

# Portraits

**You have three minutes, a pencil and some paper.**

**Without using a mirror, draw a picture of your own face.**

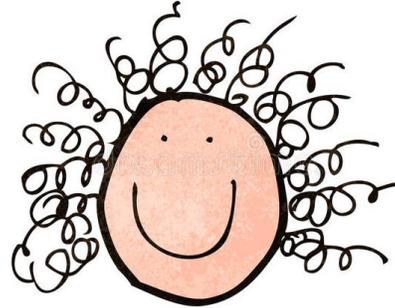
**Try to be as accurate as possible.**

**Add as much detail as you can – eyebrows, freckles, scars (Harry Potter?), ears!**

**You've seen it every day! How precise will you be?**

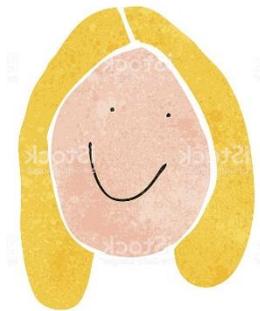
**When most people are asked to draw a face, they start by drawing either**

**A round shape**



**Or**

**An oval shape.**



**Look at what you have drawn.**

**However, there are many other face shapes.**

**A good portrait starts with the correct shaped face.**

**Let's look at some examples from Quentin Blake who you studied in the Autumn term.**



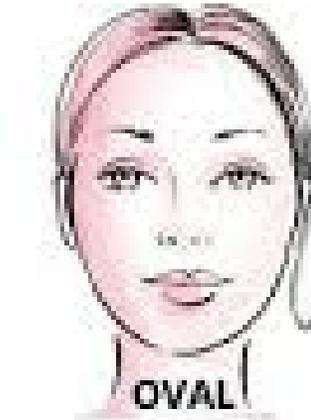
ROUND



SQUARE



HEART



OVAL



LONG



TRIANGLE

**Now use a mirror. Look at your face shape. Study it really carefully.  
You might like to trace your finger around the outline of your reflection on the mirror to help.**

**Which face shape do you have?**

You are now going to have another go at drawing your face, but this time studying it really carefully and using the mirror.

It can help to first hover your pencil above the shape you see in the mirror (as though you were about to draw on the mirror) and then repeat that same pencil stroke on your paper.

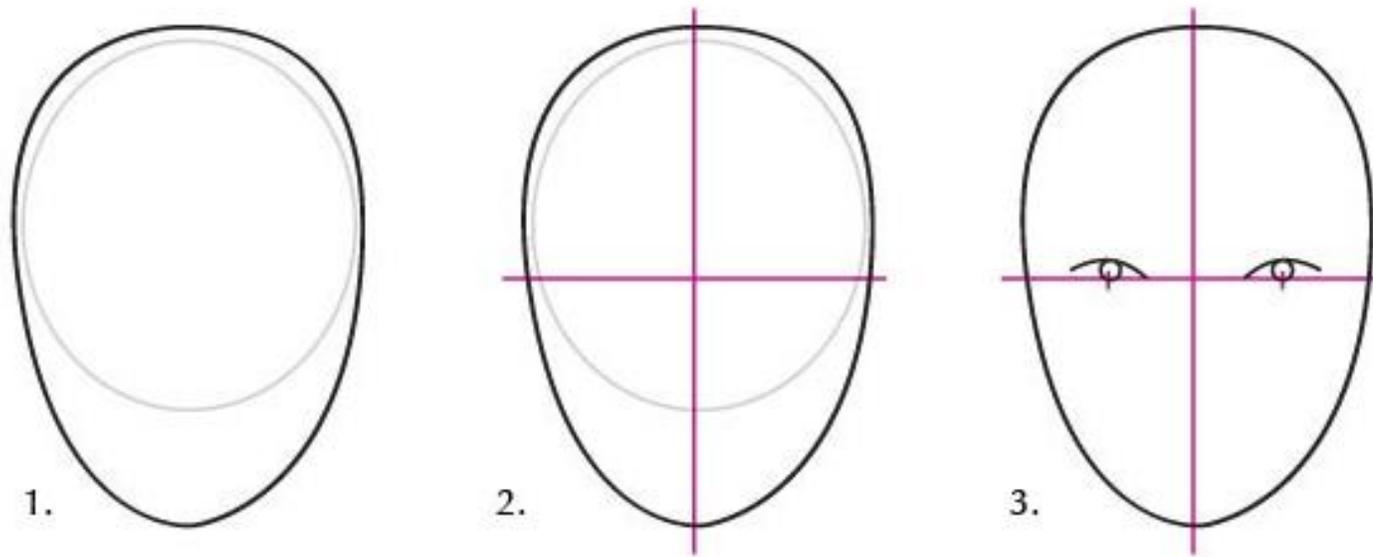
This might be done in stages, and not one complete loop. Take your time and get it right.

Now you have an outline, you need to add detail.

The best place to start is with the **eyes**.

Look at your first drawing. Where on the face did you draw them?  
A common mistake is to draw them too high!

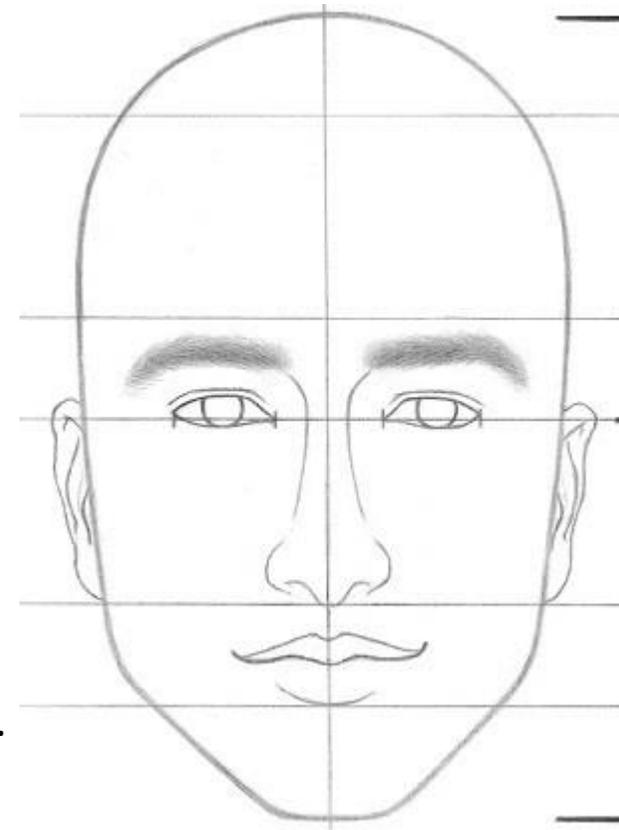
They should actually be half way between the top and bottom of the outline of your face shape.  
Look in your mirror and check! Now draw in your own eyes on your outline.



Now halve the lower half of your face shape (between the eyes and chin).  
The line you have made should be where your nose ends.

The top of your ears will be in line with the middle of your eyes and the bottom of your ears will be in line with your nose.

Use the mirror and this information to draw in your nose and ears.



Now halve the space between your nose and chin.

This line will be the bottom of your lips.

Use the mirror to look carefully and add in your lips.

The ends of your lips should be directly under the centre of your eyes.

Now you need to add in the extra details and features that make you special.

Use the mirror to study carefully. Draw in your eyebrows and hair.

You might have other features such as freckles or glasses you would like to add.

For each of them, use your mirror to look carefully and then do one feature at a time.

When you have finished, compare your second portrait to your first one. See how much progress you have made.

Don't colour it just yet! Next time, we are going to add colour in the style of Vincent Van Gogh.