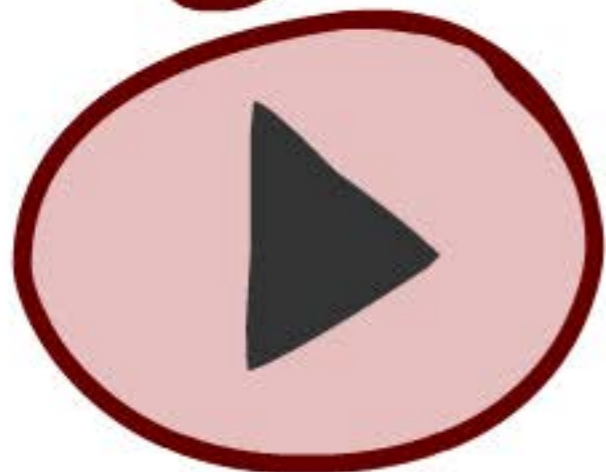


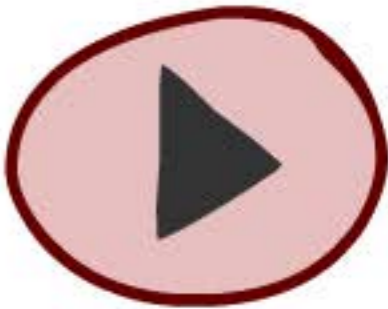
Drawing ponies with Whatsapokemon

Part 3

Heads

begin!

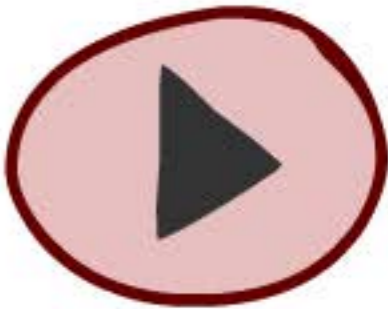




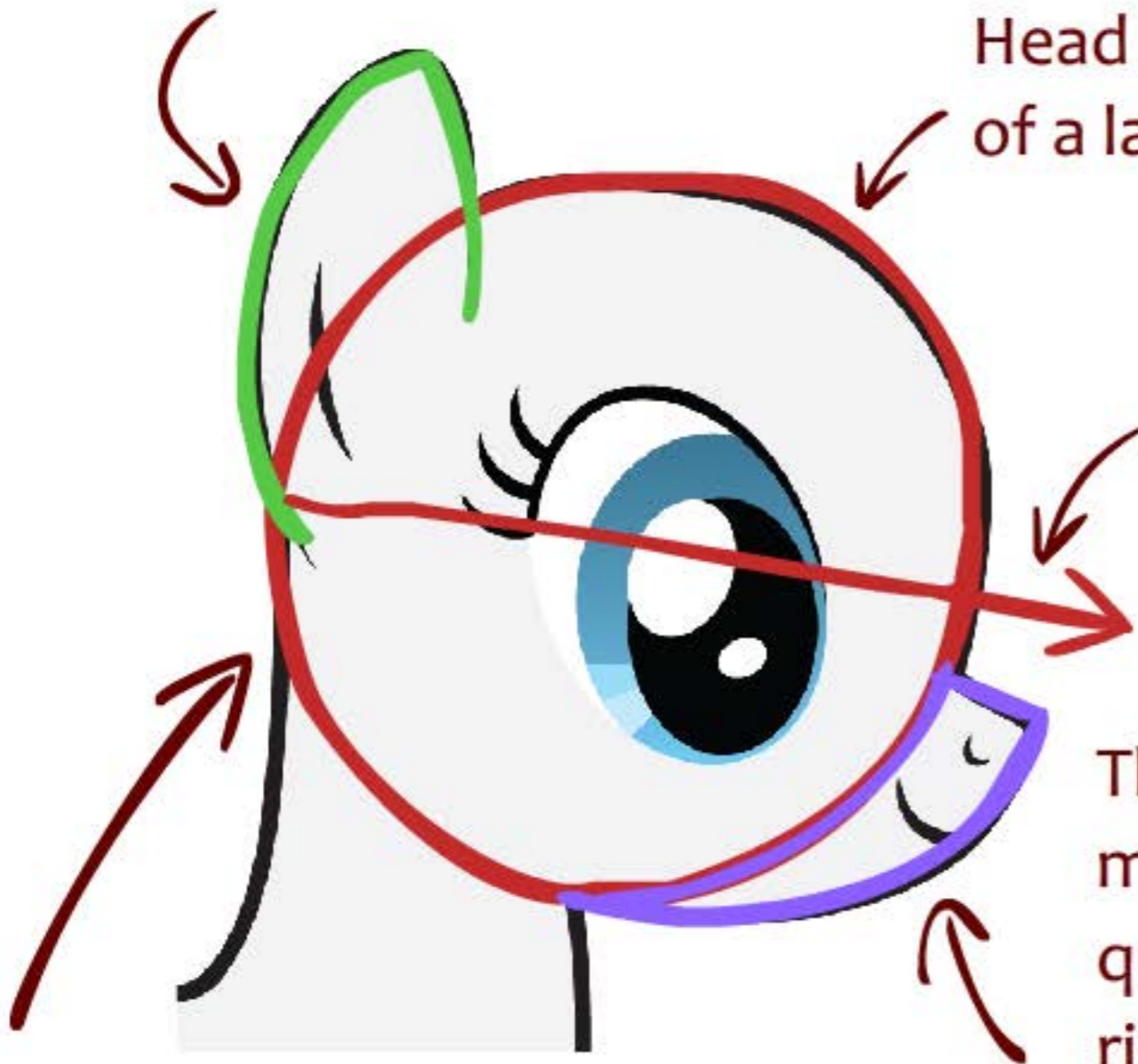
Here is a super-awesome show-accurate vector of a pony head by [SpaceKingOfSpace](#).



Let's start by breaking down the shapes that make up a pony head.



Ear, this is approximately the shape of an American Football, with a slight point at the end. Notice how the ear attaches to the very back of the head.

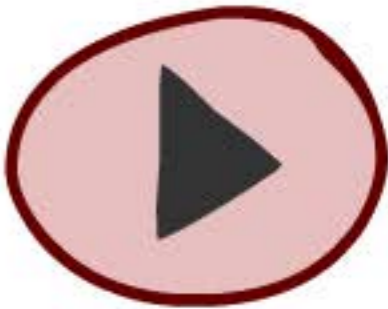


Head circle. The skull is mostly made up of a large circle .

Centre line. This lies horizontally across the head, and indicates which direction the pony is looking and helps with nose and eye placement.

The muzzle in female (and feminine male) ponies is similar to that of a quarter-circle. The top of it is at nearly a right-angle to the face, with a gentle curve that connects to the underside of the head.

Neck attaches to back of head.



The inner ear matches the shape of the outside of the ear.

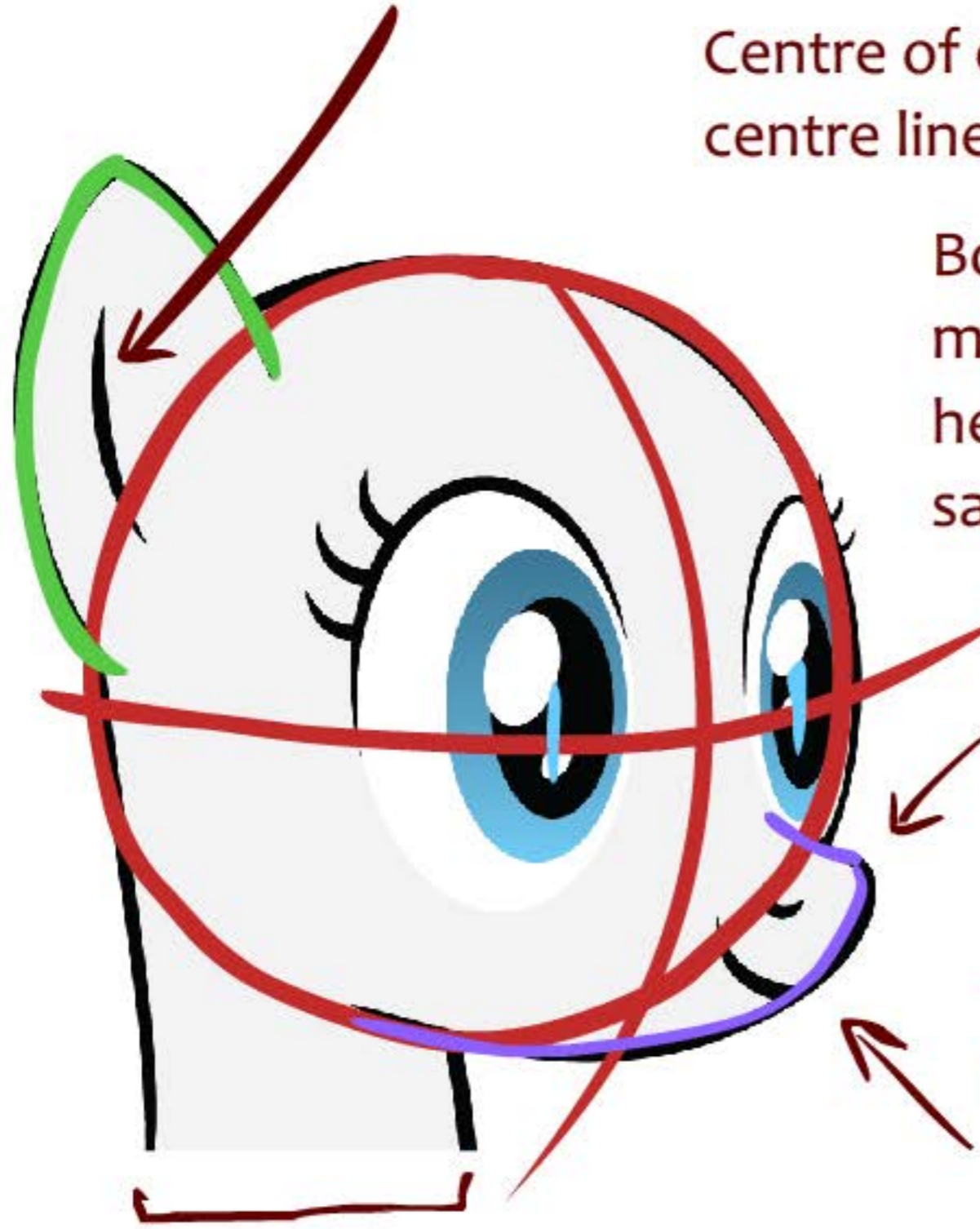
Centre of eye is approximately along the centre line.


Both horizontal and vertical centre lines may not always be necessary, but can help with placement. They cross in the same direction that the pony is facing

Top of muzzle is nearly flat, then it curves and meets the head circle approximately where the neck joins.

