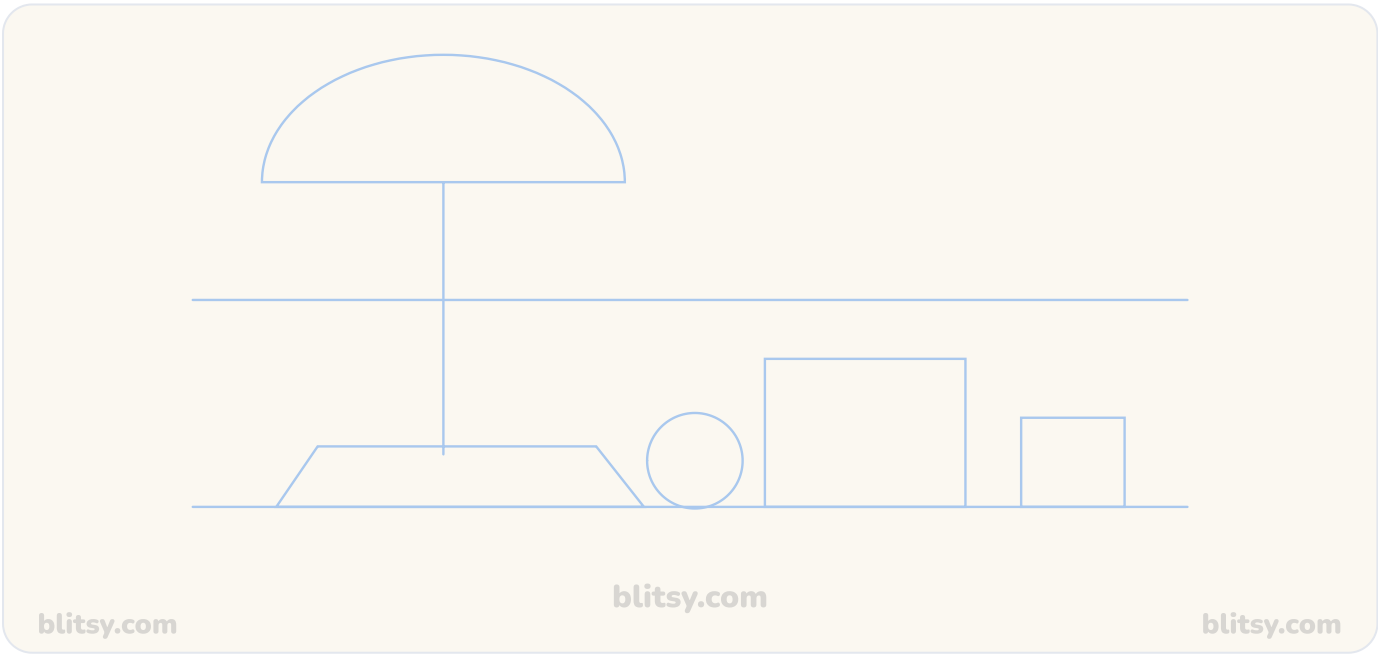
## STEP 1 Draw the horizon and the sand line




With the paper sideways, draw a long, light line a little below the middle. That's where the sea meets the sky. A second line near the bottom marks where everything stands on the sand. Keep both level, since the whole beach lives between them.

💡 **Tip:** Hold the pencil far back from the tip. Your lines come out lighter and easier to erase.

