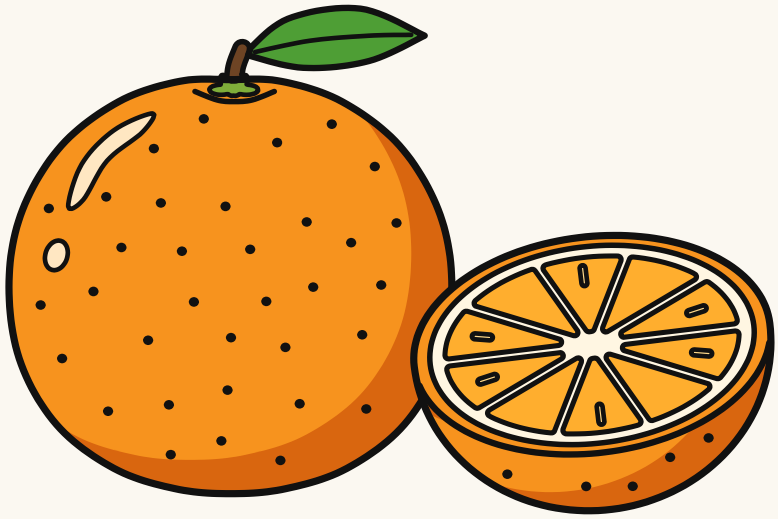
How to Draw an Orange

10 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

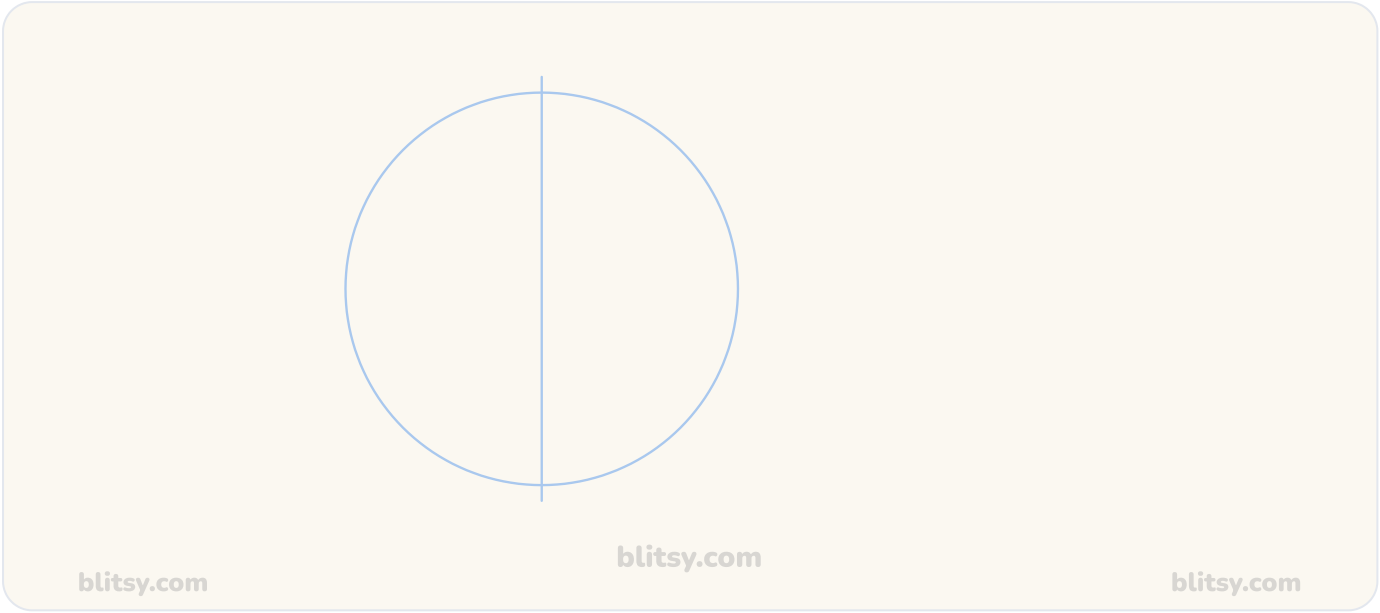
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black marker or fineliner
- Colored pencils or crayons
- Plain paper

