How to Draw a Crayfish

Half-a-Hundred Acre Wood



Draw the cephalothorax.

The cephalothorax is the combined head and thorax which contains the heart, gills, and stomach. The carapace is its protective shell. The rostrum is the anterior prolongation of the carapace which extends above the eyes.



Add the abdomen.

The abdomen is the segmented tail region consisting of tergum (thickened dorsal plates) and to which the swimmerets, telson, and uropods are attached.



Add the tail fan, which consists of the telson and uropods. The tail fan is used to swim backwards.

The telson is the single, hind-most extension of the tail fan. The uropods are two pairs of appendages on the tail fan that surround the telson.



Draw the walking legs on the cephalothorax.

The walking legs are four pairs of long, jointed legs used for walking with gills attached to the top.



Draw a cheliped [kee-luh-ped].

The chelipeds are two big claws used for defense and to capture prey.



Draw the swimmerets on the abdomen.

The swimmerets are five pairs of short appendages on the abdomen used for swimming.



Draw an eye, antenna, and antennule.

Antennae are two long sensory organs used for touch, taste, and smell.
Antennules are two short sensory organs used for balance, touch, and taste.



Draw the cephalic groove, the maxillipeds, and other details.

The cephalic groove is an indentation in the carapace between the head and thorax regions. The maxillipeds ("jaw legs") are three pairs of appendages that hold and pass solid food to the mouth.