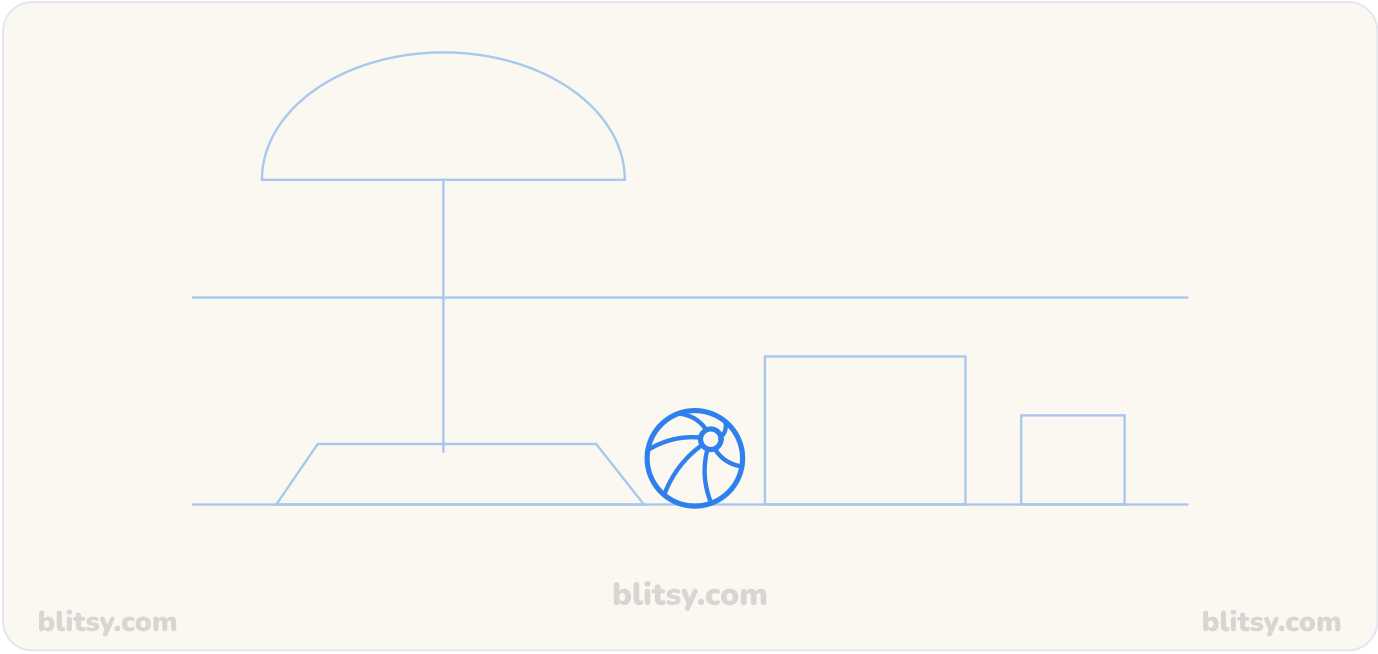
## STEP 2 Sketch the guide shapes




Now block in where each object goes. On the left, draw a wide half circle high up for the umbrella, with a straight line from its middle down to the sand line. Under it, sketch a flat, slanted shape for the towel. Then add a circle for the ball, a tall box for the sandcastle and a small box on the right for the bucket.

💡 **Tip:** Leave a little gap between the shapes so every object gets its own space to breathe.

