

FIGURE

Action Line

GOAL

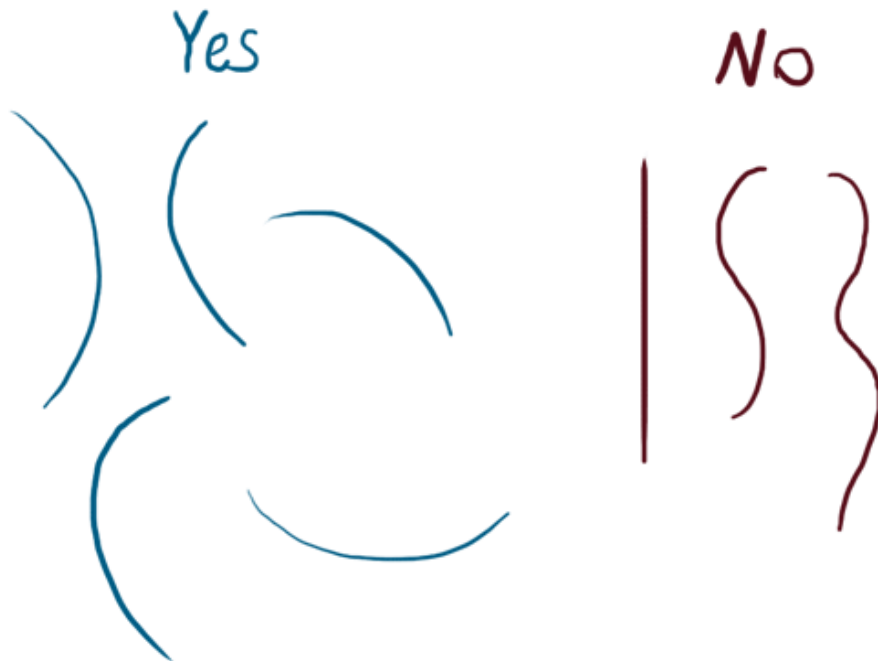
Learn what an action line is and practice using it to draw figures.

TECHNIQUE

Action Line

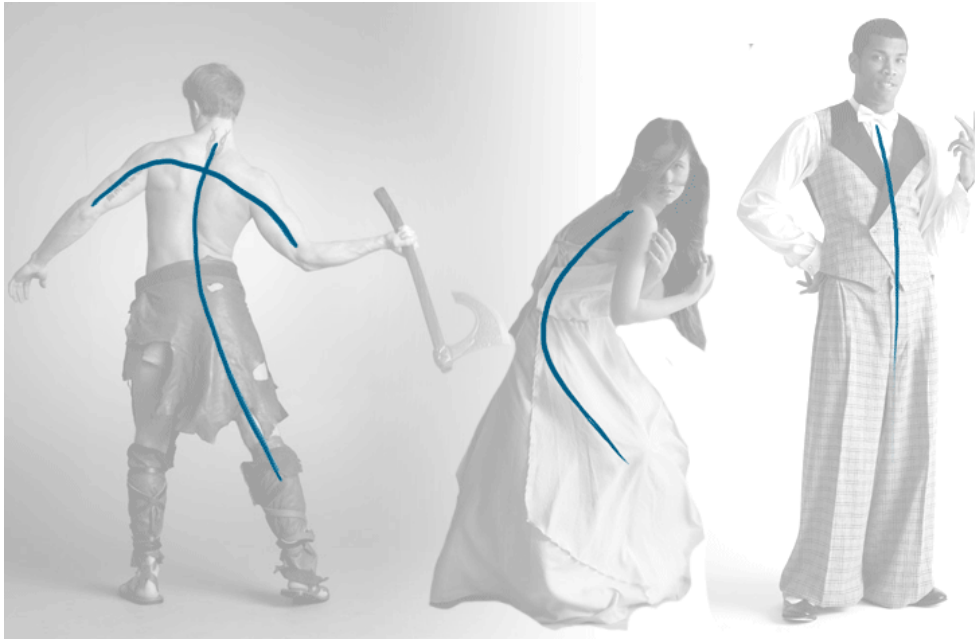
INSTRUCTION

An **action line** is the first mark made in figure drawing. You can think of the action line as an imaginary line that runs along the spine of the figure. The action line helps you to capture the figure's basic form and movement. The curvy your line, the more attitude and movement is evoked.



