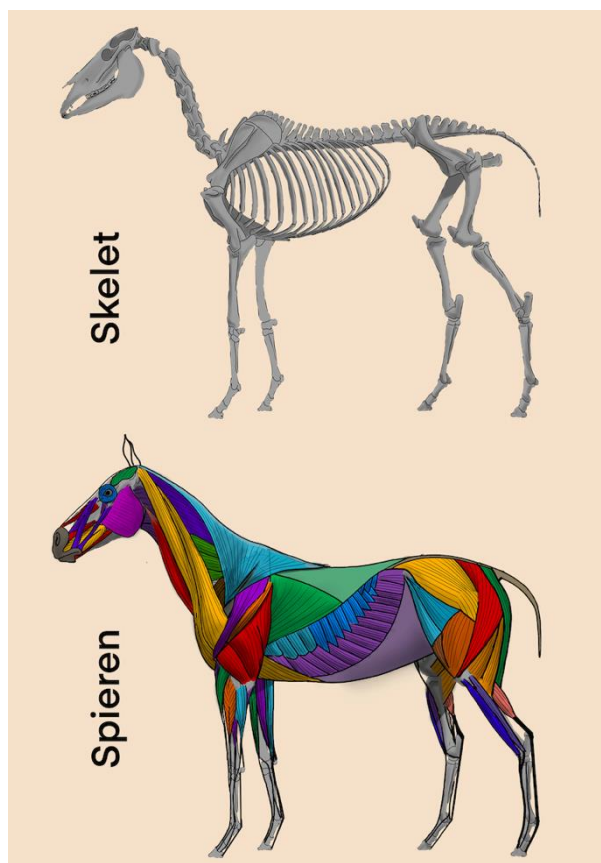


# DRAWING A HORSE



## Anatomy

An anatomy study is very important because then you know exactly how a horse is constructed. When you study the animal in detail you can see what is under the skin. The muscles and bones make from the animal a beautiful machine.



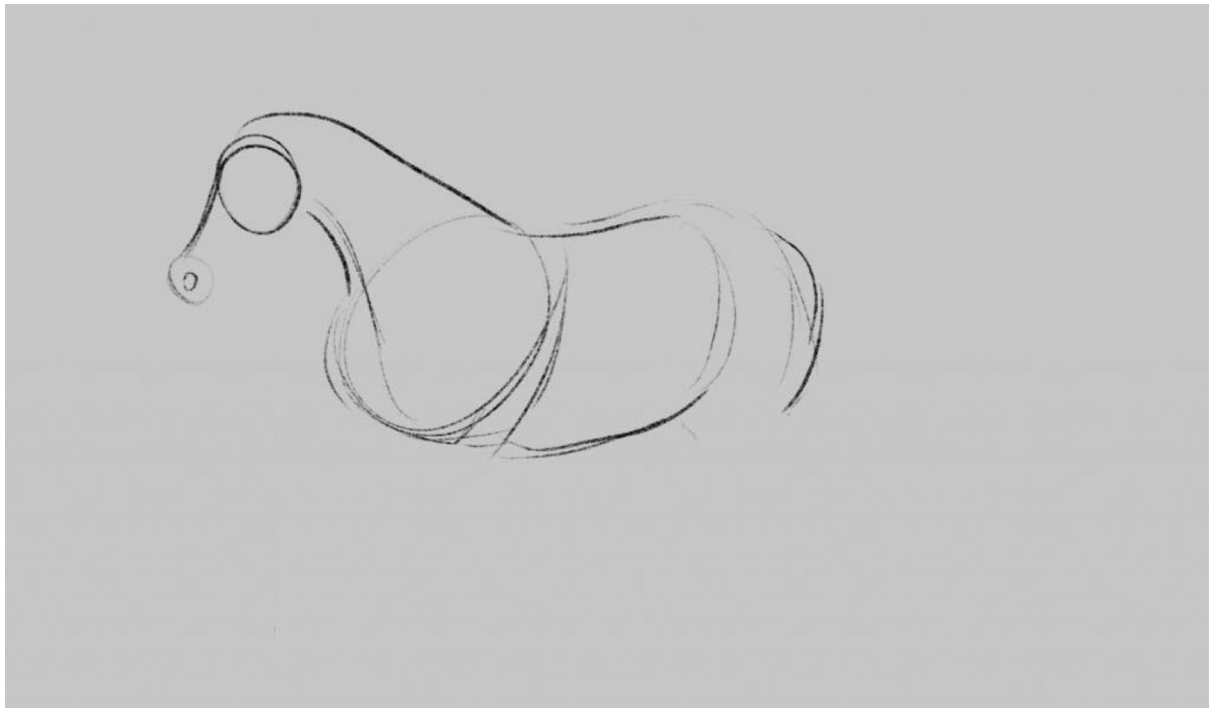
You really don't need to know the exact anatomy, it's more about ultimately getting an idea of how to put the horse on paper.