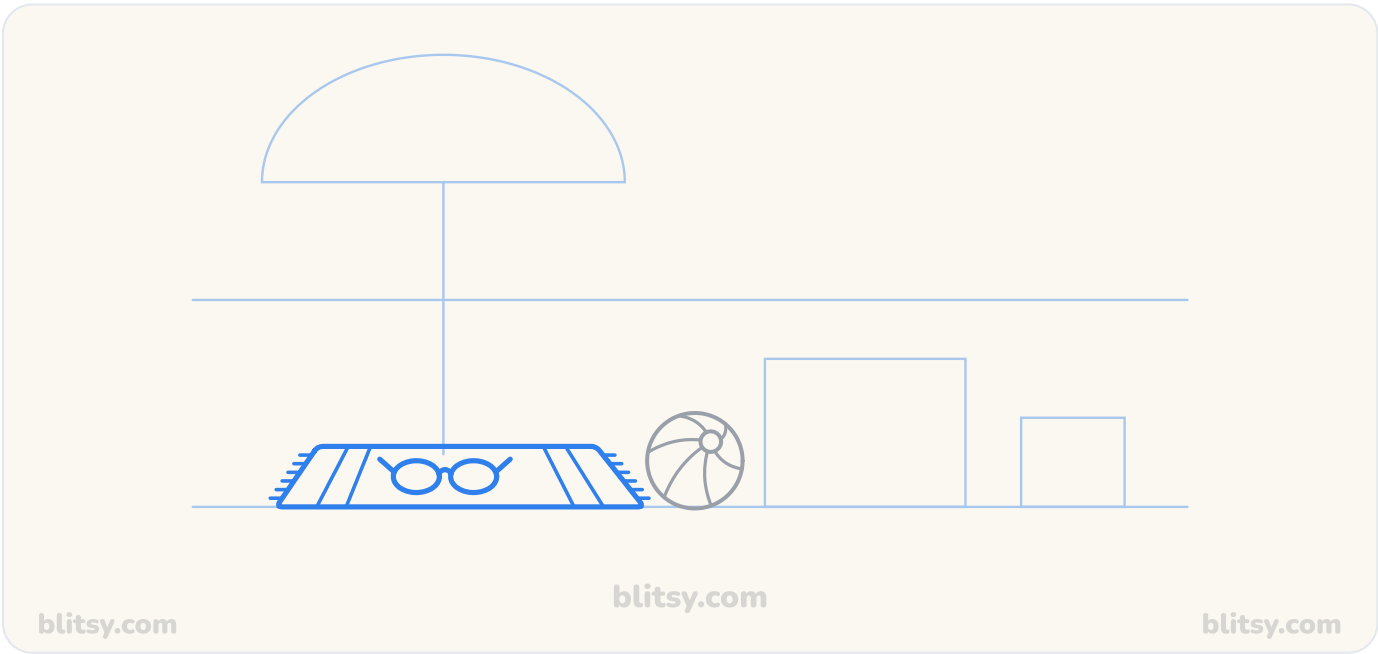
## STEP 3 Draw the beach ball




I always start with the ball because it sits in front, so nothing will ever cross it. Go over the guide circle, then draw a tiny circle near the top right for the cap. From the cap, pull six gently curved lines out to the edge. Curving them the same way makes the ball look round.

💡 **Tip:** Space the six seam ends like the hours on a clock face: about two hours apart each.

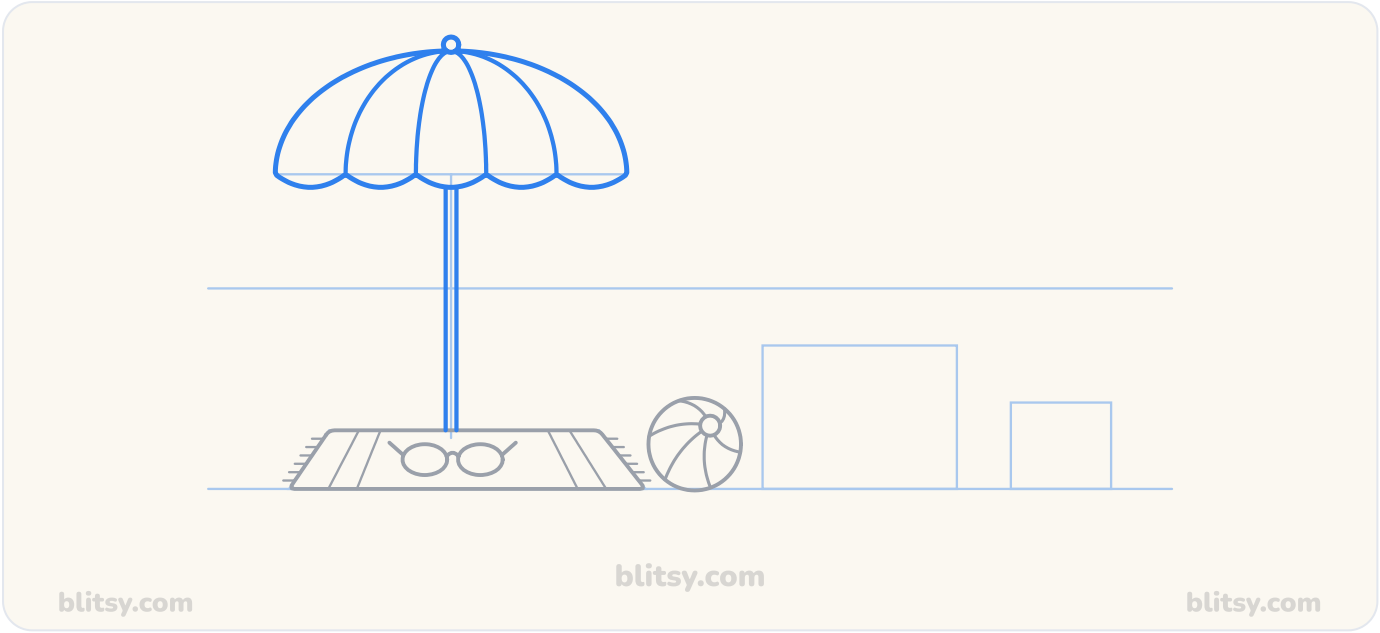
## STEP 4 Add the towel and the sunglasses