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 →

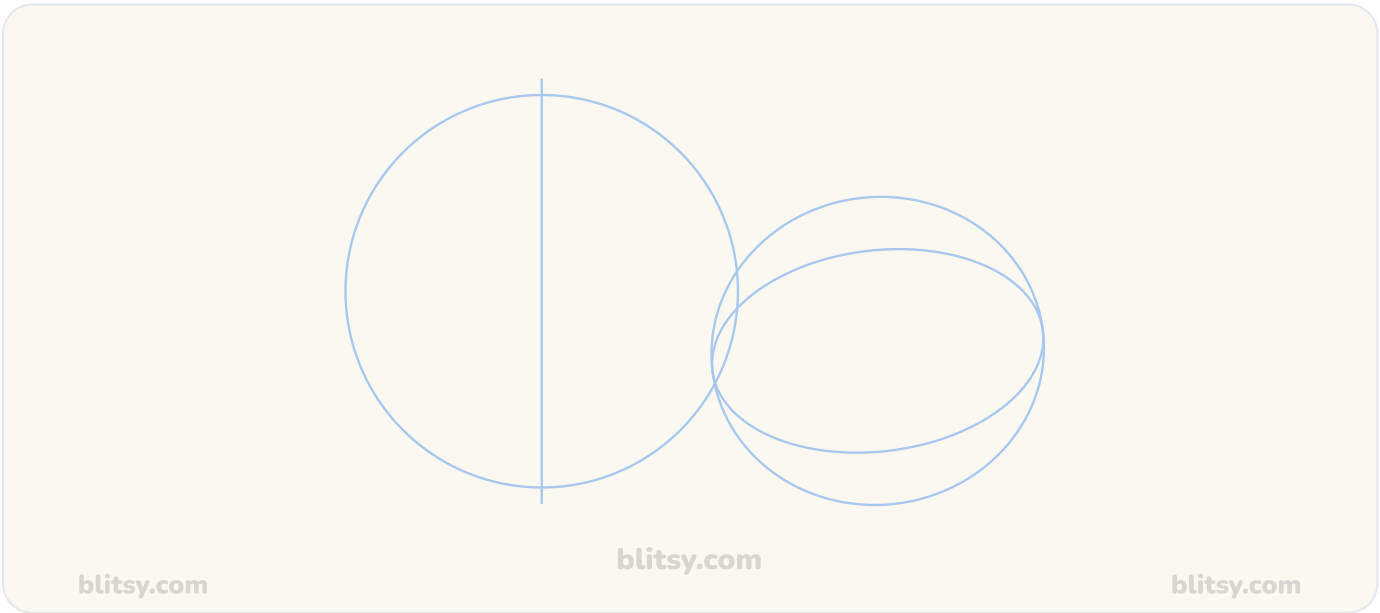
STEP 1 Draw a big circle on the left



Start on the left half of the page with a large, light circle. This is the whole orange, so I make it big, about half the width of the paper. Add a straight line down the middle. It marks where the stem goes later and helps you keep the fruit round.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the circle with a few light, quick passes rather than one slow line. Light passes come out rounder.