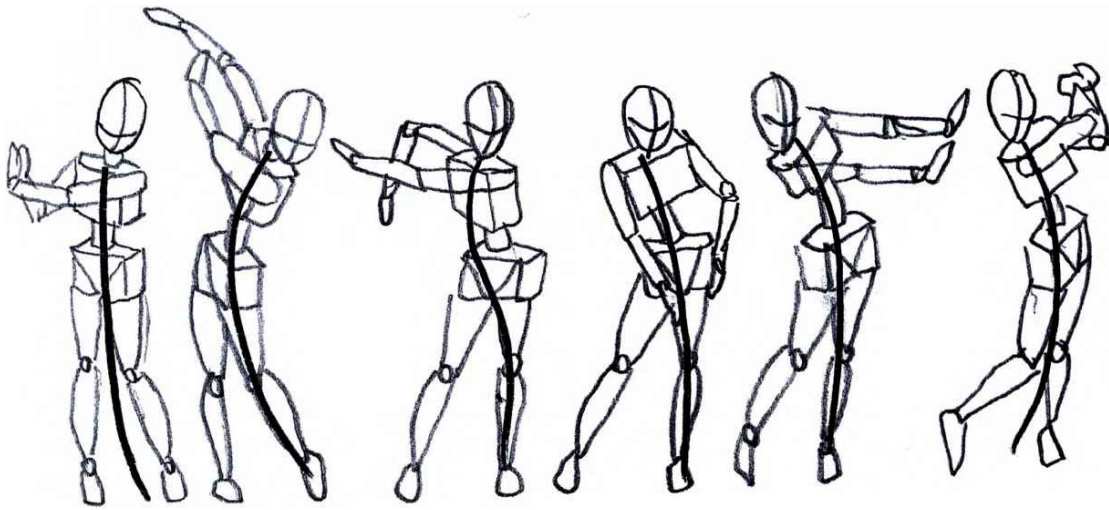
Notice that an action line is a quick, simple, continuous mark.

When drawing a figure, you may have two action lines to show the movement of the body and arms.



Examples of one or two actions lines being used in a figure.

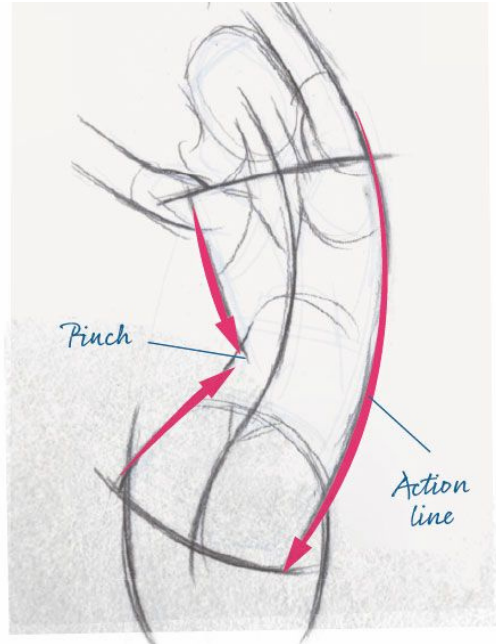
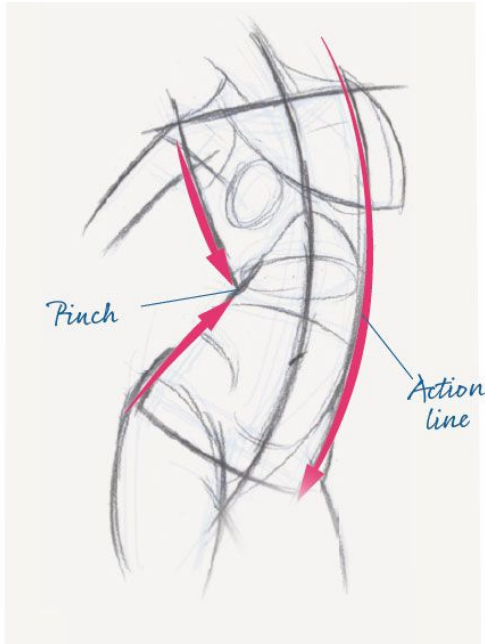
EXAMPLES



Examples of an action line in a figure.