Trace the towel shape with slightly rounded corners. It's narrower at the back than at the front, which makes it look like it's lying flat. Draw a stripe near each end and short fringe lines on both sides. Then put a pair of sunglasses on top: two wide ovals, a little bridge between them and two short arms.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the stripes parallel to the towel's slanted ends, not straight up and down.

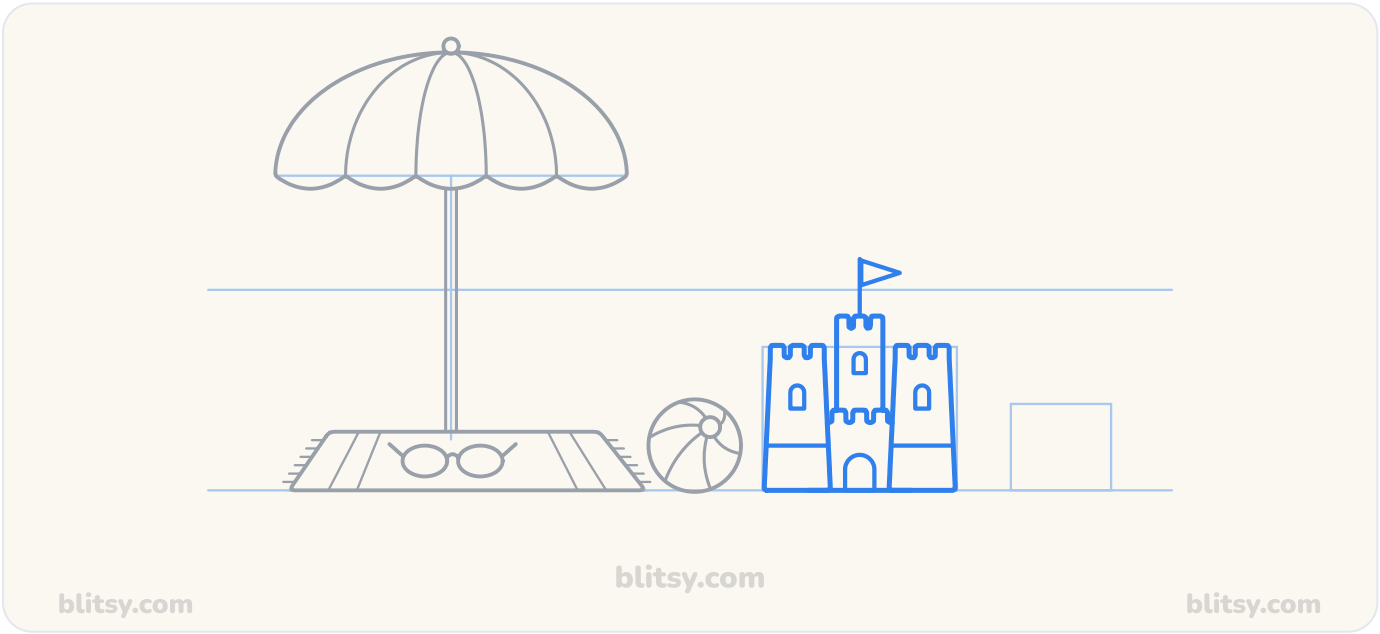
## STEP 5 Draw the striped beach umbrella




