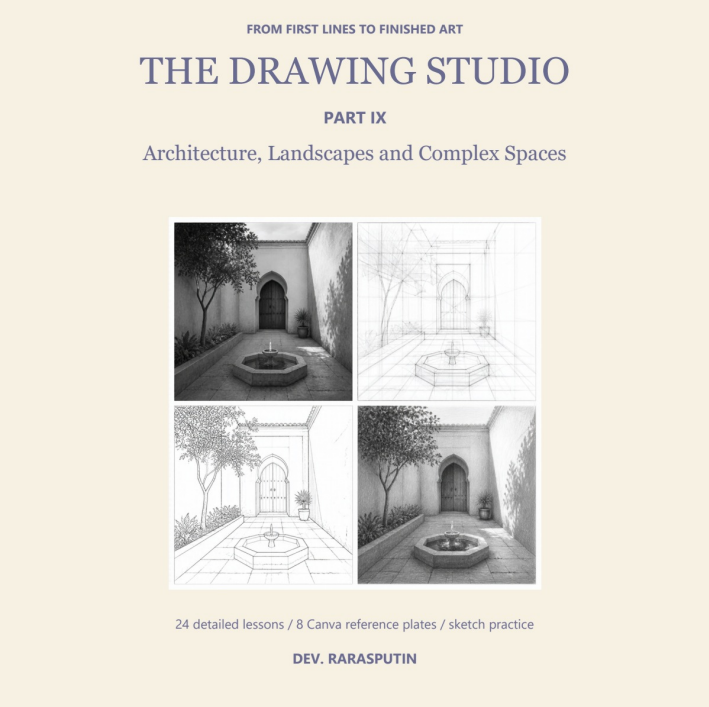
FROM FIRST LINES TO FINISHED ART

The Drawing Studio

Part IX / Architecture, Landscapes and Complex Spaces



200-page pencil-and-paper tutorial and sketch-practice workbook.
24 detailed lessons / eight new Canva-generated reference plates / original simplified teaching diagrams.

Continuation edition / 2026

USING THIS CONTINUATION

A more deliberate studio practice

Parts VI-X build on light construction, basic values and the habit of comparing visible relationships. You can return to the earlier volumes whenever a project reveals a specific gap. Each volume here contains 24 lessons organized around eight reference subjects. Three lessons revisit each subject with a different purpose.

Each lesson moves through explanation, a specific drawing sequence, a reference plate, worked analysis and correction, focused drills, project planning, review and a final comparison study. Read the written steps before copying a surface effect. The same reference returns so that changes in skill can be compared without constantly changing the subject.

The 200 pages include substantial printable drawing and reflection space. This is an illustrated tutorial-workbook, not 200 pages of continuous prose, a video course or an interactive fillable form. Draw on selected printed pages or in a separate sketchbook.

Use comfortable practice periods and take breaks when needed. Advanced subjects are opportunities to practice; completion does not guarantee professional competence or income.

My current experience and one visible skill to develop

AI IMAGES AND OBSERVATION

Read the reference critically

The eight four-panel plates were generated using Canva AI for this workbook. They compare a grayscale reference, a construction treatment, a contour treatment and a developed value treatment. They are original illustrative practice images, not photographs documenting real subjects or perfectly measured demonstrations.

Details, anatomy, geometry and lighting can vary between panels. A construction treatment may simplify or omit a guide that the written lesson asks you to make. Use the lesson text and original diagrams to test the principle; do not treat a generated stage as exact evidence. Compare the same visible landmark consistently rather than measuring different generated panels as if they were one photograph.

Verify uncertain structure with an available real object, your own photograph, a suitable reference used with permission, or a consenting adult sitter. For people and animals, do not copy malformed joints, extra digits or unsupported anatomy. For buildings and objects, do not present these plates as technical construction advice.

Record sources honestly. Label studies from these plates as AI-reference studies, and note any real reference used for verification. A redesigned composition is a design variation, not direct observation from life.

