# How to draw a snowflake

## Detailed guide

Pale dashes show placement. Dark plum is the new line. Gray shows earlier work.

**Place the guides**

### 1. Draw a light upright line

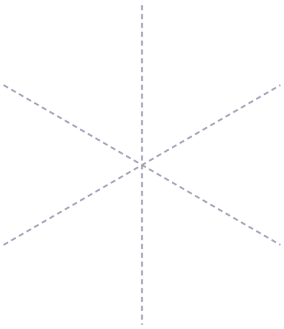
Draw one faint pencil line through the middle. Leave room beyond both ends for the rounded tips.



**Place the guides**

### 2. Cross it with two diagonals

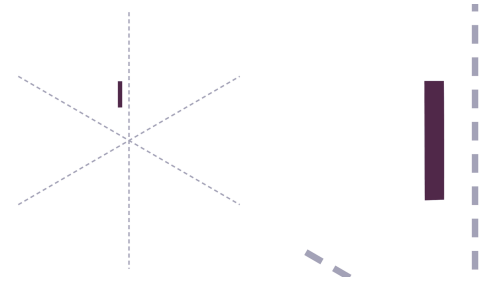
Put both diagonals through the same center. Aim for six roughly equal gaps and six ends about the same distance out.



**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 3. Start the left edge of the top arm

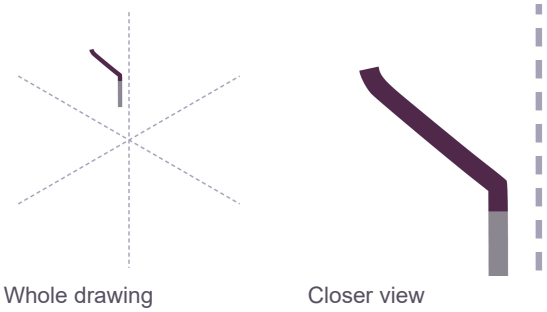
Start a short distance above the center, just left of the upright. Go up beside the guide and pause just before the first twig turns out.




**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 4. Go out along the first twig

Slope up and left from the line you drew. Ease into the rounded end and pause halfway around it.



# How to draw a snowflake

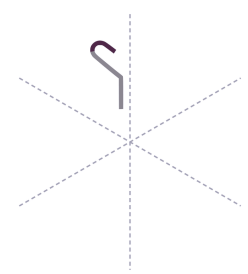
## Detailed guide

Pale dashes show placement. Dark plum is the new line. Gray shows earlier work.

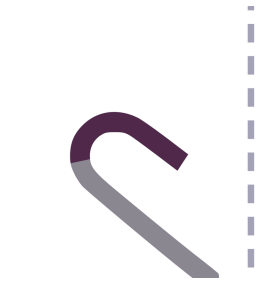
**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 5. Return toward the first notch

Finish rounding the twig. Head diagonally back toward the upright and pause just before the inside notch, higher than where you turned out.



Whole drawing

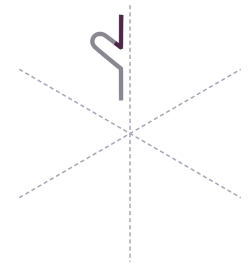


Closer view

**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 6. Take the left edge up to the tip

Turn at the notch and go almost straight up. Leave enough space across the guide for a broad arm.



Whole drawing

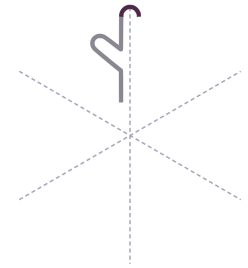


Closer view

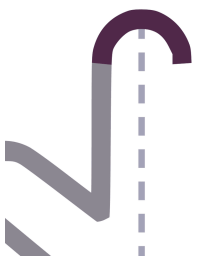
**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 7. Round the main tip

Make a broad curve across the end of the upright. Stop when the line points down on the other side.



Whole drawing

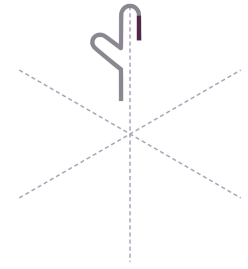


Closer view

**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 8. Come down toward the second notch

Go down beside the upright. Pause just before the second notch, which will sit about level with the first.



