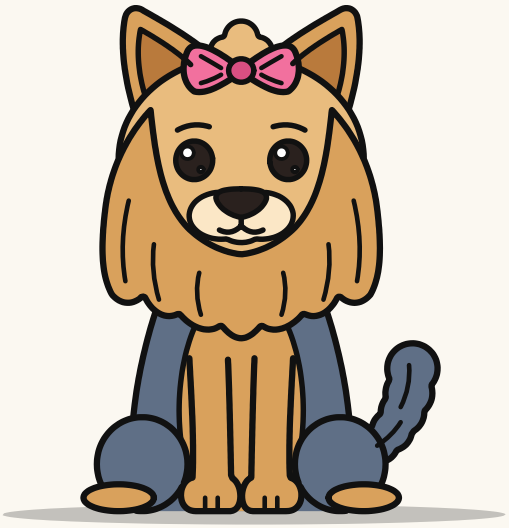
How to Draw a Yorkie

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

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

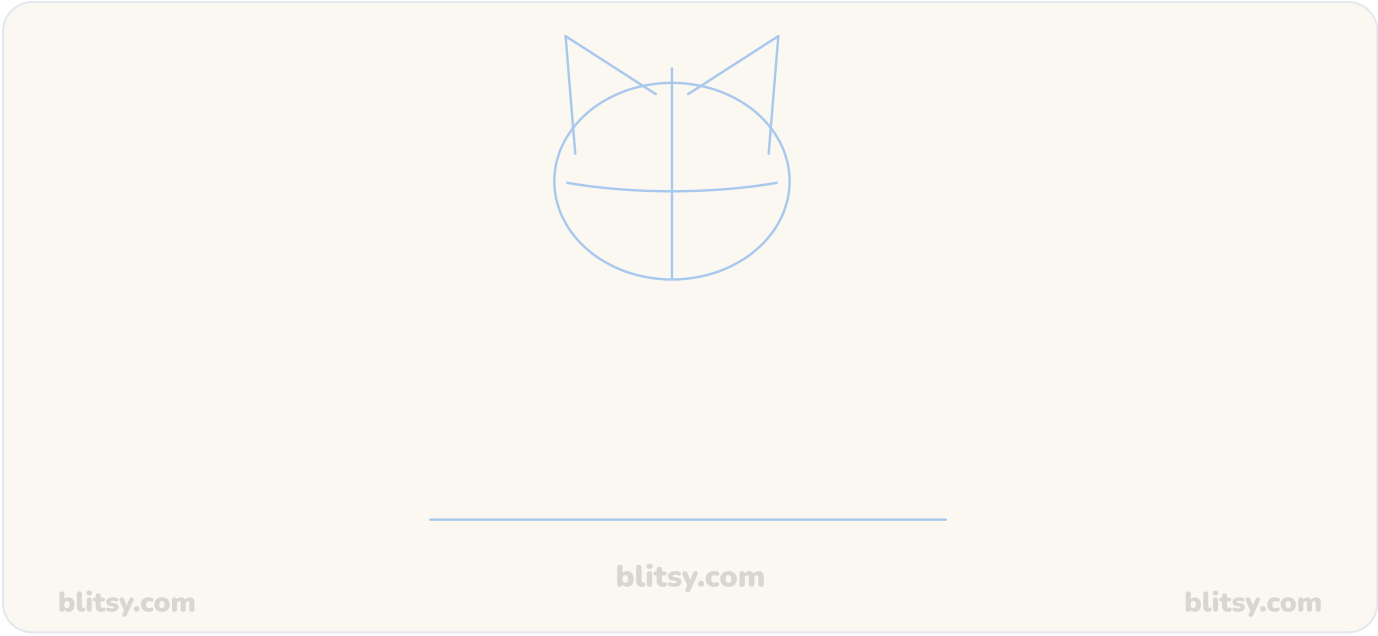
How to use this guide

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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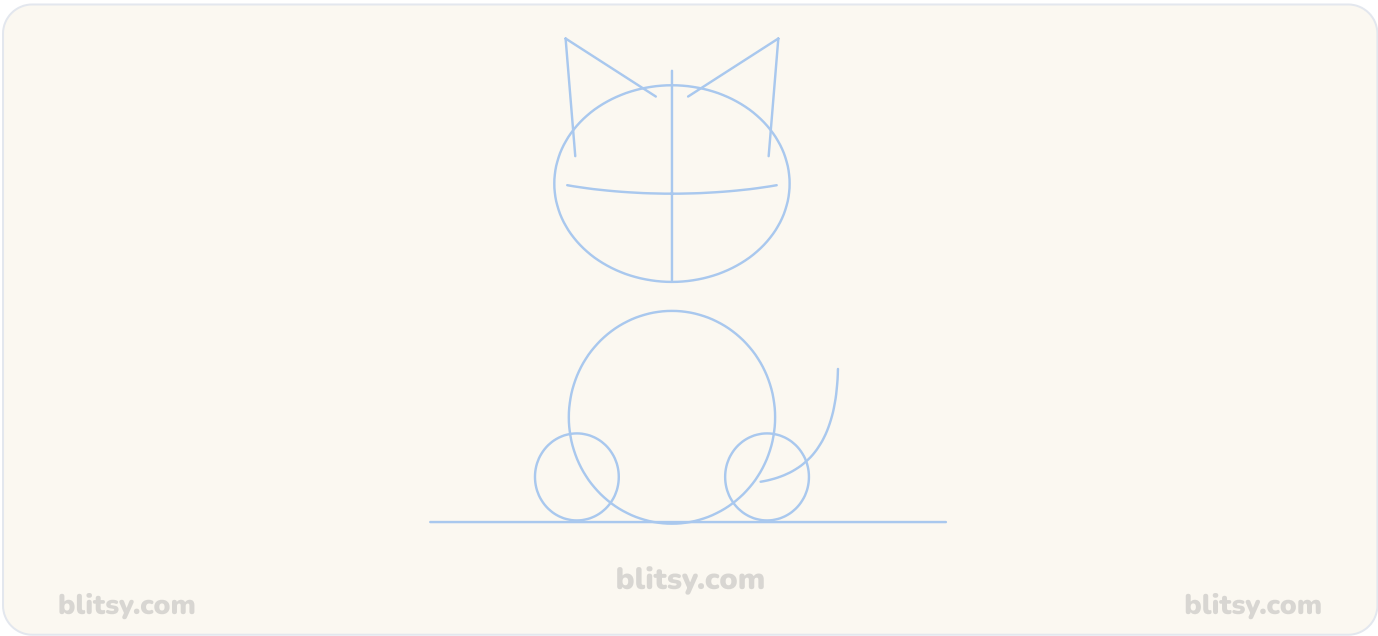
STEP 1 Sketch the head circle and ear guides



Draw a light ground line near the bottom of the page. High above it, sketch a wide circle for the head, then a line down the middle and a soft curve across it, a bit below halfway. That curve is where the eyes go. On top of the circle, add two tall triangles leaning out a little for the ears.

💡 **Tip:** Leave a big gap between the head and the ground line. The body needs about the same height again.

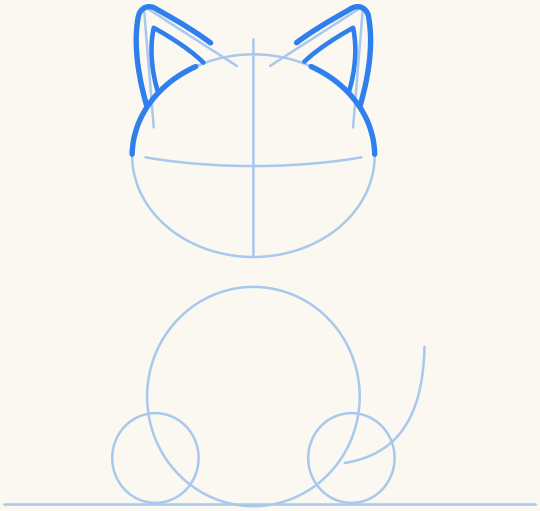
STEP 2 Add guides for the body and hips, plus a tail line



Below the head, draw a round body circle that sits right on the ground line. Its top should just touch the bottom of the head. Put a smaller circle low on each side for the back legs, and a curved line rising from the right hip for the tail.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the body circle a little smaller than the head. Yorkies are small dogs, and a big head makes them look cute.

STEP 3 Draw the top of the head and pointy ears



Trace the top of the head circle with a firmer line. Then turn the ear triangles into real ears: round off the tips slightly and curve the sides. Inside each ear, draw a smaller triangle. Their bottoms tuck into the head, so stop the lines where they meet the circle.

💡 **Tip:** Make the ears stand straight up. Floppy ears would turn this into a different dog.

STEP 4 Add the long silky face fur



This is the step that makes it a Yorkie. From each side of the head, let the fur flow down past the cheeks and out a little, like two curtains. At the bottom, draw a row of soft, rounded points for the hair tips. Then bring an inner line down from each ear, around the face, to meet in a gentle point under the chin. Add a few curved lines inside the fur so it looks silky.

💡 **Tip:** I keep the inner fur lines well outside the eye guide. The face needs room for big eyes.

