How to Draw Yoda

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

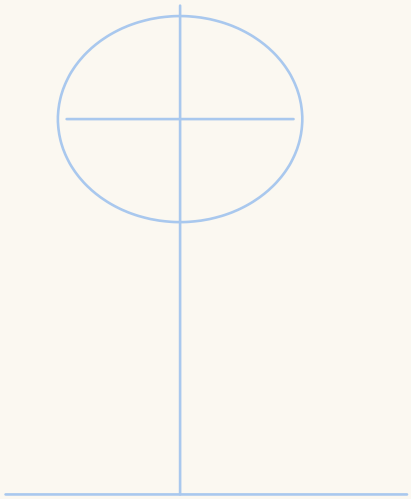
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black marker
- Colored pencils or crayons
- Plain paper

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 →

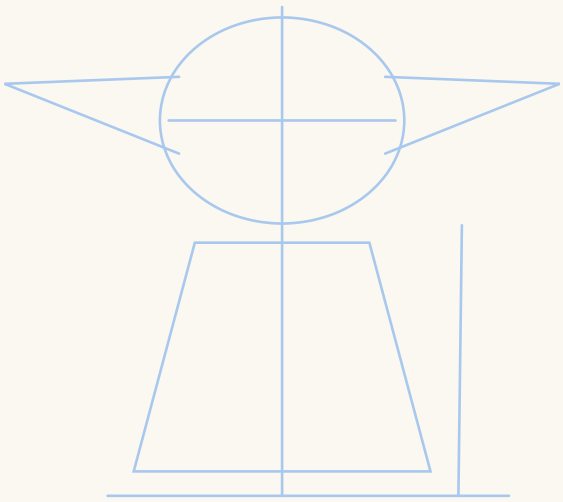
STEP 1 Draw a head oval and a center line



Draw a ground line near the bottom of the page. Then draw a straight line up the middle, and near the top an oval that's a bit wider than it is tall. Add a short line across the oval just below its middle; the eyes will sit on it.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the head big. In a chibi drawing the head is almost as tall as the whole body below it.

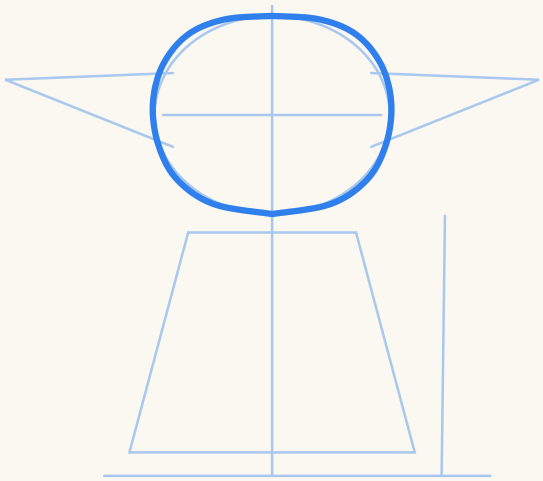
STEP 2 Sketch guides for the ears and body



From each side of the head, draw a long flat triangle that points outward, a little lower at the tip. Under the head, sketch a trapezoid that gets wider toward the ground. That's the robe. A straight line on the right marks where the stick will stand.

💡 **Tip:** Make each ear triangle longer than the head is wide. Short ears turn him into a goblin.

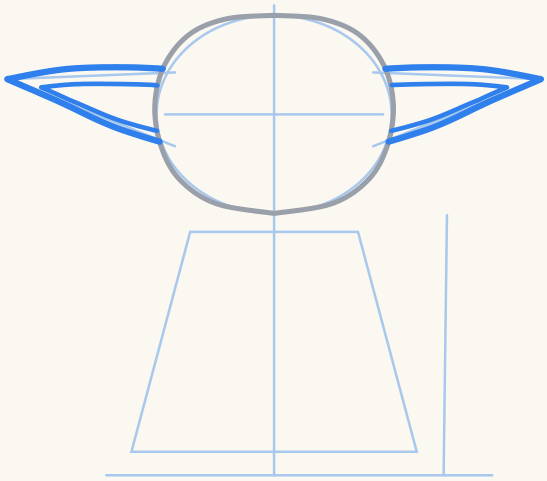
STEP 3 Shape a wide, round head



Go over the oval with a firmer line. I flatten the top a little and let the cheeks bulge out before the line rounds down to a soft chin. That squashed, wide shape is what makes him look old and wise rather than like a baby.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the chin with a gentle point, not a sharp one. A pointy chin makes the face look mean.

