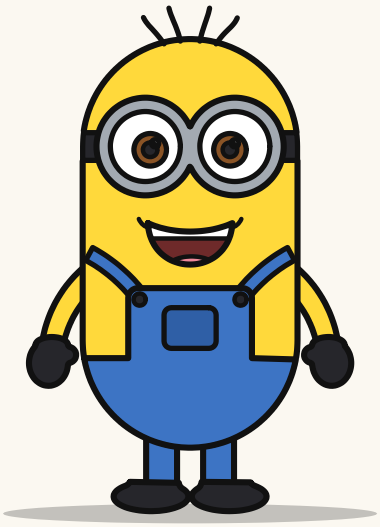
How to Draw a Minion

11 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black marker or fineliner
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Plain paper

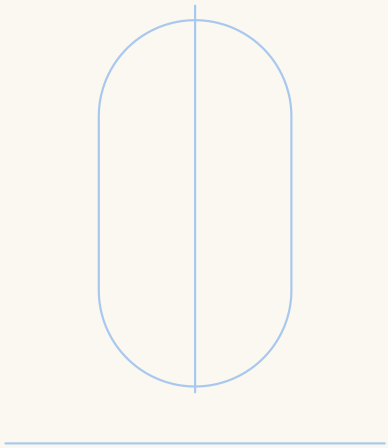
How to use this guide

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 →

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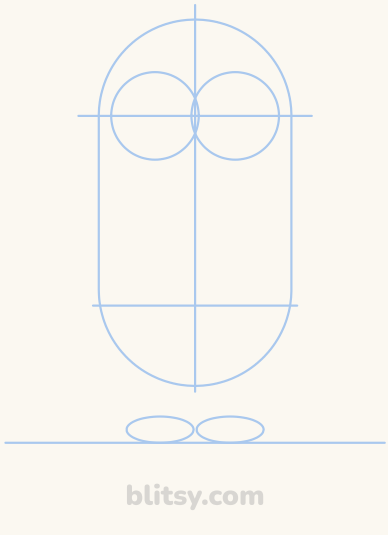
STEP 1 Draw a tall capsule guide



Start with a light ground line near the bottom of the page. Above it, in the middle, draw a tall rounded shape like a pill standing on its end: two straight sides with a dome on top and a curve at the bottom. Make it about twice as tall as it is wide. A light line straight down the center helps you keep both sides even later.

💡 **Tip:** Leave a gap of about a thumb's width between the capsule and the ground line. The legs go there.

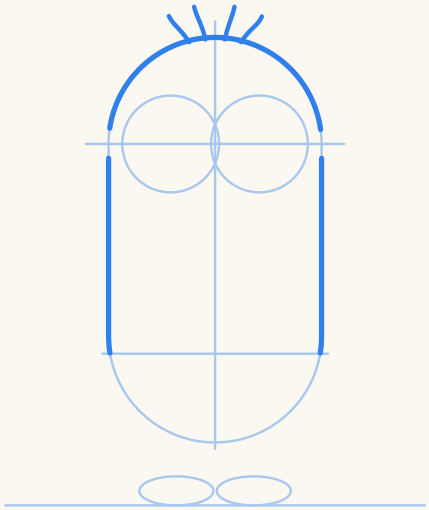
STEP 2 Add goggle, pants and feet guides



About a third of the way down, draw a level line across the capsule and put two circles on it, side by side and touching in the middle. Together they should almost fill the width of the body. Lower down, a second line marks where the overalls start, and on the ground line sketch two small flat ovals for the shoes.

💡 **Tip:** If your two circles stick out past the body, shrink them a little. Big goggles look great, but they still belong on the head.

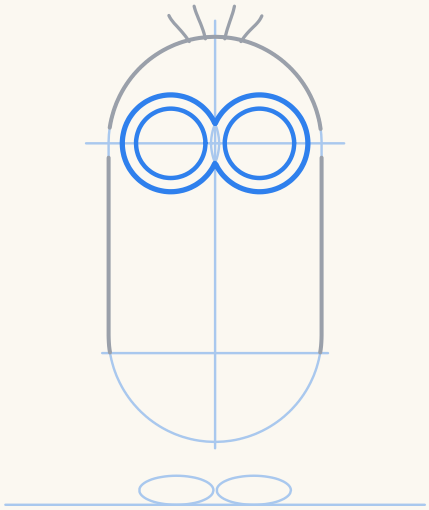
STEP 3 Outline the body and add hair



Go over the dome and the two straight sides with a firmer line. Stop at the pants line, because the overalls draw the bottom curve for you in a later step. On top of the head, add four short curved strands of hair that spray out a little, like a tiny fountain.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the hair sparse. Four or five strands look funny; twenty look like a brush.

