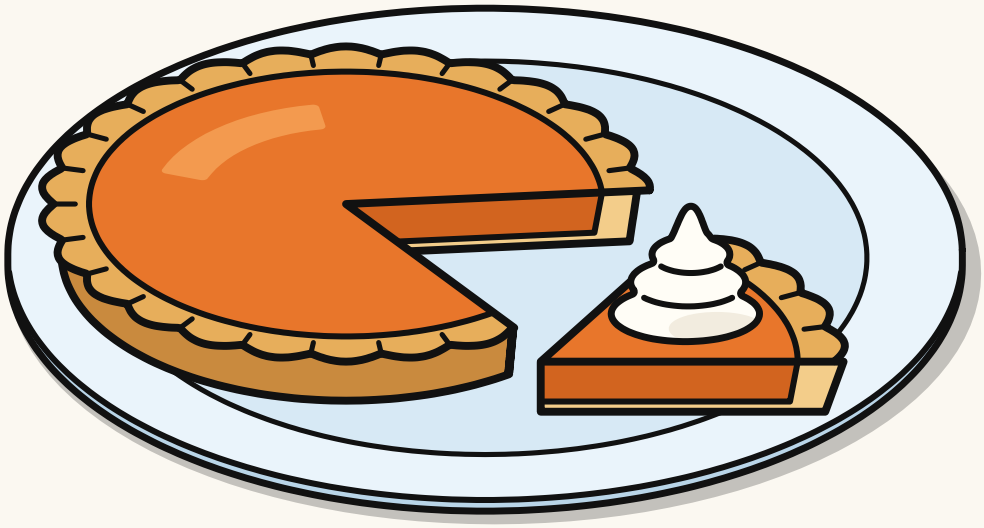
How to Draw a Pumpkin Pie

11 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

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

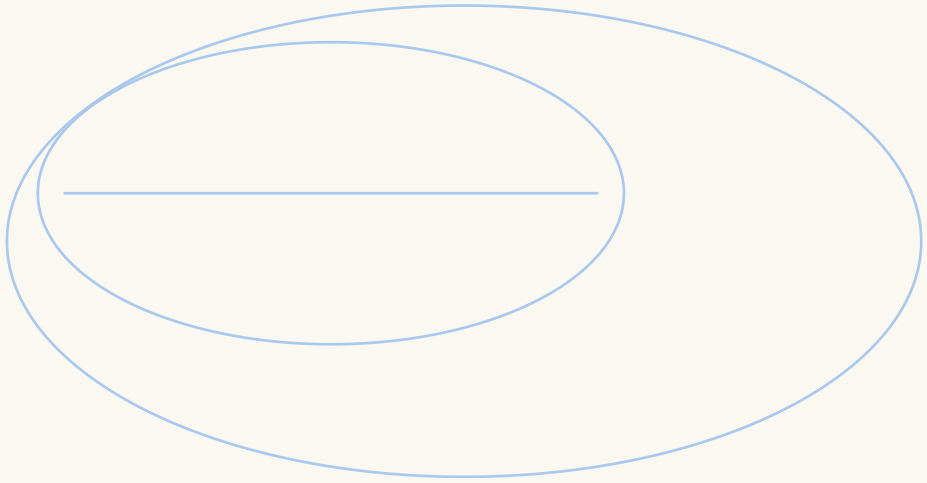
How to use this guide

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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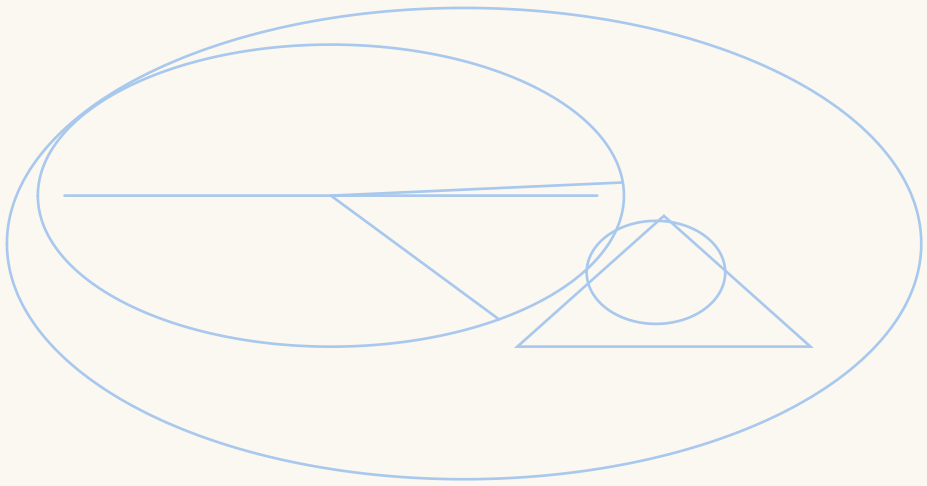
STEP 1 Draw two ovals for the pie and the plate



Start with a big, flat oval that fills most of the page. That's the plate. Inside it, a little to the left and higher up, draw a smaller oval for the top of the pie, about two thirds