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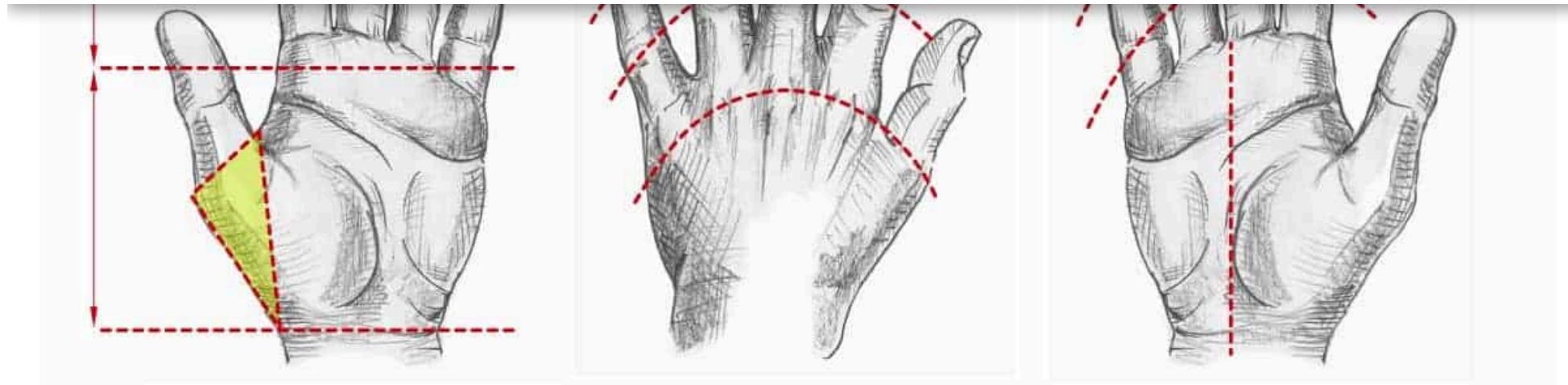
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# How to Draw a Hand

## Analyze Your Own Hand

Take a look at your flat hand and note the following:

1. The length of the fingers is roughly equal to the length of the palm or back of the hand.
2. The middle finger is the highest and forms the top of an arc comprised of the other fingers. All three sets of knuckles and joints follow the same arc.
3. The base of the thumb is a triangular shape attached to the side of the palm.
4. The palm is distributed evenly on both sides of the middle finger.



## Let's Sketch

Once you're done with your self-study, it's time to begin sketching.

### 1. Start with a Square

Begin by drawing the general shape of the palm or back of the hand as a square, slightly wider at the top than the bottom.

### 2. Add Finger Lines

Loosely add lines for the fingers, beginning with the middle fingers and arcing the others down around it.

### 3. "Box" the Fingers

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## 5. Fill in the Details

Add the finer details, including rounding the fingertips, adding fingernails, and sketching in the knuckle and joint lines.

1.

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Once students have mastered drawing a basic hand, experiment with different gestures, including holding up one or two fingers or making a fist.



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*If any students want to take gesture drawing even further, check out our [Gesture Drawing 101](#) article for more tips!*

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Have you taught your students how to draw hands? Do you have any tips or tricks to share with your fellow art teachers? Let us know in the comments below!

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