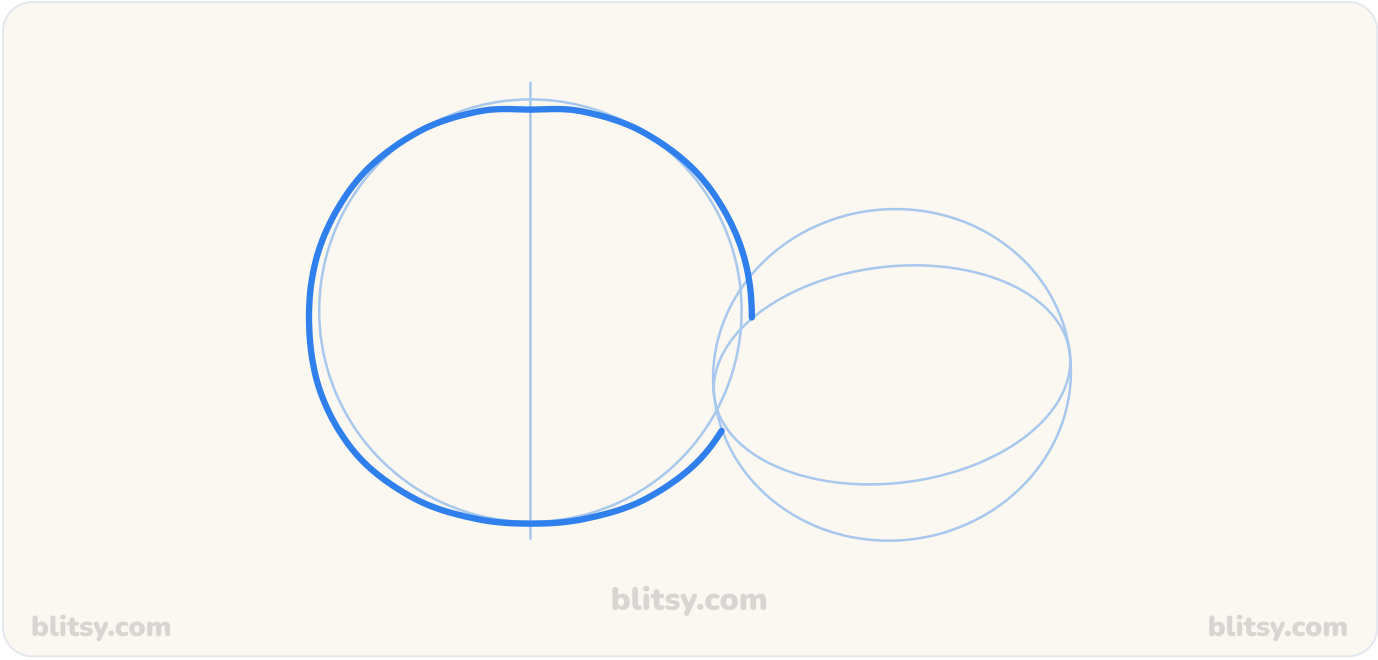
STEP 2 Add an oval and a bowl shape in front



To the right, overlapping the big circle a little, draw a wide oval that tilts slightly downward on the left. That oval will be the cut face of the orange half. Around it, sketch a rounder shape that dips below the oval like a bowl. I only care about the bottom part of that bowl, because it becomes the peel underneath.

💡 **Tip:** Make the oval flatter than you think. A tall oval looks like a plate standing up instead of a slice lying down.