as wide, and a light line across its middle. Both ovals are about twice as wide as they are tall, which makes the pie look like it's lying on a table.

💡 **Tip:** Keep these lines faint. Every one of them gets erased later.

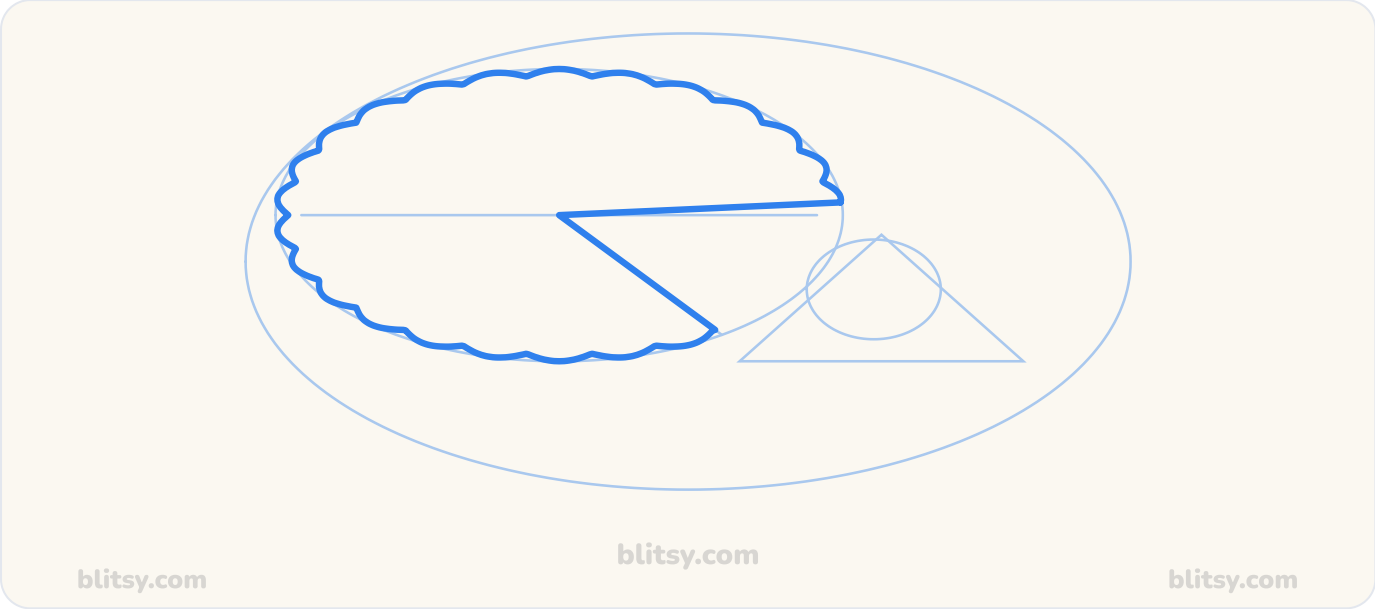
STEP 2 Mark where the slice comes out



From the center of the pie oval, draw two straight lines out to the right: one almost flat, the other angling down toward the front. The wedge between them is the missing slice. Inside the plate, draw a flat triangle with its point on the left where the slice will sit, plus a small oval on it for the whipped cream.