Follow the half circle for the top of the umbrella, then give the bottom edge five drooping scallops instead of a straight line. From the tip, draw four curved lines down to the points between the scallops; these divide it into panels. Add a small knob on top and a thin pole that disappears behind the towel.

💡 **Tip:** Bend the panel lines outward a little, like the ribs of a real umbrella, never in a straight line.

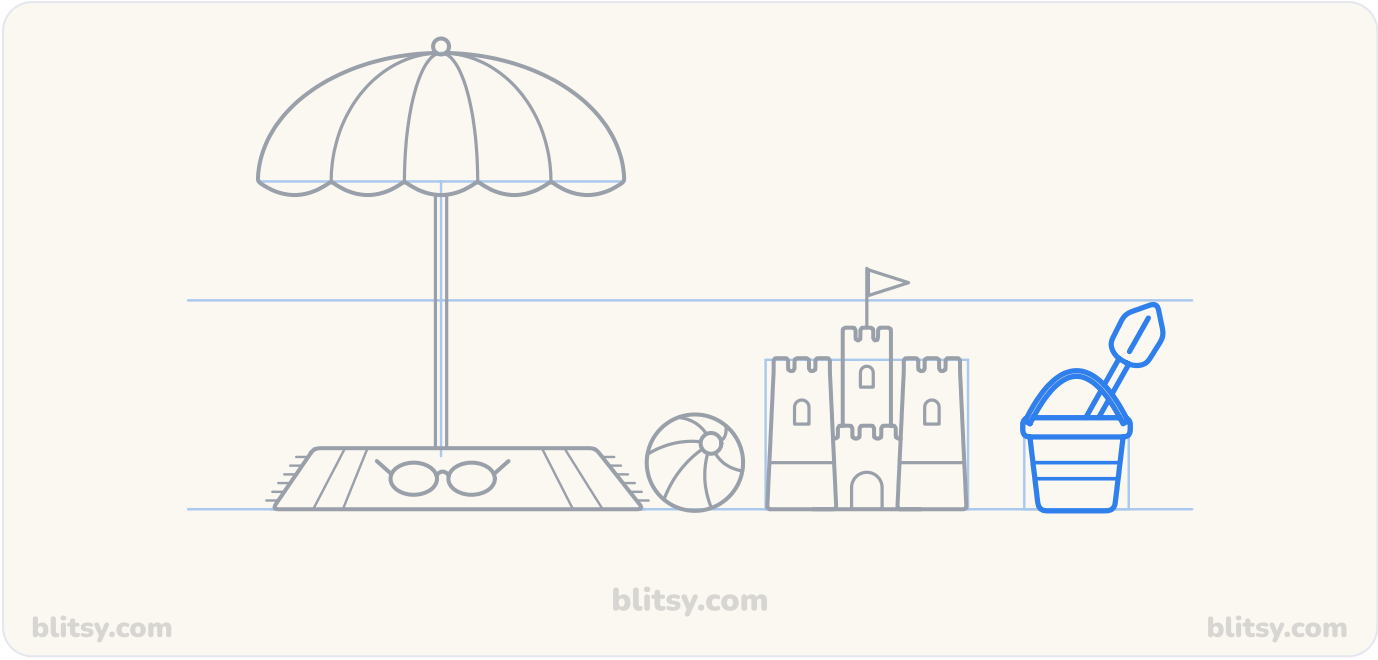
## STEP 6 Build the sandcastle with a flag




Start with two towers that are slightly wider at the bottom, like sand packed in a bucket. Give each one a row of little square bumps on top. Between them, draw a lower wall with a round door, then a taller tower peeking out behind it. Add small arched windows and a flag on a thin pole.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the bumpy tops as square teeth with equal gaps, and they'll read as a castle at once.

