

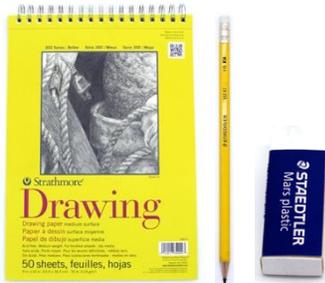
## draw from the COLLECTION ... at home!

### **Animals in Art**

Learn to draw a horse through combining and refining shapes that best resemble its unique characteristics.

#### **Supplies:**

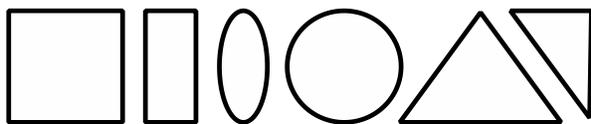
- pencil
- paper
- eraser



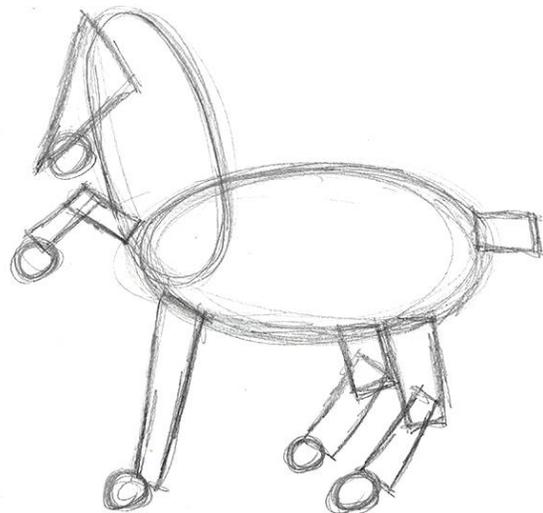
Chinese (Tang Dynasty, 618-90) *Dancing Horse*, 7<sup>th</sup> century, earthenware with pigments.  
Gift of Mrs. Howard C. Davidson in memory of her mother, Mrs. Harrie G. Carnell. 1943.39

### **Step 1**

Using only basic geometric shapes (ex: circle, square, triangle, etc.), draw body parts of the horse. Use the shapes that most closely resemble each part (ex: triangle for head).

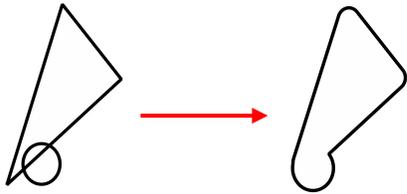


**Helpful hint:** draw lightly and allow shapes to overlap each other.

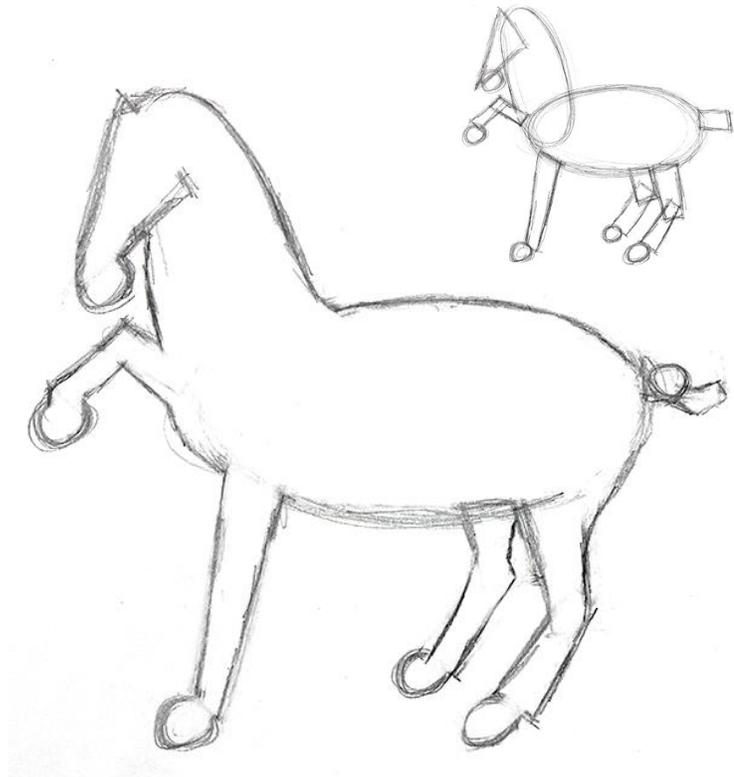


## **Step 2**

Erase overlapping lines, leaving only the outer contour of the horse. Round off sharp edges and smooth connections between shapes.