💡 **Tip:** Make the missing wedge about one sixth of the pie. Too wide and the pie looks half eaten.

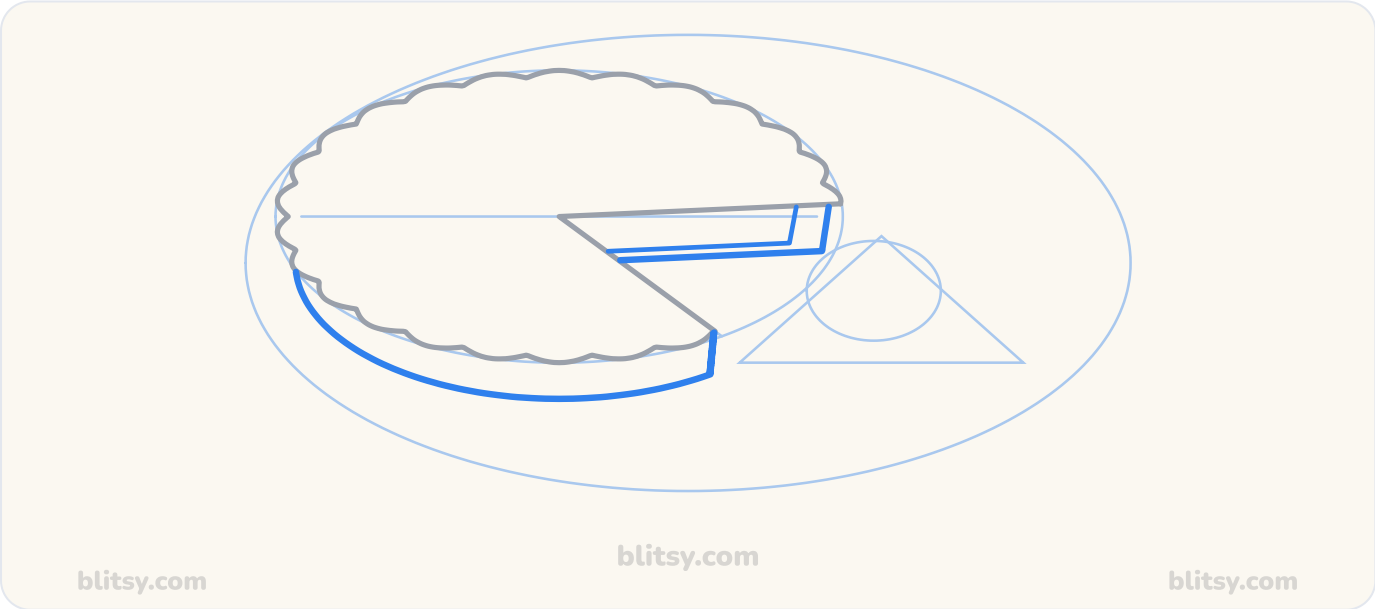
STEP 3 Draw the wavy crust outline



Trace around the pie oval with a row of small, rounded bumps. This is the crimped edge you see on a homemade crust. Stop at the two slice lines and go over them firmly, so the outline turns into a round shape with a notch cut out. I try to keep the bumps the same size all the way around, roughly as wide as my fingertip.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the bumps in short arcs and lift the pencil between them. One long wiggly stroke tends to drift.