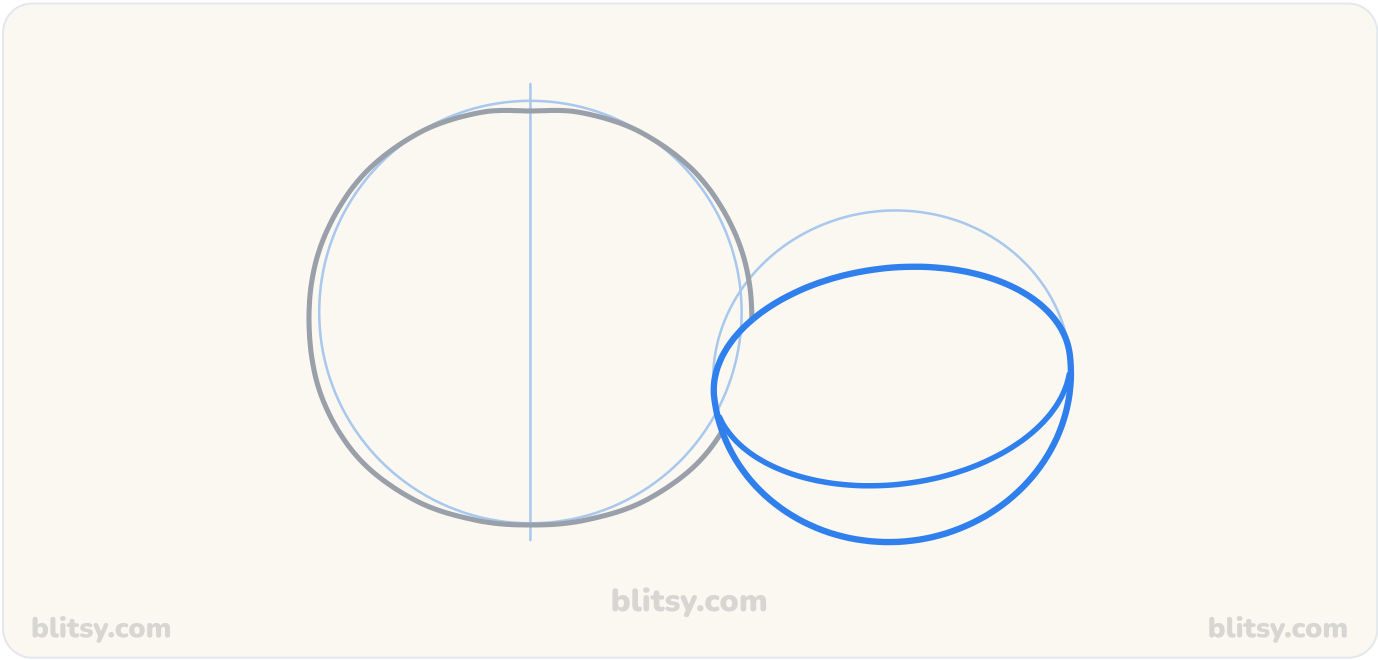
STEP 3 Outline the whole orange



Trace around the big circle with a firm line. I let the outline bulge out a tiny bit on the sides and flatten a little at the top, because real oranges are rarely perfect balls. Stop the line where it meets the oval on the right. The half sits in front, so that part of the whole orange is hidden.

💡 **Tip:** If your circle came out lopsided, fix it now. Everything else sits on this shape.

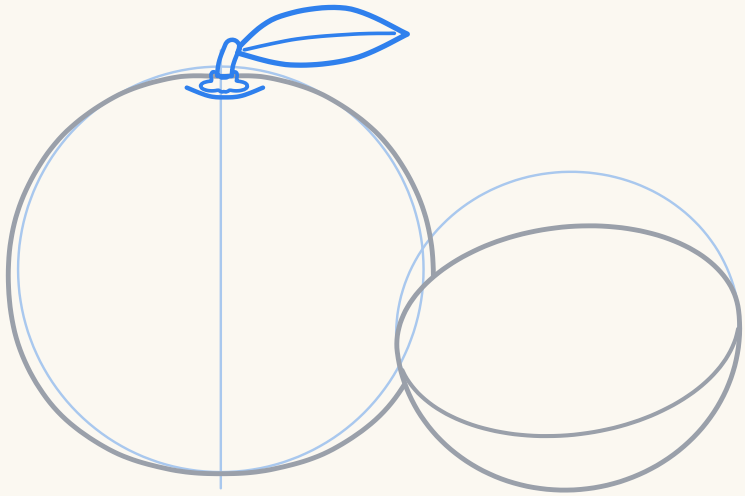
STEP 4 Outline the orange half



Go over the tilted oval to make the cut face. Then trace the bottom curve of the bowl so it joins the oval at both ends. Together they look like a cup with a lid, and that's exactly how a cut orange half reads from the side.