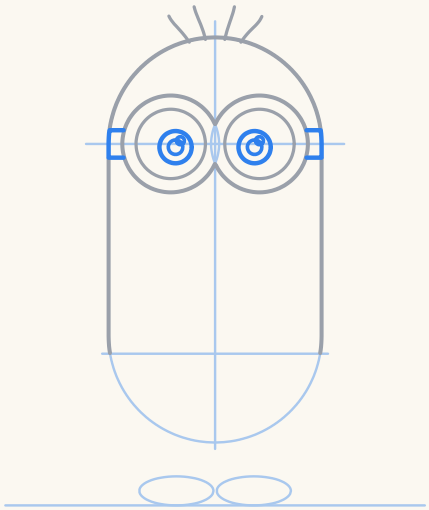
STEP 4 Draw two big goggle rims



Trace each guide circle firmly, then draw a smaller circle inside each one. The ring between the two lines is the thick metal rim, so leave a clear gap all the way round. I draw the outer circles first, because once they touch in the middle, the inner ones are easy to center.

💡 **Tip:** Turn your paper as you go around a circle. Your hand curves more smoothly than it stretches.

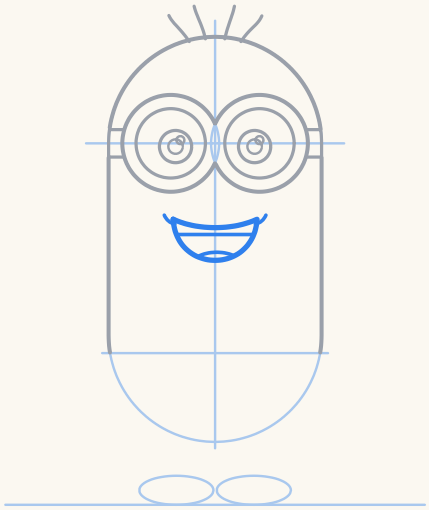
STEP 5 Add the strap and brown eyes



On each side, between the goggle and the edge of the body, draw a short band for the black strap. It lines up with the middle of the goggles. Inside each lens, put a round iris that leans slightly toward the nose, a smaller pupil in it, and a little shine circle.

💡 **Tip:** Point both eyes a touch inward. He then seems to look right at you instead of off to the sides.

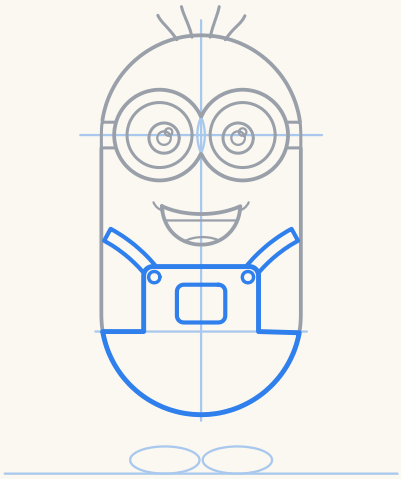
STEP 6 Draw a happy open smile



Halfway between the goggles and the pants line, draw a wide smile: a gentle curve on top and a deeper curve underneath. A straight line just under the top edge makes a row of teeth, and a small rounded bump at the bottom is the tongue. Add a tiny curl at each corner for the cheeks.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the mouth narrower than the two goggles together. A giant grin crowds the overalls.

