

DRAWING SKILLS #1; - QUICK DRAW

This is a (very) quick exercise...

- Work on whatever paper you have
- Great to get started experimenting with drawing, to refresh your drawing skills, or as a 'warm up' before tackling a more in depth drawing



Find an item that you like - it could be a flower, an ornament, a piece of fruit, a mug - whatever you have handy - and place it on a table in front of you.

Find a PEN (not a pencil) and a blank bit of paper - it can be large or small, the back of an envelope, whatever you have - i like using post it notes and a sharpie - if you have a kitchen timer, or a timer on your phone - this will be useful too!

The task is to draw the item you've selected - but as QUICKLY as possible.

If you have a timer - set it for 30 seconds - this is your MAXIMUM time allowance.

Aim to get the general shape, or the idea of the item described on your paper, before the timer goes. Don't get too worried about the finer details or perfect lines.



Repeat this again with the same item, and then try something else... Do you get better with practice, or was your first drawing actually more instinctive and appealing?

Any of your drawings that you like, keep - I stick mine into my sketchbook, any you don't like - straight in the recycling bin. Pop a date on the ones you keep, so that if you keep practicing, you can see how you change.

The idea of this exercise, is to encourage drawing more freely, and to start analysing shapes - what is the key shape of your item - what details are important to be able to identify it, what can be skipped...

Don't worry about changing or erasing lines that aren't quite right (this is why we're not using a pencil), just draw over them or work around them.

Don't worry about light and shade - just try and get an outline, or an idea of your item onto the paper...

