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Steal these  
tips from a  
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artist



# Art Thief

Heist #2

## DRAW THE KARATE GIRL

And learn foreshortening



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### What you need

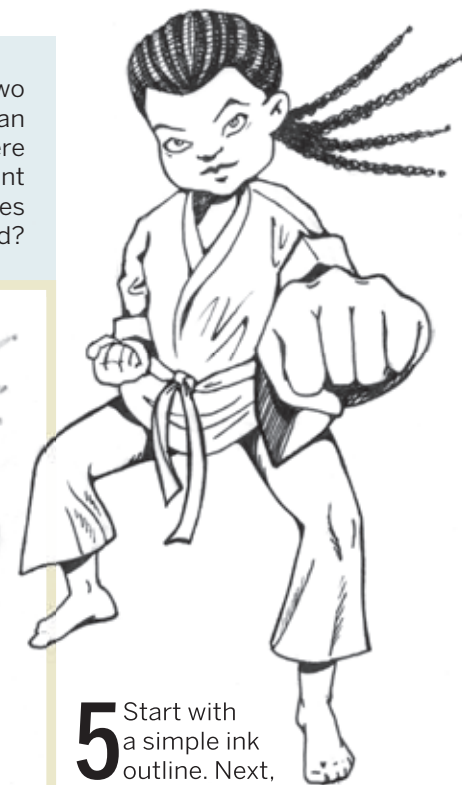
Pencil, eraser, felt tip pen.

### What is foreshortening?

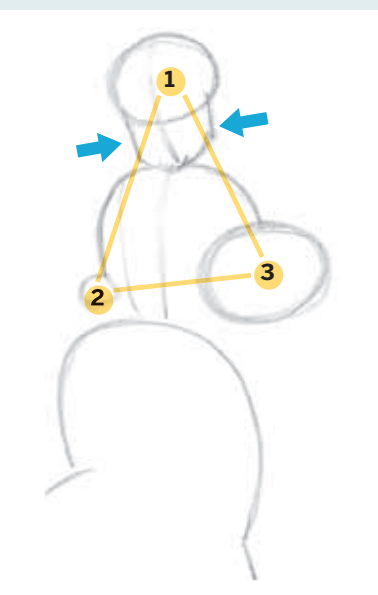
Ask a friend to model the Karate-Girl pose for you. While standing very close to your model, observe the size of the fist closest to you compared to the other. Where your eyes are in relation to the model is called the vantage point. Foreshortening is the artistic device that creates depth in your drawing by allowing the one fist to pop out and the other to recede. The closer the vantage point, the more dramatic the foreshortening.



In these two sketches, can you tell where the vantage point is and how the figures have been foreshortened?



**5** Start with a simple ink outline. Next, add shadows under the nose and chin. Add shadows under the shirt tail and pants legs. The bottom of the fist is also in shadow. Don't be afraid to thicken portions of line. Rows of scribbles make the braids, and the hair is finished with fine lines that follow the shape of the head.



**1** In pencil, start with the three ovals that form the hand buds and the crown of the head. The sides of the head are angled lines joined by the chin line. Two horseshoe shapes will become the arms and legs. Find the curved center line for the face and the torso guideline.



**2** Begin to flesh out the figure. Erase the bottom of the head oval and sketch the hairline and guideline for the eyes. Rough in the fingers, feet and clothing.



**3** Continue to refine your drawing while erasing unnecessary lines. Be sure the hair goes around the head in curved lines. The eyes, nose and mouth, too, follow the contour of the head. Add the ridges to the knuckles. Notice that the legs become narrower where they meet the feet. Add the heel bump.



**4** After a little more refining, you are now ready to begin inking with a felt tip. Now is a good time to remove some of the excess graphite (pencil) on your paper by lightly going over it with a kneaded eraser. This will make the ink stick to the paper better.

Always wait for the ink to dry completely before erasing. You have completed the Karate Girl!

**Next week's heist:** Draw a ladybug.