💡 **Tip:** Make sure the bowl curve meets the oval right at its widest points, not above them.

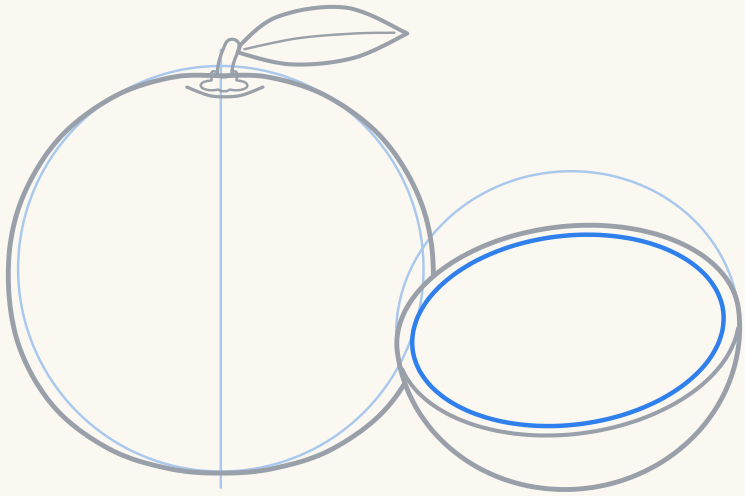
STEP 5 Add the stem, sepals and a leaf



At the top of the whole orange, draw a short curved line for a little dip where the stem sits. In the middle of it, add a tiny star shape made of small rounded bumps. Those are the sepals. A short, thick stem rises from them, and one pointed leaf grows out to the right with a single line down its middle for the vein.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the stem short and stubby. When I draw it long, the orange starts to look like a cherry or an apple.

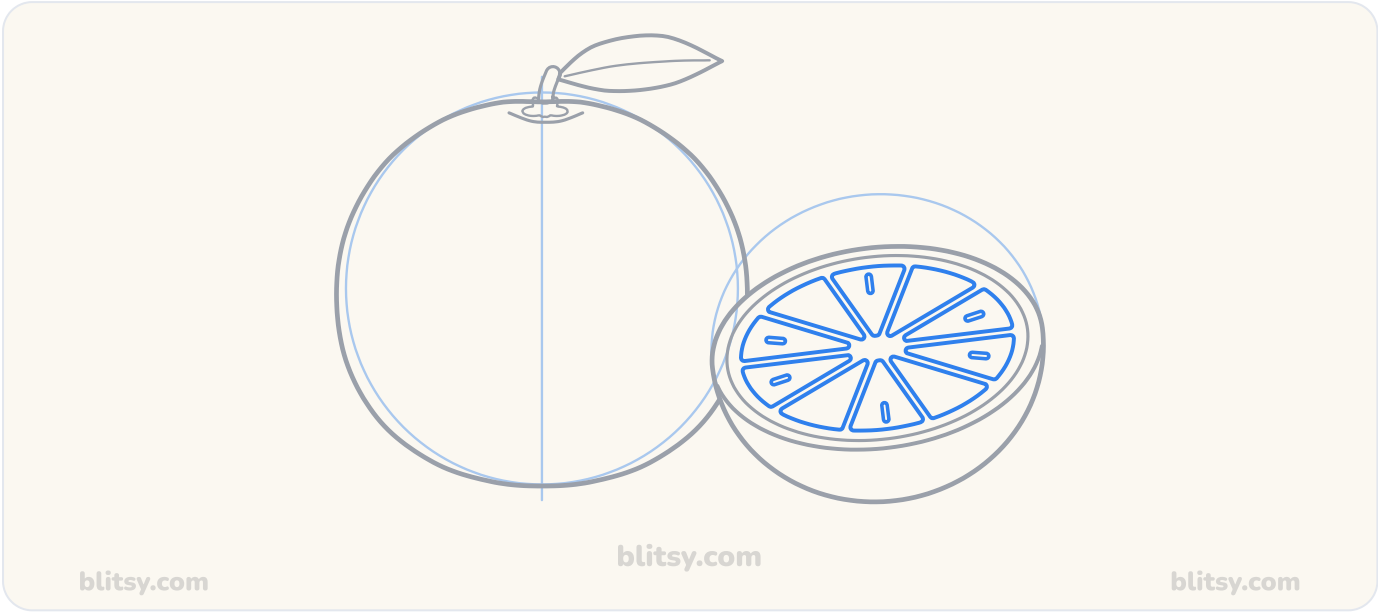
STEP 6 Draw the pith ring inside the cut face