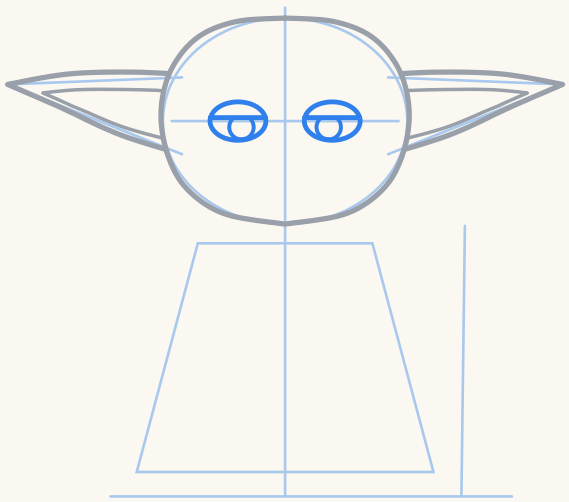
STEP 4 Draw big pointed ears



Follow your triangle guides. The top edge runs almost straight out to the tip, and the bottom edge curves back to the side of the head. Then draw a smaller copy inside each ear for the inner ear. Stop the lines where they meet the head, so the ears tuck behind it.

💡 **Tip:** Check both tips are at the same height before you move on. Uneven ears are the first thing people notice.

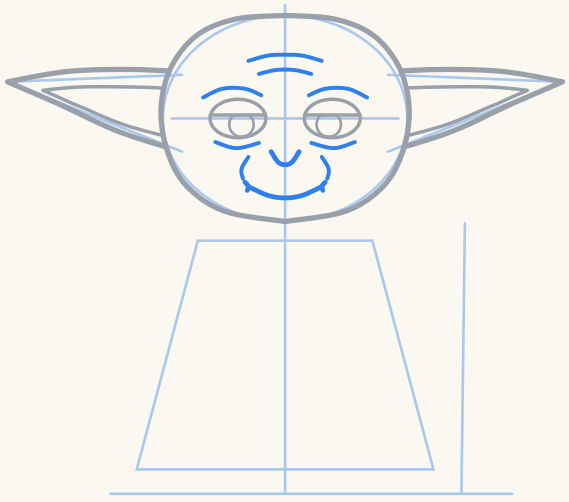
STEP 5 Add wise, half-closed eyes



Draw two wide ovals on the cross line, with a gap between them about as wide as one eye. Draw a straight line across each oval just above its middle. That's the heavy eyelid. Below it, draw a round iris that touches the lid line, then a smaller pupil.

💡 **Tip:** The lid line is the whole trick here. Without it, Yoda looks surprised instead of calm.

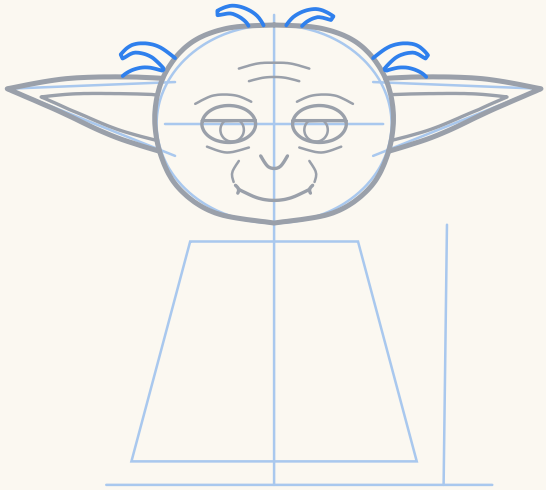
STEP 6 Draw the nose, smile and wrinkles



A small U shape between the eyes, a little lower, is the nose. Under it draw a wide, gentle smile with tiny curved corners. For age, add soft arches above the eyes and two short lines on the forehead. Small bags under the eyes come next, then one cheek line beside each end of the smile.

💡 **Tip:** Keep wrinkle lines short and light. Five or six are plenty; more and the face gets busy.

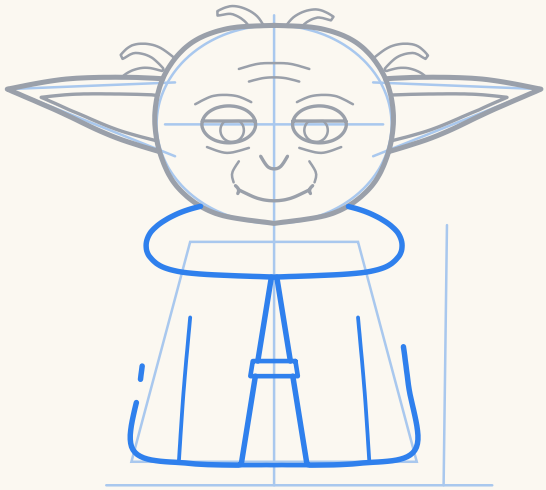
STEP 7 Add wisps of white hair



Yoda only has a few thin strands, so draw two curved wisps on top of the head and two small tufts above each ear. Each wisp is a skinny leaf shape that starts at the head and curls outward.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the wisps leaning away from the middle. If they all stand straight up, they look like antennas.