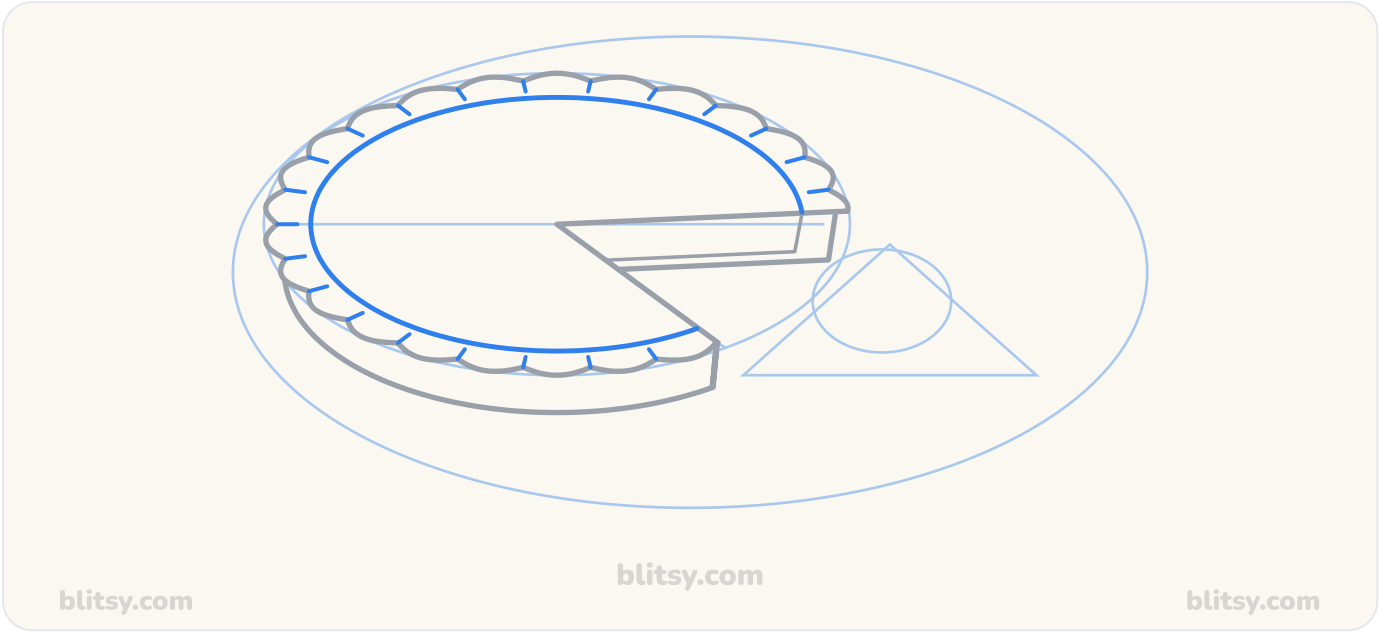
STEP 4 Add the pie's side and the cut edge



Below the front half of the crust, draw a curved line about a thumb's width lower and join it to the crust with short down strokes at both ends. This band is the side of the pie. Then hang a thin box under the flat slice line on the right, with one line near its bottom and one near its end. That's the cut you can see into: filling on top, crust underneath.

💡 **Tip:** Only the front of the pie shows its side. The back edge stays a single wavy line.

