

ANIMALS STANDING

WHEN WE DRAW ANIMALS IN STANDING POSES, IT'S NATURAL FOR US TO POSITION THEM IN A "FOUR-SQUARE" STANCE, WITH THEIR LIMBS LINED UP LIKE TABLE LEGS...

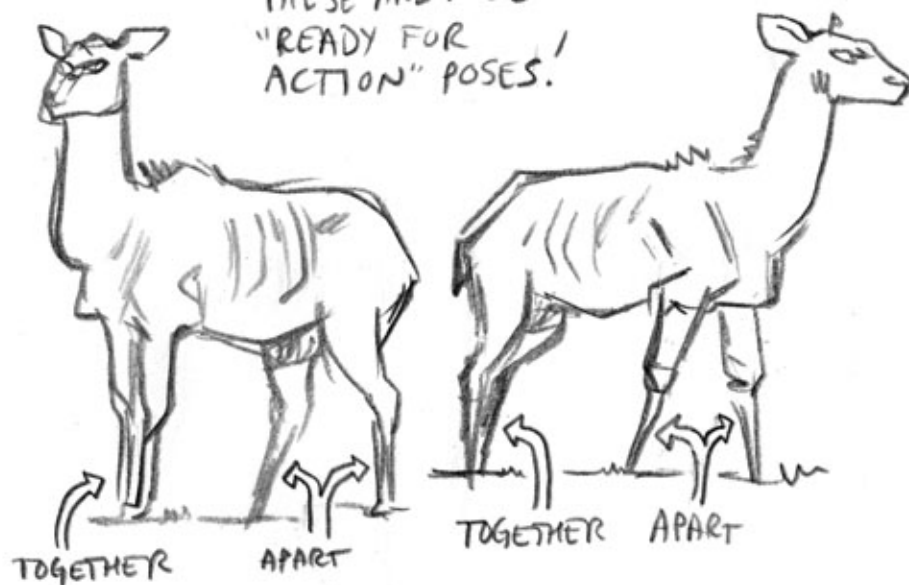
AND INDEED, SOMETIMES THEY DO STAND LIKE THAT.



I FEEL THIS GIVES THEM A THOUGHTFUL, DISTRACTED LOOK -- LIKE THEY'RE TRYING TO REMEMBER A MOVIE PLOT.

HOWEVER, WHEN FOUR-LEGGED MAMMALS PAUSE IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR WALKING PROCESS -- FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN HERBIVORES ARE GRAZING -- THEY OFTEN SHIFT THEIR FEET SLIGHTLY, SO THAT ONE PAIR ARE TOGETHER AND THE OTHER PAIR APART.

THESE ARE NICE "READY FOR ACTION" POSES!



IN FACT, ANY LITTLE DEVIATION FROM THE "TABLE POSE" WILL ADD LIFE TO OUR DRAWING.

RAISED RIGHT HIND HOOF →



ANIMALS LYING DOWN



LIKEWISE, WHEN WE ENVISION ANIMALS LYING DOWN, WE TEND TO IMAGINE THEM SITTING STRAIGHT UPRIGHT.

JUST LIKE AN EGYPTIAN SPHINX!



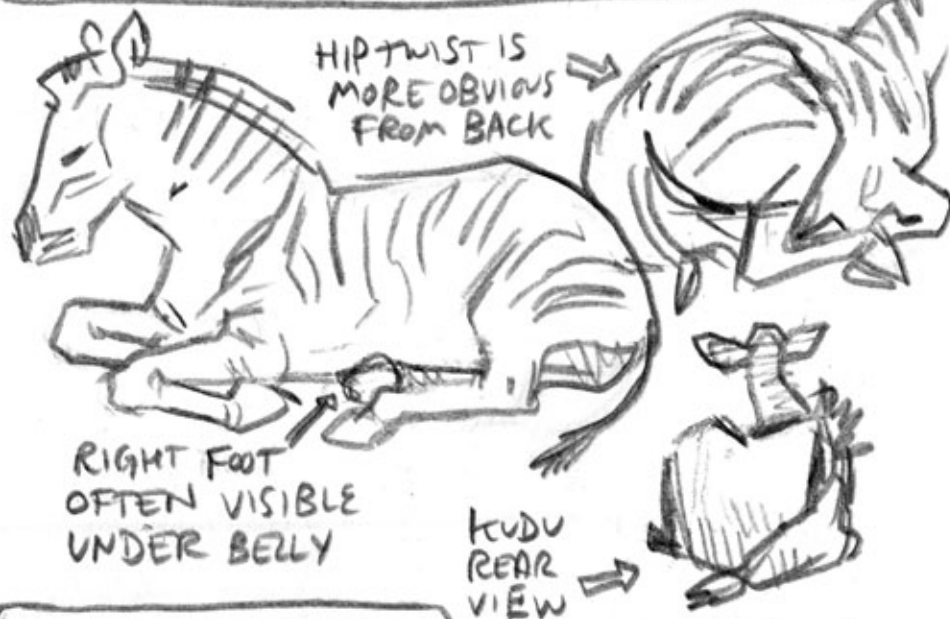
ONCE AGAIN, THIS DOES HAPPEN -- ESPECIALLY WITH BIG CATS. BUT..