Whole drawing



Closer view

# How to draw a snowflake

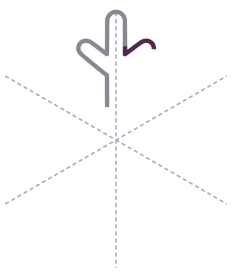
## Detailed guide

Pale dashes show placement. Dark plum is the new line. Gray shows earlier work.

**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 9. Go out along the second twig

Angle up and right from the notch. Start to round the twig at about the same height as the first one.



Whole drawing

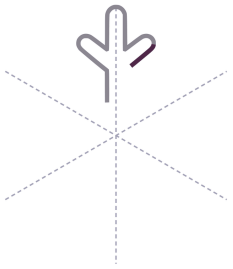


Closer view

**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 10. Return toward the right edge

Finish the rounded end and head back toward the upright. Pause just before the twig turns into the stem.



Whole drawing

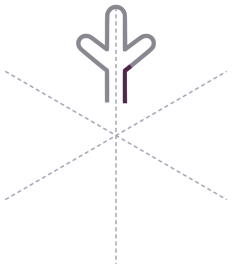


Closer view

**Learn the pattern on the top arm**

### 11. Bring the right edge down

Continue straight down toward the center. Stop level with your starting point, leaving the middle open for the other arms.



Whole drawing

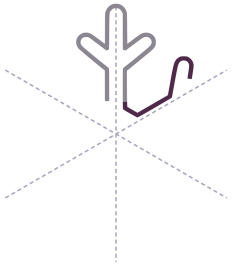


Closer view

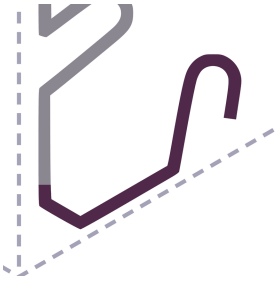
**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 12. Join into the upper-right arm and turn through its first twig

Make the shallow inward V shown near the center. Follow the new spoke outward, leave it to round the first twig, then approach the inside notch. Use the same turns as on the top arm.



Whole drawing



Closer view

# How to draw a snowflake

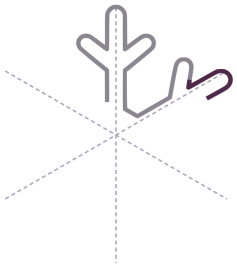
## Detailed guide

Pale dashes show placement. Dark plum is the new line. Gray shows earlier work.

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 13. Round the upper-right tip

Turn at the notch and draw out beside the spoke. Round the main tip, then come back along the other edge toward the second notch.



Whole drawing

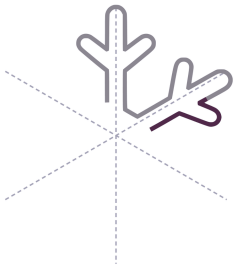


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 14. Finish the second twig on the upper-right arm

Go out to round the second twig, come back to the stem edge and follow it toward the center. Pause at the same distance in as the previous inner join.



Whole drawing

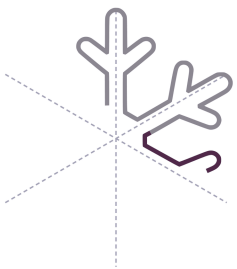


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 15. Join into the lower-right arm and turn through its first twig

Make the shallow inward V shown near the center. Follow the new spoke outward, leave it to round the first twig, then approach the inside notch. Use the same turns as on the top arm.



Whole drawing

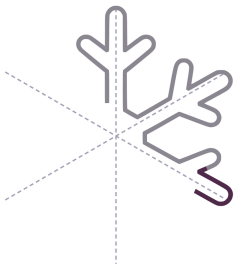


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 16. Round the lower-right tip

Turn at the notch and draw out beside the spoke. Round the main tip, then come back along the other edge toward the second notch.



Whole drawing



Closer view

# How to draw a snowflake

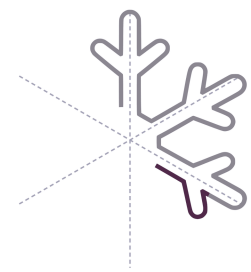
## Detailed guide

Pale dashes show placement. Dark plum is the new line. Gray shows earlier work.

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 17. Finish the second twig on the lower-right arm

Go out to round the second twig, come back to the stem edge and follow it toward the center. Pause at the same distance in as the previous inner join.



