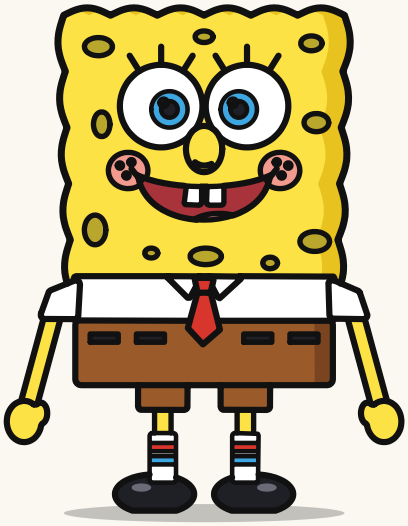
How to Draw SpongeBob

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

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

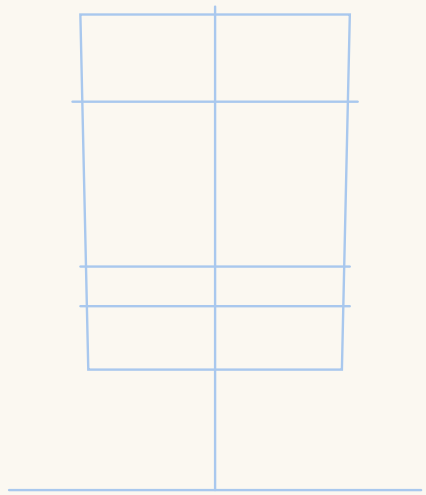
How to use this guide

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 →

© blitsy.com

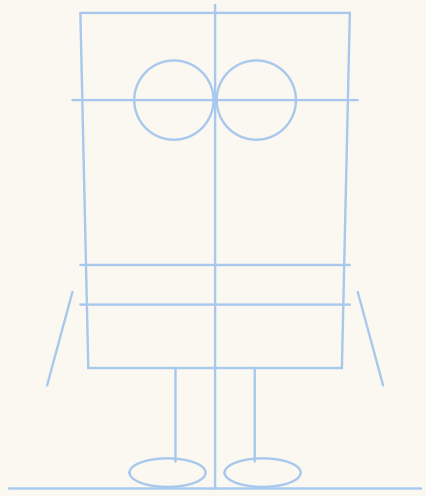
STEP 1 Draw a tall box and guide lines



Draw a light ground line near the bottom of the page and a center line straight up from it. Above the ground, leaving room for the legs, draw a tall box that's a little narrower at the bottom. Add one line across the upper part for the eyes and two lines near the bottom: the shirt starts at the first, the pants at the second.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the box a touch taller than it is wide. A perfect square makes him look squashed.

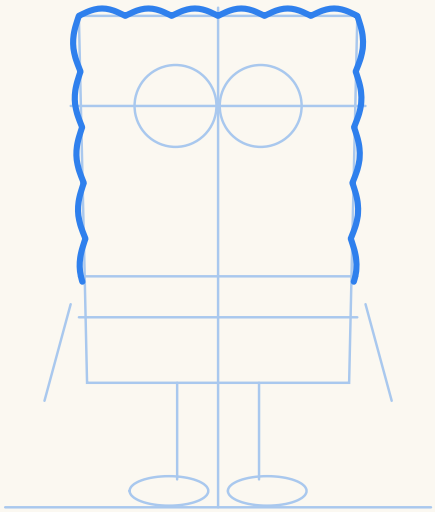
STEP 2 Add guides for eyes and limbs



Put two circles side by side on the eye line, touching at the center line. Together they take up more than half the width of the box. Then sketch a slanted line down from each side for the arms, two straight leg lines below the box, and a flat oval at the bottom of each leg for the shoes.

💡 **Tip:** If the eye circles feel too large, they're probably right. Small eyes are the most common reason a SpongeBob looks off.

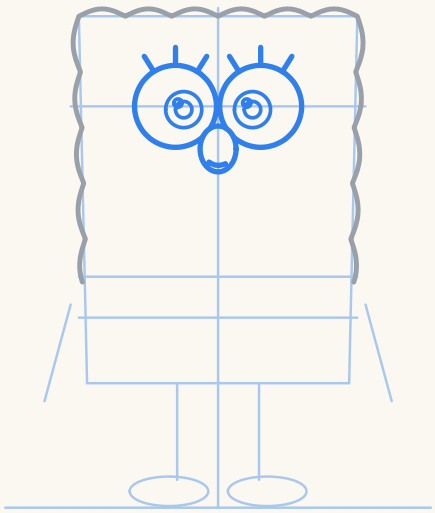
STEP 3 Make the wavy sponge body



Now trace over the top part of the box, but turn every edge into a row of soft bumps, like a cloud with flat sides. Six bumps across the top and five down each side look about right. Stop the outline at the shirt line, since the shirt covers the bottom edge.