## **Horse drawing | step-by-step**

When you have a rough idea about the anatomy, you are ready to start drawing horses. First try to get the essentials down on paper.

You work from large to smaller and smaller, it is a process or step-by-step plan that constantly returns

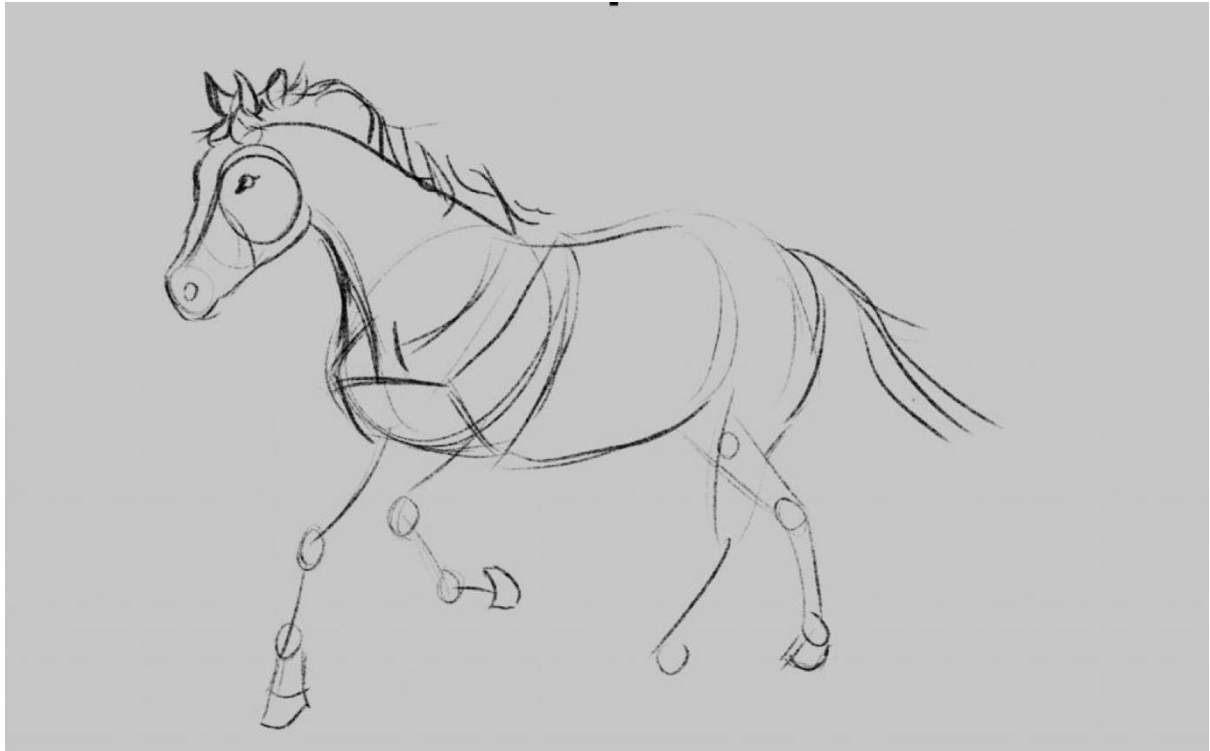
### **Step 1 | Smooth lines and large shapes**



Start with large shapes and smooth lines to get the gist on paper. Start at the head and place a centreline over the head. Then draw a circle to estimate the size of the body, if this is correct, put a few construction lines to create the shape of the neck.

