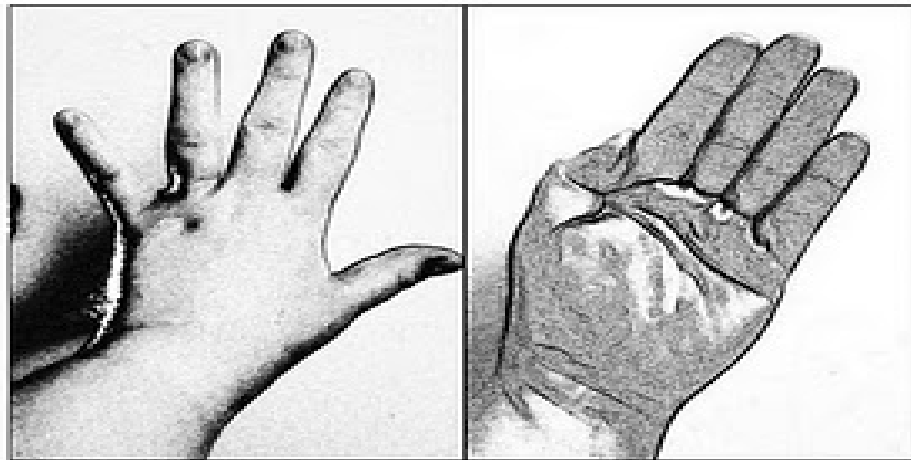
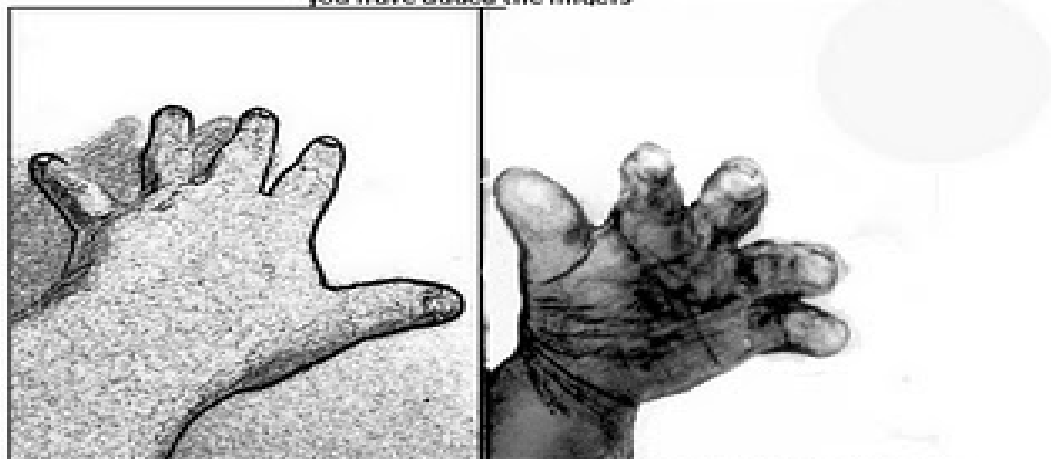




Start by copying a simple picture of a hand. Note that the arm angles in at the wrists and then widens out at the beginning of the hand. Most beginners forget to narrow the arm at the wrist and try to draw the fingers coming straight out of the arm. It is helpful to lightly draw a mitten shape first to get the overall shape of the hand and then erase it later after you have added the fingers.



In order to accurately draw hands, it is necessary to understand the concept of foreshortening. The fingers appear to be shorter in the second pictures because you are looking at them from the side view and they are moving away from you in space.

I took the two photographs above and the two photographs below of the exact same hand from the exact same distance. Yet the fingers in the bottom two hands appear to be much shorter. They also appear to get narrower as they get farther away.

This is the optical illusion known as perspective.