Inside the cut oval, draw a second oval a little smaller, following the same tilt. The thin band between the two lines is the orange peel you see on the edge of a slice. The space inside the new oval will hold the white pith ring and the segments.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the gap even all the way around, just a few millimeters wide.

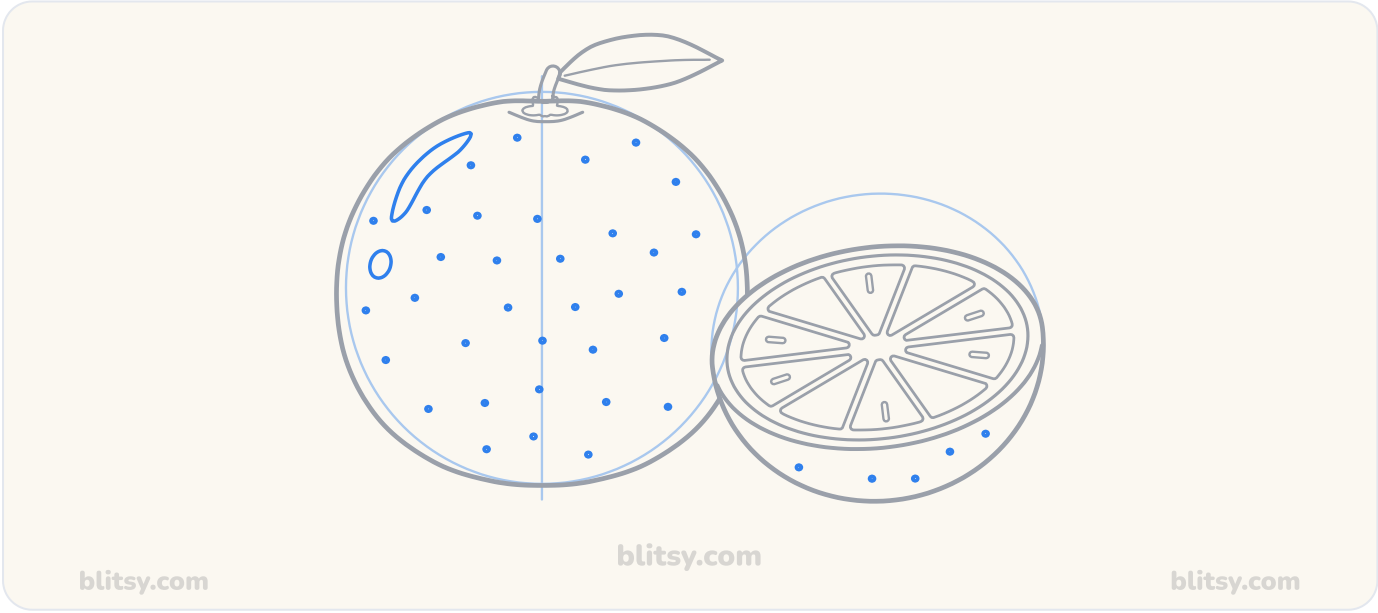
STEP 7 Draw the juicy segments



This is my favorite part. Picture a wheel with ten spokes coming out from a small center point. Between each pair of spokes, draw a long rounded wedge, pointed toward the middle and wide at the outside. Leave a thin white gap between neighbors and a small white space in the center. Inside a few wedges, add a short line for a juicy shine.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the top, bottom, left and right wedges first, then fill in the ones between. They stay evenly spaced that way.