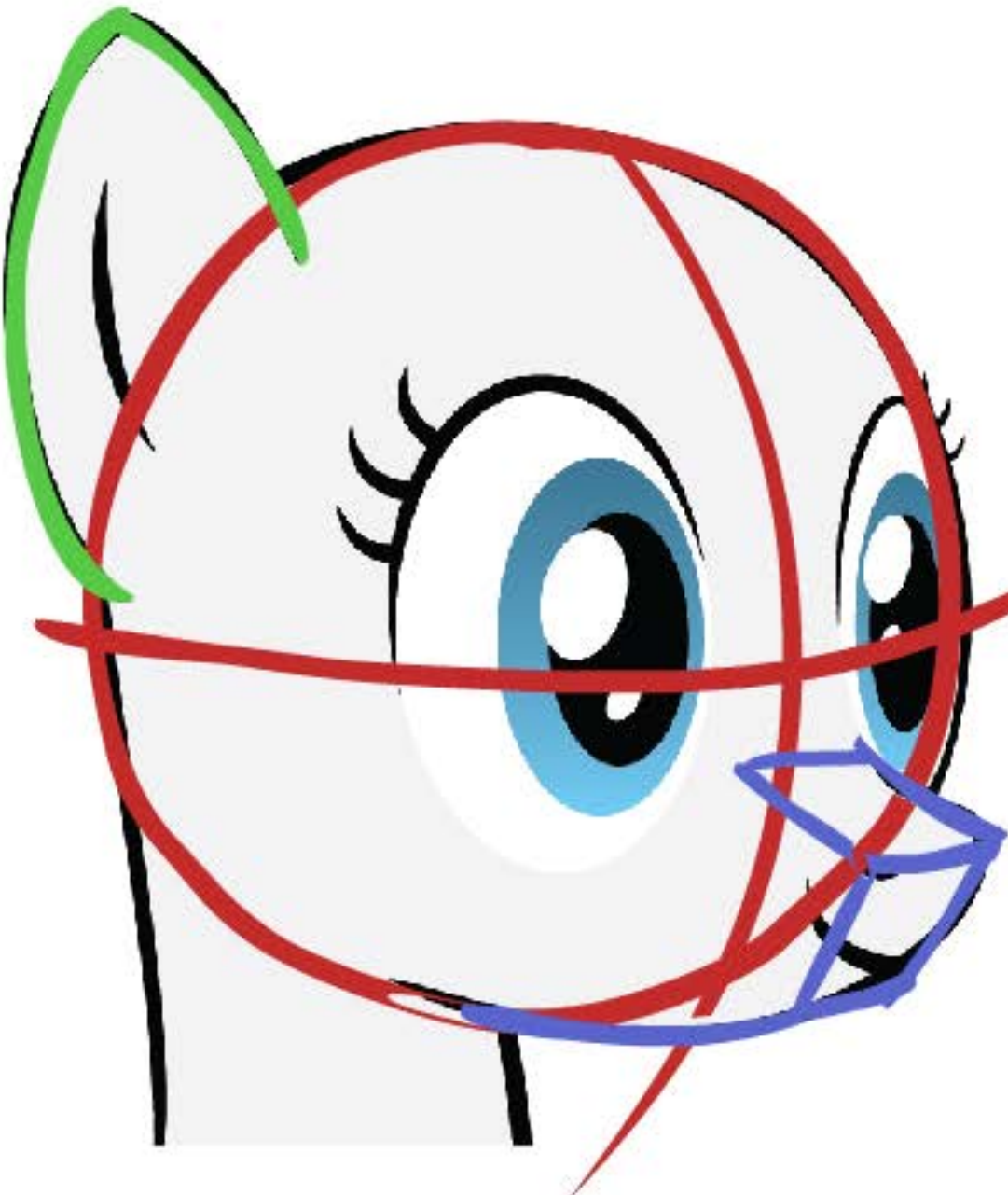
The Ear, Eye, and Muzzle should all line up.

Neck attaches to back of head and is approximately half the width of the head circle.





When constructing a muzzle it can be broken down into squareish shapes.



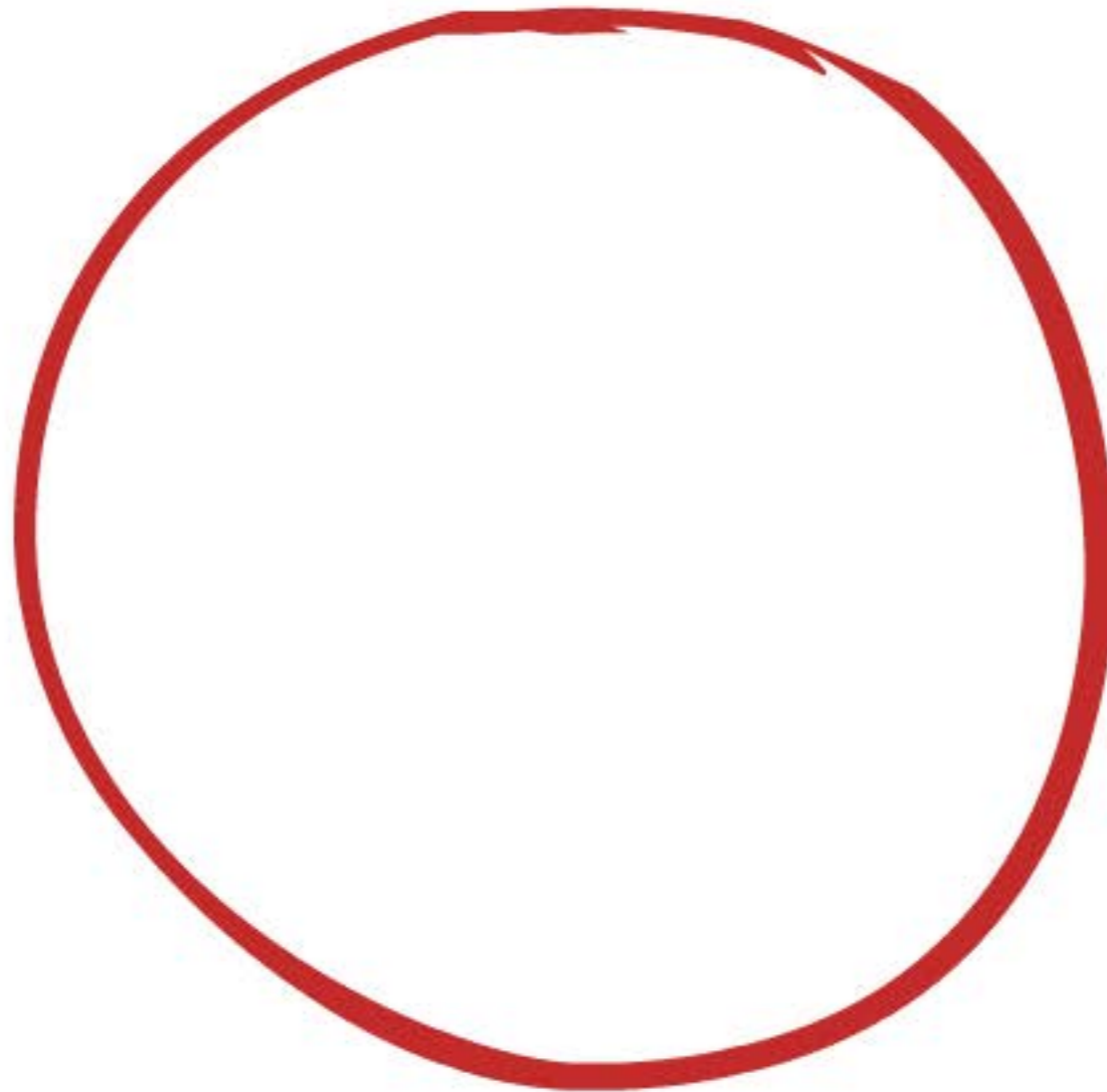
This general shape is used regardless of the age or gender of the pony. The size and angles can change however.

This shape can then be refined and smoothed into a curve if desired, or made angular depending on the individual.

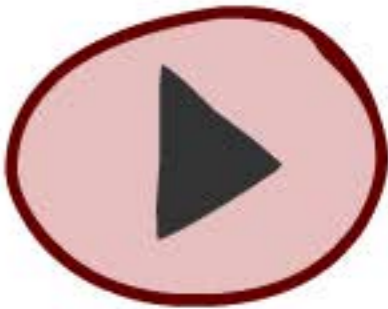




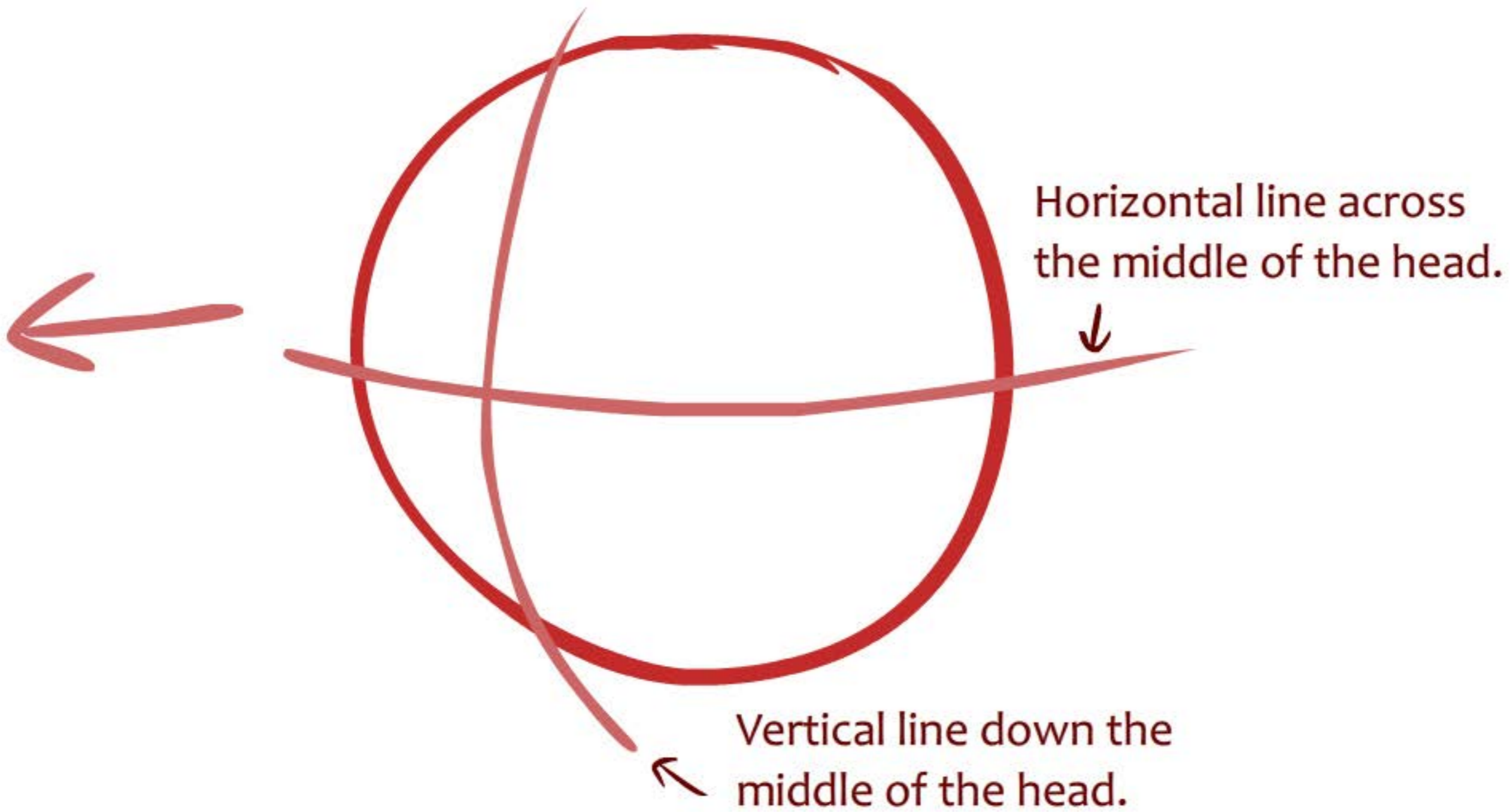
Now let's construct one from scratch!