A reference uncertainty I will verify before copying

SUBJECT MAP

Eight reference studies

01. a narrow courtyard with a low fountain and a plain arched doorway / lessons 1-3

02. a small cafe interior with two tables and three chairs seen from the doorway / lessons 4-6

03. a small wooden footbridge over a quiet stream with trees / lessons 7-9

04. a plain house on a gently sloping street with a simple fence / lessons 10-12

05. a rocky coast with one sea stack and a clear distant horizon / lessons 13-15

06. a calm lake with a distant mountain ridge and a foreground tree / lessons 16-18

07. a simple public stairwell viewed upward with one landing and plain railings / lessons 19-21

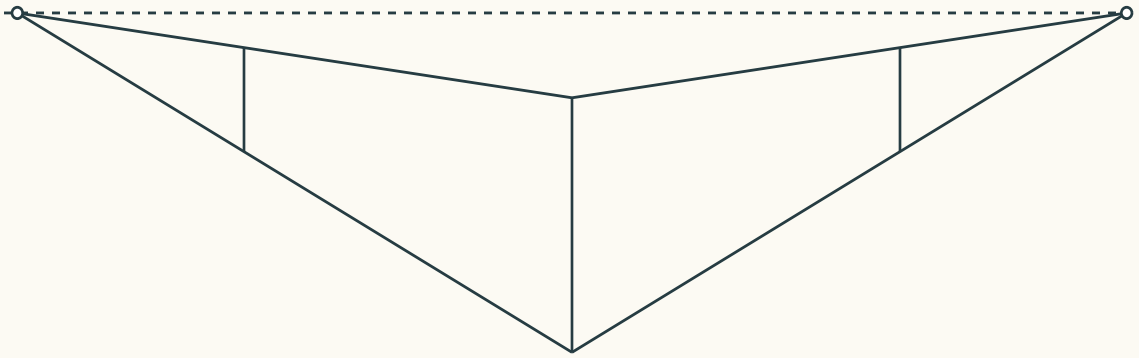
08. a small greenhouse with transparent panes and a few potted plants, exterior three-quarter view / lessons 22-24

Use each subject across three lessons, then transfer the principle to another suitable subject. The eight reference images are also supplied separately in the companion ZIP. Original simplified diagrams are explanatory constructions, not tracings of the AI plates.

LESSON 01 / UNDERSTAND

Set the courtyard's spatial framework

A courtyard is a connected space formed by walls, floor and openings. Begin with eye level and the large plane directions before drawing the fountain or arch. The visible walls may not be perpendicular, and a generated image may contain inconsistent perspective. Use the dominant observed directions as a provisional framework and note conflicts instead of forcing every edge to agree with an invented technical plan. Establish the nearest wall corner and compare the floor area visible below it. A few coherent planes provide a stronger foundation than many detailed stones.



Original simplified teaching diagram. Use its principle to test the actual view; it is not a measured tracing of the generated reference.

The visible question

Can you explain where the main planes meet without relying on texture?

LESSON 01 / DEMONSTRATION

Work through the drawing sequence

Stage 1

Place eye level approximately by comparing the dominant receding horizontal directions.

Stage 2

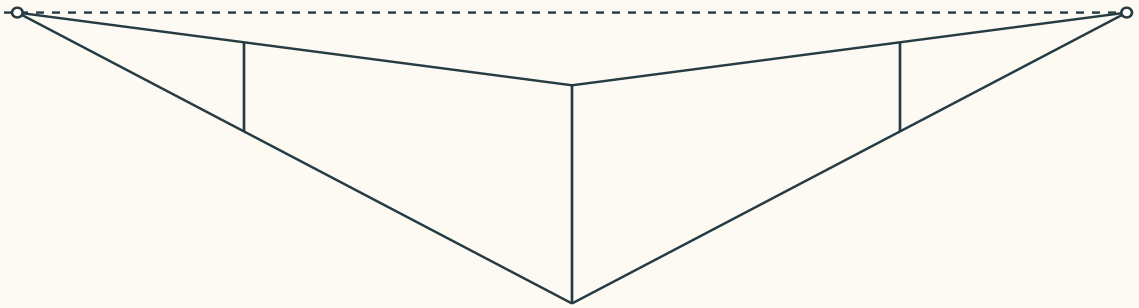
Mark the main wall corners and floor boundaries within the composition.