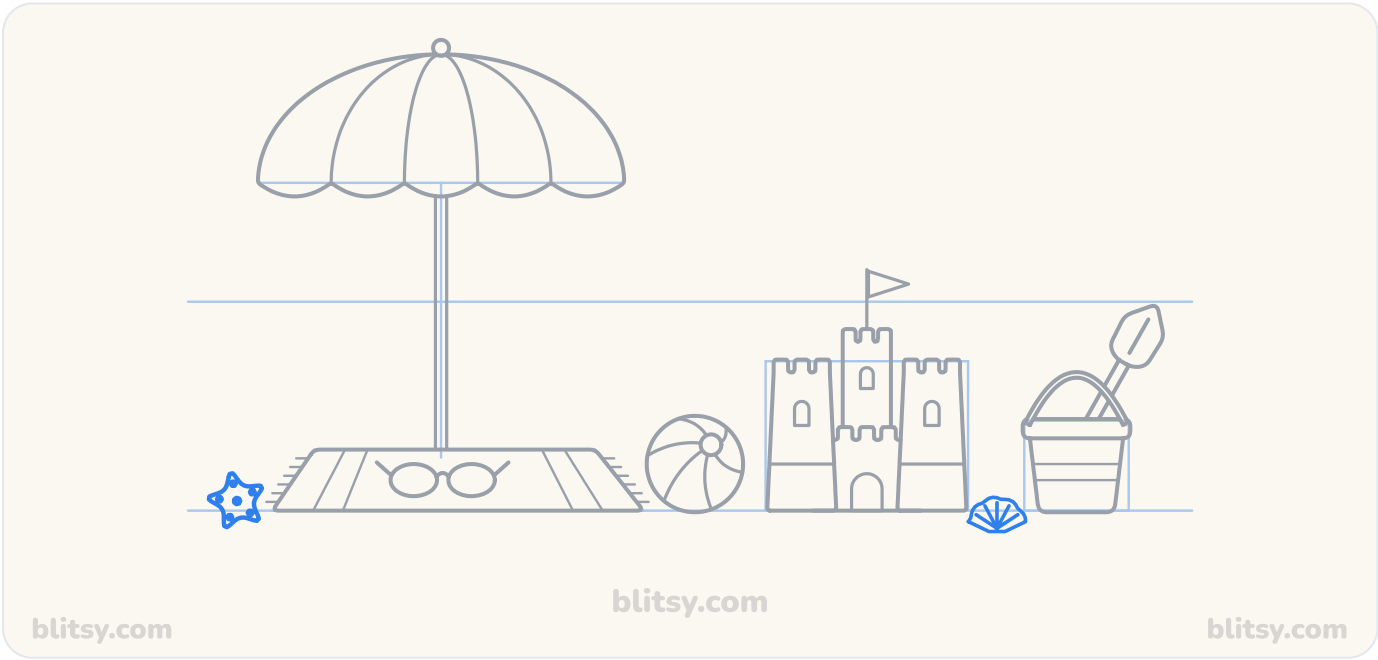
## STEP 7 Add the bucket and spade




Inside the small box, draw a bucket that gets narrower toward the bottom, with a thick rim on top. A curved handle arches over it. Then draw a spade poking out at an angle, its pointed blade up in the air. Two lines around the middle of the bucket make a stripe.

💡 **Tip:** Tilt the spade. Standing straight up, it looks stiff and gets lost against the castle.