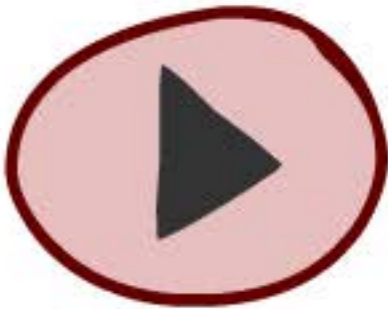


The head is nearly always started with a circle. This is the main part of the skull and gives us a base to work from.



Next we mark the direction that the pony is facing. Centre lines can be drawn to help placement of the rest of the features.

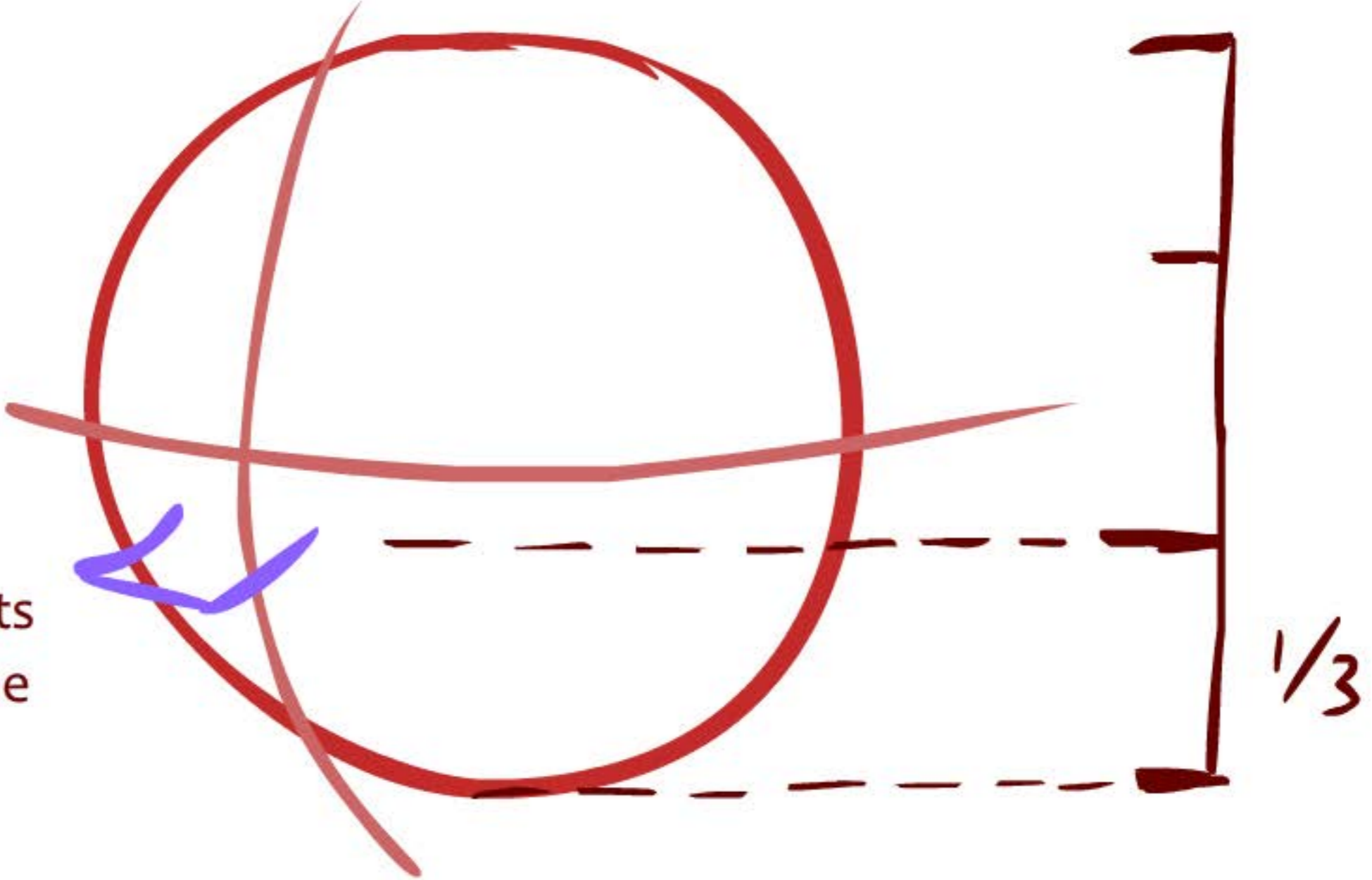


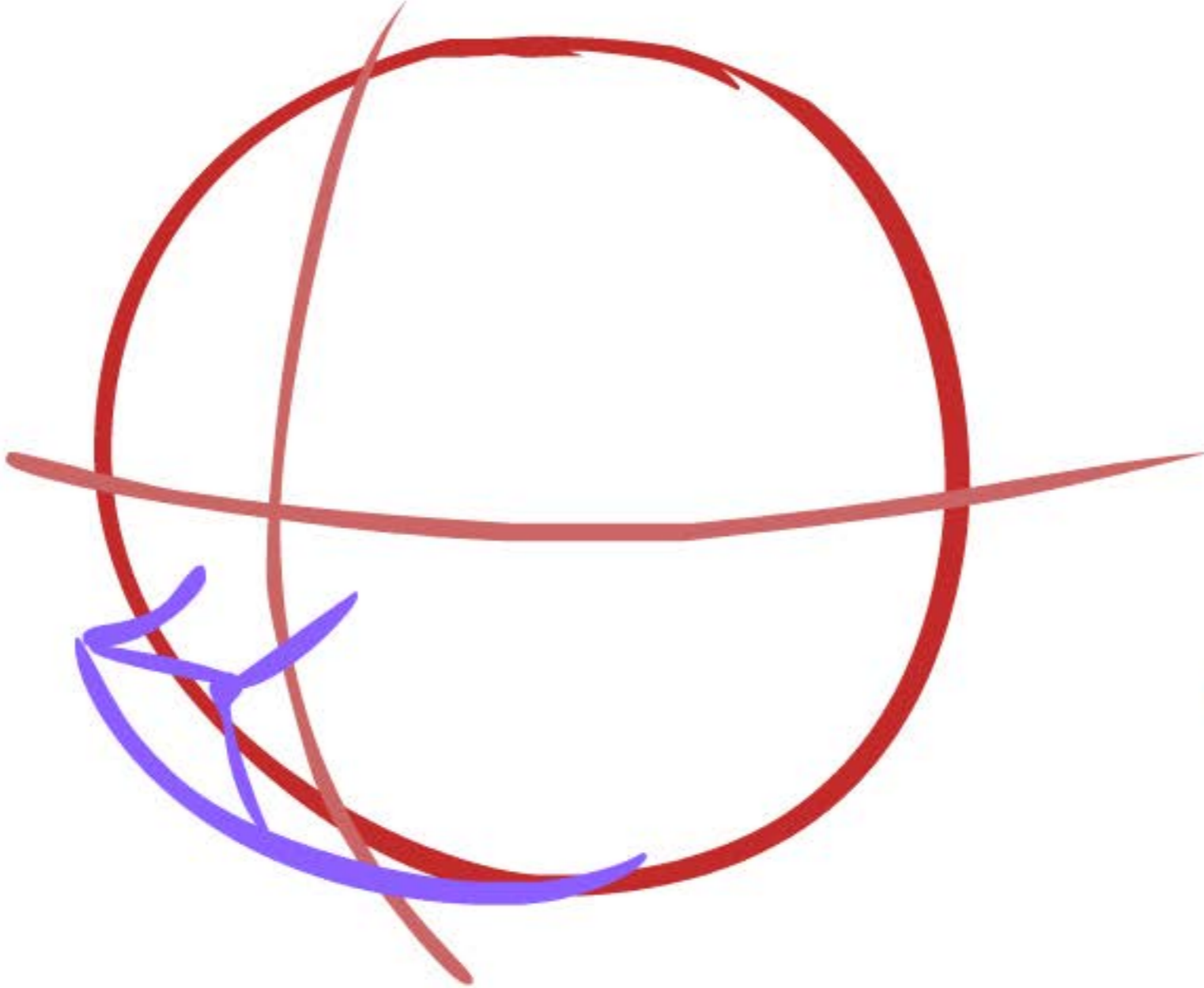
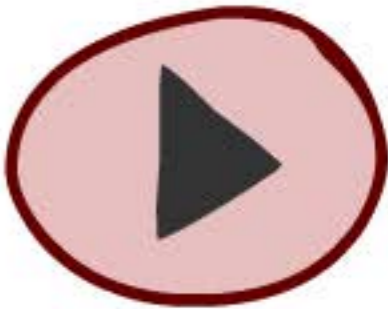
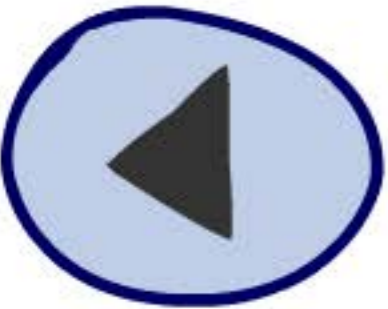


The flat top of the muzzle in a female pony begins approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way from the bottom of the head.



The flat top of the muzzle starts either side of the centre line.