Stage 3

Connect the large planes with light guides, distinguishing verticals from receding edges.

Stage 4

Locate the fountain and doorway as simple masses inside that framework.

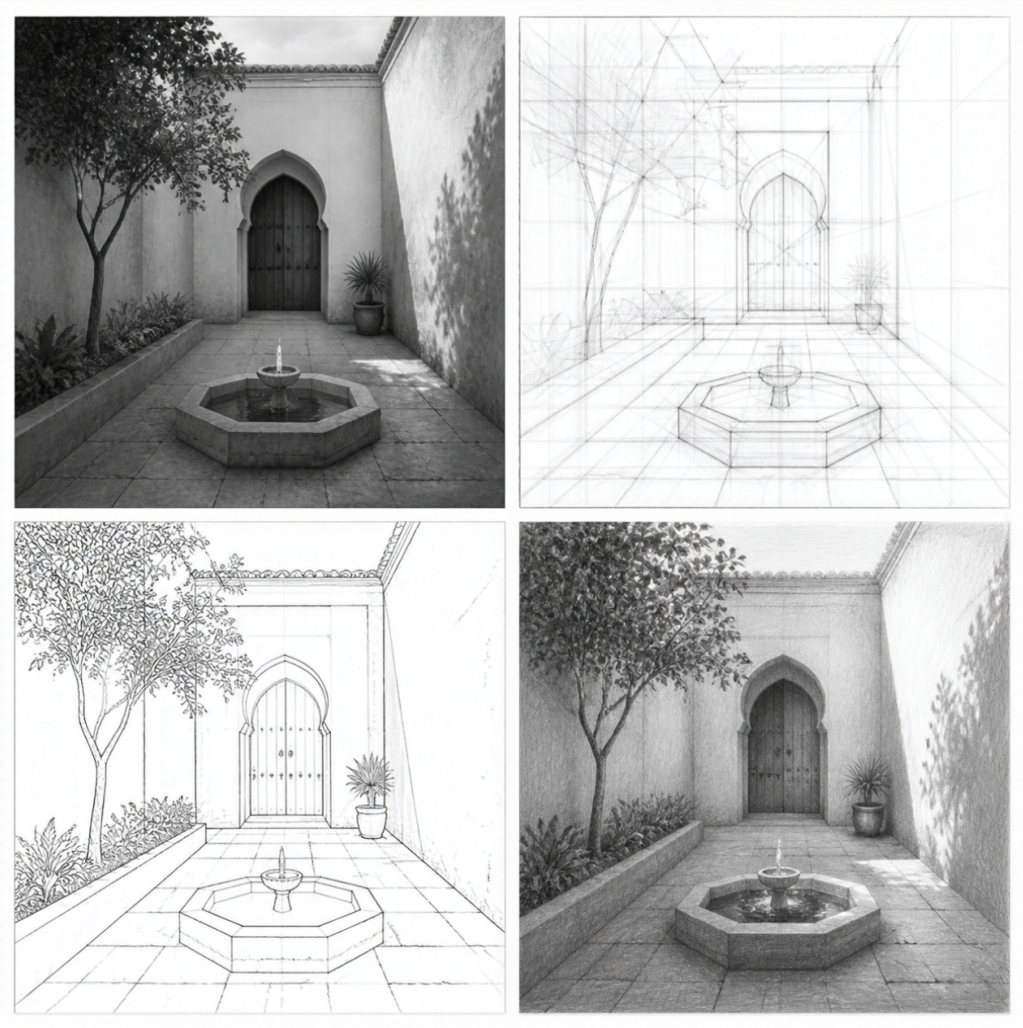


Checkpoint: compare the whole subject after each stage. Keep early guides light. If the next stage exposes a larger conflict, return to the earliest relationship that needs correction rather than hiding it with detail.