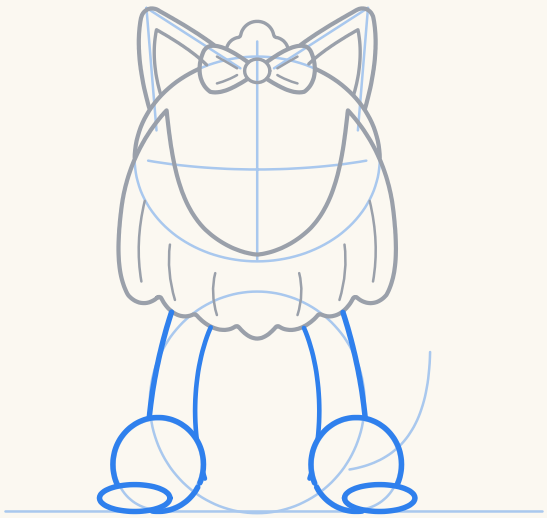
STEP 5 Draw the topknot and a hair bow



On top of the head, between the ears, draw a small puff of fur made of three bumps. Right below it, draw a bow: two rounded loops pointing left and right with a little circle in the middle. Add two short fold lines inside each loop.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the bow narrower than the space between the ears so it doesn't crowd them.

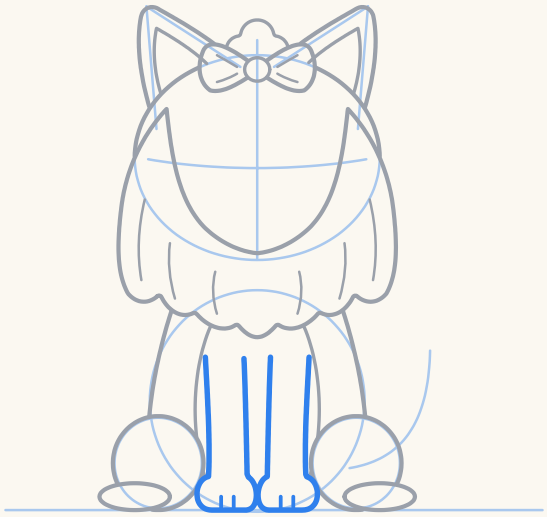
STEP 6 Outline the little body and hips



Draw the body's sides from under the fur down to the ground, curving out a little toward the bottom. Add two curved lines in the middle for the tan chest. Then outline the hip circles and give each one a flat oval in front for a back foot.

💡 **Tip:** Rest the back feet flat on the ground line. It makes the dog look settled and sitting.

STEP 7 Add the front legs and paws



Draw two thin front legs coming straight down from under the fur, close together in the middle. At the bottom, round each leg out into a small paw. Two tiny lines on each paw mark the toes.

💡 **Tip:** Yorkie legs are short and slim. Keep them narrower than the hips.

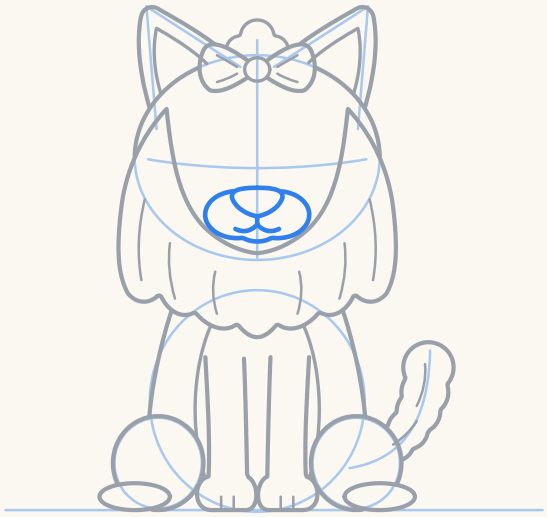
STEP 8 Draw a fluffy tail



Follow the tail guide with a bumpy outline that starts thin near the hip and gets wider toward the top. Finish it with a round, fluffy tip. Two short curved lines inside the tail show the fur.

💡 **Tip:** Small bumps along the edges say fluffy much better than one smooth line.

STEP 9 Draw the muzzle, nose and mouth



Low in the face, draw a small muzzle made of two cheek bumps side by side with a tiny chin bump under them. On top, add a rounded triangle for the nose. A short line drops from the nose and splits into two small curves for the smile.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the muzzle short and wide. A long snout makes the dog look older and less cuddly.

STEP 10 Add button eyes and little brows



Place two big round eyes on the curved cross line, one on each side of the center. Inside each, draw a big shine circle near the top and a tiny one lower down. Above them, add short curved brows.

💡 **Tip:** Put both shine circles on the same side of each eye, or the dog will look cross-eyed.

STEP 11 Ink the Yorkie and erase the guides



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Go over all the keeper lines with your black marker. I start with the face while my hand is steady, then the fur, and finish with the body and tail. Wait for the ink to dry, then erase every pencil guide.

💡 **Tip:** Lift the marker between the fur tips instead of dragging it. The points stay sharper.

STEP 12 Color your Yorkie



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Use golden brown on the face fur and chest. The legs, the feet and the ears get it too, while the head and topknot take a lighter brown. The back and hips are blue gray, and so is the tail. Color the muzzle cream, the bow pink and the inner ears a darker brown. Fill the eyes and nose black, leaving the shine circles white, and add a soft gray shadow under the dog.

💡 **Tip:** Stroke the crayon downward on the face fur, the same way the long hair hangs.