



start with the overall
shape when you
compose your page

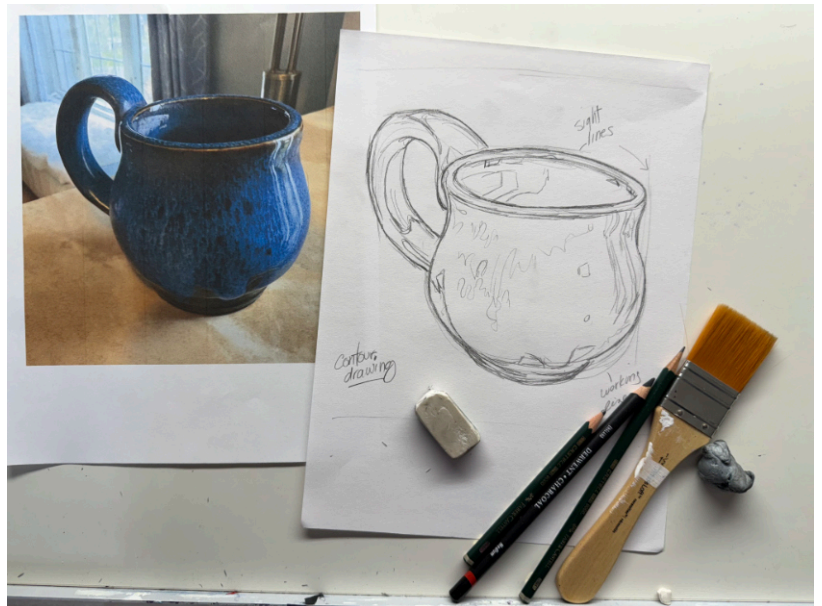
seek the shapes
within the object

Contour line drawing

The essence of line

In nature we don't see lines. We see the edges of shapes. Artists use lines to describe these edges on a flat surface. Apart from its role in describing edges, the line has character of its own. It can be bold or delicate, energetic or graceful. Lines are expressive of both of the subject drawn on paper and of the person who drew it.

Most beginning artists are afraid to put a line down. Most seem to believe they'll minimize errors if they commit to putting down lots of short lines. Those drawings can look sketchy and unsure. If drawing a fur ball, this is effective, but when drawing solid objects with clearly defined edges, these lines look hesitant and timid. Practicing contour line drawing will develop your confidence.



Start with a Contour Drawing
of any or all of these objects.