Whole drawing

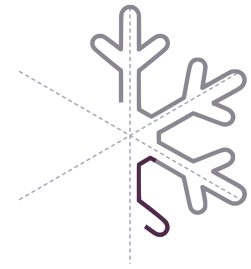


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 18. Join into the bottom arm and turn through its first twig

Make the shallow inward V shown near the center. Follow the new spoke outward, leave it to round the first twig, then approach the inside notch. Use the same turns as on the top arm.



Whole drawing

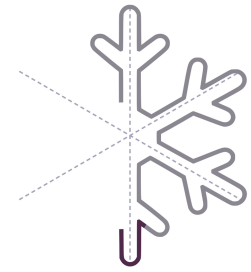


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 19. Round the bottom tip

Turn at the notch and draw out beside the spoke. Round the main tip, then come back along the other edge toward the second notch.



Whole drawing

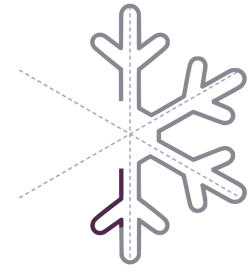


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 20. Finish the second twig on the bottom arm

Go out to round the second twig, come back to the stem edge and follow it toward the center. Pause at the same distance in as the previous inner join.



Whole drawing



Closer view

# How to draw a snowflake

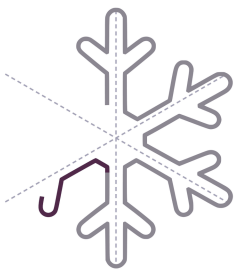
## Detailed guide

Pale dashes show placement. Dark plum is the new line. Gray shows earlier work.

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 21. Join into the lower-left arm and turn through its first twig

Make the shallow inward V shown near the center. Follow the new spoke outward, leave it to round the first twig, then approach the inside notch. Use the same turns as on the top arm.



Whole drawing

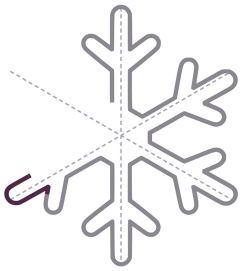


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 22. Round the lower-left tip

Turn at the notch and draw out beside the spoke. Round the main tip, then come back along the other edge toward the second notch.



Whole drawing

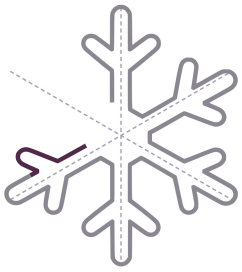


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 23. Finish the second twig on the lower-left arm

Go out to round the second twig, come back to the stem edge and follow it toward the center. Pause at the same distance in as the previous inner join.



Whole drawing



Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 24. Join into the upper-left arm and turn through its first twig

Make the shallow inward V shown near the center. Follow the new spoke outward, leave it to round the first twig, then approach the inside notch. Use the same turns as on the top arm.



Whole drawing



Closer view

# How to draw a snowflake

## Detailed guide

Pale dashes show placement. Dark plum is the new line. Gray shows earlier work.

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 25. Round the upper-left tip

Turn at the notch and draw out beside the spoke. Round the main tip, then come back along the other edge toward the second notch.



Whole drawing

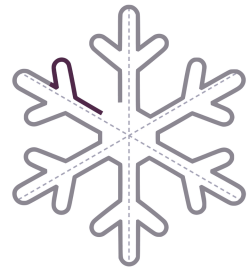


Closer view

**Repeat around the other five arms**

### 26. Finish the second twig on the upper-left arm

Go out to round the second twig, come back to the stem edge and follow it toward the center. Pause at the same distance in as the previous inner join.



Whole drawing

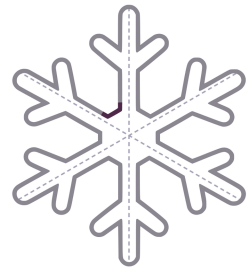


Closer view

**Close and clean up the outline**

### 27. Join the last edge to the first

Use one last shallow inward V to meet the point where you began. Follow the whole perimeter with your eye and check that the outline closes.