💡 **Tip:** Make the bumps small and even. Deep, pointy waves turn the sponge into a bush.

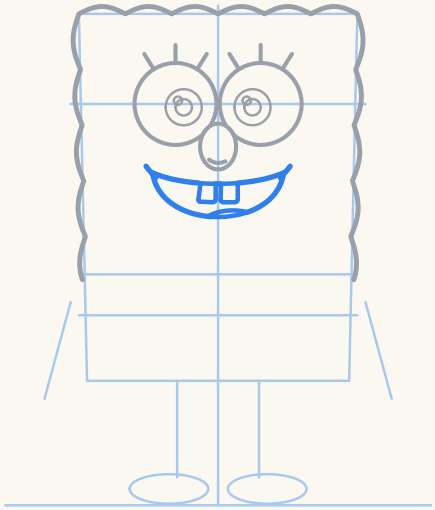
STEP 4 Draw big eyes and a round nose



Go over the two eye circles with a firmer line. Inside each, draw a round iris leaning slightly toward the middle, a small pupil and a tiny shine circle. Three short lashes fan out from the top. Between the eyes and a bit lower, draw an oval nose that overlaps both eyes.

💡 **Tip:** I draw the nose right after the eyes because it sits in front of them. Erase the bits of eye circle hidden behind it.

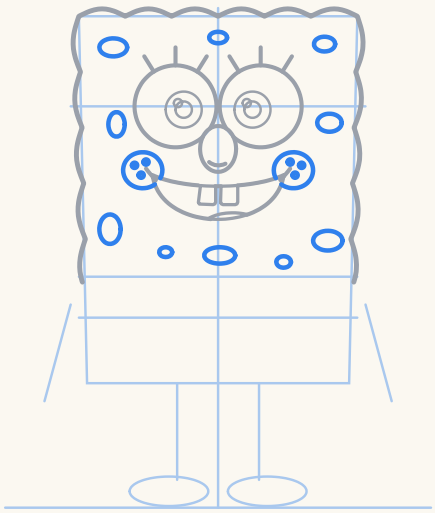
STEP 5 Add the wide buck-tooth smile



Under the nose, draw a wide smile: a gentle curve on top and a much deeper, rounder curve below. It should stretch almost as wide as the two eyes. Two small rectangles hang from the middle of the top line for the famous buck teeth, and a soft curve near the bottom marks the tongue.

💡 **Tip:** Give the corners of the mouth a tiny upward flick. It pushes the grin into the cheeks.

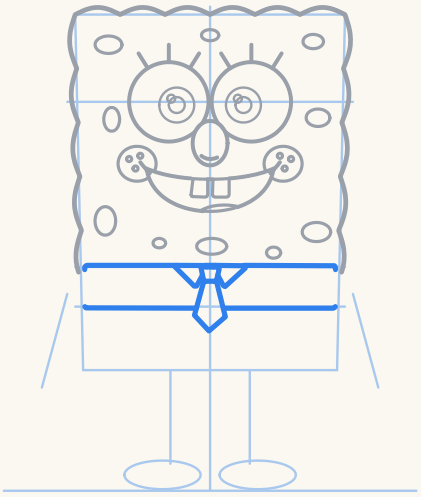
STEP 6 Draw rosy cheeks and sponge holes



At each end of the smile, draw a round cheek with three little freckle dots. Then scatter sponge holes over the body, mostly near the corners and the sides, with a few below the mouth. Mix big and small ones and tilt some of them.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the holes away from the eyes and mouth. The face needs clear space around it to stay easy to read.

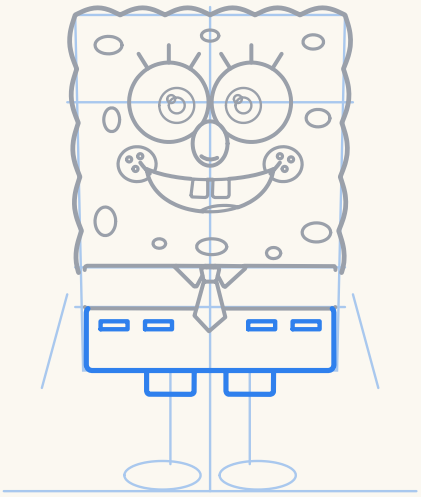
STEP 7 Draw the shirt band and red tie



Between the shirt line and the pants line, draw a band across the body for the white shirt. In the middle, add two small triangle collar points. Under them comes a little knot and a narrow tie that hangs down past the shirt and ends in a point.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the tie short and skinny. That small tie on a big body is part of what makes him funny.

