

CARICATURE

TUTORIAL

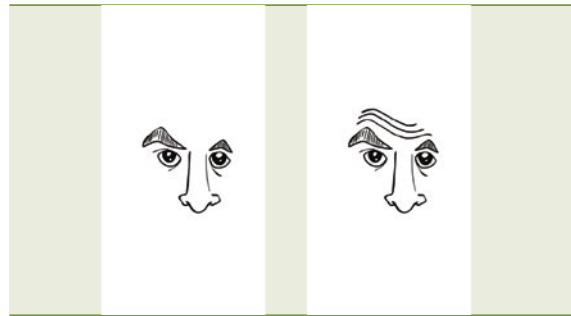


This tutorial will teach you how to draw your own caricature and what to know when you draw one. Also, I will cover some of the basics of drawing and give you some tips. First thing you need to know is what caricatures are. They're basically just drawn portraits of people, except they're exaggerated. Sometimes a lot, sometimes a little. In big cities all over the globe you will see various of streetartists who draw caricatures and if you've seen only a few, you'll see right away that it can vary quite a bit. It's all about exaggeration. But what? Well, key-items. And how do you know which? Well, if you look at a photo, take a look at which parts of the face (or body) are spots that give the face it's own identity. If someone has big lips, make them bigger. If someone has a big nose, make it bigger. If someone is frowning, make the frown huge. If someone is making a weird face, make the face even weirder. The same goes for minimising thing. If someone has a small nose, make it smaller, if someone has small ears, make them smaller, etc. Also, what is done quite a lot is making the body 3-10 times smaller than usual. This focusses all the attention on the head, which is obviously the most important part of the body when it comes to identification.



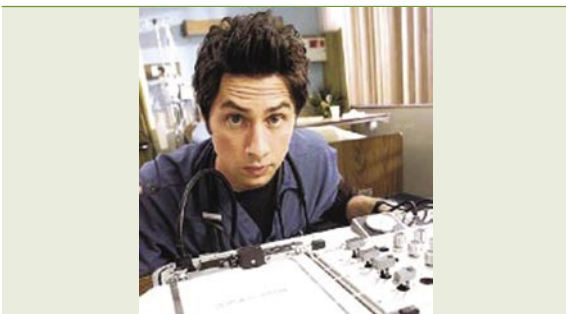
01 Flash work

I drew my caricature in FLash, because it's really easy to draw lines in. Because Flash works with vectors, you can also scale your drawing to an incredibly huge size. I learned from the best and what's a better way then to pass on that knowledge? What a lot of people do, including me, is use 2 or 3 kinds of lines. These lines vary in thickness. Use the thick line for the basic strokes and hard edges and use the thin line for the soft edges and small spots. This makes the drawing less flat and much nicer to look at. What I sometimes do, is take a third line and use



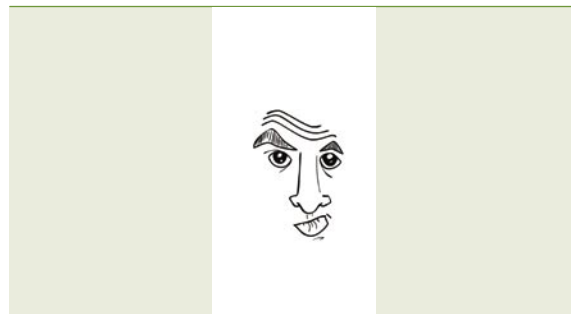
04 Frown

Then on to draw the silly frown of JD. I made one brow larger and higher than the other to implecate even more that he is frowning. Don't forget the lines that top off the frown itself. I used only 3 lines because that is normally enough. If you do more then 3 it will start looking like an old man or Yoda and we don't want that. If you do too little, you did not catch the right expression.