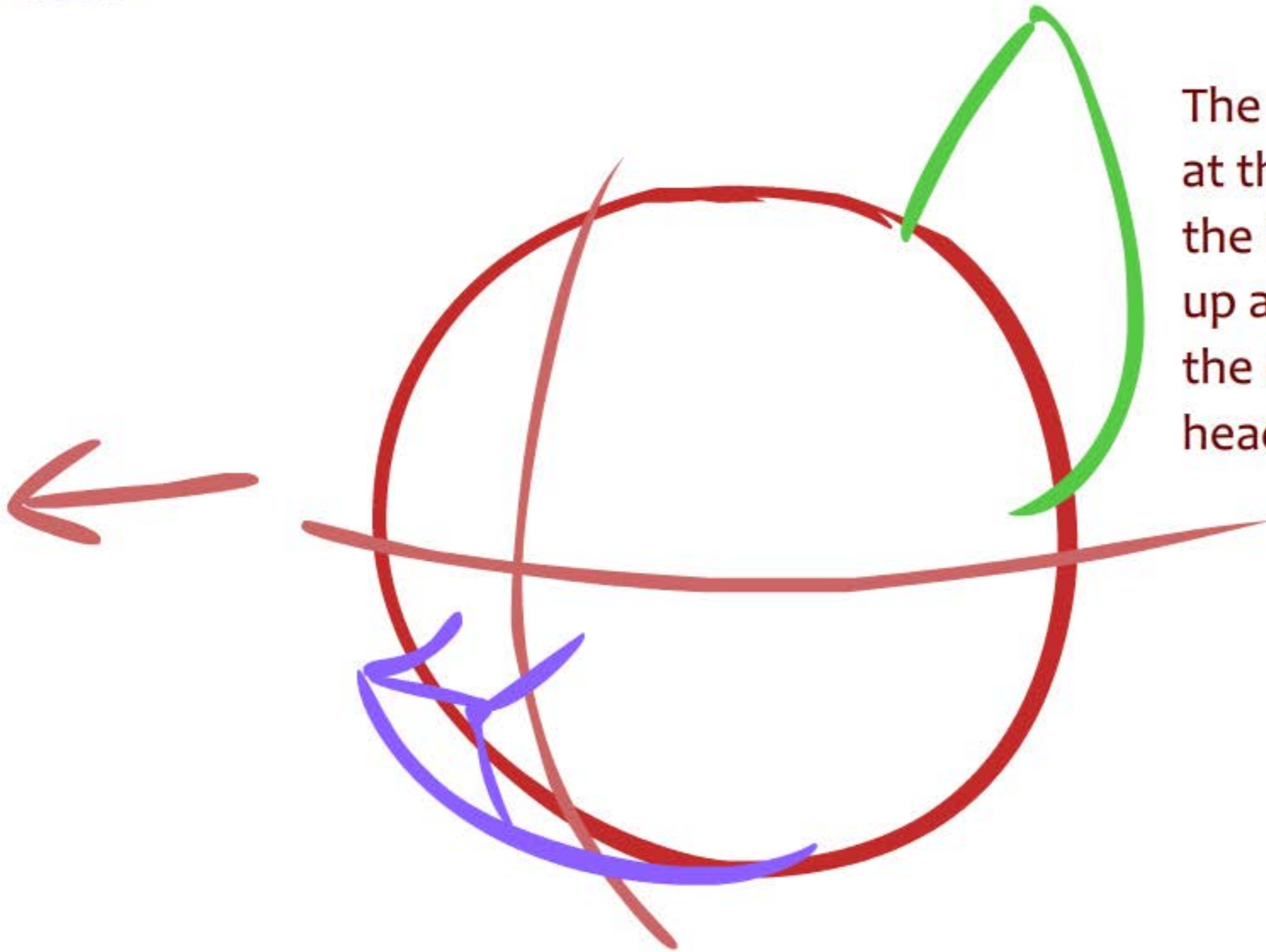
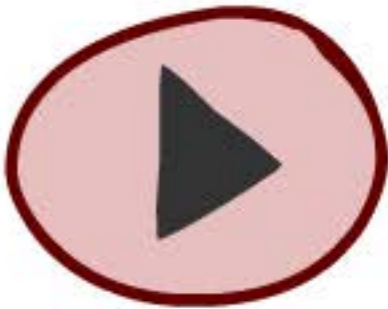
semi circle
like shape



The feminine style muzzle then curves
gently to the underside of the head.



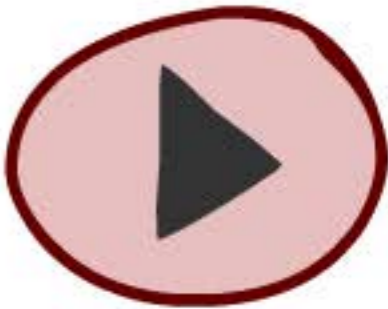
The ear is roughly the shape of an American Football (with 1 quarter of it removed).



The ear is attached at the back side of the head and takes up around 1/8th of the edge of the head-circle.



At a 3/4 angle like this the furthest eye is foreshortened (squished) because the eyes don't face directly forwards, they are slightly on the side of the head.

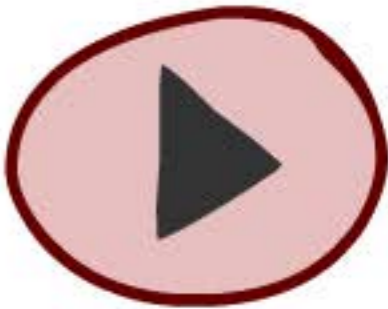


The ear is curved into a cup shape. This line indicates the curve on the inner ear.



Nostril is placed approximately at the corner of our original flat muzzle-top.

Eyes are very large (about 1/2 the height of the head) and oval shaped. The middle of the eye goes along the horizontal centre-line.

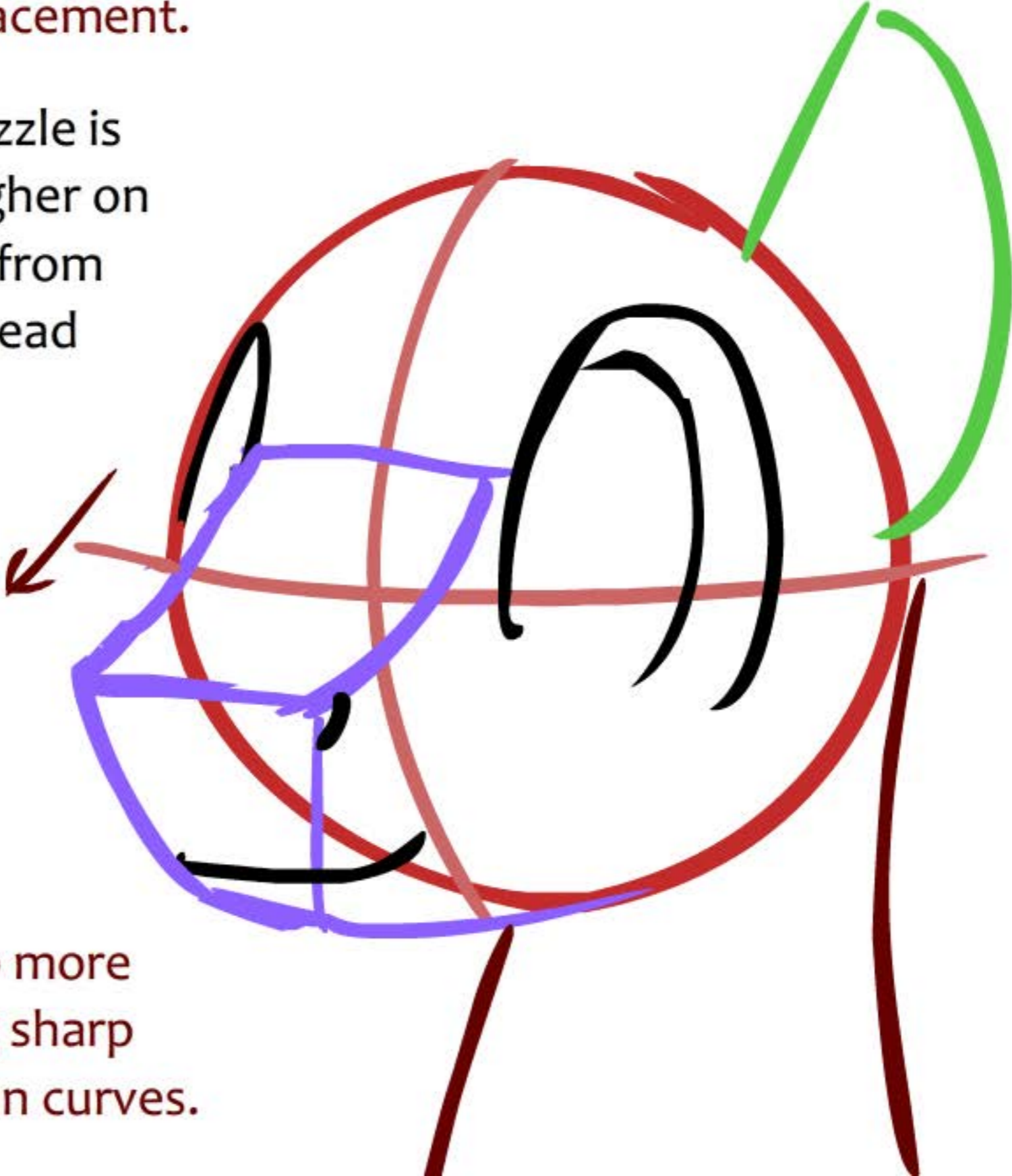


The construction of a male muzzle is very very similar. The main difference is the muzzle placement.

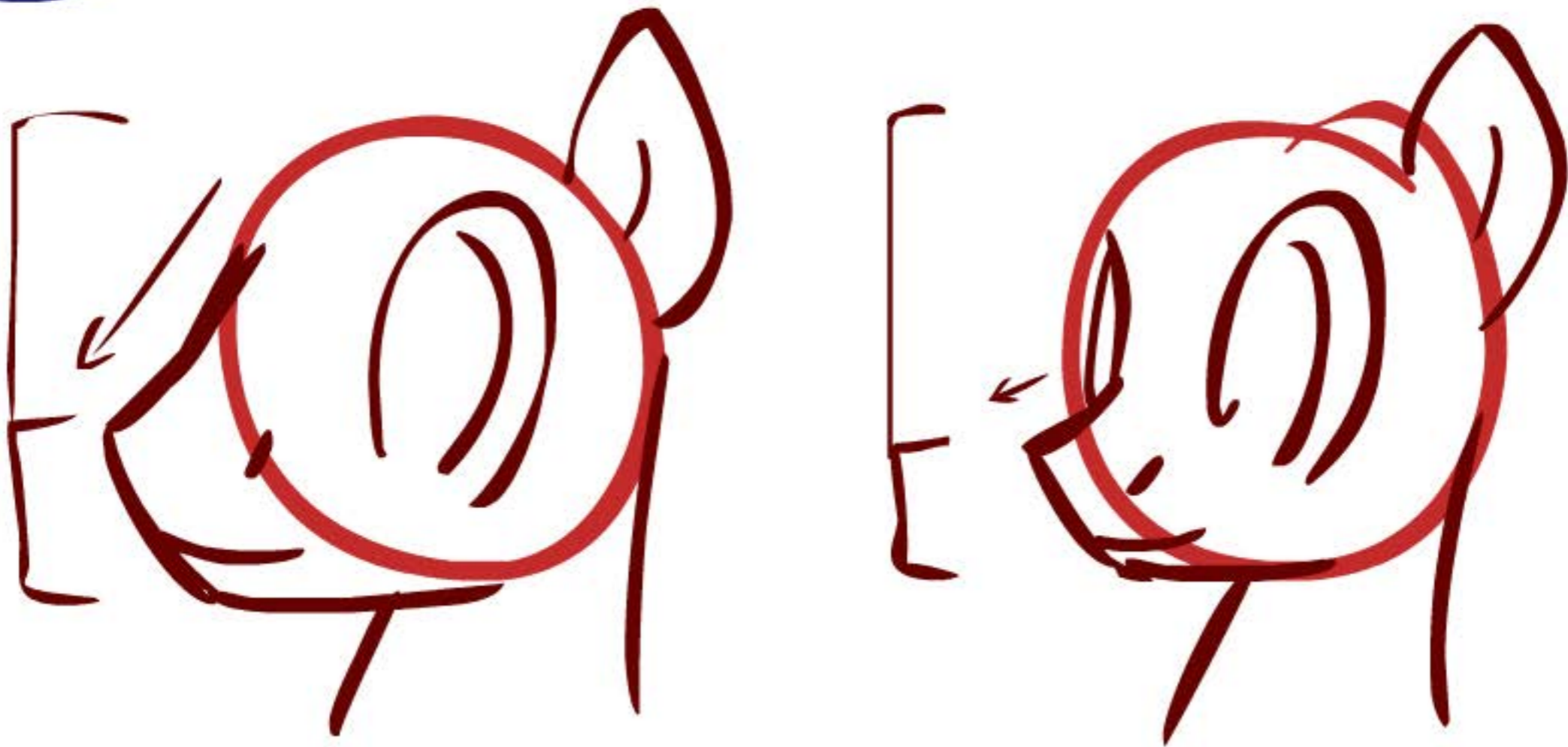
This type of muzzle is wider, starts higher on the head (even from the top of the head if desired).