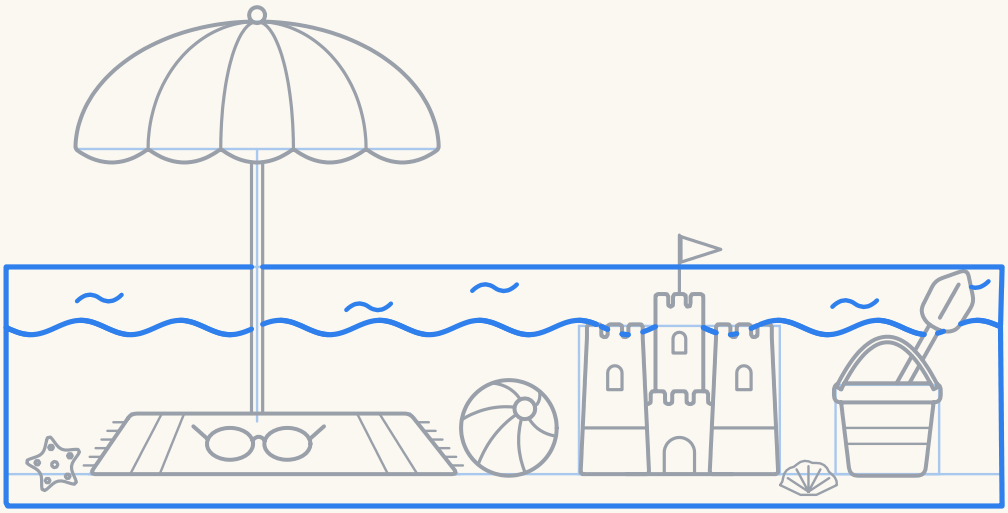
## STEP 8 Place a starfish and a shell




Draw a five-armed starfish in the bottom left, with soft, rounded points and a few dots down the middle. Between the castle and the bucket, add a fan-shaped shell with a bumpy top edge and a handful of lines meeting at its base.

💡 **Tip:** Round off the tips of the starfish arms. Sharp points make it look like a sheriff's badge.

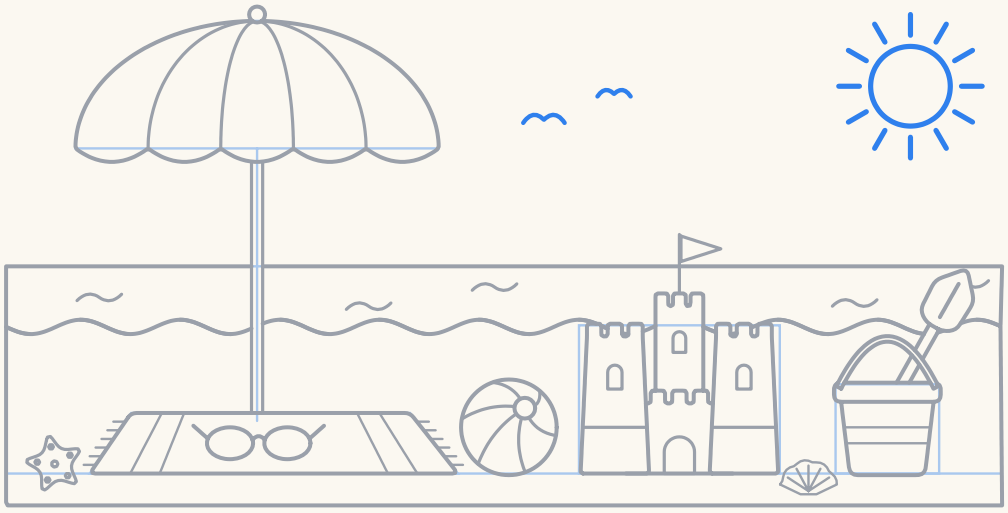
## STEP 9 Draw the sea, the shore and the waves



Go over the horizon line, then draw a gentle wavy line a bit lower for the edge of the water. Close both bands with short lines at the sides and a straight line along the bottom, like a picture frame. Stop every line when it meets the umbrella pole, the castle or the bucket.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the wavy shore in a slow rhythm: up, down, up, down, with every bump the same size.

