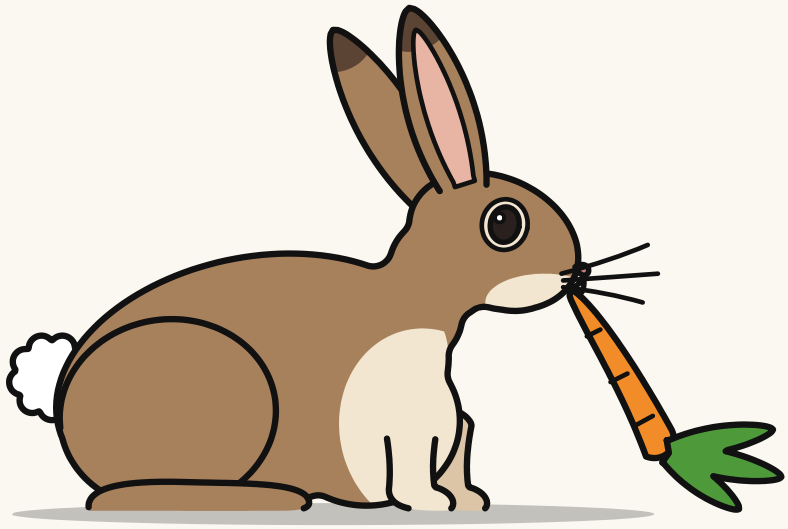
How to Draw a Rabbit

11 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

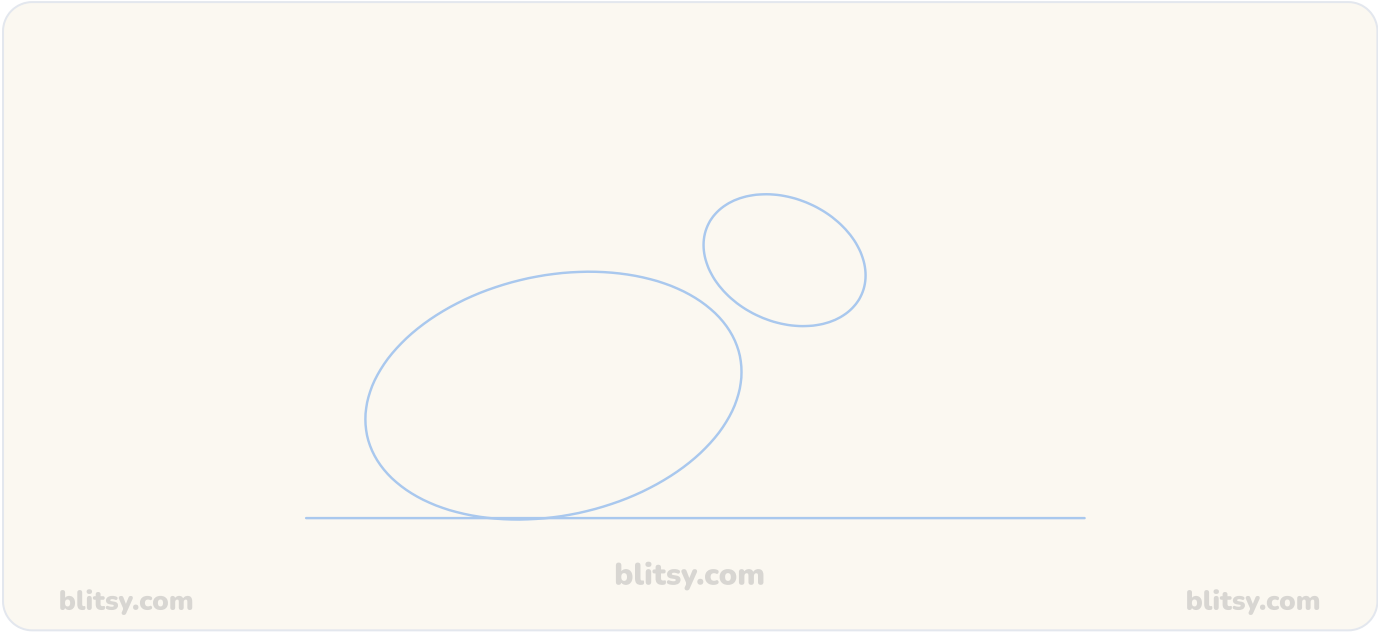
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils or crayons
- Plain paper

