How to Draw a Vampire

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

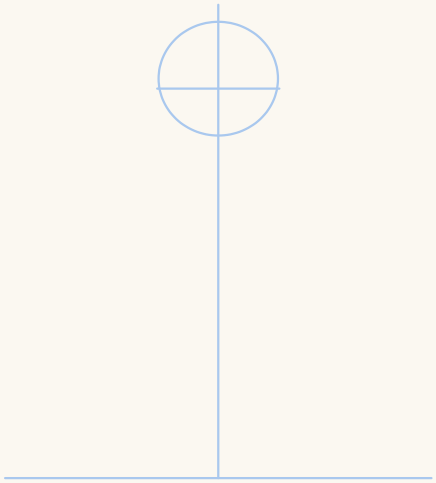
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black marker or fineliner
- Colored pencils or markers
- Plain paper

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 →

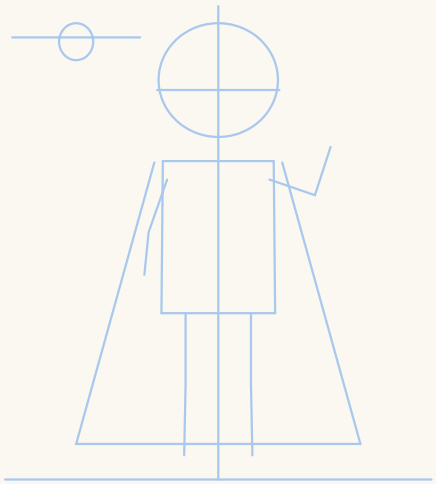
STEP 1 Draw a center line and a head circle



Draw a light ground line near the bottom of your paper and a straight line up the middle. Near the top, draw a circle for the head, then a short line across it just below the middle for the eyes. I keep the head big, about a quarter of the whole height, because that's what keeps him cute instead of creepy.

💡 **Tip:** Press so lightly you can hardly see the lines. Every one of them gets erased later.

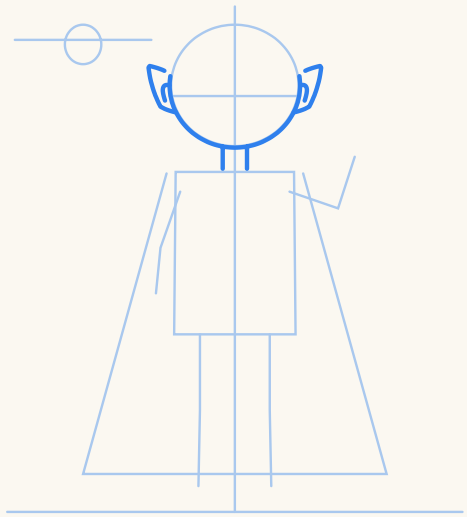
STEP 2 Sketch guides for the body and cape



Under the head, sketch a tall box for the body and two straight leg lines down to the ground. Around it, draw a big triangle that starts at the shoulders and spreads out near the ground. That's the cape. One arm line goes down the left side; the other bends out and up, because he's going to wave. A small circle up on the left marks the bat.

💡 **Tip:** Make the cape triangle clearly wider than the body at the bottom. A narrow cape looks like a long coat.

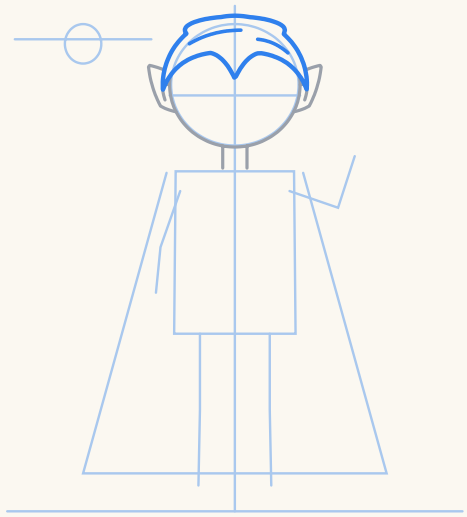
STEP 3 Outline the head and pointy ears



Trace the head circle with a firmer line. On each side, right at the eye line, draw a small pointed ear whose tip leans up and out like a little leaf. Then add a short neck under the chin, about as wide as the space between the eyes, attached straight to the chin so the head doesn't look stuck on.

💡 **Tip:** Small ears look friendly. If the points get long, he starts to look more like an elf.

STEP 4 Draw slicked hair with a widow's peak



The hair covers the top of the head like a smooth cap. Start at one temple, curve up across the forehead and dip into a sharp V in the middle, then mirror it to the other temple. That V is the widow's peak, and in my opinion it's the most vampire thing on his face. Two long curves inside the hair show it's combed back.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the V a little below the top of the head. Too high and it gets lost in the hair.

