Quick Trees

Very fast template and freehand outline symbols

Trees should be drawn at about two-thirds to three-fourths of their mature, ultimate spread. This gives a fair representation of the impact of the planting design in the near future, rather than in twenty or thirty years.

Always use a light guideline and show the center of the tree.

Angular outline
Angular outline with half-circles at the corners
Double wavy line
Irregular puffy edge
Simple single circle template outline
Double circle template outline, offset
Freehand double outline around a light guideline circle
Thick and thin double outline with quick branching
Circular outline with small Vs removed
Bites out of the cookie
Trees with Foliage Texture

A simple shape is repeated around the edge and piled up on the shaded side to give an appearance of roundness.

Leave a large area of each tree symbol uncluttered by detail.

Flower doodles
Square-shaped doodles
Hatch lines to show palm fronds
Circle doodles
Dots or stipple marks
Star doodles
Linked Us
Loose squiggles with thick and thin lines
Coniferous Trees

Sequence for Radial Line Symbols
1. Set up guide circle.
2. Place a larger circle template around it.
3. For drafted symbols, draw lines with the triangle on top of the circle template.
4. For freehand symbols, place the smaller template over the larger one and draw lines from one side to the other.
5. Make sure that all lines cross in the center.

All lines the same

The addition of more lines on one side gives an added depth.

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Deep and shallow U shapes
Plant Groups

The symbols shown here and on the next three pages can be used to represent forests and groves of trees at larger scales or groups of shrubs at smaller scales.

Begin with a series of circles as light guidelines. Vary their size a little.

A simple, heavy outline is the fastest method.

Angular lines, like a stop sign, are used for outlines.

Centers may or may not be located.

Loose wavy lines, double or single, are used for outlines.
More Deciduous Shrubs or Tree Groups

Angular edges

Scalloped edges

Quick radial "match-stick" lines to suggest branching

Double outline

Double stop sign, thick and thin

Irregular outline with some dots

Puffy outline with some pencil hatching on one side to show roundness
Hedges or Rows

Informal hedge
Quick outline, with small chunks added and removed

Tropical or large-leaved plants

Box shapes for a trimmed hedge and to define space

Rounded, smooth edges that show two pen sizes overlapping
Ground Covers

Large areas of grass may be left untextured or shown with a stipple pattern of dots near the edges. For smaller areas where a denser tone is desired, the patterns shown here may work.

A fast method to obtain consistent rows is to tape two triangles together, leaving a small gap of $\frac{1}{4}$-inch to $\frac{1}{2}$-inch. Choose a doodle and quickly stroke between the triangles.

Best results are obtained by keeping rows horizontal and parallel. Make sure that successive rows touch or overlap slightly.
More Ground Covers

The basic line shape shown on the left is repeated to form a build-up of pattern as shown on the right.

These shapes can be drawn freehand with no horizontal guides.

- Connected squares
- Downward arches
- Upward arches
- Connected loops
- Diagonal Ws
- Snake loops
Water

Natural waterways, such as ponds, lakes, and streams can be left white. The addition of smooth, flowing lines near the edges give a hint of motion.

Waterfalls and rapids should be left white or be indicated with a few dots.

If a toned surface is desired for contrast, use closely spaced, thin parallel lines. Leave some breaks.
Pools and Fountains

Straightedge. Uniform distance between lines.

Freehand lines. Some variation in spacing.

Reflecting pool. Lightly ruled cross lines. Allow pen to skip.


Concentric circles drawn with template. Shadow lines added. Fast.

Quick streak lines. Gives a hint of surface reflections.
Prepared Hardscape Patterns

Many pattern shapes are available with adhesive backing. They are trimmed to fit the desired form. They are expensive, but fast and precise and are useful if fine detail is needed.

Irregular patterns are best for curving forms.

Brick

Square-cut stone

Decking
Freehand Buildings

Quicker than drafted buildings, freehand structures are permissible if accuracy is not critical.

Roof shading is effective on larger-scale plans where ground details are less important. Leave buildings simple on small-scale plans. Use guidelines or graph paper.

Avoid roof patterns if large overhangs exist.

Roof shading adds a three-dimensional quality and indicates light direction.
Shadows bring depth to a plan by indicating relative heights of objects.

If the north arrow points up on the plan, the most realistic direction for shadows in the northern hemisphere is above the symbol. When the shadow pattern is critical (e.g., solar studies), use this direction.

A more powerful three-dimensional effect is obtained by placing shadows on the lower side to the left or right. This is because our eyes are used to having light come from above.

When the larger tree shadow falls onto the top of shrubs, it should be shortened and made with an irregular edge.
Sequence for Drawing Shade Tree Shadows

1. Start with the circular tree symbol. Assume a sun direction.
2. Move the template in the sun direction and draw a light guideline.
3. Fill the void.

Black shadows are best, but a toned shadow can be made by drawing a series of parallel lines which follow the sun direction.

For complex outlines, repeat the symbol shape around the shadow guide circle.
Leave a thin white space to define the edge of the symbol.
Sequence for Drawing Coniferous Tree Shadows

1. Start with the circular tree symbol and assume a sun direction.

2. Offset circle guideline.

3. Fill the space.

To show pyramidal tree form, draw a cone-like guideline. The centerline follows the sun direction.

Parallel strokes with a thick pen give a textured edge. Leave white space.

Draw a loose shadow edge.
Fast Shadows

- Light direction
- Chisel-point marker: Keep the edge of the marker parallel to the light direction.
- Follow back edge of symbol.

The edge of a regular marker can also be used to quickly add shadow.

A gray marker can be used to reveal lines under the shadow.

Light direction

When symbols are textured to show the shaded side of the object, the shadow must correspond to the same light direction.
Composite Shadows

- Edge of shadow reflects edge of symbol.
- Larger tree has larger shadow.
- Shadow shows on bottom of pool.
- Shadow gets longer as steps descend.
- Small trees in raised planter cast longer shadows.
- Broken edge
- Light direction

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