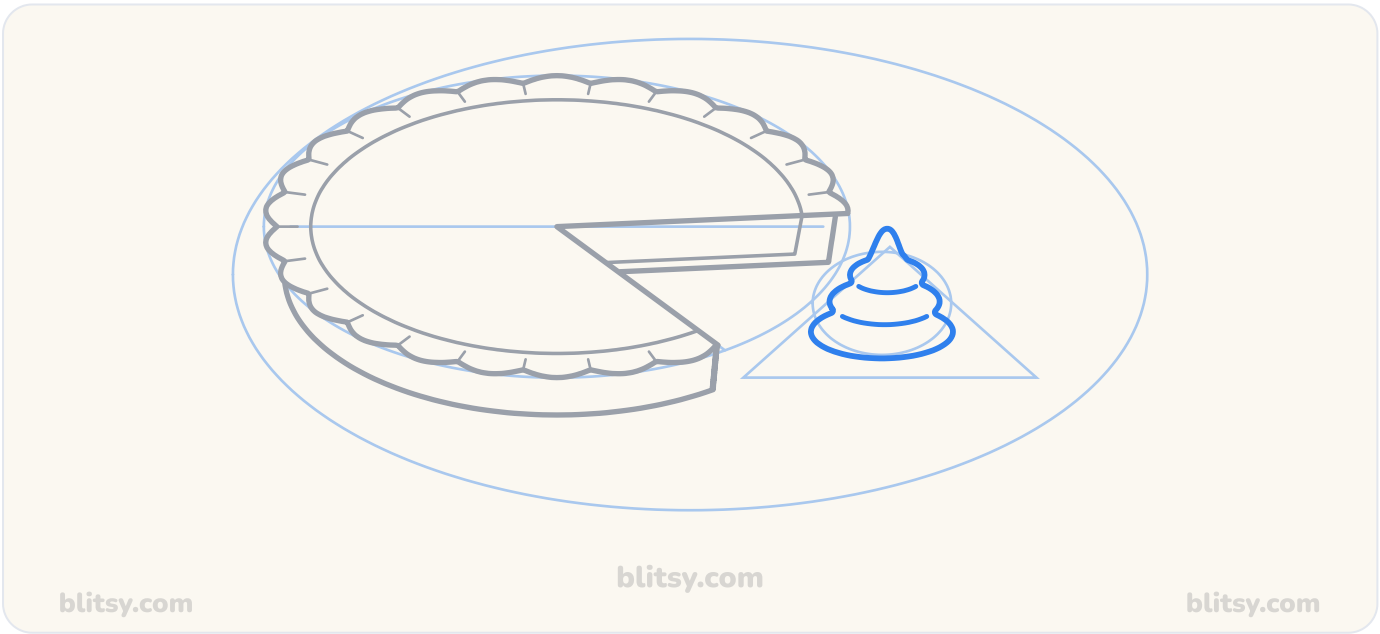
STEP 5 Draw the filling edge and the crimps



Inside the crust, draw a smooth oval a little smaller than the bumpy edge. The space between them is the crust ring, and everything inside is filling. Add a tiny line at each dip between two bumps, pointing toward the center. Those marks make the edge look pinched, like a real crust pressed with a thumb.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the crimp lines short. If they reach the filling, the crust starts to look like a sun.