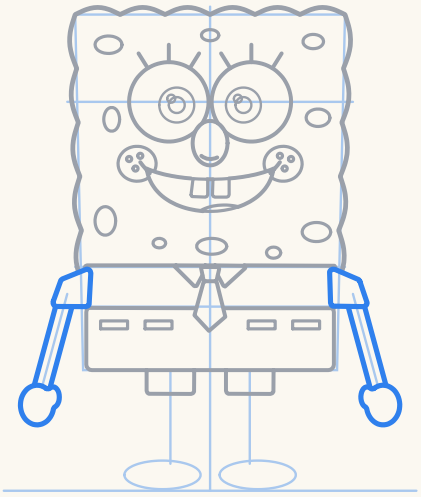
STEP 8 Add square pants and a belt



Below the shirt, draw the pants as a wide box with slightly rounded bottom corners. Inside the top edge, add four short belt dashes, two on each side of the tie. Under the pants, draw two short pant legs around the leg guides.

💡 **Tip:** Make the pants about as tall as the shirt band plus a little more. Taller pants make his body look stretched.

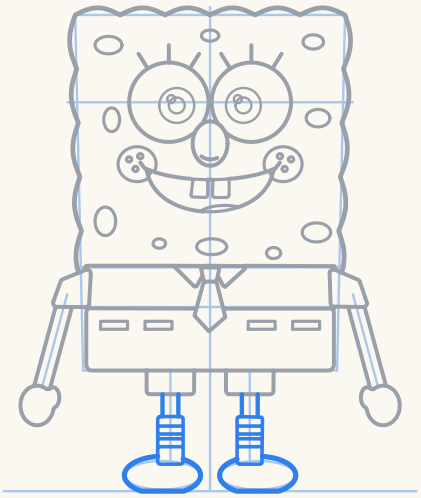
STEP 9 Draw sleeves and mitten hands



From each end of the shirt band, draw a short white sleeve that flares out. Thin arms come out of the sleeves and follow the slanted guides, but give each one two lines so it has a little width. Finish with round mitten hands and a small thumb bump pointing toward the body.

💡 **Tip:** SpongeBob's arms are skinny, not sticks. Leave a gap about the width of a pencil between the two lines.

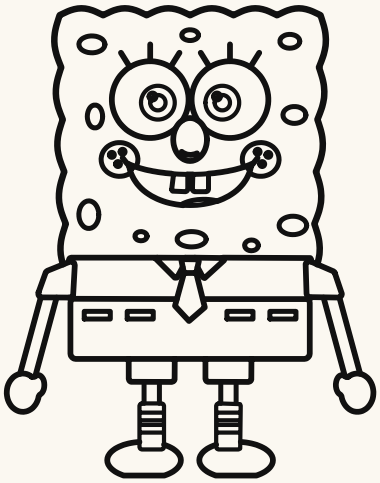
STEP 10 Add thin legs and striped socks



Draw two thin legs under the pant legs, then a tall sock over the lower half of each leg. Two lines across each sock mark the stripes. The shoes are round and shiny: trace the guide ovals as wide rounded shapes that sit flat on the ground line.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the shoes much wider than the legs. Big shoes on skinny legs give him that bouncy cartoon look.

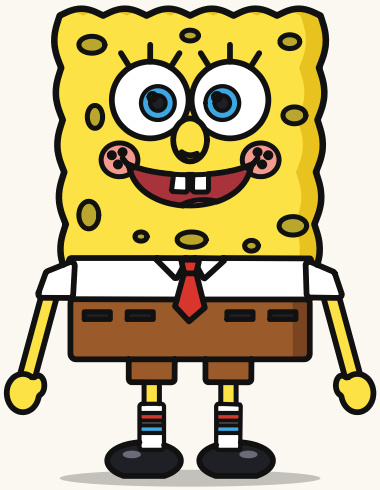
STEP 11 Ink the outline and erase the guides



Trace every keeper line with your marker. I start with the eyes and the smile, because those decide the whole expression, then the body, the clothes and the legs. Wait a minute for the ink to dry before you erase the box, the center line and the other light guides.

💡 **Tip:** Don't ink the center line or the eye line. They were only helpers, and inked guides are hard to hide.

STEP 12 Color SpongeBob



Bright yellow goes on the sponge plus the arms and legs, with olive green in the holes. The irises are light blue, the cheeks pink, the mouth dark red with a pink tongue. The shirt, teeth and socks stay white. Make the tie red, the pants brown with black belt dashes, the shoes black, and color one sock stripe red and the other light blue.

💡 **Tip:** Add a little darker yellow down the right side of the sponge. It gives the flat box some thickness.