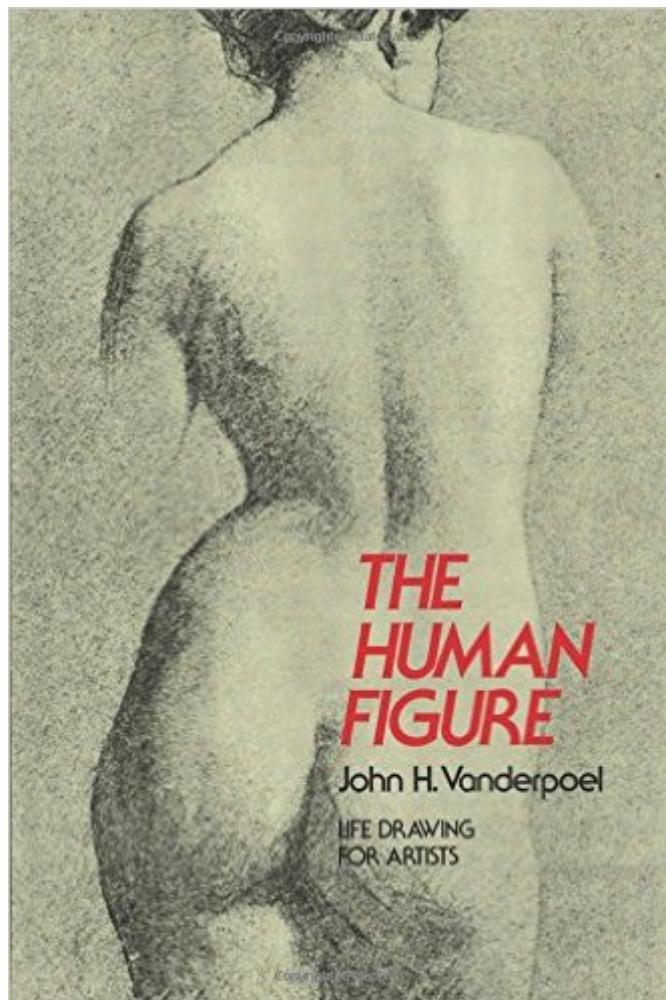


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# The Human Figure (Dover Anatomy For Artists)



## Synopsis

This great classic is still unrivaled for its clear, detailed presentation of thousands of fundamental features of the human figure. Every element of the body (such as the overhang of the upper lip; the puckering at the corners of the mouth; the characteristic proportions of the head, trunk, limbs, etc.; the tension between connected portions of the body; etc.) is carefully and concisely pointed out in the text. Even more helpful are the 430 pencil and charcoal drawings that illustrate each feature so that you are, in effect, shown what to look for by a master teacher. The result is the only art instruction book which not only illustrates details of the body but directs your attention at every stage to a host of subtle points of shading, curvature, proportion, foreshortening, muscular tension, variations due to extreme age or youth, and both major and minor differences in the structure and representation of the male and female figure. Comprehensive discussions and drawings cover the eyes; nose, mouth and chin; ear; head, trunk, back and hips; neck, throat, and shoulder; shoulder and arm; hand and wrist; leg; foot; the complete figure; and other interdependent groups of structures. This is the human figure as the artist, art student, and art teacher must know it in order to avoid many deceptive errors unfortunately common in much modern portraiture, painting, and illustrative art.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (115 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #34,183 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Specific Objects #24 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Figure Drawing

## Customer Reviews

There are so many mixed reviews for figure drawing books. I can say without a doubt in my mind that Vanderpoel's "The Human Figure" is far superior to any book I've come across so far. Vanderpoel had an incredible grasp on the human figure. His drawings are perfect in their simplicity.

I am always amazed when I look through this book; many of the sketches look like they were done in seconds but they capture the exact subtleties and fluctuations in both the female and male bodies and heads. Other figure drawing books I've purchased or browsed pale in comparison. Sure, Vanderpoel's text is wordy, intellectual, and sometimes uninteresting, but you have to look at the time period and purpose of the text. Vanderpoel was interested in the anatomical dissection of each part of the body. His goal with this book was to show the reader what is "going on" beneath the surface so you can understand why there is a bulge in muscle here or cartilage there, etc. The book is broken into chapters that cover each part of the body, starting with the head, and more specifically--the eye, then nose, mouth, ear, etc. The text is accompanied by drawings of what Vanderpoel is describing. For instance, the first chapter--Eyes--begins with explanations of how the eye sits in the eye socket, and how the eye socket relates to the skull as a whole. Drawings include skulls in different positions so you can see the brow bone and eye socket from different angles, and how the eyeball might sit in the head at different angles. The text goes on to explain how far inside the socket the eyeball sits, how the eyelid covers the eye when the eye is looking up or down, how big the iris and pupil are in comparison to the whole eyeball, etc.

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