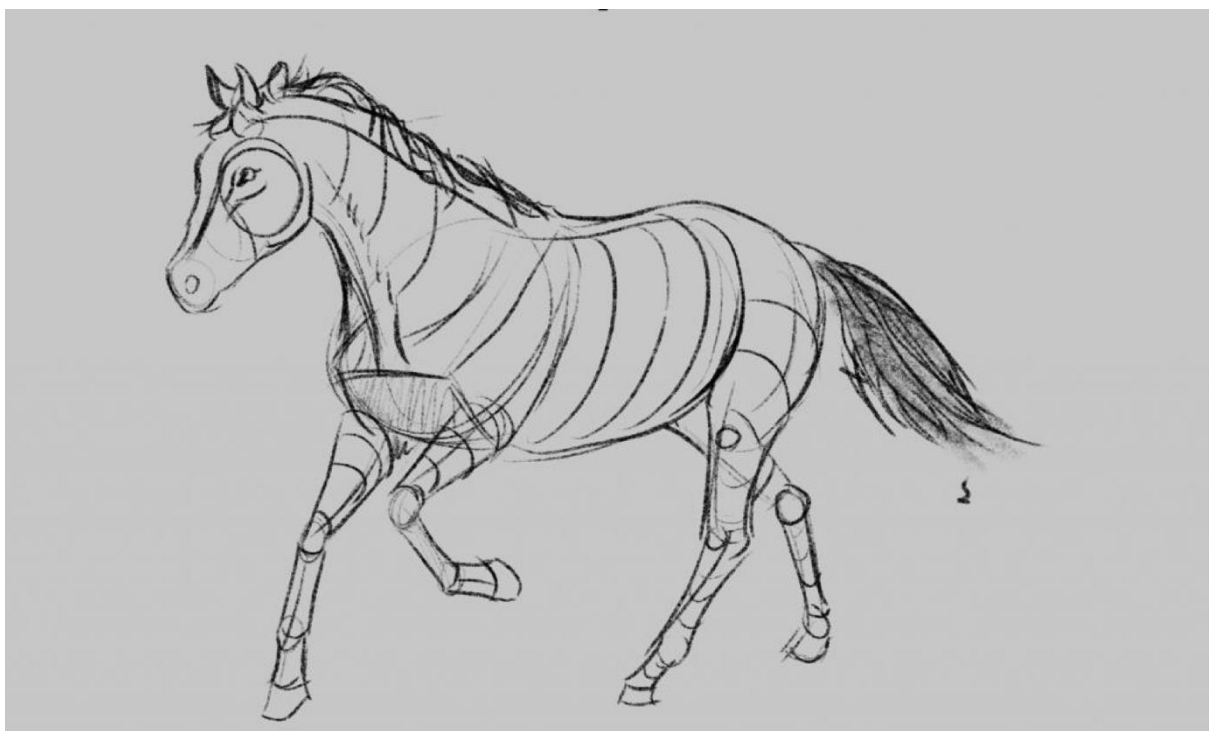
As you get more drawing experience, these steps go automatically, always think from head to butt. Also think of shapes such as head, neck, shoulder, belly and legs.