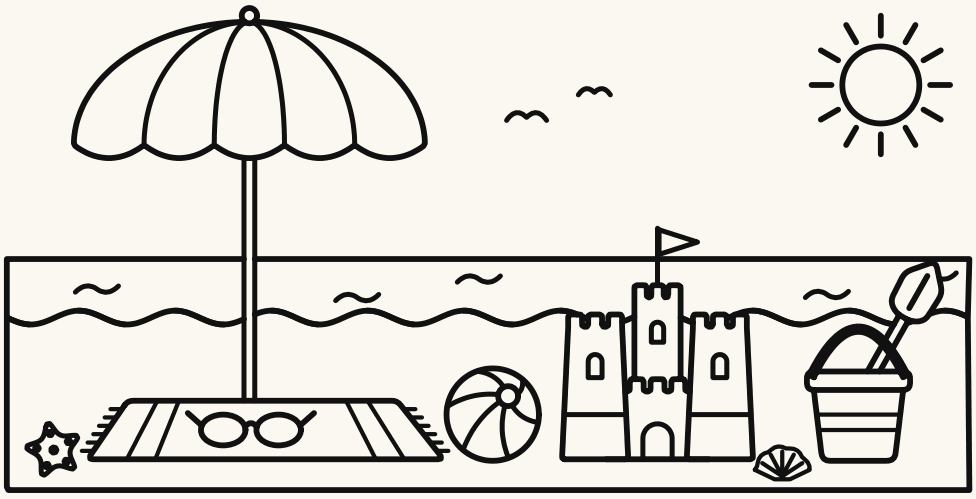
## STEP 10 Add the sun and two seagulls



High in the top right corner, draw a circle for the sun with twelve short rays around it. Then add two seagulls in the open sky: each one is just two little curves joined in the middle, like a stretched letter M.

💡 **Tip:** Make the second gull a bit smaller. It looks farther away, and the sky gains depth.

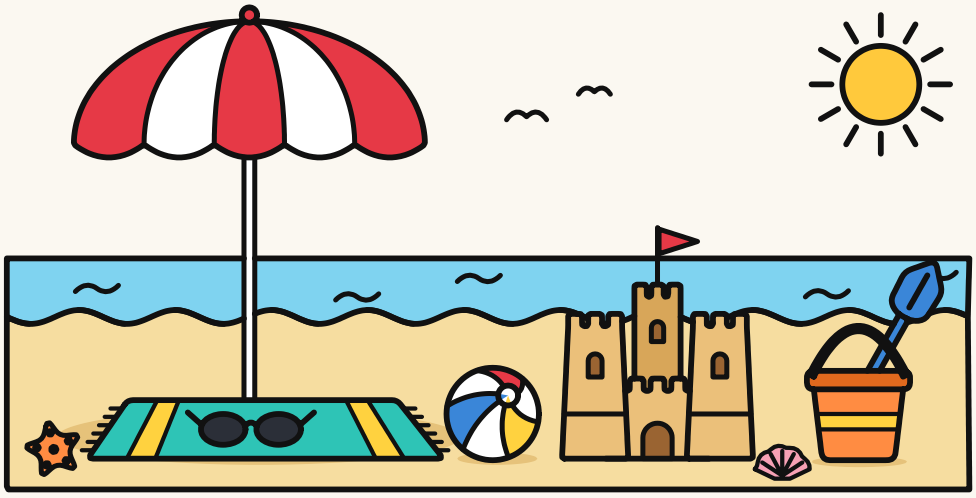
## STEP 11 Ink the lines and erase the guides



Trace over every line you want to keep with the black marker. Most beginners rush here, so slow down on the scallops and castle tops. Give the ink a minute to dry, then erase the guide lines and the helper shapes.

💡 **Tip:** Ink from the top of the page toward the bottom so your hand never drags across wet lines.

## STEP 12 Color your beach



Color the sea light blue and the sand tan, then press a little harder on the sand around the towel to make the umbrella's shade. Make every other umbrella panel red and leave the rest white. The towel goes turquoise with yellow stripes, the castle a darker tan and the bucket orange with a yellow band. Give the ball red, yellow and blue panels with white between, then color the spade, shell and sun.

💡 **Tip:** Use light, even strokes in one direction on the big sand area so it doesn't look scribbly.