

The Head

Part 1: Proportions

Measurements

The head can essentially be broken up into thirds vertically and fifths horizontally. If we take the face plane of the head, 1) starting at the top of the forehead/hairline and running down to the chin. Then if we break the face plane up into perfect thirds, 2) we will find that the brow ridge and top of the ear will fall one third of the way down, 3) and the nose and bottom of the ear two thirds of the way down to the chin. Now if we divide the width of the head into fifths we will find that the middle fifth defines the width of the nose which is then flanked by the eyes, and those by the width of the head.

If we now look at the head in profile we find that our vertical measurements still hold true, but our horizontal obviously change. The head in profile will fit into a perfect square, if we take that square and cut it in half both vertically and horizontally, we find that the ear rides on the back of the horizontal halfway and in between the brow and nose marks we found earlier. If we find the vertical halfway, we can use that to place both the bottom of the eye as well as where the neck connects to the back of the head. A common mistake with connecting the neck to the head is placing the neck on the center of the head like a lollipop. Avoid this mistake by using this measurement.

Key Points

Some things to look for that will help you with placement are a) the center of the eye to the corner of the mouth b) a diagonal line from the outside of the eyes socket to the wing of the nostril to the center of the lips c) the angle of the tear duct to the wing of the nostril d) compare the width of the head to the height of the head