THEY SEEM MORE COMFORTABLE WITH THEIR HIPS TURNED SIDWAYS...

OR EVEN THE WHOLE BODY!

THAT MIDDLE POSTURE - FRONT OF BODY UPRIGHT, HINDQUARTERS TURNED ONTO THEIR SIDE -- IS TYPICAL OF MOST FOUR-LEGGED MAMMALS, EVEN LESS FLEXIBLE ONES.



HOOFED ANIMALS WILL OFTEN BEND THEIR FORELEGS TO TUCK IN THEIR FRONT HOOVES.



THIS IS LIKE BENDING A HUMAN WRIST!

CHARLES KNIGHT'S "ANIMAL DRAWING" HAS A WHOLE CHAPTER ON LYING DOWN. HE POINTS OUT THAT WHILE HORSES AND THEIR KIN SIT DOWN BOTTOM FIRST --



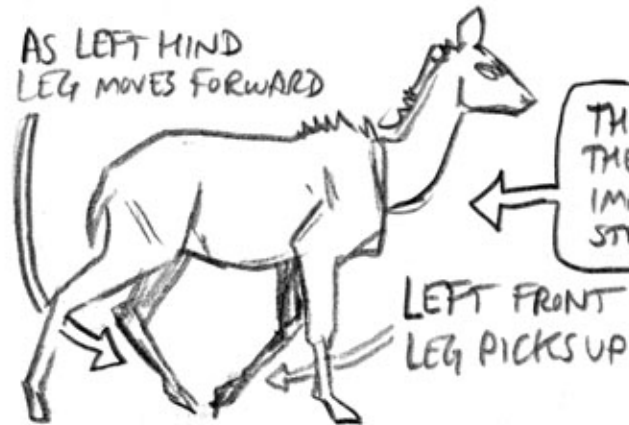
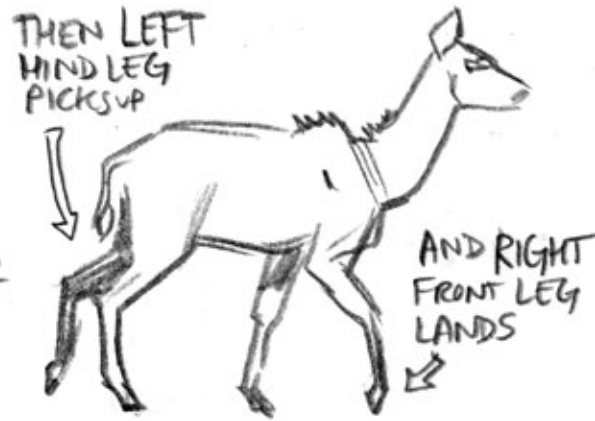
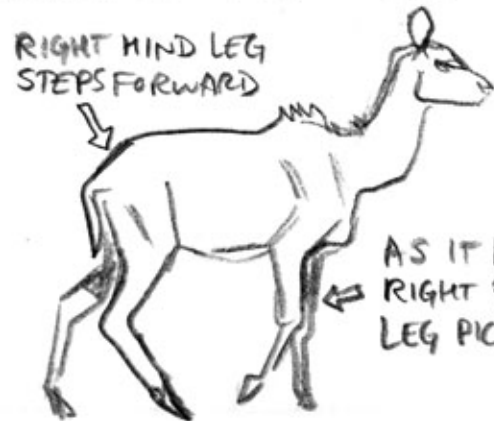
CLOVEN-HOOVED MAMMALS KNEEL TO GET UP AND DOWN!