It can also angle downwards more, getting thinner at the end.

Of course it is also more angular, preferring sharp corners rather than curves.



Variations



The size of a male muzzle can vary. A more masculine character's muzzle might entirely hide the farthest eye at this angle, while a less masculine muzzle type allows the eye to be seen, much like the standard female muzzle. Also the neck (and of course body) can be thicker for larger characters, yet the principles are the same.



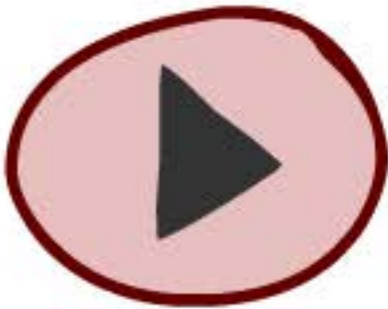
Variations



Alicorn style muzzles are similar in construction to the male muzzle, yet are roughly the same size as the standard female muzzle. They are square, however they have a slight curve in the jawline which makes it thinner (and more elegant).



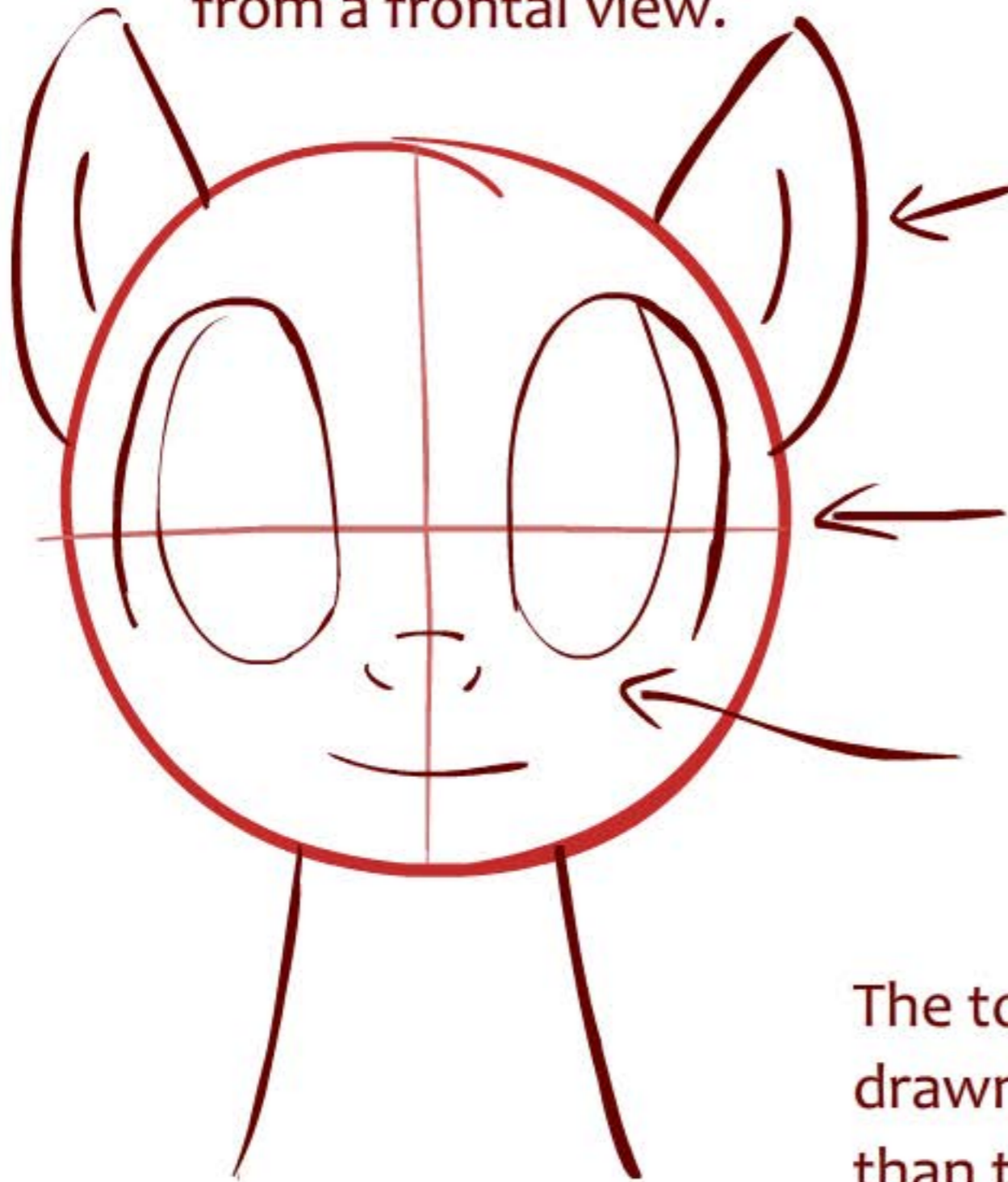
Variations



The main difference between the muzzles of adult and younger characters is the size. Whilst adult muzzles take up about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the head typically a filly or colt's is smaller, being approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of the head. Additionally the eyes are larger and rounder (rather than oval).

Frontal View

The construction of the face is similar from a frontal view.



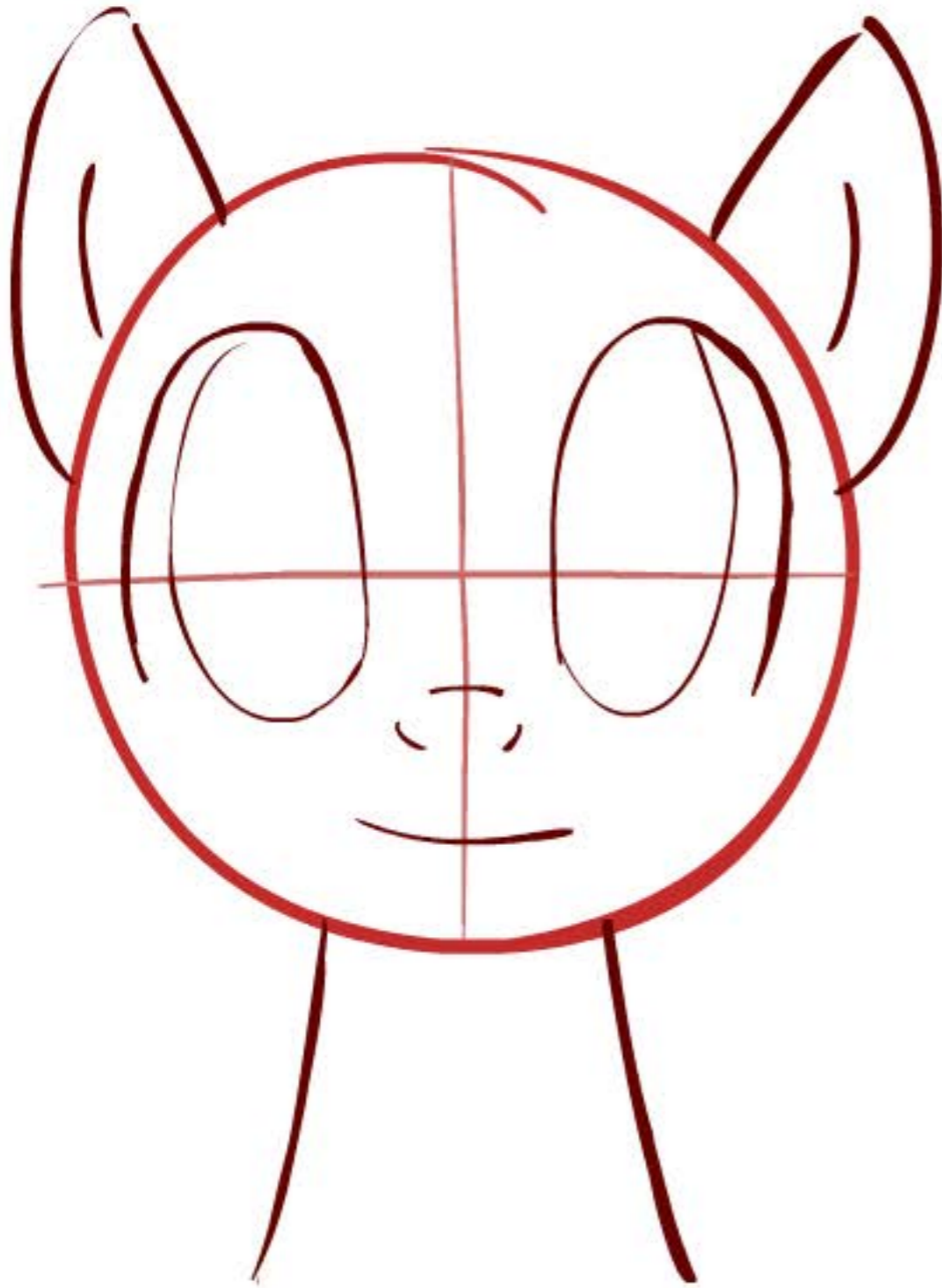
The ears have the same shape and are on the sides of the head.

The eyes are centred along the middle horizontal line.

The muzzle is in the same location, approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ from the bottom of the head.

The top edge of the muzzle drawn here is generally smaller than the distance between the nostrils.

Science!

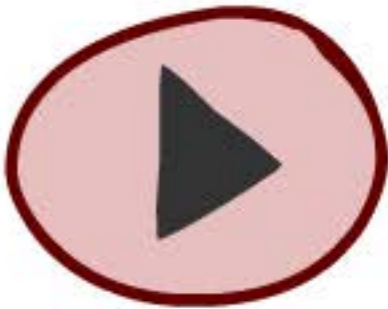


It is important to note that pony eyes are not close together and forward-facing like human eyes are. Ponies are herbivores so have eyes on the sides of their heads. Evolutionarily this is so they have a wider field of view to spot predators.