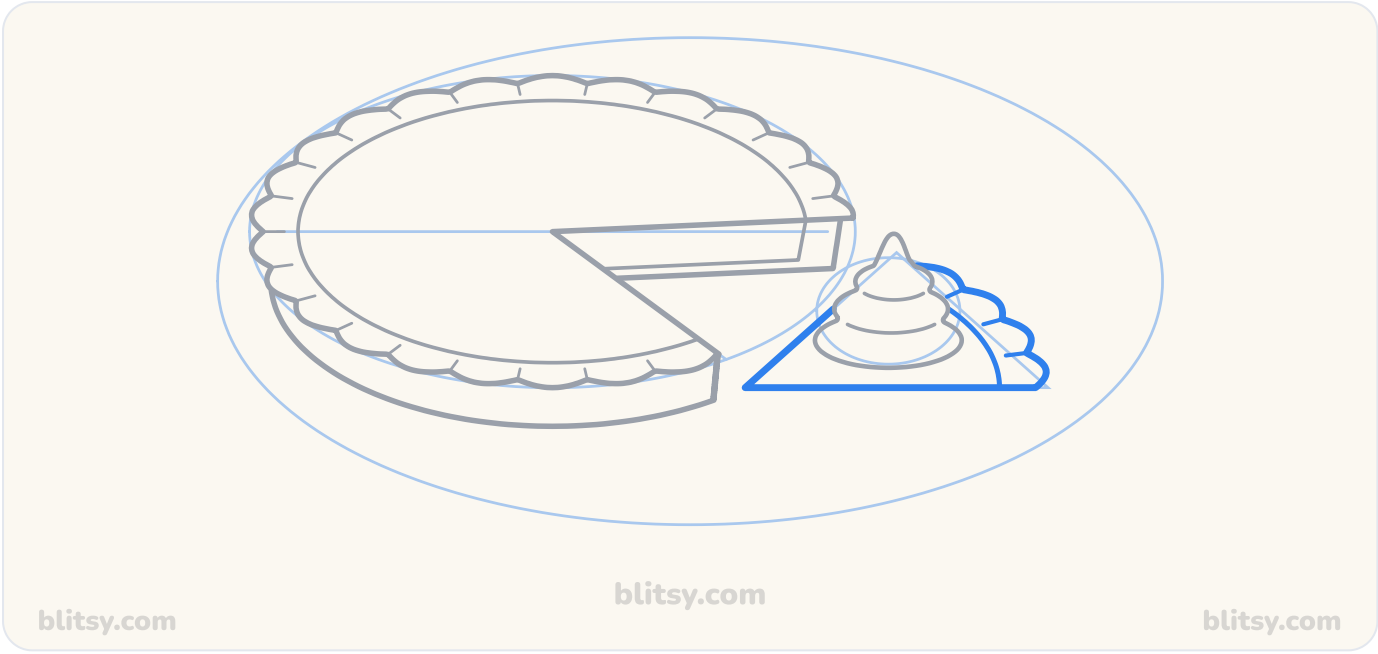
STEP 6 Draw the whipped cream dollop



Inside the small oval on the triangle, draw a wide, rounded base, a narrower bump on top and a smaller one above that. Finish with a soft point that leans a little to one side, then two curved lines across the middle for the swirls. I draw the cream before the slice so the slice lines can stop neatly where the cream starts.

💡 **Tip:** Let the tip curl slightly. A perfectly straight point looks stiff, like a party hat.