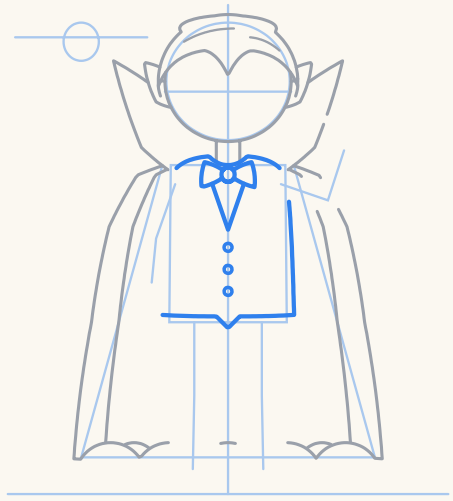
STEP 5 Add the tall collar and the long cape



Behind the head, draw the collar as two tall pointed wings standing up from the shoulders, tips about level with the ears. Then follow the cape guide down to the ground on both sides. Instead of a straight bottom, scoop the hem into curved bites so the points look like bat wings. A second line just inside each side edge makes the lining.

💡 **Tip:** Parts of the hem hide behind the legs later, so a gappy middle is fine for now.

STEP 6 Draw the vest and a bow tie



Inside the body box, draw the vest with rounded shoulders and straight sides, with a tiny point at the bottom middle like a real vest. At the top, a narrow V shows the white shirt underneath. Put a bow tie where the neck meets the shirt, two triangles with a small round knot, and add three little buttons down the middle.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the knot first, then the two bow triangles. That way they come out the same size.

STEP 7 Add the arms and a waving hand

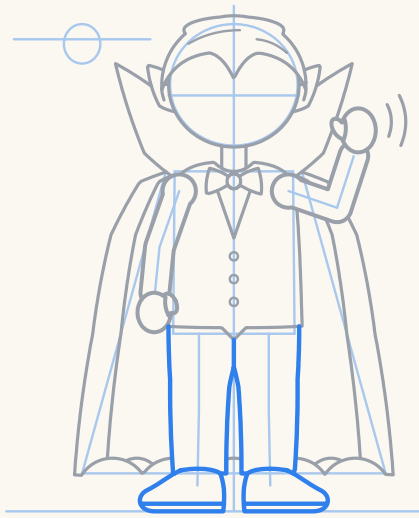


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Follow each arm guide with two lines about a thumb's width apart, so the sleeves are soft tubes and not sticks. The left arm hangs down and ends in a round mitten hand with a thumb on the side nearest the body. The right arm bends at the elbow and comes up, with the mitten standing upright. Two curved lines next to it show the wave.

💡 **Tip:** Mitten hands are fine for this style. Five fingers on a cartoon this simple usually look busy.

STEP 8 Draw the pants and shiny shoes



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From under the vest, bring the pants straight down the leg guides, leaving a slim gap between the legs. Stop just above the ground line. Each shoe is a rounded bump with a flat bottom, toe pointing a little outward, and a line across the bottom makes the sole.

💡 **Tip:** Rest both shoes right on the ground line, or he'll look like he's floating.

STEP 9 Give him a happy face and tiny fangs



Draw two round eyes on the eye line, each with a big dark pupil and a small white dot in the same top corner. Brows that lift in the middle keep him cheerful. Add a little nose, then a wide smile. Right under the smile, near the middle, hang two small pointed fangs. Pink ovals on the cheeks finish the face.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the fangs short and white. Long fangs are what make a vampire scary, and we don't want that here.

STEP 10 Draw a tiny bat friend



Turn the small circle on the left into a round bat body with two pointy ears. Each wing is a stretched shape with a scalloped bottom edge, like a little umbrella turned sideways. Give the bat round eyes and a tiny smile, and keep it small so it doesn't steal the show.

💡 **Tip:** Younger kids can skip the bat entirely. The vampire looks finished on his own.

STEP 11 Ink the outline and erase the guides



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Trace all the keeper lines with a black marker. I do the face first while my hand is steady, then the collar and cape, and the legs last. Leave out the center line, the box and the triangle. When the ink is completely dry, erase every pencil mark you can see.

💡 **Tip:** Give the ink a full minute before you erase. Wet marker smears into gray streaks.

STEP 12 Color your vampire



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Use pale lavender for all the skin: face, ears, neck, hands. Black goes on the hair, the outside of the cape and the shoes. Use red for the collar, the lining and the bow tie. The vest is purple with yellow buttons, the pants gray, and the shirt and sleeves stay white. Give the bat a soft purple.

💡 **Tip:** Color the black parts last. Black smudges easily onto everything else if you go early.