Whole drawing

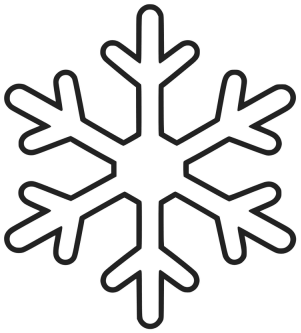


Closer view

**Close and clean up the outline**

### 28. Erase the light guides

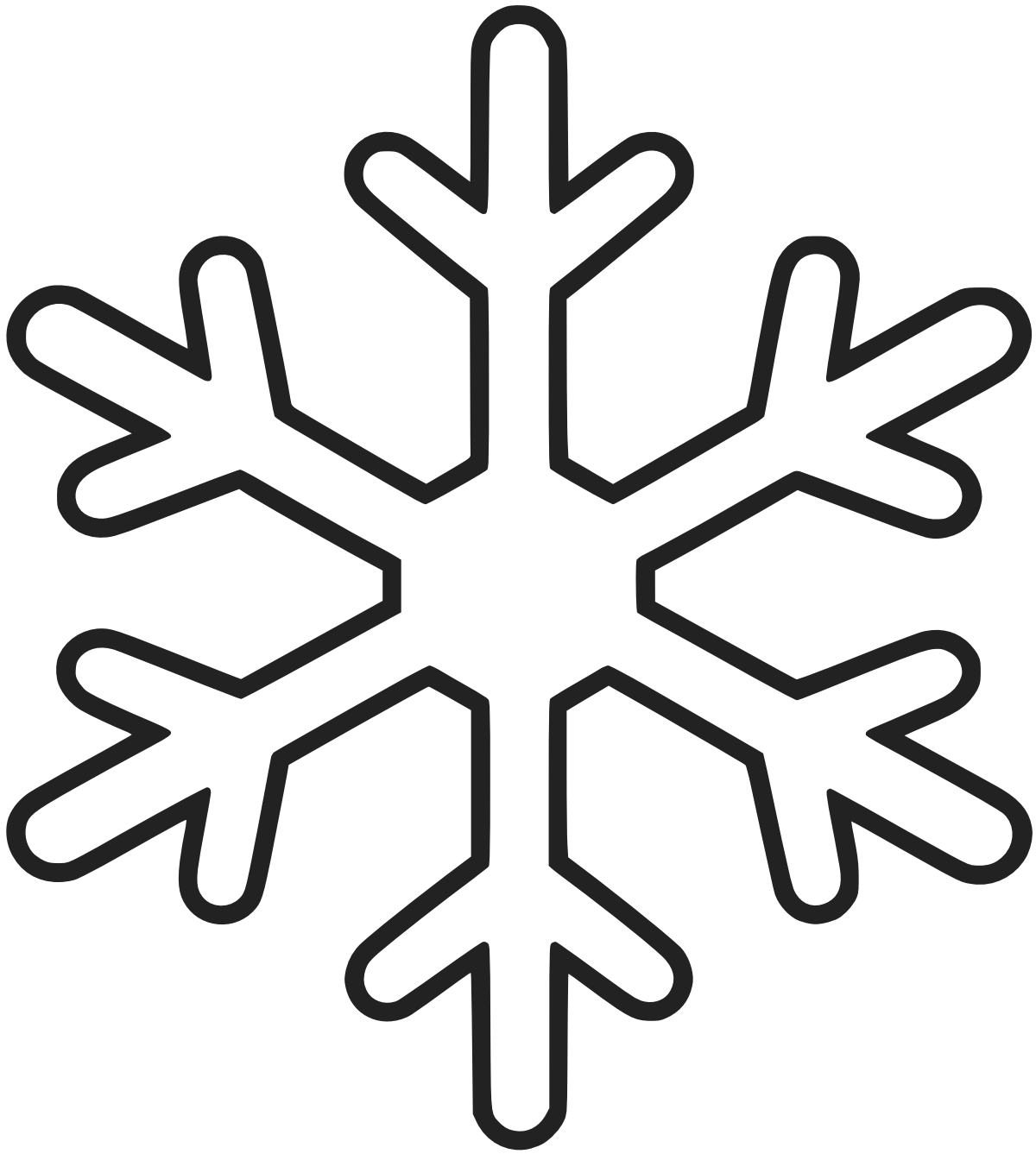
Keep the closed outline and rub out the three placement lines. Strengthen any faint joins after you are happy with the shape.



# How to draw a snowflake

## Blank outline

Use the finished shape to check your drawing or color it in.



# How to draw a snowflake

## Color reference

Try pale blue across the center, twigs and rounded tips.

