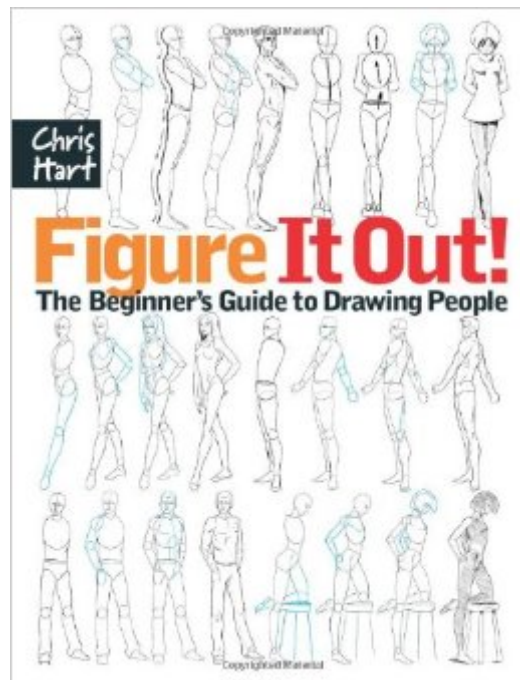


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# Figure It Out! The Beginner's Guide To Drawing People



## Synopsis

Chris Hart has a head for figures &#151; human figures, that is. Not only does he draw them with incredible style and flair, he also has a friendly, accessible teaching style that makes his how-to books super-sellers. In this unique figure-drawing course, Chris avoids the usual anatomy lessons that intimidate aspiring artists and gets right down to the basics young illustrators need to get started. Starting with heads and facial expressions, he moves on to full figures, male and female, ideal and average, some in fashion poses and others in dynamic action. On every page, his practical advice and clear examples will help readers achieve terrific results &#151; and have fun every step of the way.Â Â

## Book Information

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Chris Hart Books; 1st edition (August 4, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1933027800

ISBN-13: 978-1933027807

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 8.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (111 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

After reading the reviews for this book, I felt that I had to add my own opinion to balance out what other people have said. My first thought is that people need to read the title; Figure It Out!: A Beginner's Guide to Drawing People. This is exactly what this book is, a beginner's book. While it does expect you to have some basic level of drawing skill, most of the drawings build the body from basic geometric shapes. This is the starting block for how most good beginner art books teach you to learn to draw anything. So it does pass that basic qualification. Next up and possibly what I like most about this book, is that it shows you shapes, and basic line forms that make up the parts of the body. I know growing up and going through my art classes, the one thing I struggled with was when the teacher said to "look". The problem with that approach is that until you know what you're looking for, you're a little in the dark. That is where this book excels. It gives you the basics of the human

body construction and the contour lines that generally tend to be used to achieve those results. However, this is also where I get a little frustrated with some of the other reviews. All bodies are put together the same. However, there are quite a large variety of variations that happen with size, gender, race, muscle/fat ratios and cultural norms for how the human body is precisely put together for each of those things. Reviewers who are upset with this book for not having people of color, cultures or other ethnic races need to understand that those are all people who can be drawn with this book, but you will need to start with the information the writer gives you and then adapt it to fit each unique person. The author could easily write a whole book that would be titled, Figure It Out!

The most distracting thing about this book is (unsurprisingly) the thing many (usually males) artists have problems with - female breasts. The nipple/midbreast almost always comes a head-length or more below the neck, but Hart consistently places the breast ending WELL BEFORE even one head-length has been completed! This is grossly inaccurate and anyone that follows this will be drawing \*incredibly\* odd women! It seems what Hart has done with his females is simply round out the pectoral muscle (which sits higher than the breast) without a realization that the breast tissue is fat tissue that - even in the perkier breast - will fall below the muscles supporting it. Even fake breasts will reach at least one head-length below the neck. I am not suggesting Hart go into the details of every muscle or draw figures with photographic realism, however such a depiction is almost egregious to me as him consistently drawing a head directly attached to the clavicles (with no neck), or a neck two headlengths long, or hands with three fingers, etc. Furthermore he spends much more time on the "idealized" female form than the "idealized" male form. All his females are wearing high-heels or are on tip-toes, and he explains this by saying that this is how fashion models will appear.... I did not see in the title where it said this was drawing for fashion designers.

Everything about drawing female faces is focused on them being sexy and young. It's a nice addition if he gave the opposites, but he does not - this is what ALL the females need to look like. Furthermore, there's no correlation with the males - all the males look completely average.

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