

## Expressions

Subtly is key in conveying emotion.

**Facial expressions** can change the meaning of an illustration immensely. A slight change in the mouth, a raise of an eyebrow, a squint in the eyes: the most recognizable impacts need the smallest of tweaks.

**Eyes in particular** can be tricky to work with. What might seem like an extremely minor positional change can greatly affect how polished a piece looks.

**August!** Time for some expressions. Why in August? No reason. Let's try some anyway! Focus on the **eyes** to drive the key look of your expression: we humans recognize a lot about these in art. The **mouth, body language**, and **eyebrows** can convey a lot with slight tweaks too.

If you don't have a specific **character** when mentioned in these prompts, make anything up! Expressions can look fun on any kind of character, and it can be fun to switch between a few. What happens when you make a serious character look silly?

Having trouble telling if you got an expression right? Digitally, **flip it horizontally**, or flip and hold it up to the light on paper. You'll see pretty quickly if you nailed it.




**Like the prompt?**  
Draw it and check ☐ it off.

**Not feeling it?**  
Draw what you want and write it in the blank space.

**This calendar is yours.**  
Miss a day? Drew the wrong thing? That's OK! We're all human. Let yourself make mistakes.

## Daily Art Calendar

# August 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
				<input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Warmup Practice <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Calm and Content <input type="checkbox"/> _____
On the start of the month? Sure, why not. Look ahead at other days and pick one fun!	You know you always forget to do these. Practice some basic warm-up exercises today.	What does it mean to be happy, but chill? How does a character look in this state?				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/> Angry and Agitated <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Gesture Drill <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Deeply Confused <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Elated Expressions <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> In the Eyes <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Squint <input type="checkbox"/> _____
Now it's time for some emotion. Try some angry expressions, changing the mouth & eyes a few times.	Bodies have expression too; practice some poses and try to capture broad shapes.	Comical or serious, try to depict raw confusion. Lots of opportunities for variety here.	They're so happy! What makes them joyful; how do they react?	A free day! Isn't that exciting. Want more expressions? Draw some. Want something else? Do that.	Draw the same expression a few times, but move the pupils of the eyes around. What happens?	Study some expressions where a character is squinting. What parts move?
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<input type="checkbox"/> Exaggerations <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> JUMPSCARE! <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Body Language <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Head Empty <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comfort Character Day <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Eyebrows <input type="checkbox"/> _____
Most expressions are subtle. But what do they look like if you greatly exaggerate them?	Surprise! What does sudden shock look like to a character?	See if you can show expressions using just the body; keep the face blank!	Dazed or emptily content, what does a character with nothing going on inside look like?	Another Friday for another free day. Draw what you're feeling.	Whether they look comfy or not, spring for drawing whatever character makes *you* feel comfortable.	Draw a neutral face a few times. Then draw different eyebrows on each, trying for different expressions.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<input type="checkbox"/> Sleepy yet Expressive <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-plussed <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Bravery <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Tiny Tweaks <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> In Love <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fantastic Fanart <input type="checkbox"/> _____
Study some pictures of people and animals sleeping. Do they look grumpy, happy, crazy?	Unexcited. Annoyed. Plainly uncaring. How does that look?	A bold defender! What makes a character look brave? Can you show that fierce confidence?	Grab one of your earlier expressions from this month and make small changes. What happens to the feel?	Once more, a free Friday to draw anything you please, from these expressions or your own imagination.	Aww, they look adorable. How do you represent an expression of love on a character's face?	What's a show or movie or game where the character has a notable expression? Try it out.
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<input type="checkbox"/> Disgusted <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cool as Heck <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Eye Styling <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Anticipation <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Flustered <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion <input type="checkbox"/> _____
That moment when a face shifts from neutral to absolute disgust. How does it appear?	Give your character sunglasses. Make them smug. Experiment with the mouth's expression.	In art, eyes can have many styles. Try some you've never tried before; study some art for options.	That slight look of expectation. What makes it work? See if you can make it.	Any expression I left out of this calendar? Try that! Or anything at all.	Caught being cute, eh? What's your character do in this situation?	If you've kept up you might be exhausted from the practice! What's that expression look like?