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 →

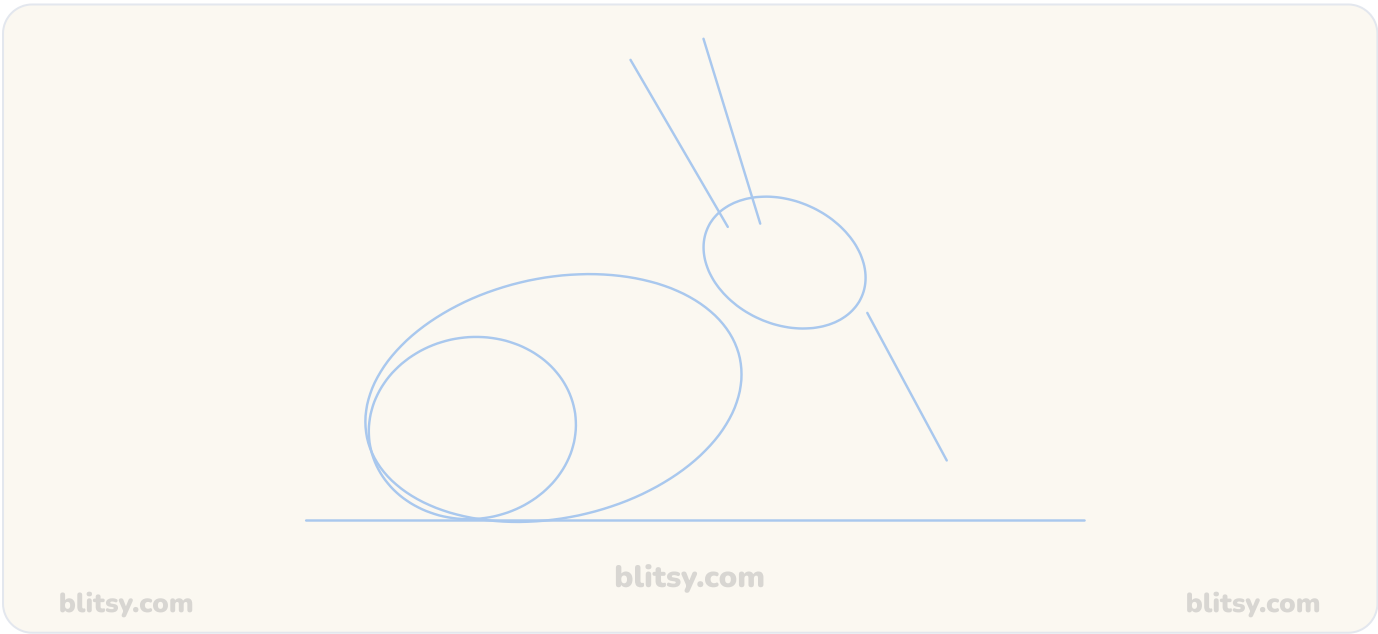
STEP 1 Sketch the body egg and the head oval



Draw a light ground line near the bottom of the page. On it, sketch a long egg for the body, tilted so the back end sits a little higher than the front. Then place a smaller oval up and to the right for the head, tipped down at the front as if the rabbit is lowering its nose. I aim for a head about half as tall as the body.

💡 **Tip:** Keep a small gap between the head and the body for now. The neck will fill it later.