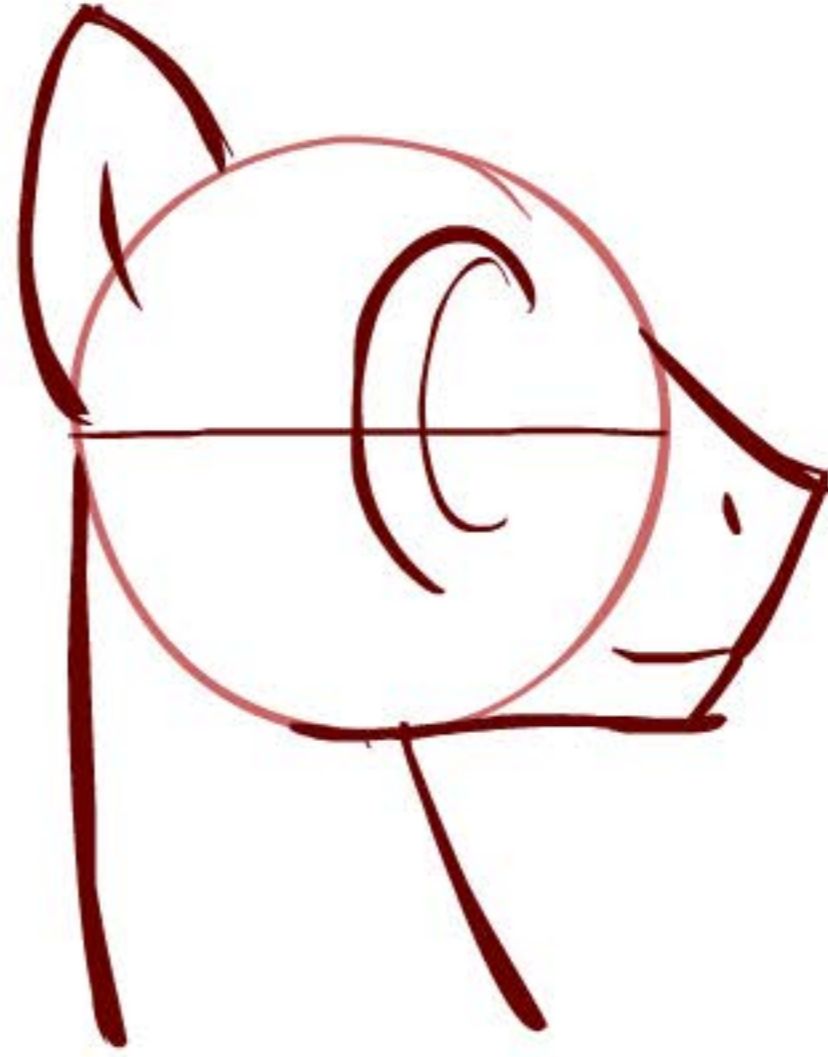
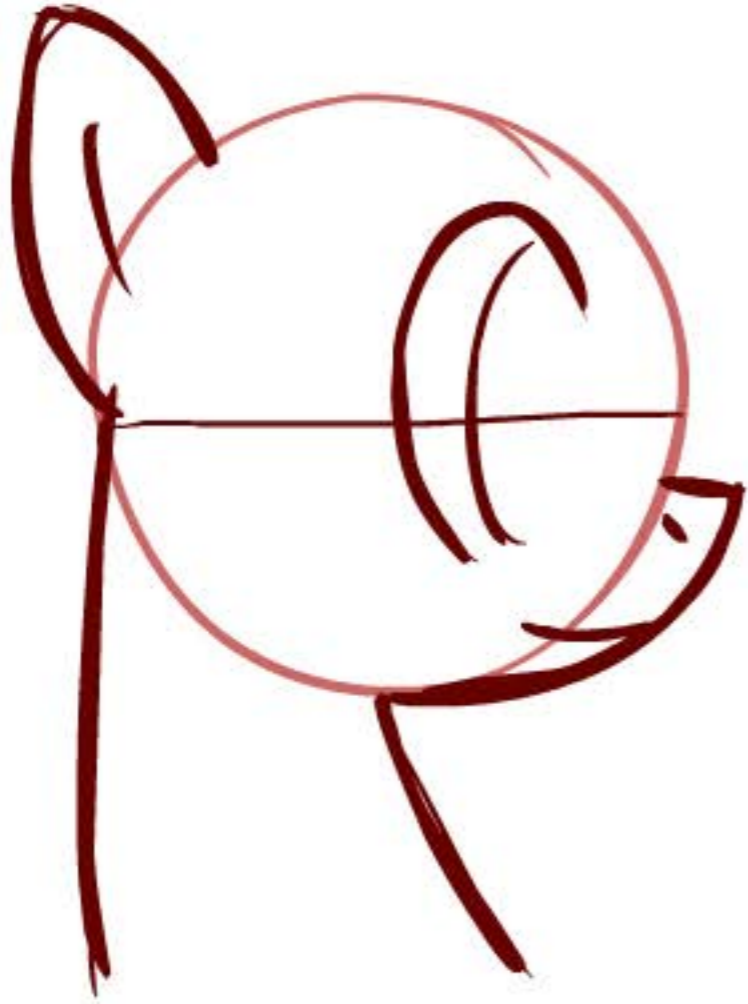
Practically for us it just affects the placement, making the eyes further apart on the head, and having a larger foreshortening effect when the head is at an angle.



Different Angles



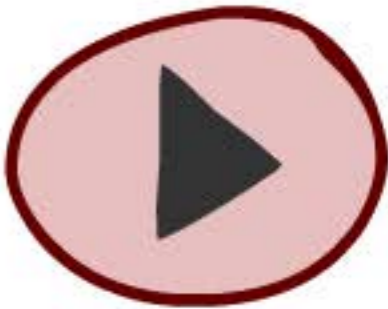
The side view is the simplest in comparison. The semi-circular and squareish shapes make this very simple.



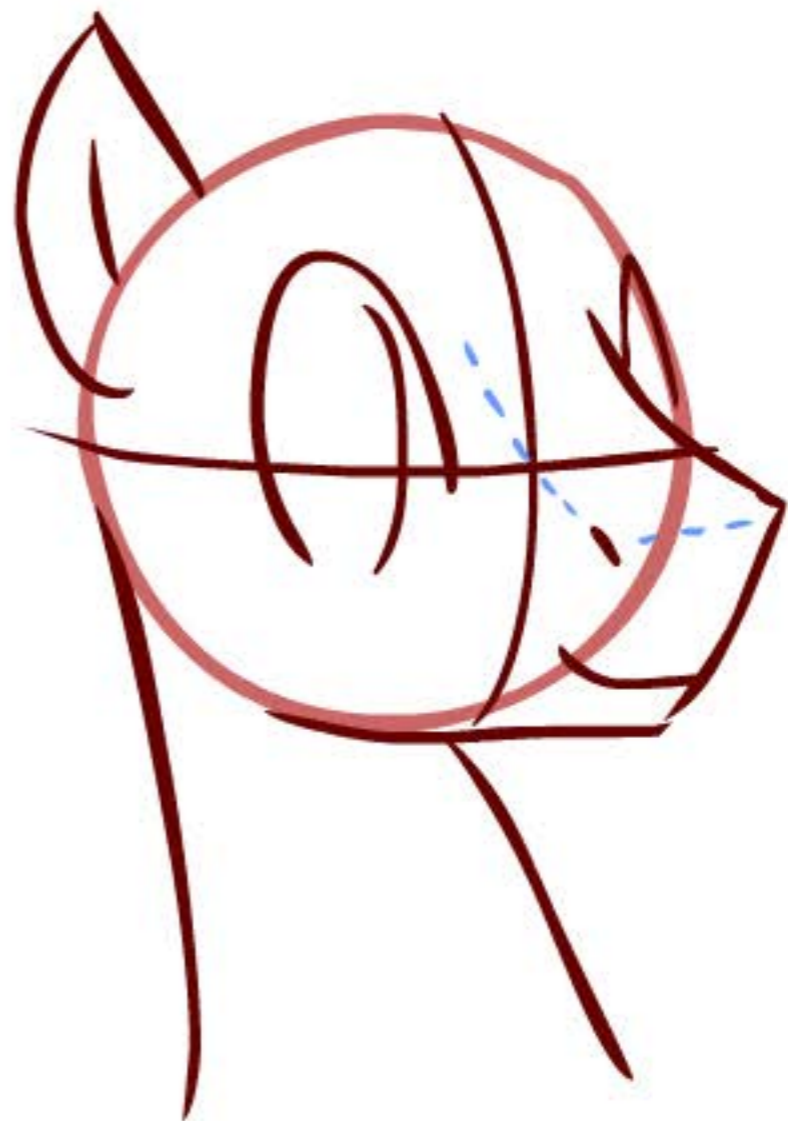
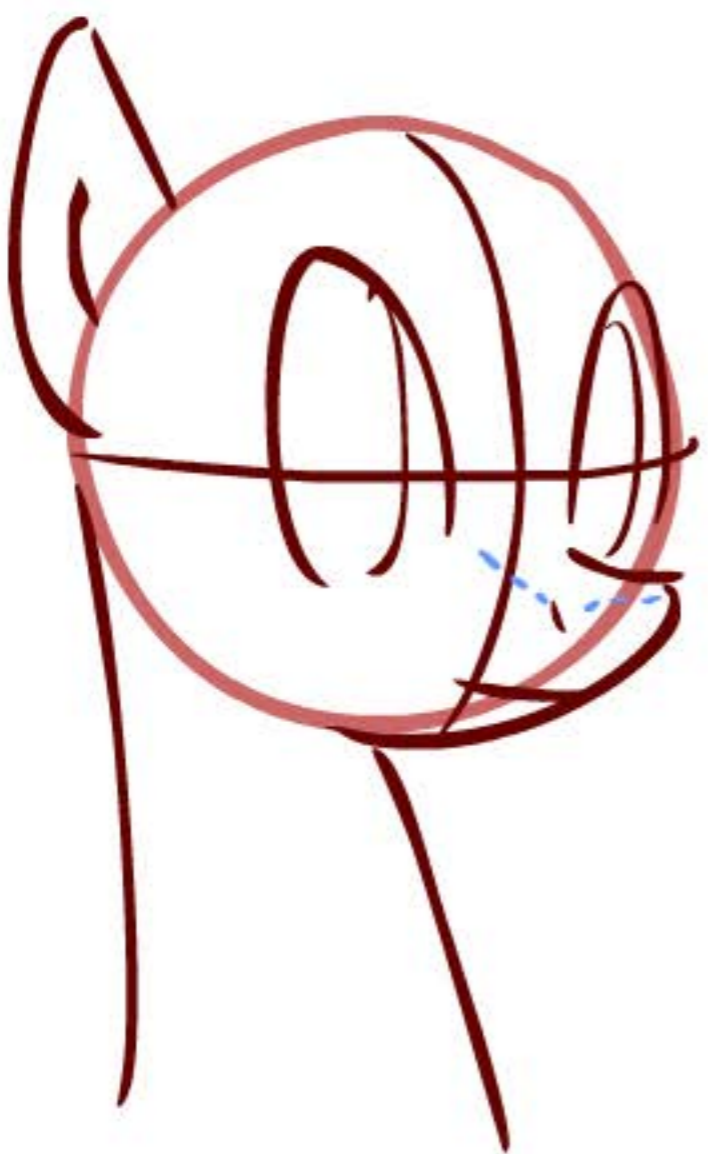
Notice how the front of the muzzle is angled back in both cases.



Different Angles



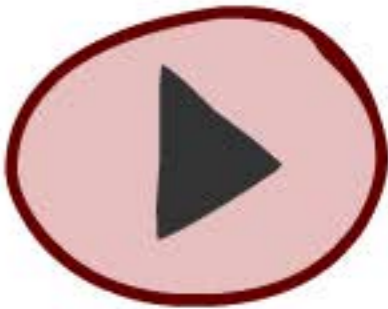
This 3/4 angled view is more complicated, yet if we remember the construction techniques it becomes easier.