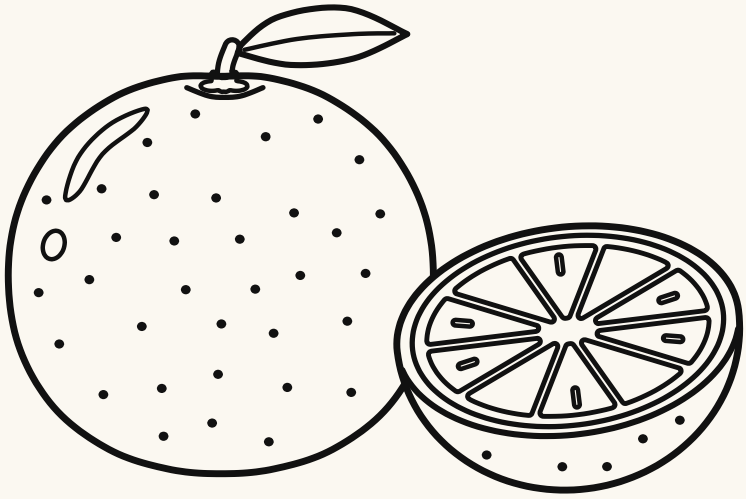
STEP 8 Add dimple dots and a shine



An orange peel is covered in tiny pits, and dots are the easy way to show them. I sprinkle small dots over the whole orange, spaced out so they don't touch, and add a few on the peel under the half. Then draw a long curved shine mark on the upper left of the whole orange with a small oval below it.

💡 **Tip:** Don't line the dots up in rows. A loose, uneven scatter looks more like real peel.

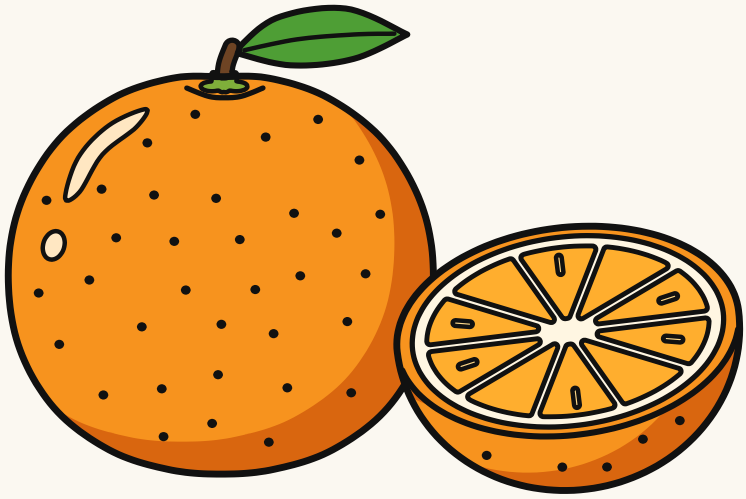
STEP 9 Ink the lines and erase the guides



Trace every keeper line with your black marker. I start with the big outlines, then the leaf and stem, and save the segments and dots for last while my hand is steady. Let the ink dry for a minute before you erase the circle, the middle line and the bowl guide.

💡 **Tip:** Ink each dot with a quick tap instead of a little circle. Tapped dots look neater.

STEP 10 Color your oranges



Color both peels bright orange. Add dark orange along the right side and bottom of the whole orange and on the right of the peel bowl, which makes the fruit look round. The segments get a yellow orange, the pith ring stays white, the leaf is green and the stem is brown. Leave the shine marks white or very pale.

💡 **Tip:** Press harder with the orange near the dark edge and softer toward the shine for a smooth fade.