

Presidential Figure Drawing

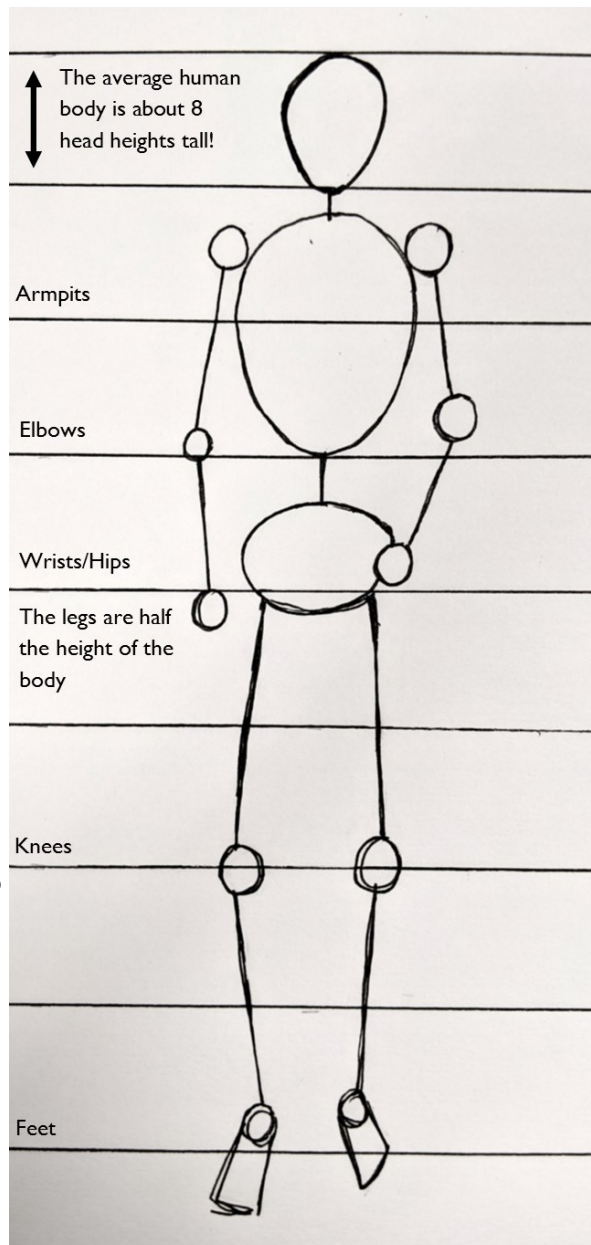
Artists have been painting portraits of the Presidents of the United States ever since George Washington became our country's first president! It is important that presidential portraits make the president look like a confident, brave, and capable leader.

Think about how your body posture can communicate different emotions. If you want to look confident, do you straighten your back and hold your chin up? How does your body move when you feel brave?

In the paintings and photography of the U.S. Presidents within the museum collection, notice how the presidents stand, sit, and what their facial expressions look like. Create your own drawing of a U.S. President using figure drawing techniques to capture their likeness and emotion!

Figure Drawing Tips:

- When beginning your drawing, use simple shapes to draw the frame or skeleton of the body, like an oval for the head, circles for joints, and lines for arms and legs.
- Be careful not to add too many details too quickly! Make sure the size, or proportion, of the body parts match and seem right before you begin to add clothing or facial features.
- What makes the person you are drawing unique? Do they have glasses like Teddy Roosevelt? A beard like Abraham Lincoln? Include these features so people will recognize who you are drawing!



Ross Rossin, Detail of George Washington in **Commander in Chief Project**, 2019