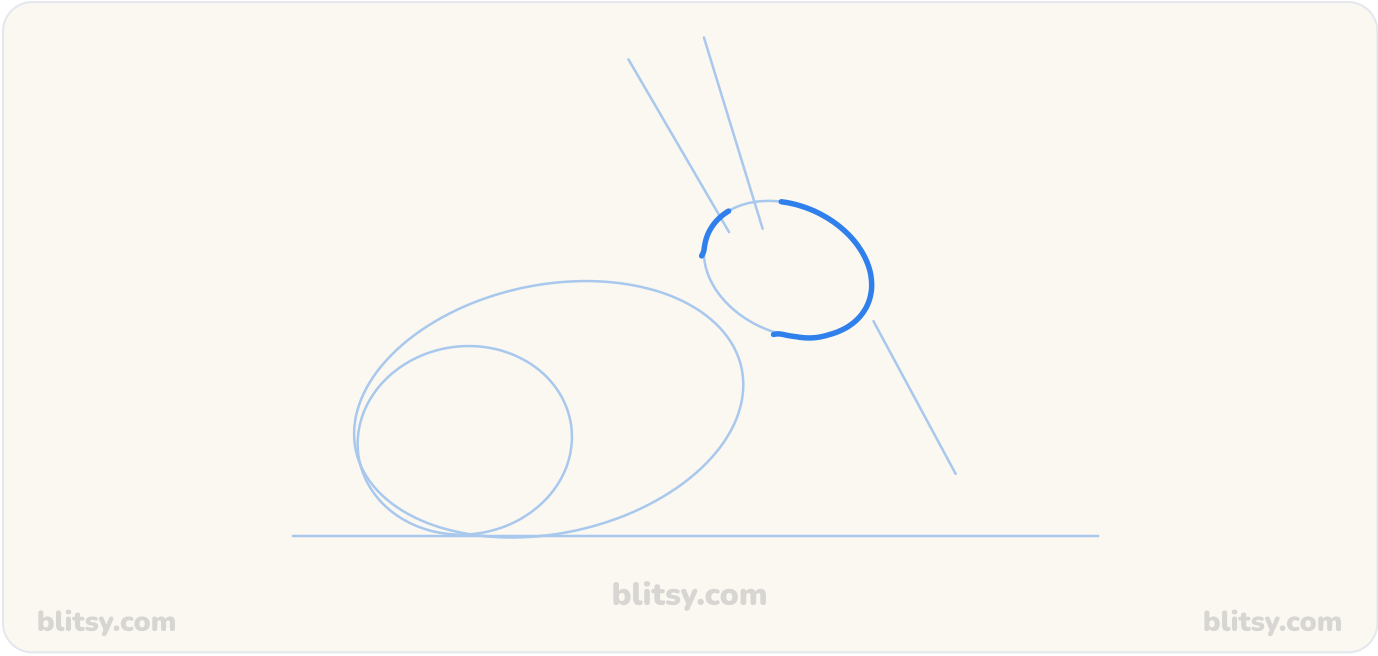
STEP 2 Add the haunch circle, ear lines and a carrot line



Inside the back end of the egg, draw a circle that touches the ground line. That's the haunch, the big muscle a rabbit jumps with. From the top of the head, draw two straight lines leaning back for the ears, one further back than the other. Then add a slanted line from the nose down toward the ground on the right for the carrot.

💡 **Tip:** Make the ear lines longer than you think. Real rabbit ears are taller than the head is long.