## Step 2 | More construction lines for head and legs



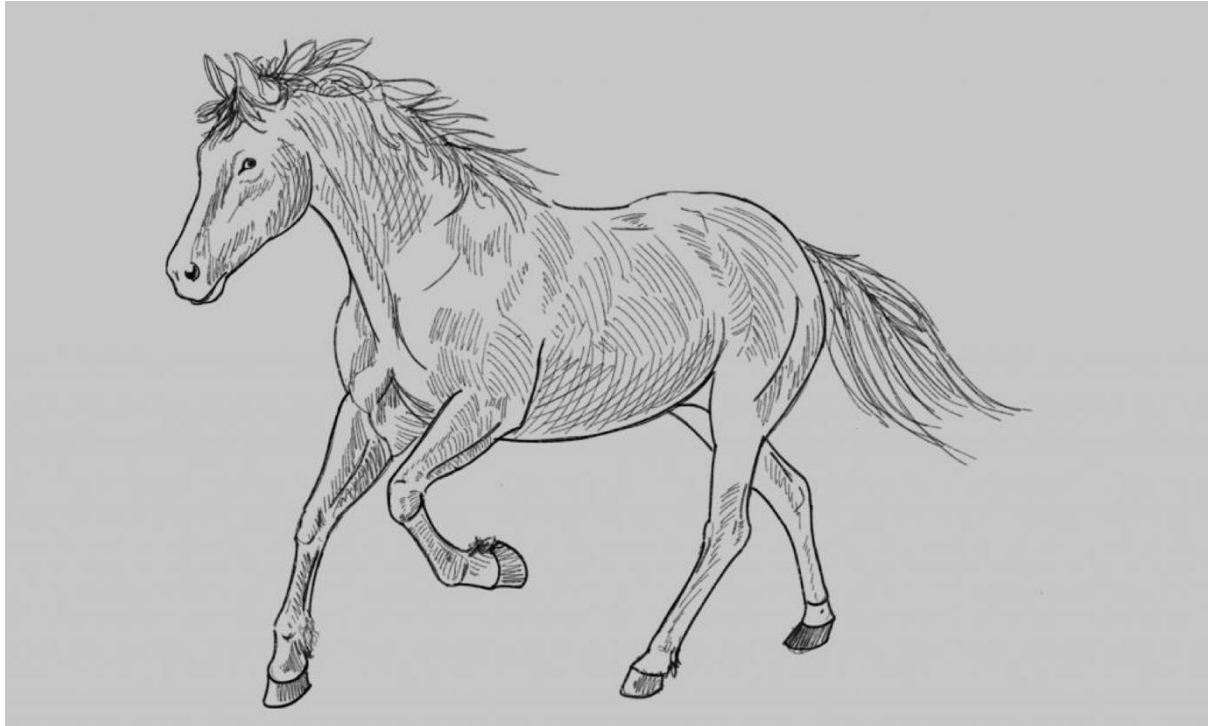
The next step is to get more clarity in the shapes. We give the head more clarity and draw a cornerstone where the neck and body meet. This shape can be used in the construction to indicate the legs. Draw circles on the joint points of the legs. Try to indicate the direction with construction lines. Draw a piece of the tail and mane.

## Step 3 | Smaller basic shapes and ellipses



Slowly but surely we see all the horse emerge. You see cone shapes and cylinders applied to the legs. If you now find it difficult to see depth in these 2D shapes you can draw ellipse shapes over the shape.

#### **Step 4 | Shading**



If you do not have coloured pencils at your disposal, you can indicate the areas within the shape through the hatching technique. If you are shading try to follow the shape, it is also possible to indicate shadows. For shadows, for example, you shade it from a different direction, for example, as was done on the stomach. "More tone is more line". So, keep an eye on the tonal value you want to have when you shade.

#### **Step 5**

You could have stopped at Step 4 for just drawing the horse.



This one is coloured in and shadow has been added.  
Start with a middle tone, then colour in the dark boxes and add the highlights.

Congratulations if you have followed the steps above you can now draw horses. This is probably just the beginning and you will be drawing many more horses because you will only get better if you keep drawing.  
And ... trust that your horses will be much better than in this example.

**Do you prefer cartoon drawing? That's another way of doing it!**