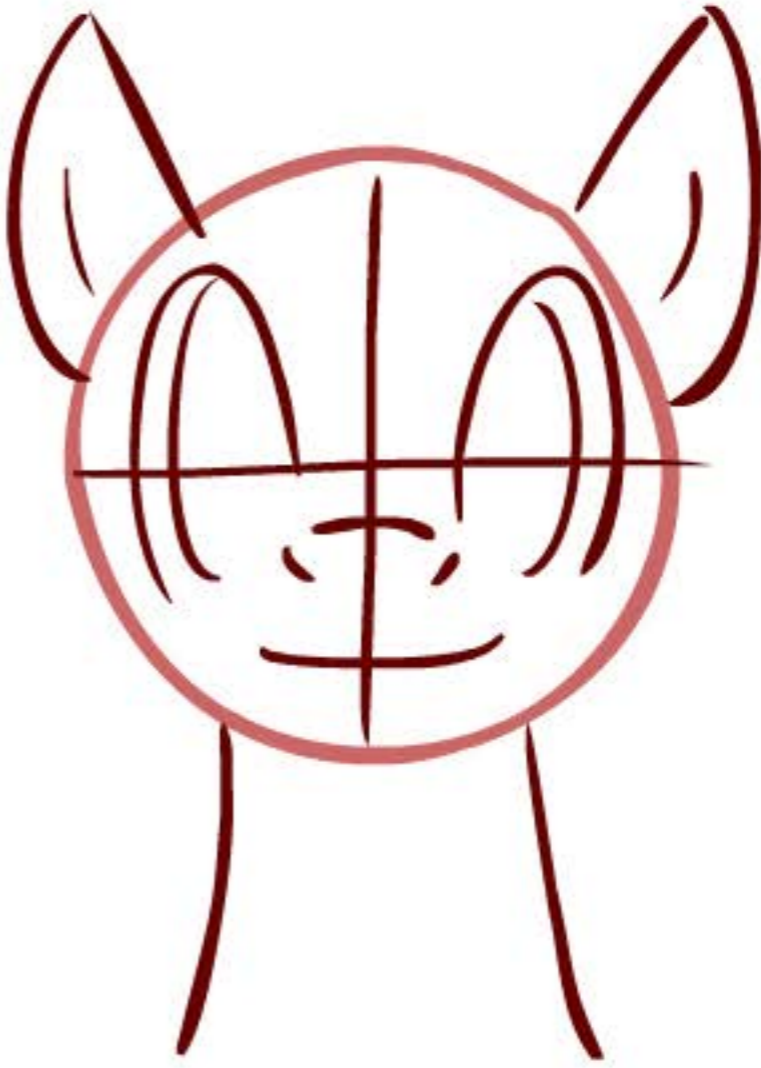
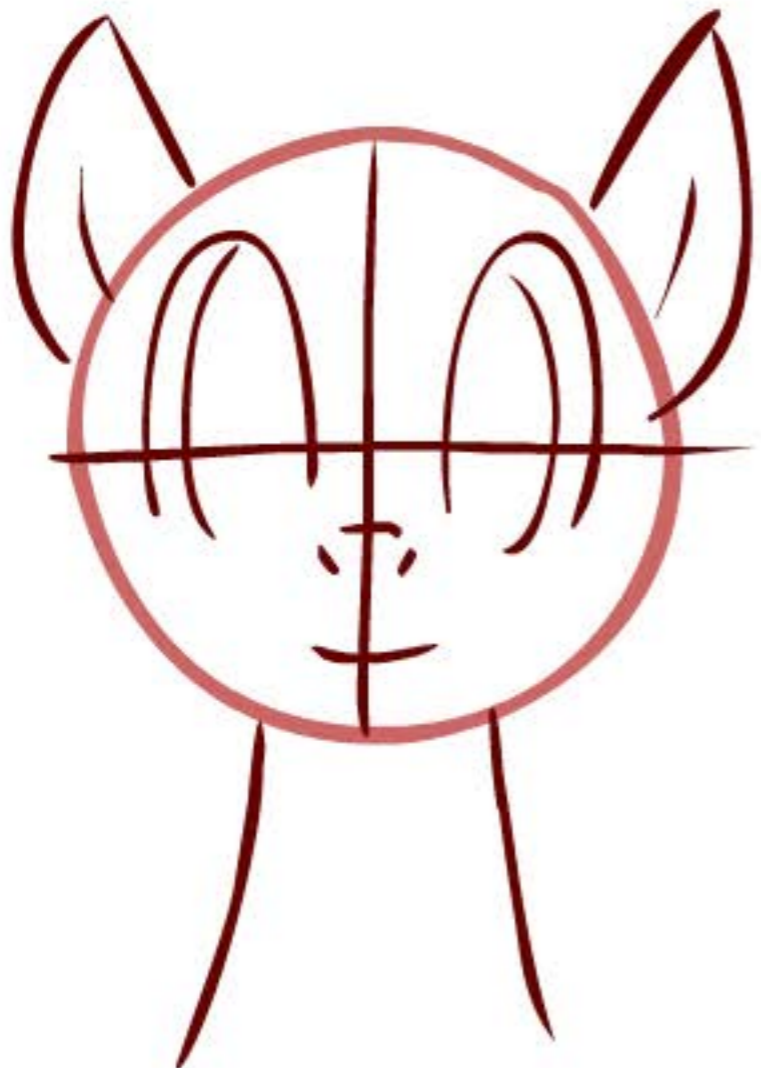
Remember to use the centre lines to help with placement of the features.



Different Angles



The front view is a slightly different case.
Remember that the features are wider on a more masculine face, it's all about the placement.





Different Angles

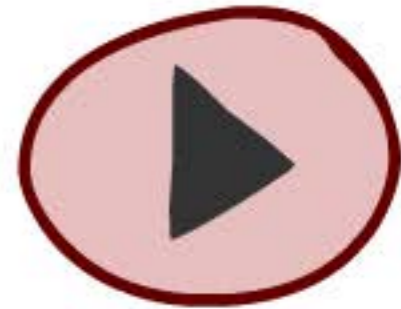


Angled views from the top are similar, but you may feel that there is less room to work with.

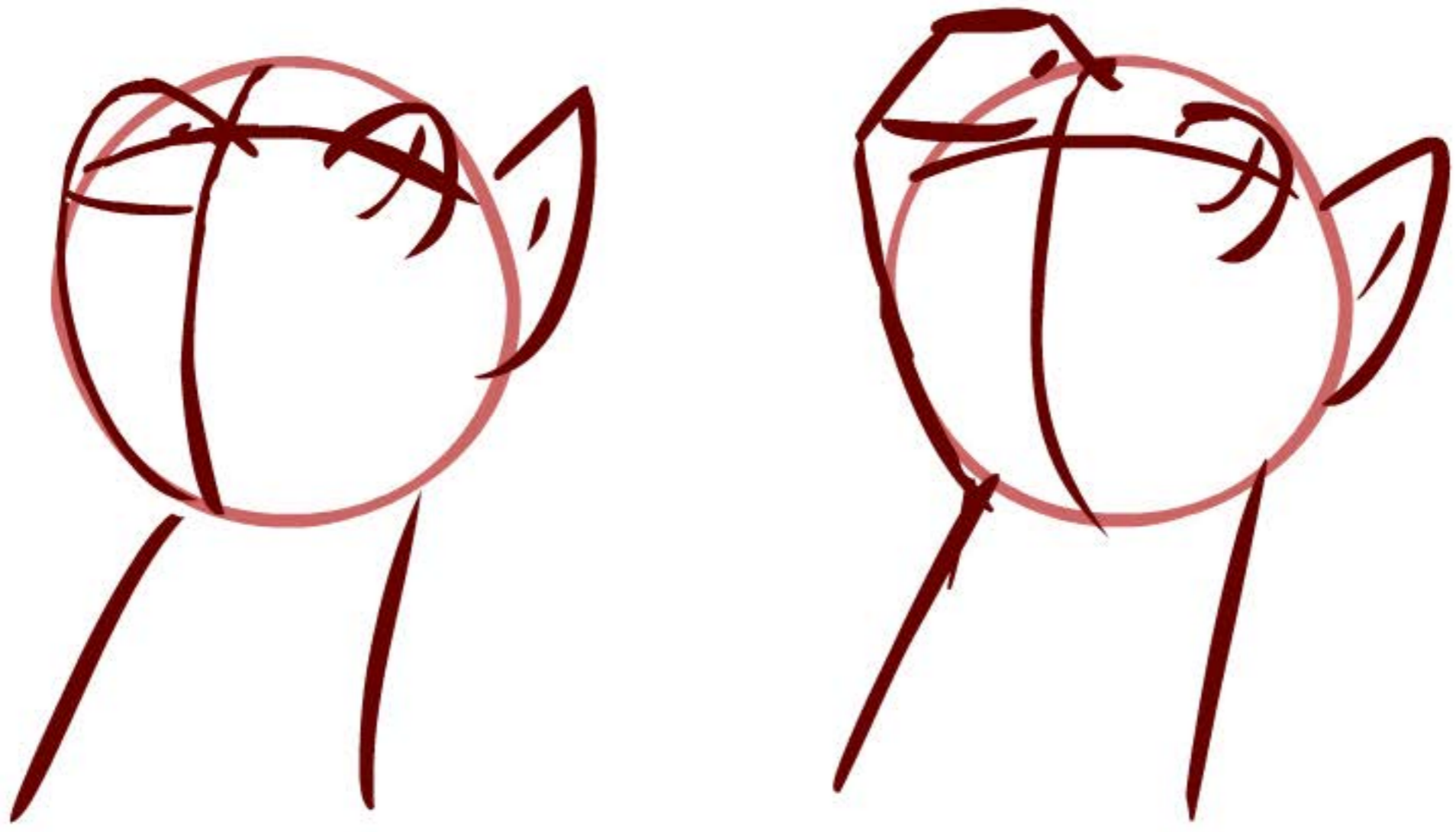




^{bzzzz} Different Angles

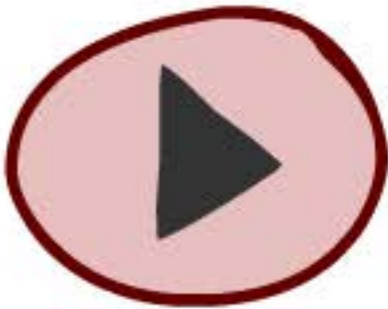


Similarly the view from underneath may be tricky. Just remember the 3D shape of the muzzle and attempt to construct it as necessary.