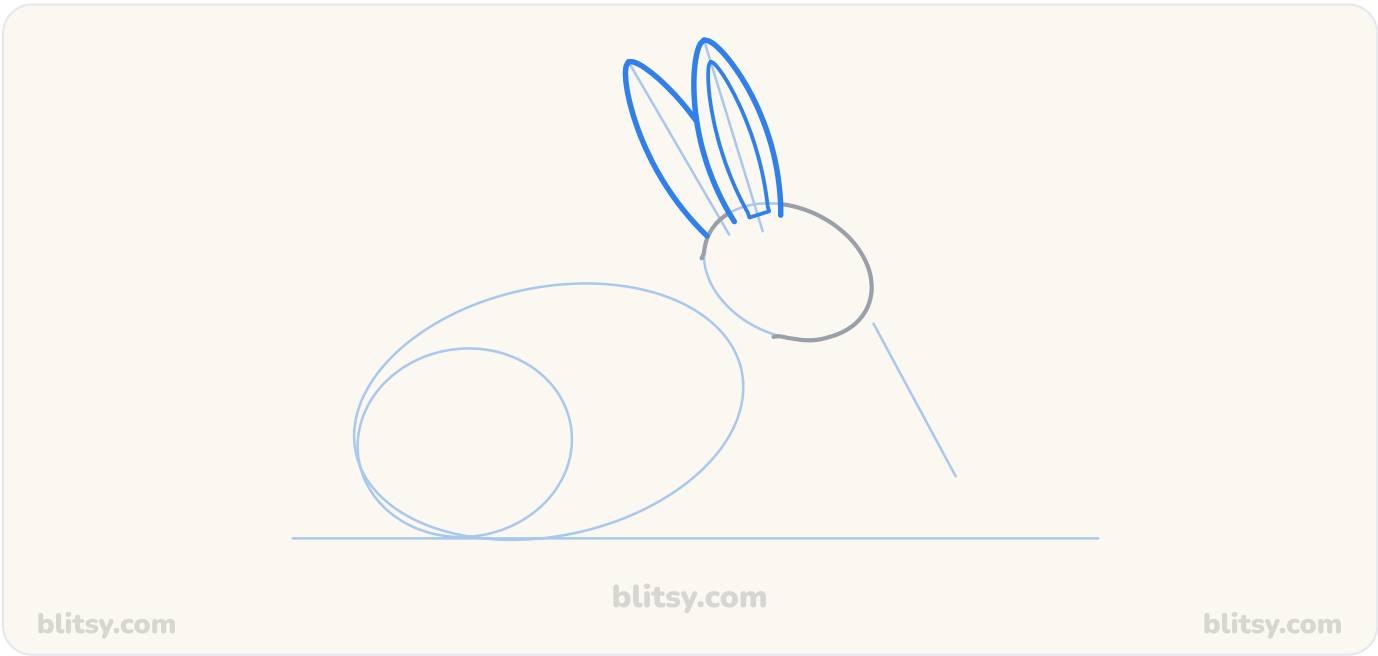
STEP 3 Draw the head with a soft muzzle



Trace around the head oval with a firmer line. Round off the lower front into a full cheek, so the face bulges gently just behind the nose. Leave the top open where the ears will join, plus a tiny gap at the nose tip for the carrot.

💡 **Tip:** A rabbit's face is longer than a bunny cartoon's. Let the nose sit well forward of the eye.

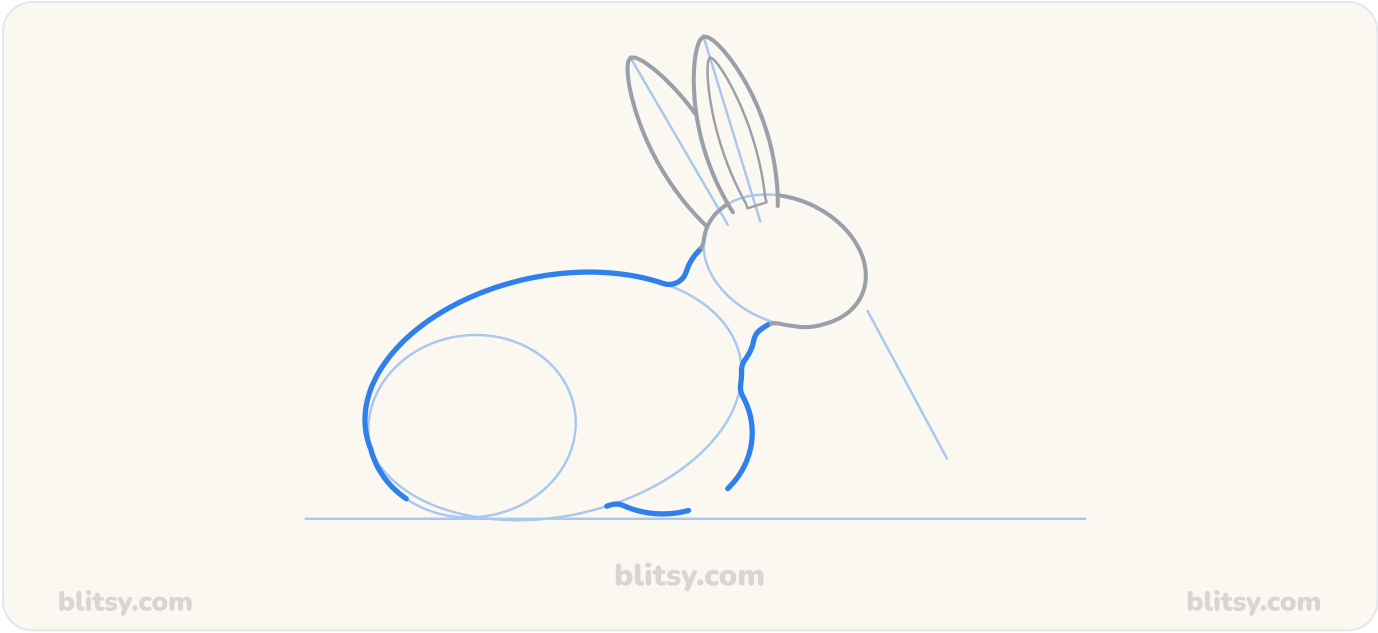
STEP 4 Draw two tall ears



Build each ear around its guide line as a long leaf shape, narrow at the base, widest past the middle and rounded at the tip. The near ear goes in front and gets a second line inside it for the pink part. The far ear sits behind and to the left, so part of its base hides behind the near ear and the head.