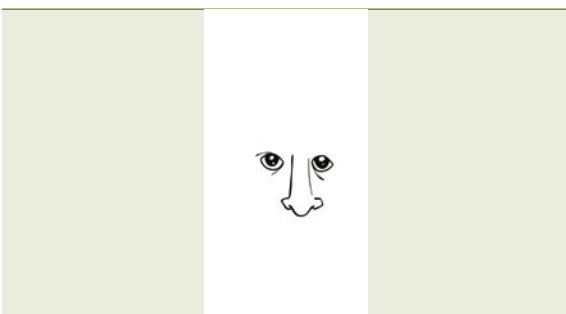
02 Zack Braff

Okay, let's start by making a caricature. Ofcourse first start of with an idea and a person. I chose Zack Braff, also known as Doctor John -J.D.- Dorian from the comedyshow *Scrubs*. Start by getting some reference.



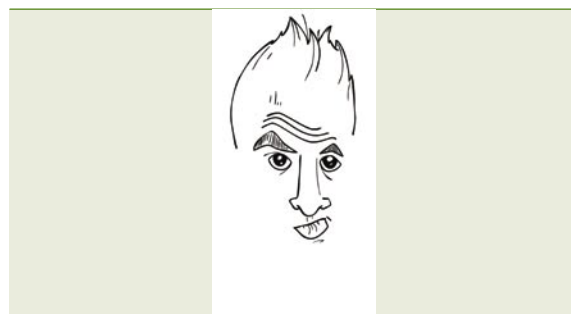
05 Lips

Now for the lips. When drawing men, don't make the lips very large unless they are in fact large. When a person has small lips, you can also use the thin brush to make them. In my case, Zack has full lips. No problem, but in this case we need to draw them. Since I went for the silly frown, a *thinking-mouth* is needed. I only drew the lower lip, because the upper lip is tucked in. Also notice the small lines I drew for his top-lip and his chin.



03 Eyes

First off, we start with the eyes. Try to NOT make them perfectly round, but oval-shaped with a hard corner on each side. The pupils I made black with a little white orb in it that will function as a shine.



06 The Hair

The hair of JD is perhaps the most important element. Because JD always has a *coupe ravage*, his hair is always messy. It's also pretty large and sometimes high. In this case we exaggerate it by making it higher. Again, use the thinner brush to make accents like strokes or little hairs.



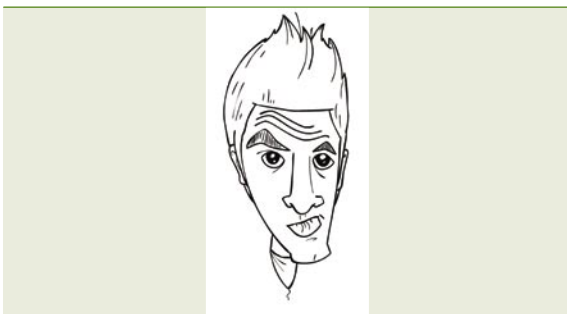
07 The chin

Don't forget the chin, which, in this case, doesn't have to be larger or anything. Zack seems to have a normal male chin and we do that by making an almost square shape and cutting it in half. Ofcourse, you don't have to draw a full square or rectangle, just half of it.



08 The face

Finish the head off with the ears, hair and the face. Since Zack doesn't have a characteristic bone-structure like Mick Jagger, Fergie, Jim Carrey or Tina Turner, complete the face with just simple lines.



09 The neck

As I said before, make the neck smaller in comparison to the head, because we're gonna make the body smaller than the head. I also drew the undershirt and the depth of his scrub.



10 Color

Now for the coloring. Color JD's hair black and don't forget his eyebrows. What I did was color it black first and then use a white brush and ON A NEW LAYER brush some white at the top. After I did that, I lowered the opacity to 10%. This gives the hair a little gradient, which you can obviously also do with a normal gradient. I just wanted to stay in the whole brushing-sequence.



11 Draw behind the lineart

Finish up the coloring by drawing on separate layers behind the original lineart. You need to draw behind the lineart, because then the lineart will always cover up edges you brushed, because it's very hard to draw perfectly inside the borders without touching them. Use separate layers, because then you can always change things later on if you want.



12 Finish

And there you have it. Zack JD Bragg from Scrubs. Try these techniques for ANY other person. Experiment with different races and different skintones. African Americans, Asian, European, Latino you name it. Every population has it's own characteristic bone-structure and facial display. Still the key element is LOTS of practice. Even if you made a great drawing after this tutorial, you still can learn loads more. <<

by Mick Moolhuijsen