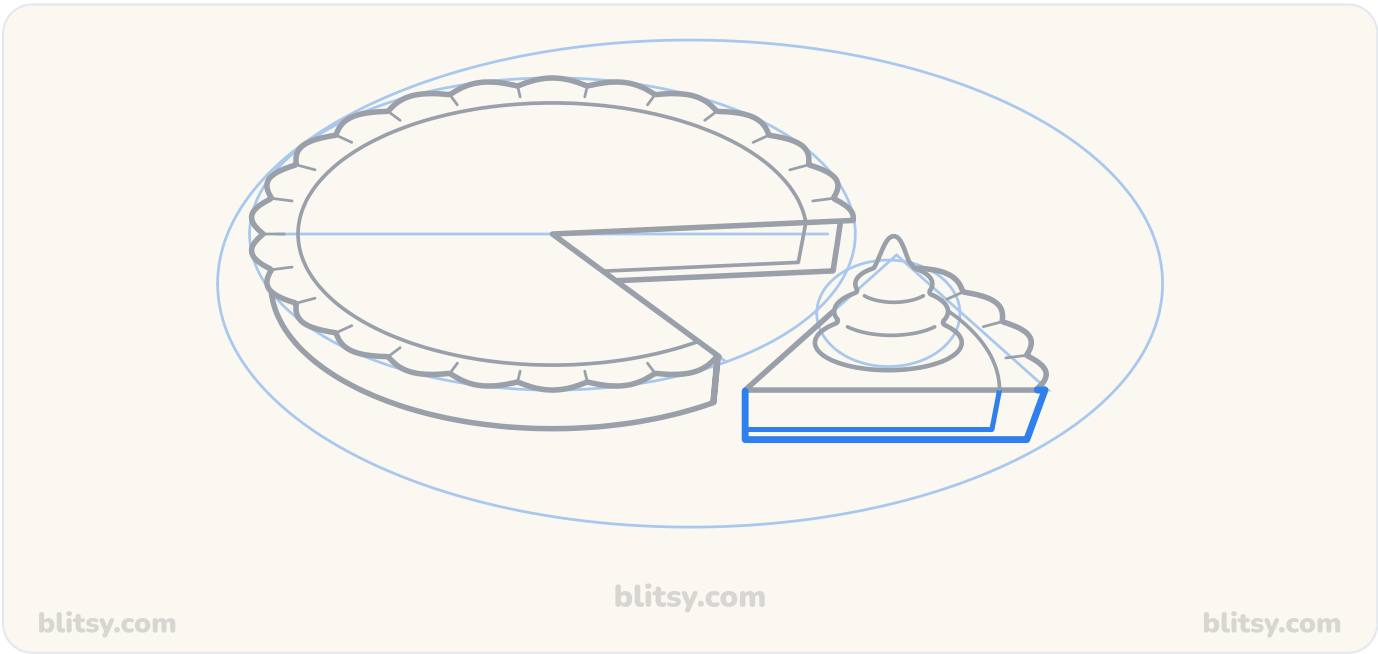
STEP 7 Draw the pulled-out slice



Go over the triangle guide to make the top of the slice. Its point faces left toward the pie, and the long flat edge runs along the bottom. Replace the right side with a curve of crust bumps like the pie's edge, then add a smooth filling curve inside it and a couple of crimp lines.

💡 **Tip:** The slice should be the same size as the gap in the pie. Hold a ruler against both to check.

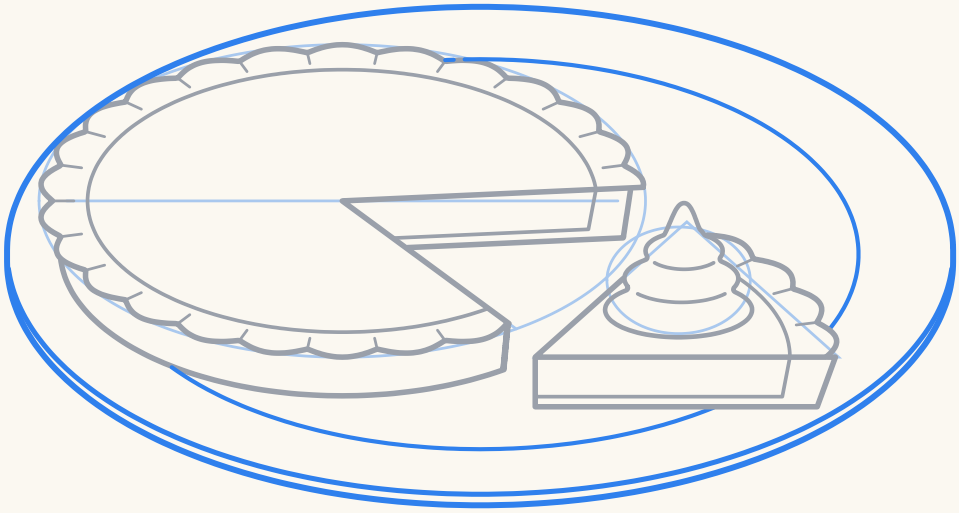
STEP 8 Show the slice's side and layers



Under the flat bottom edge of the slice, draw a tall rectangle that ends in a slanted right side under the crust. This is the cut face you'd see if you looked straight at a slice on a plate. Draw a line near the bottom for the crust layer and a short line near the right end for the crust wall. The big space left over is the filling.

💡 **Tip:** Make the bottom crust layer thin. Pumpkin pie is mostly filling, so the crust is just a strip.