PRACTICE

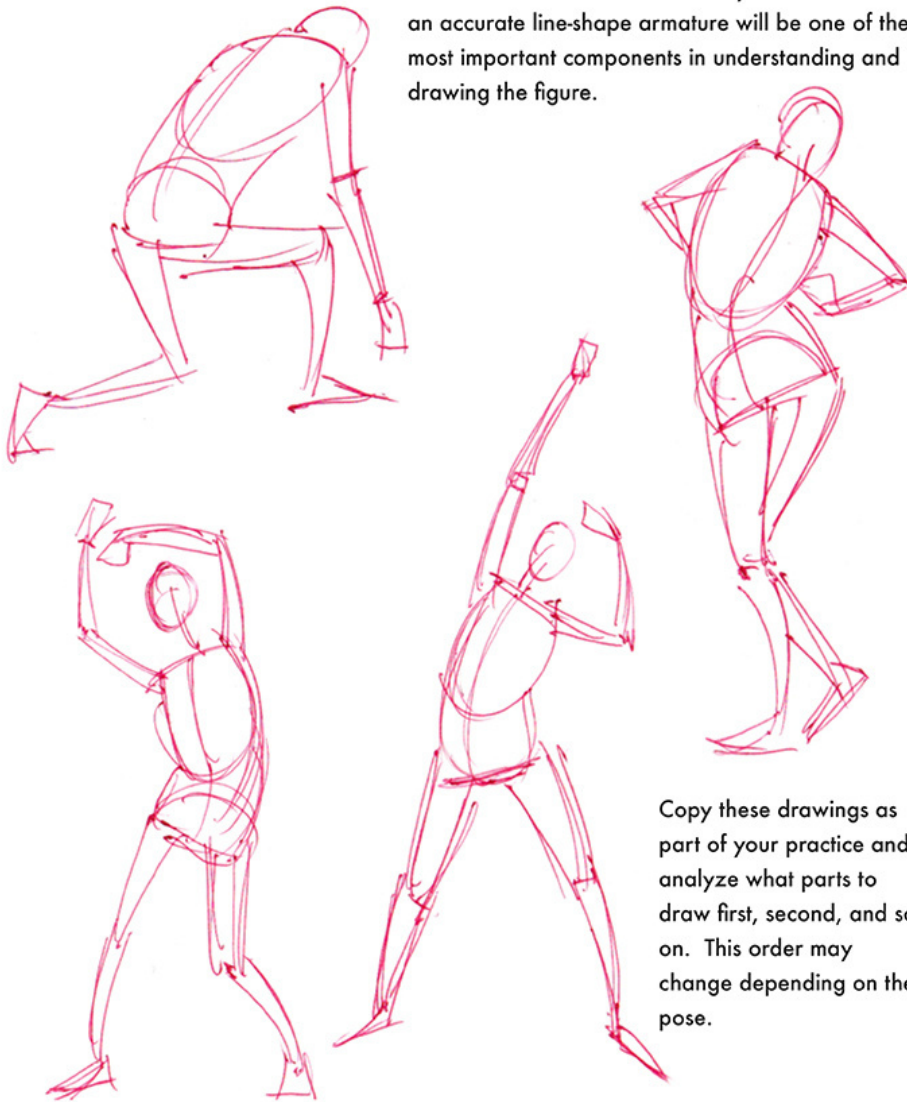
Practice drawing the action line in the following figures. Remember that an action line should be quick, simple marks.



PRACTICE

Practice drawing the action line in the following figures. Remember that an action line should be quick, simple marks.

Practice this exercise as much as you can. Drawing an accurate line-shape armature will be one of the most important components in understanding and drawing the figure.



Copy these drawings as part of your practice and analyze what parts to draw first, second, and so on. This order may change depending on the pose.

PRACTICE

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RESOURCES

ShuChih Art Studio does not own any of the images in this lesson plan, all images were taken from other workbooks and online examples.

<https://line-of-action.com/article/gesture-basics-1-line-of-action/>

<https://www.joshuanava.biz/human-body/the-line-of-action-or-strength.html>