💡 **Tip:** If the ears look like a donkey's, they're too thick at the base. Slim them down where they meet the head.

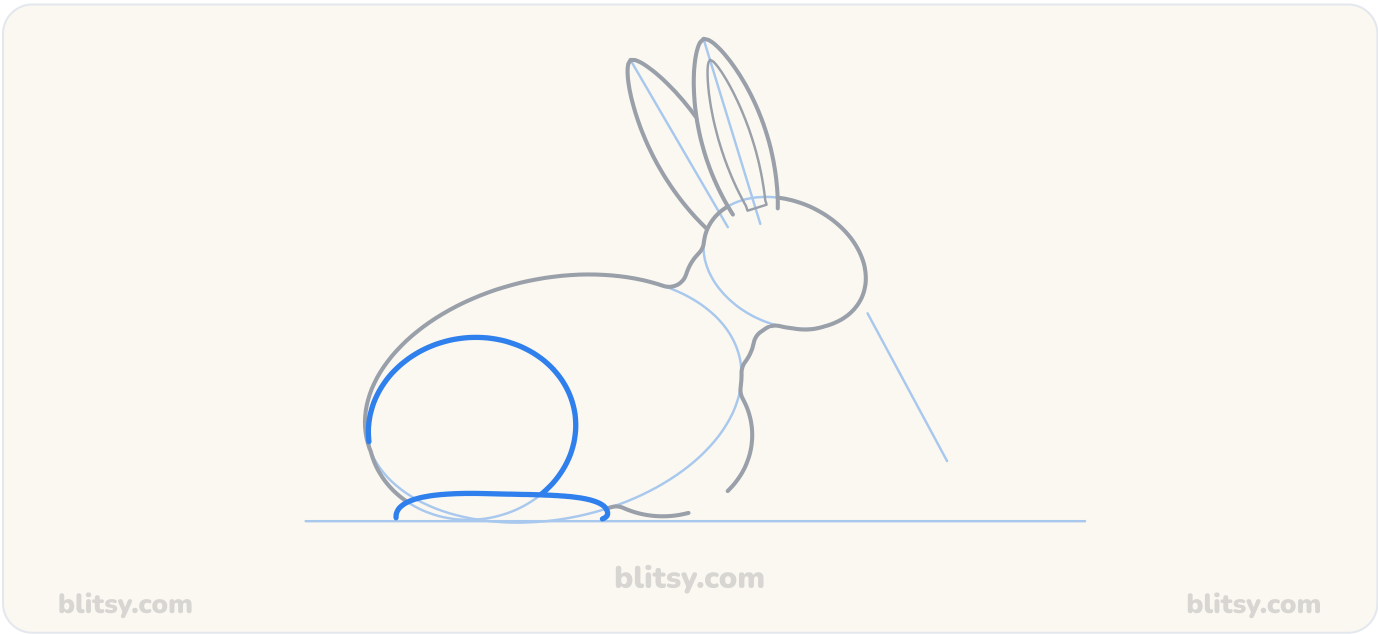
STEP 5 Draw the round back and the chest



Start at the back of the head and let one smooth curve run down the neck, over the rounded back and around the rump to the ground. Then draw a short curve from under the chin down the throat to the chest. This outline is what sells the rabbit, so I always take my time with the hump of the back.

💡 **Tip:** The highest point of the back sits over the haunch, not in the middle of the body.