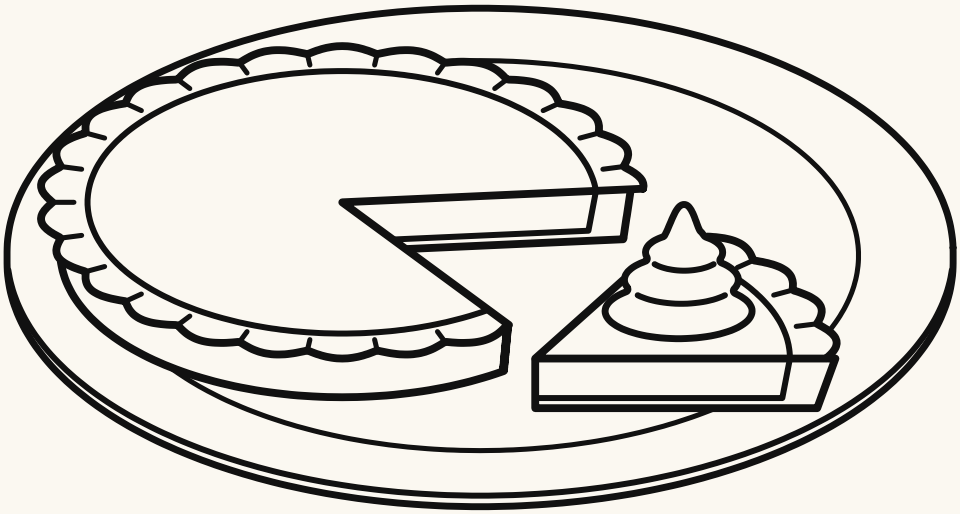
STEP 9 Draw the plate under everything



Go over the big plate oval, stopping wherever the pie or the slice sits in front of it. Add a second line just under the front edge for thickness. Then draw a smaller oval inside, about three quarters as big, for the flat middle of the plate. It hides behind the food too.

💡 **Tip:** Turn your paper as you draw the plate. Long oval lines come out smoother when your wrist doesn't twist.

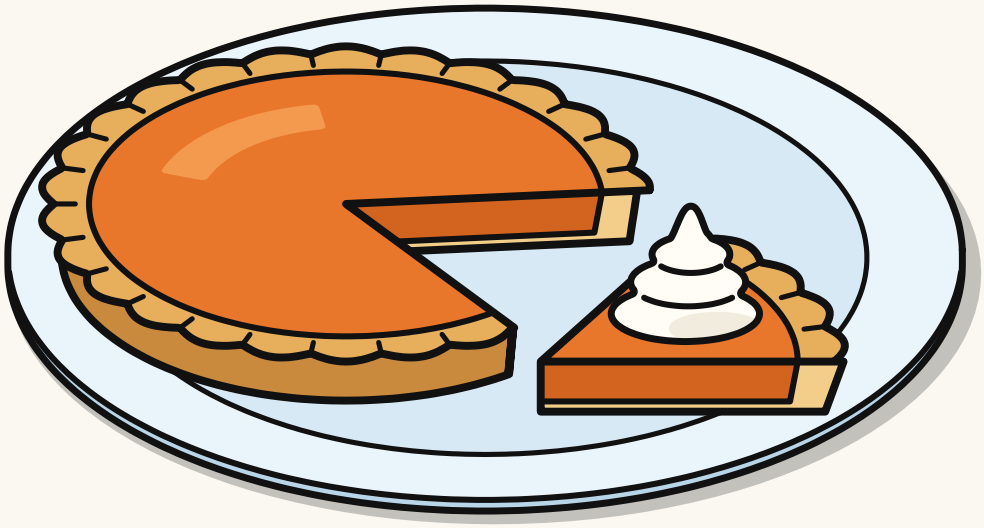
STEP 10 Ink the drawing and erase the guides



Trace every keeper line with the black marker. I start with the cream and the slice, then the pie, and save the long plate lines for last. Skip the guide ovals, the slice lines through the filling and the triangle. When the ink is completely dry, erase all the pencil.

💡 **Tip:** Wait a full minute before erasing. Marker smears easily when you rub too soon.

STEP 11 Color the pumpkin pie



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Fill the top of the pie and the slice with orange, and use a darker orange on the cut sides so they look shaded. The crimped crust is golden yellow, the pie's side light brown and the thin crust layer on the cut tan. Leave the whipped cream white with a faint cream shadow, and color the plate pale blue with a slightly darker middle.

💡 **Tip:** Leave a curved white streak on the filling for a shine. It makes the pie look fresh and glossy.