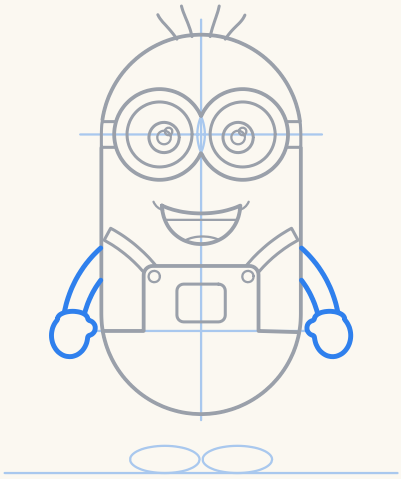
STEP 7 Draw the overalls and a pocket



Follow the pants line across and round the bottom of the capsule, so the lower part becomes the overall pants. In the middle, raise a square bib above that line with softly rounded corners. Two diagonal straps run from the top corners of the bib out to the sides of the body. Finish with a small rectangle pocket on the bib and a button where each strap joins.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the straps as two parallel lines, not one. A single line looks like a crease instead of fabric.

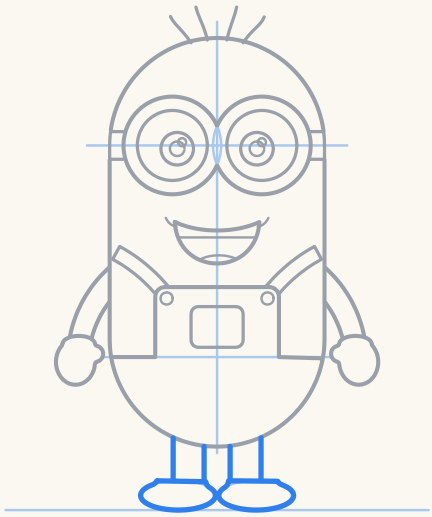
STEP 8 Add arms with black gloves



From each side of the body, just under the straps, draw a short arm that bends out and down. Give it real width with two lines, not a stick. At the end of each arm, draw a round mitten glove with a small bump for the thumb on the inside.

💡 **Tip:** Let the hands stop around the height of the pocket. Longer arms make him look like a different character.

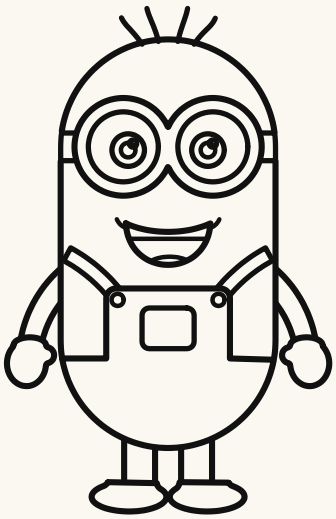
STEP 9 Draw short legs and shoes



Two short, straight legs drop from under the overalls to the shoe ovals. Leave a small gap between them. Trace the shoes as rounded shapes with a flat bottom sitting right on the ground line, slightly wider than the legs.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the legs short. Minions are mostly body, and long legs spoil the bouncy little shape.

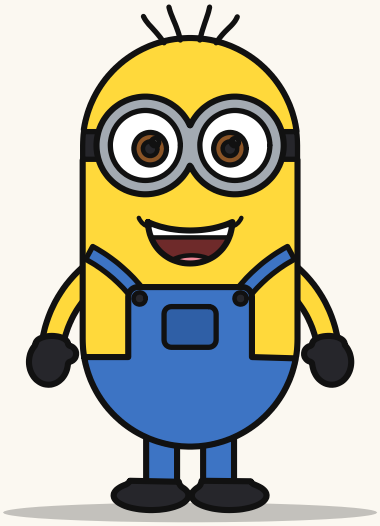
STEP 10 Ink the lines and erase the guides



Trace every keeper line with your marker. I ink the goggles and face first while my hand is steady, then the body and overalls, and the feet last. Let the ink dry for a minute, then erase the center line, the guide circles and the other light lines underneath.

💡 **Tip:** Don't ink the vertical guide line through the face. It's only there to help you center things.

STEP 11 Color your Minion



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Bright yellow covers the whole capsule plus both arms. The overalls are blue, straps and legs included, with a slightly darker blue on the pocket. Color the goggle rims gray. Everything else that's dark (strap, gloves, shoes, buttons, pupils) gets black. The irises are brown, the mouth dark red, the tongue pink, and the teeth and lenses stay white. A soft gray shadow under the shoes finishes him.

💡 **Tip:** Press a little harder with the yellow along the right edge of the body. That slight shading makes him look round.