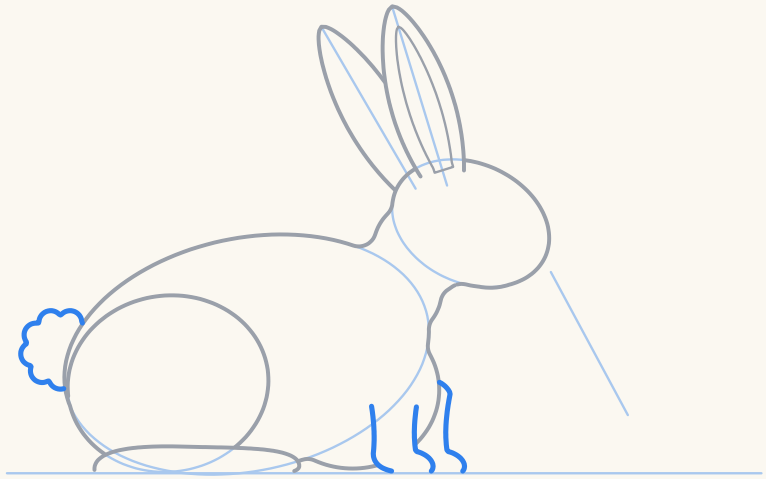
STEP 6 Add the haunch and the long hind foot



Trace the haunch circle firmly so it shows as a big round thigh inside the body. Below it, draw the hind foot as a long, flat shape lying along the ground and pointing forward, with a rounded toe end. A sitting rabbit rests on that whole foot, which is why it looks so long from the side.

💡 **Tip:** The foot reaches almost to the middle of the body. A short foot makes the rabbit look like a cat.

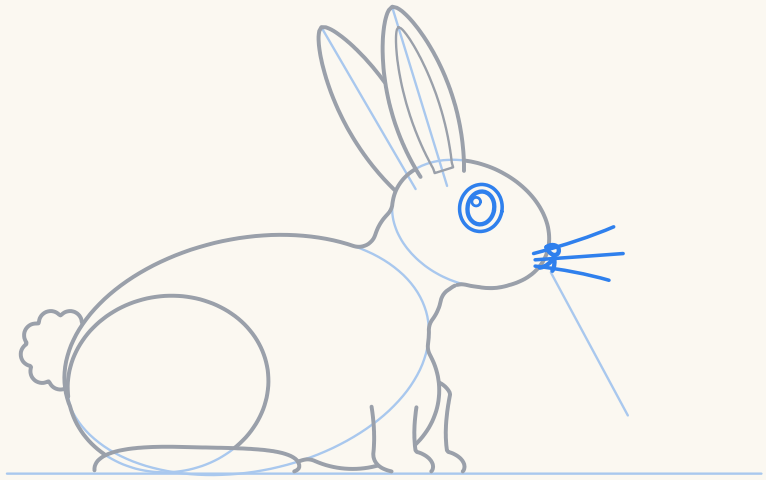
STEP 7 Draw the front legs and the cotton tail



Under the chest, draw two slim front legs straight down to the ground with small rounded paws. The far leg peeks out behind the near one, slightly to the right. At the back end, draw the tail as a small fluffy cloud of bumps, half tucked behind the body.

💡 **Tip:** Front legs are much thinner than the haunch. Keeping them slim is what keeps the rabbit looking light on its feet.

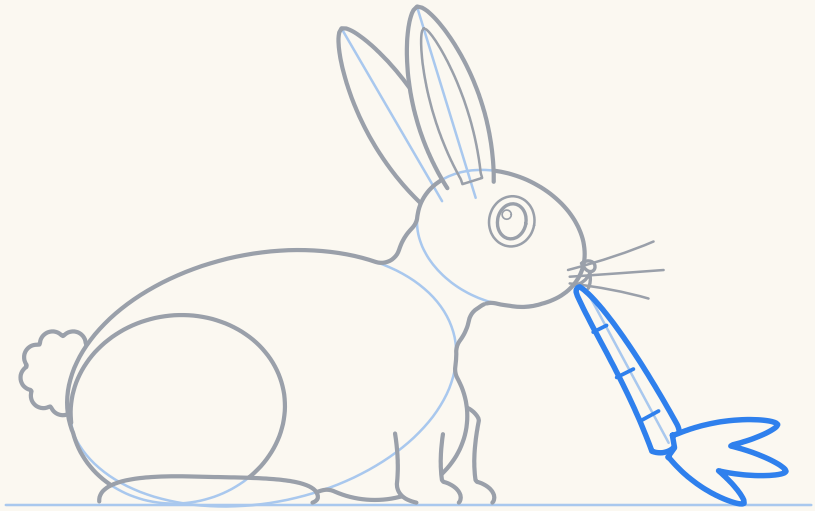
STEP 8 Add the eye, nose and whiskers



Place the eye in the upper middle of the head, a bit closer to the nose than to the ears. Draw it as an upright oval with a ring around it for the light fur rabbits have there, and leave a small dot for the shine. At the tip of the face, add a tiny nose with a short split mouth under it. Three long whiskers fan out to the right.