ANIMALS WALKING

A QUICK INTRODUCTION TO SOME COMMON GAITS USED BY FOUR-LEGGED MAMMALS - FOR USE AS POSE REFERENCE!



STANDARD WALK



THIS IS THE MIRROR IMAGE OF STEP ONE

THIS GAIT-DEMONSTRATED HERE BY A GREATER KUDU--IS WIDELY USED BY ALMOST EVERY LARGE FOUR-LEGGED MAMMAL (EXCEPT GIRAFFES!)

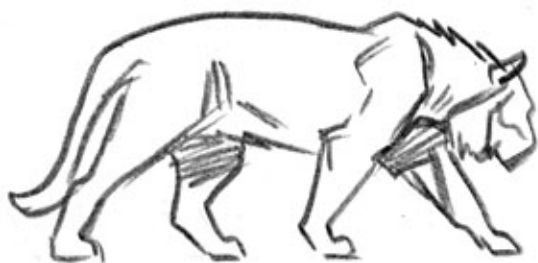
TROT IS LIKE A FASTER VERSION OF THE WALK, IN WHICH THE "INSIDE" LEGS LIFT WELL CLEAR OF GROUND.

WOLVES LOVE IT!



PACING

IN THIS GAIT, THE LEFT LEGS STRIDE FORWARD IN UNISON, AND THEN THE RIGHT LEGS. IT'S A POWERFUL, PURPOSEFUL MOTION!



THIS IS A MIRROR IMAGE OF STEP ONE

THIS IS THE STANDARD WALKING GAIT OF GIRAFFES, CAMELS, AND THEIR KIN...

AND BIG CATS USE IT TO MOVE BRISKLY OVER LEVEL GROUND.

ANIMALS RUNNING



NOT QUITE AS USEFUL FOR LIVE SKETCHING SINCE THE MOVEMENTS ARE SO FAST...

HORSE GALLOP

THE BASIC PRINCIPLE HERE IS THAT THE FRONT FEET HIT GROUND ONE BY ONE, THEN THE TWO HIND FEET, ETC ETC.



JACK LAWS NOTES THAT SOME MAMMALS... DOGS, CATS, DEER, ETC... USE A "ROTARY" GALLOP WHERE FEET HIT GROUND IN SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT ORDER. (MAYBE NOT SO IMPORTANT FOR SKETCHING.)



THIS SEQUENCE ALSO HAS A MIDAIR "EXTENDED" PHASE NOT SEEN IN HORSES.

BUNNY HOP

RABBIT JUMP IS SIMILAR TO SQUIRREL, BUT HIND FEET LAND FURTHER FORWARD.



SQUIRREL HOP

AS FRONT PAWS HIT GROUND TOGETHER, HIND FEET SWING FORWARD FOR LANDING.



BIRD WINGS

ARE MODIFIED ARMS, WITH SECONDARY FLIGHT FEATHERS ATTACHED TO FOREARM, AND PRIMARIES TO HAND. FLAPPING FLIGHT IS BASICALLY JUST LIKE CLAPPING.



IN SOARING AND GLIDING FLIGHT, WINGS ARE HELD IN FIXED POSITION -- STILL A PERSPECTIVE CHALLENGE!

FLAPPING SEQUENCE MAY BE MORE OR LESS VIGOROUS!



WINGS ARE STRAIGHT DURING DOWN STROKE



WING TIPS CURL UP SLIGHTLY



AT BOTTOM OF STROKE, ARM SECTION STOPS BUT HAND SECTION KEEPS MOVING! WING BENDS.



WINGS REMAIN BENT DURING UP STROKE, ONLY STRAIGHTENING AT TOP OF STROKE



BECAUSE WING MOVEMENT SLOWS DOWN AT TOP & BOTTOM OF STROKE, WE OFTEN PERCEIVE A "DOUBLE EXPOSURE" OF THESE TWO POSITIONS

BUT DOES THIS HELP US DRAW BIRDS IN MID-FLIGHT??