LESSON 01 / REFERENCE

Compare the reference treatments

Reference 1 / a narrow courtyard with a low fountain and a plain arched doorway



Canva AI illustration: reference / construction / contour / value. Stage details may differ. Apply the written steps and verify uncertain structure through real observation.

Use this lesson focus

Can you explain where the main planes meet without relying on texture?

LESSON 01 / WORKED DIAGNOSIS

Analyze before adding more marks

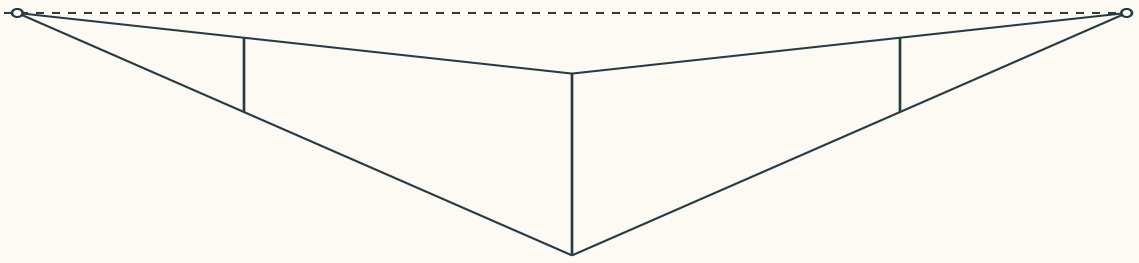
Check whether the floor and walls appear to meet rather than float apart. If one wall edge contradicts several others, verify it against a clear real-space reference or simplify the scene. Perspective construction is a way to test coherence, not proof that an AI-generated building could be built exactly as shown. Keep the first thumbnail available for comparison.

Common problem

Starting with decorative masonry can hide a floor-wall relationship that never fits together.

Correction sequence

Restore the large plane framework and resolve the main junctions before replacing small architectural marks.



The schematic is a comparison aid. Diagnose the actual study rather than assuming it contains this exact error.

Evidence I can point to / correction I will test

LESSON 01 / GUIDED PRACTICE

Repeat one specific skill

Make three courtyard thumbnails containing only eye level, wall planes and floor boundaries.

Keep the source and viewpoint steady for the comparison. Use one frame for the first attempt, another for a deliberate adjustment, and the others for the comparisons named in the exercise. Add a short note identifying what changed.

Observe / first attempt

Compare / evidence

Adjust / one change

Repeat / check

The relationship that improved, or the uncertainty that remains

LESSON 01 / PROJECT

Plan a small application

Create a courtyard block-in with readable enclosure and a clearly placed fountain mass.

Plan before rendering

Choose your subject and record its source. State which part of this lesson you are testing. If you change the crop, arrangement or viewpoint, name that as a design variation and use a suitable reference for any newly visible structure.

Thumbnail A / placement

Thumbnail B / comparison

Chosen plan and two observable completion checks

LESSON 01 / TRANSFER AND CRITIQUE

Review with useful evidence

Lesson check

Can you explain where the main planes meet without relying on texture?

Transfer the skill

Choose an available object or an appropriate verified reference that allows the same comparison. Keep the exercise specific. For people, use a suitable reference or a consenting adult sitter; do not copy uncertain generated anatomy as a rule.

Transfer study / new subject and reference source

One strength / one structural correction / one next exercise

LESSON 01 / FINISHED PRACTICE

Keep a final comparison study

Subject and source: _____ Date: _____

Focus: Set the courtyard's spatial framework

Final study / use a separate sheet if preferred

What visibly changed from the first attempt, and what remains unresolved?