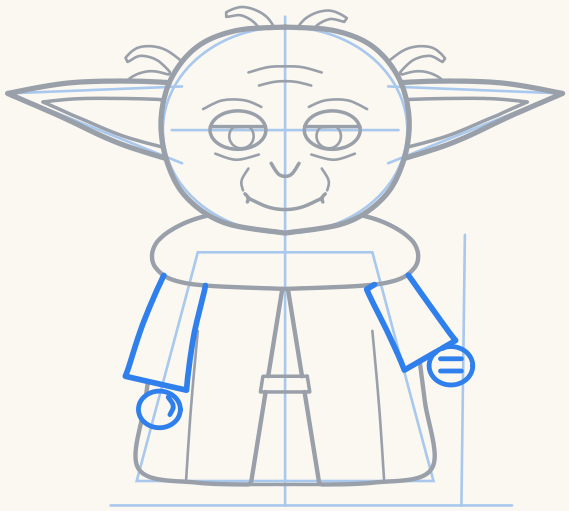
STEP 8 Draw the hood collar and robe



Right under the chin, draw a wide, puffy roll for the hood that rests on his shoulders. Below it, the cloak runs down to the ground and flares out a little at the hem. Leave a narrow triangle open in the middle to show the robe underneath, and draw a small belt across it. Two long lines on the cloak make folds.

💡 **Tip:** Make the hood roll a bit wider than the head. It gives the small body some weight and keeps him from looking top-heavy.

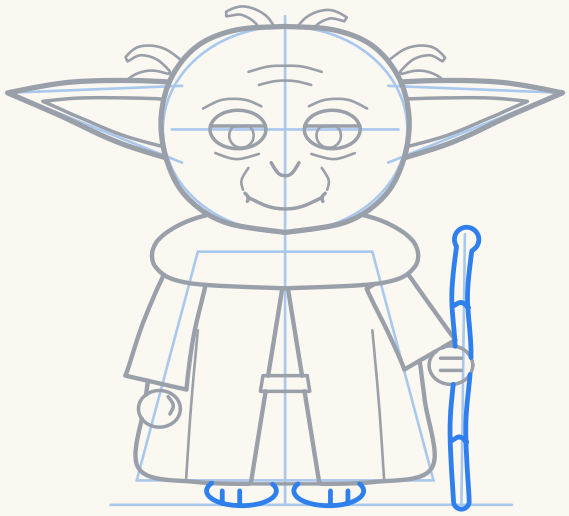
STEP 9 Add wide sleeves and mitten hands



The left sleeve hangs down beside the body and opens out wide at the cuff. The right sleeve angles out toward the stick guide. Put a round mitten hand at the end of each one, with a tiny thumb curve on the hanging hand and two grip lines on the other.

💡 **Tip:** Make the cuffs wider than the arms. Loose sleeves are what make it read as a Jedi robe.

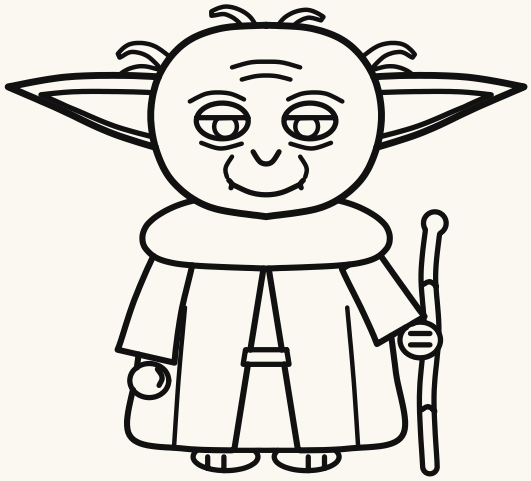
STEP 10 Draw the walking stick and feet



Follow the stick guide with two lines that wobble a little, so it looks like a twig. Give it a round knob at the top and two small knots along the way, and stop the lines where the hand covers them. At the bottom of the robe, two small oval feet peek out with short toe lines.

💡 **Tip:** A slightly crooked stick looks natural. A perfectly straight one looks like a broom handle.

STEP 11 Ink Yoda and erase the guides



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Trace every keeper line with your marker. I start at the face and work down, so my hand never smudges the wet ink. Once it's dry, erase all the light guide lines, including the triangles inside the ears.

💡 **Tip:** Use the thinnest marker you have for the wrinkles and eyes, and a thicker one for the outside outline.

STEP 12 Color your Yoda



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Light green goes on all the skin, from the ears down to the feet, with a darker green along the right side for shade. Color the inner ears pink and the irises brown. The cloak is brown, sleeves and hood included, and the robe in the middle is beige. Use light brown for the stick and belt, and leave the hair white or pale gray.

💡 **Tip:** Press lightly with the green first and add a second layer on the right side. It gives you shading without a second color.