

Drawing shonen



Shonen is a category of manga that appeals mainly to a male audience. The hero is a boy, often surrounded by a team of friends. The action is the main focus in this kind of manga.

Proportions of the body

To draw a character, you will need to learn some basic rules. The hero's head is used to determine the proportions of the rest of the body. The body is quite muscular in the chest, arms and legs. The chest is the shape of a trapezium, with broad shoulders that taper down to the legs. The hair is short, and the eyebrows are thick.



Front-on face and profile

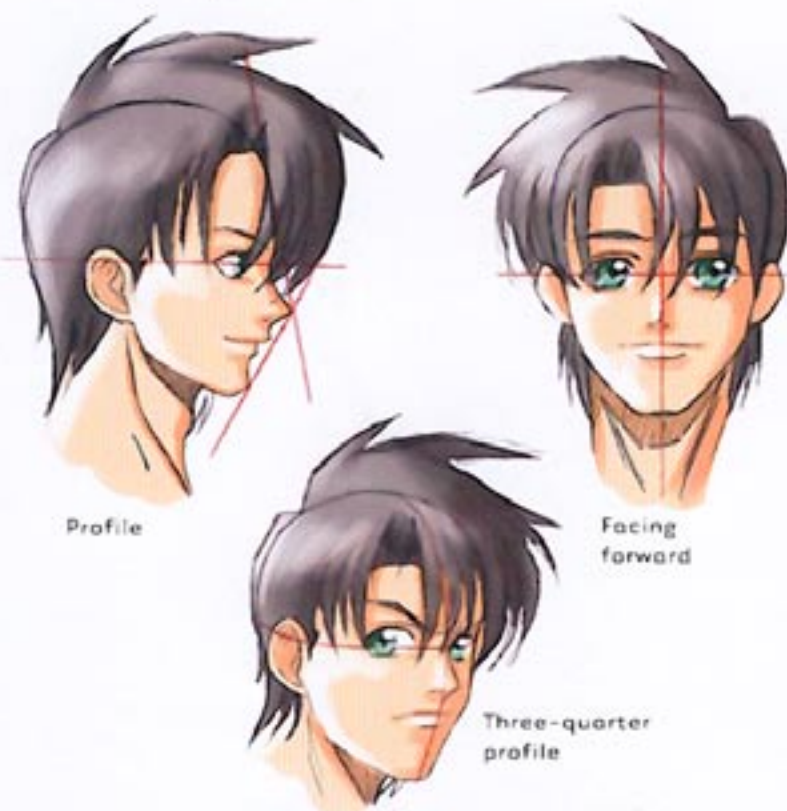
To draw a character facing forward, first draw the vertical and horizontal lines, then the oval for the head. On the horizontal axis, add the eyes. The distance between the two eyes should be approximately an eye's width. On the vertical axis, draw the nose and mouth. The ears start from the eyebrows down to the base of the nose. Following these reference marks makes it possible to draw the head in various positions.



The height of the body is approximately seven times that of the head.

Eyes

The eyes are an essential element in the drawing of any manga character: all the expressions of the hero show through his eyes. Large round eyes are often a sign of innocence. The white of the eye is darkened for evil characters.



Anxious

Suspicious

Malicious

The mouth

A few lines are enough to draw the mouth. You can add a little shading to the corners of the lips and underneath the lower lip. You can also add a light shade of blue-grey to the teeth.



Mouth closed



Mouth open



Teeth clenched

The beard and hair

To draw a masculine face, you can simply add some facial hair. The hair can be fine, thick, braided, long, short, straight or curly. The style of the hair can indicate the age and personality of the character.



Clean-shaven



Moustache



Beard

Muscles

To draw a muscular character, you need to exaggerate the volume of his arms, legs and chest. The waist can remain thin to stand out against the broad width of the shoulders.

To draw a character with the body of an athlete, outline the muscles at rest, then give them rounder volume. When drawing the arm, remember to inflate the biceps.



Playing cards



Holding a gun



Closed fist



Open hand



Holding a glass and spoon



Hands

The hands are the most difficult part of the body to draw. The length of the fingers is equal to the length of the palm, and the length of the hand is equal to the height of a head. The joints are aligned along the arc of a circle.