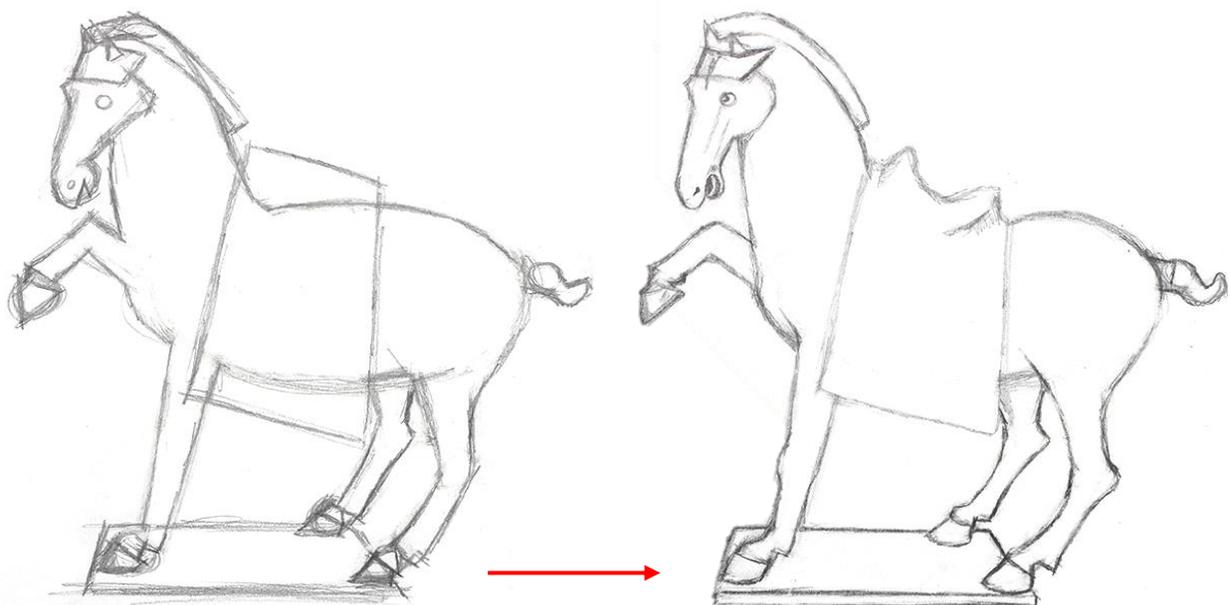


**Helpful hint:** pay close attention to the shapes created by the negative spaces (ex: shape between horse's mouth and raised leg). Adjust accordingly if spaces between parts appear too wide or shallow.



## **Step 3**

Lightly add the basic shapes of all additional details (ex: circle for eyes, trapezoid for saddle, etc.). Erase where necessary. Refine each detail to best resemble its corresponding part (ex: refine hooves from circles to rounded trapezoid, indent top of rectangle for saddle, etc.).



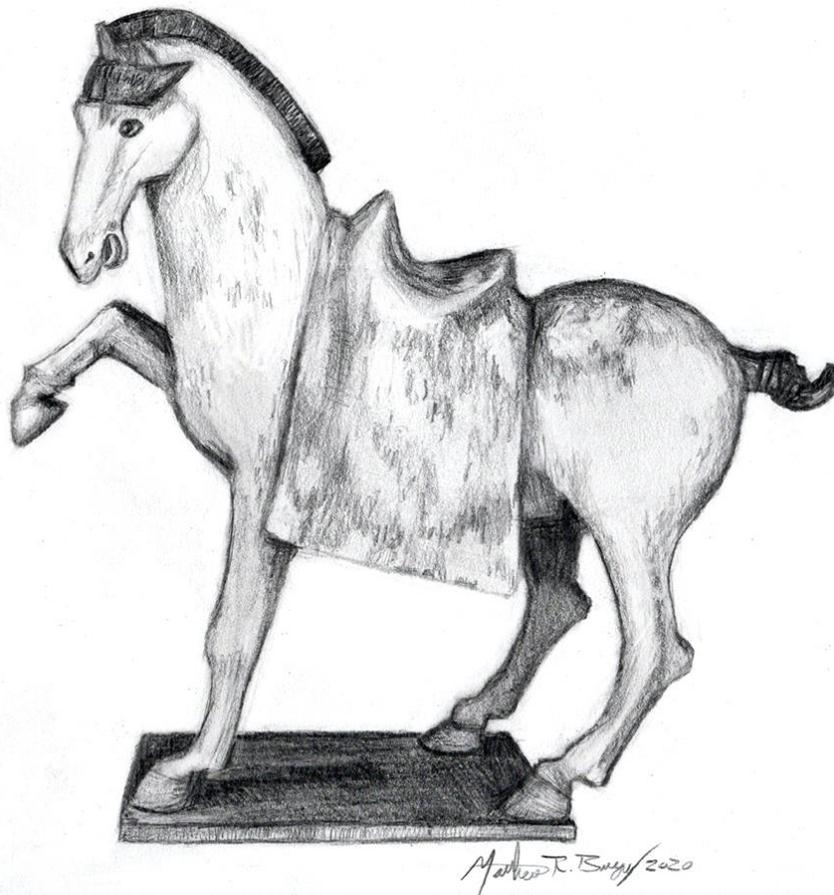
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## Step 4

Add value and shading.

**Helpful hint:** build value by layering hatching or cross-hatching marks. Drawing should feature very dark areas as well as very light areas. Press hard with pencil to create dark areas or use pencil with extra soft lead (ex: 6B, 8B, etc.).

**Helpful hint:** use fingers or tissue paper to smear pencil and create gradients of value or spread value quickly over a large area. Use eraser to draw in light values or highlights afterwards.



**draw** from the  
**COLLECTION**  
... at home!

## Extra Challenge

[Draw another horse from the DAI's collection in color!](#)

## Resources

[Learn more about shading and understanding shadows in drawing](#)

[Try one of these seven strategies for adding value with pencil](#)

[Learn more about Tang dynasty ceramics](#)

## Questions?

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