💡 **Tip:** Rabbit eyes sit on the side of the head. In side view you only ever see one, so don't add a second.

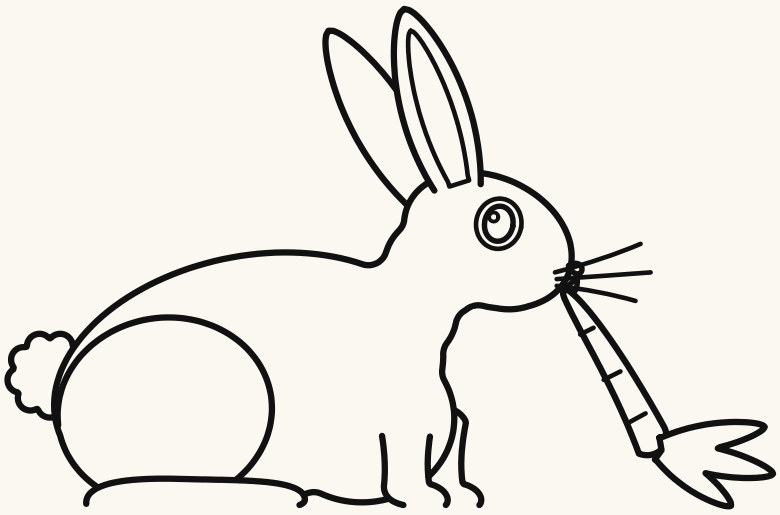
STEP 9 Draw a carrot to nibble



Following the slanted guide, draw a long, thin carrot whose narrow tip sits in the rabbit's mouth and whose wide end rests near the ground. Add three short ring lines across it. At the wide end, draw three leafy tops that spread out along the ground.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the carrot thin. If it's as wide as the rabbit's head, it steals the whole picture.

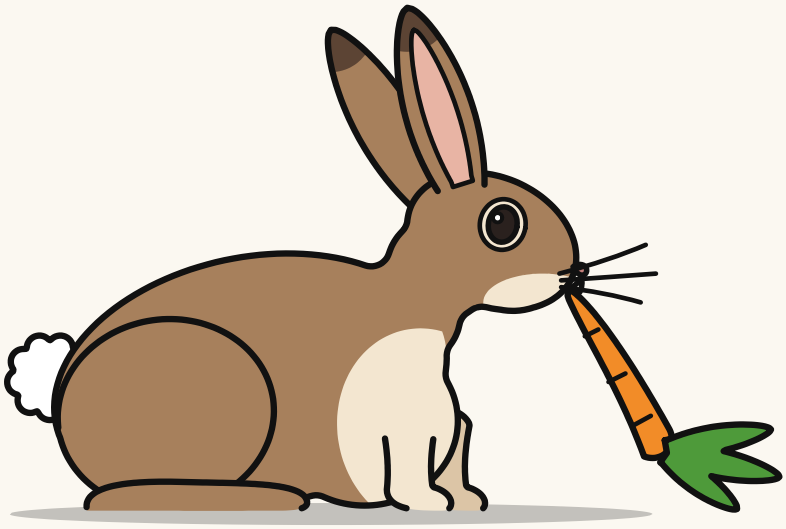
STEP 10 Ink the outline and erase the guides



Go over every keeper line with your fineliner, from the ear tips down to the carrot leaves. Wait a minute for the ink to dry, then erase all the pencil guides, including the egg and the ear lines. What's left should be a clean outline you could color or photocopy.

💡 **Tip:** Ink in one direction, from left to right if you're right-handed, so your hand never drags through wet lines.

STEP 11 Color your rabbit



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Fill the head and body with light brown, the ears too. Cream goes on the chest, the front legs and the chin, and around the eye. The tail stays white. Color the inside of the near ear light pink, then darken both ear tips with dark brown. Finish with an orange carrot with green leaves, and a dark eye with its shine dot left white.

💡 **Tip:** Press lightly with the brown first and add a second layer along the back and the top of the haunch for a bit of shading.