

When viewed from the front, a human skull is roughly oval - or egg-shaped.

The eyeline is roughly half way down the oval

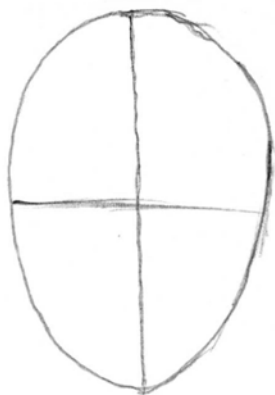
Most people put the eyes too far up.

The nose, in turn, is about halfway between the eyes and the chin...

... the mouth is slightly above halfway between the nose and the chin.

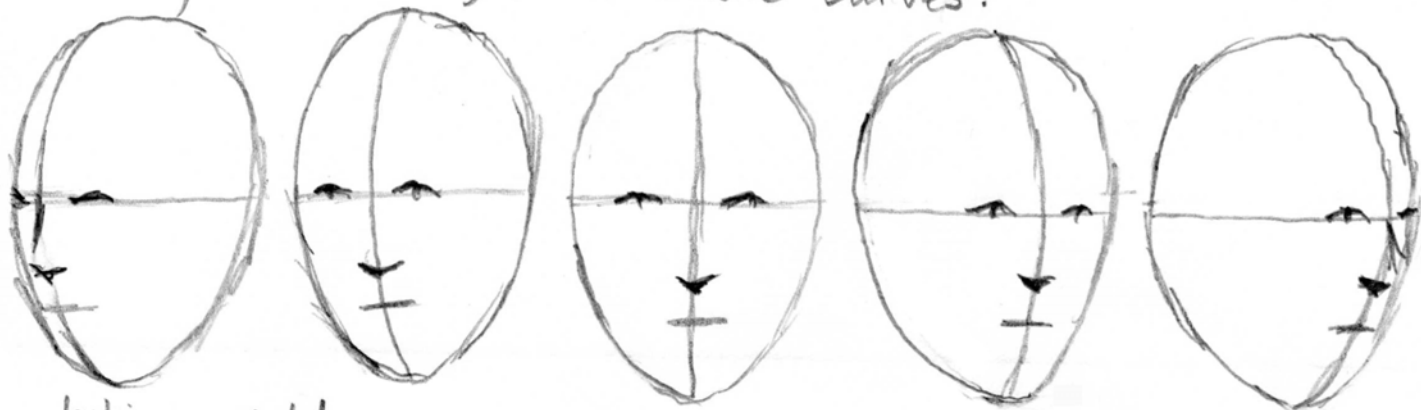


The sketches on these pages are by Linus Rollman from images from Faces of Africa



From straight on, a head can be divided into quarters by the eyeline and the midline.

As a face turns, the mid-line curves:



looking right ...

straight on ... looking left

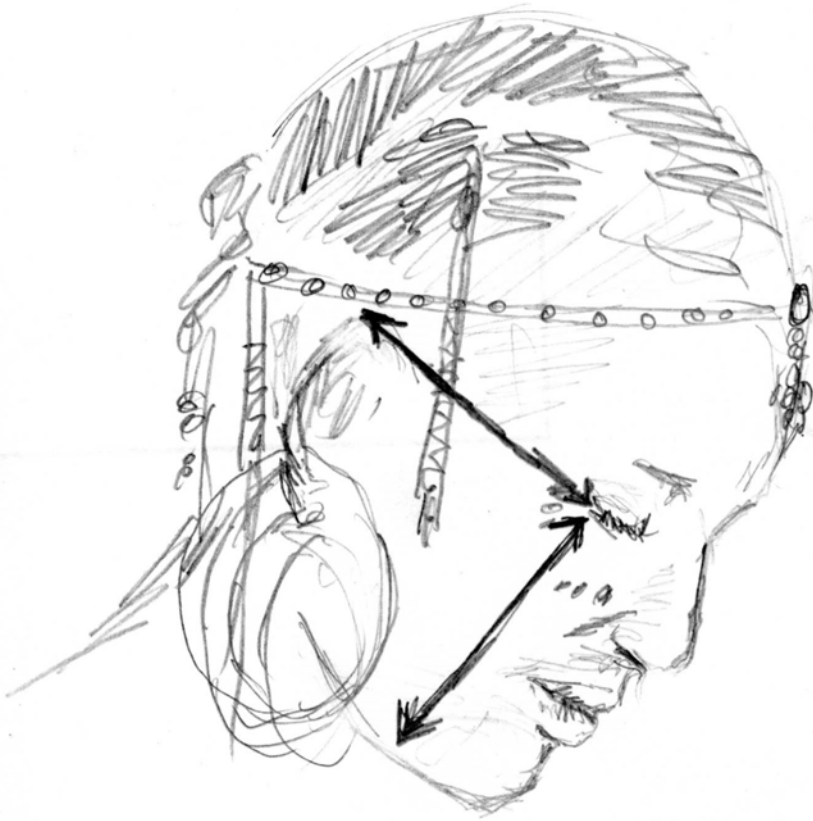


People's eyes are roughly
one eye-width apart ...

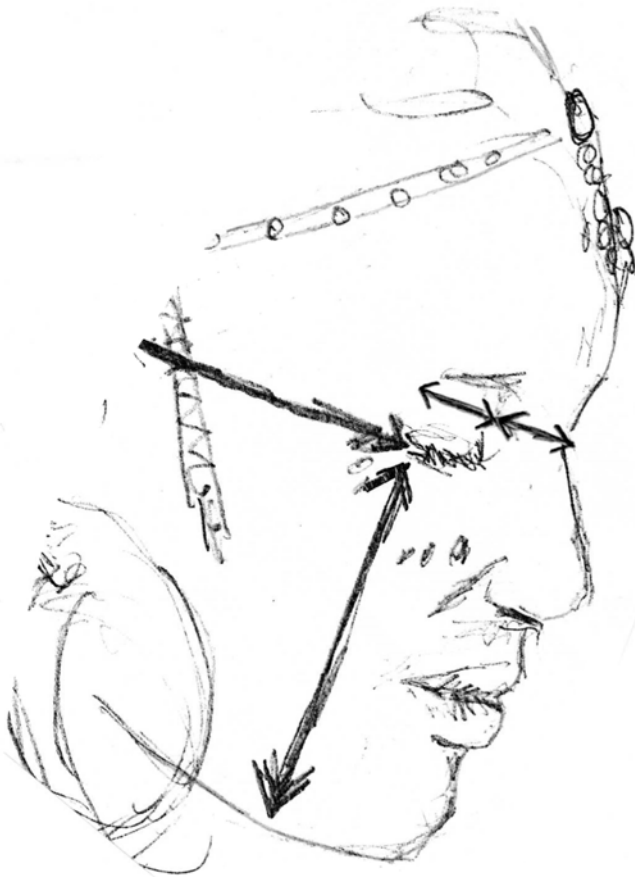
... and the corners of a
person's mouth are
roughly directly below
the middle of her
eyes.



People's necks are
almost always
wider than you
are tempted
to draw them
... necks are
generally almost
as wide as faces!



In true profile, the distance from the corner of a person's eye to the back of her ear is roughly equal to the distance between her eye and her chin. ...



... and the width of her eye is roughly equal to the distance between her eye and the bridge of her nose.

All of these guidelines can and should be bent depending on the angle from which you are viewing a person, the person's expression, age, and so on. The most important thing is: observe, observe, observe!