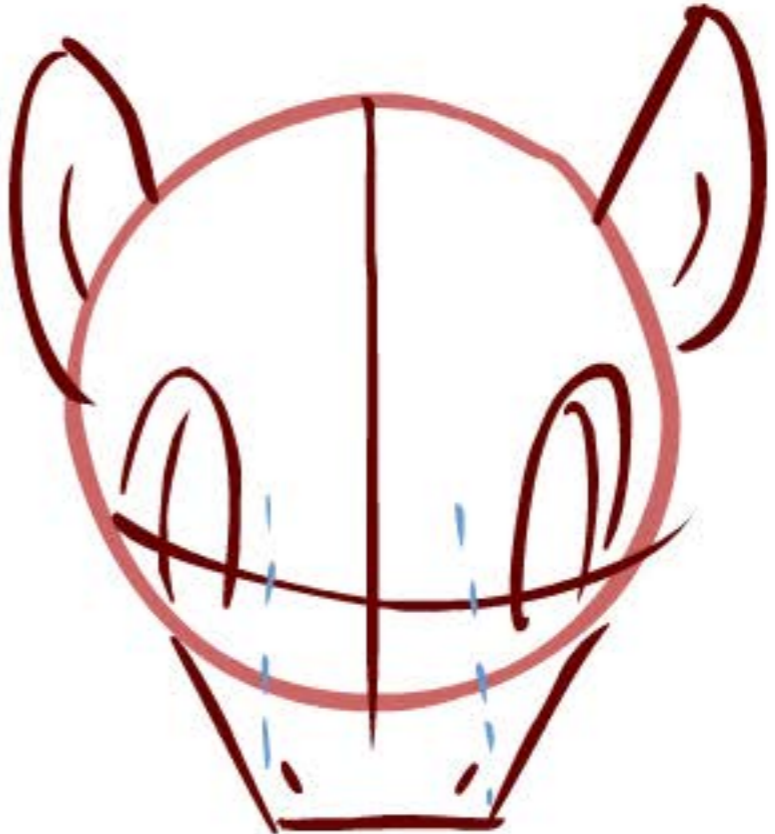




Different Angles



The muzzle from the top appears to be wider. This is because of how the muzzle is connected to the skull.

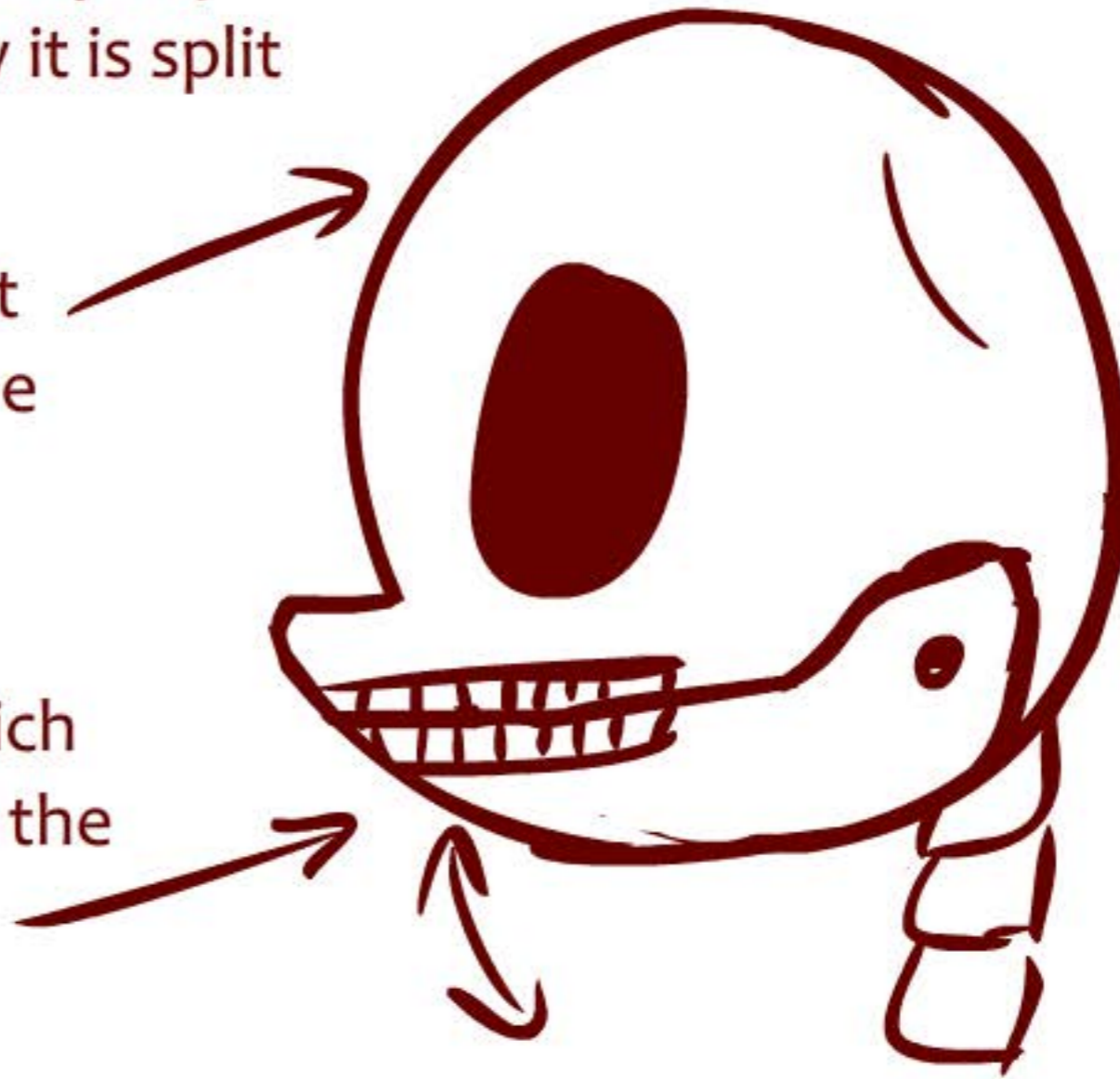


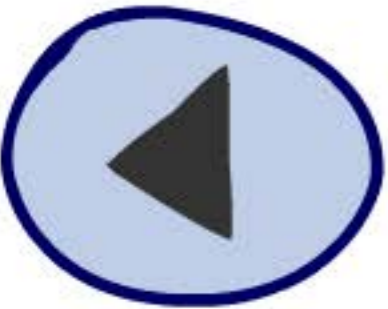
The Jaw

This is approximately what a pony skull looks like. Notice how it is split into two sections.

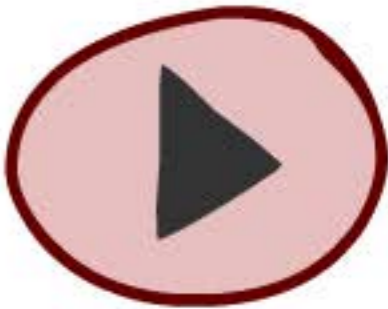
The cranium, the main part which attaches to the spine and houses the brain.

The mandible (or jaw) which can open and close whilst the cranium stays still.





The Jaw



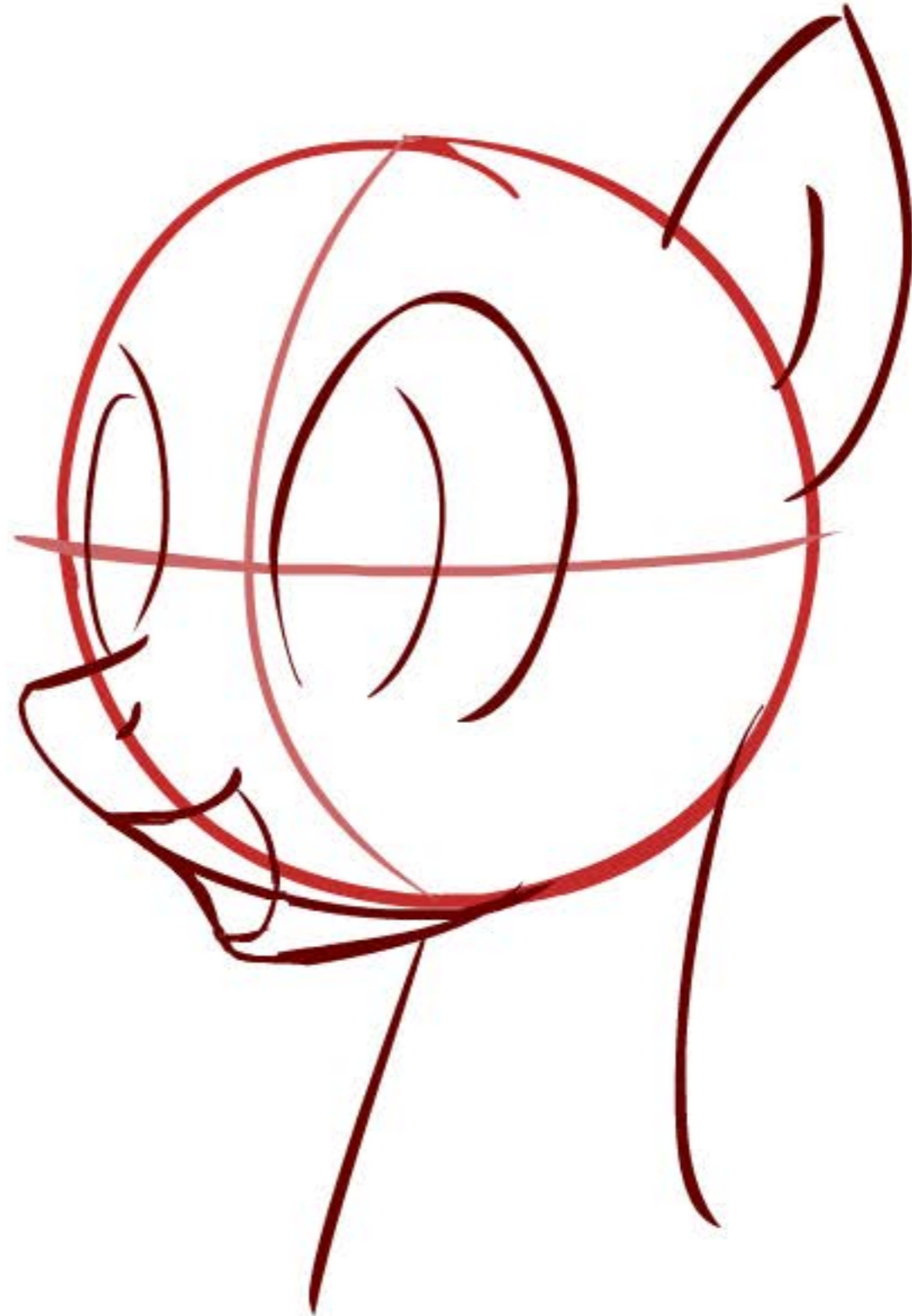
Like most creatures the jaw is a separate part of the skull which is capable of opening and closing independantly. The jaw thus can move while the rest of the head stays still.



Using the normal muzzle shape as a guide you can just draw over it where the open mouth will be, then connect the bottom of the jaw to the same place. Note that this changes the angle, so that the jaw goes up, towards the underside of the head.

The Jaw

This method can be used at other angles as well. Drawing the original muzzle shape with a closed jaw and then using the mouth to guide where the underside of the jaw should go. So long as the jaw connects to the underside of the head at the same location.





Thus concludes the tutorial on pony muzzles and heads. The method of constructing a head is very similar regardless of the angle or situation that you require. Remember the basic rules and you can achieve your goal.

Also, remember to just keep drawing. That is the secret. That is the only secret. Instead of 'free time' you should have 'draw pony time'.

Good luck!