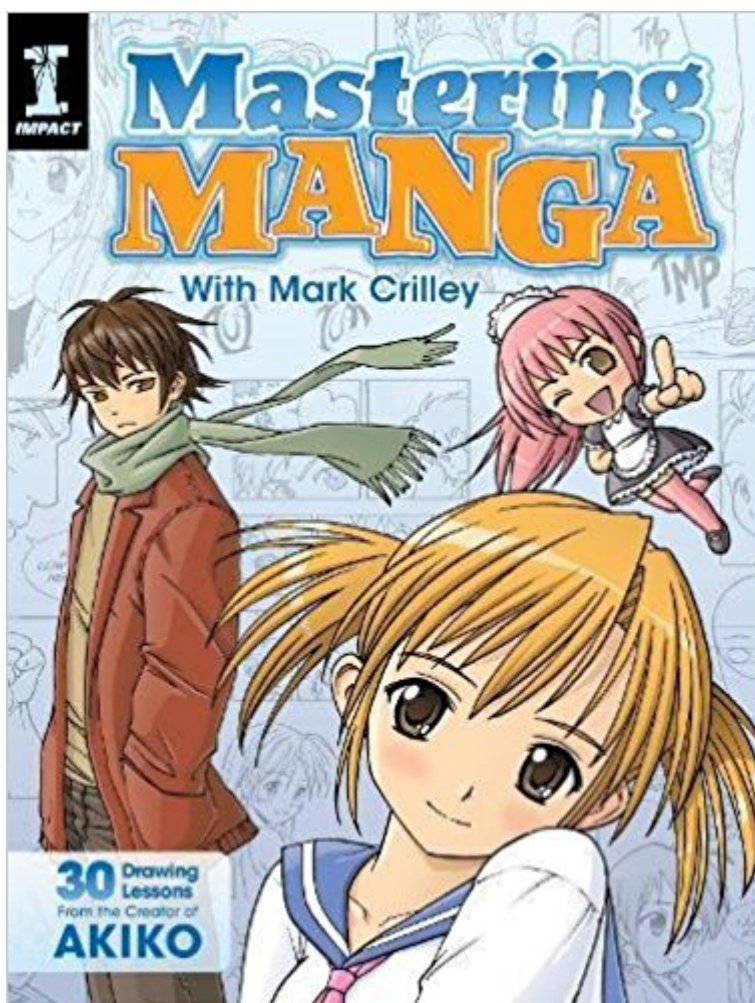


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# Mastering Manga With Mark Crilley: 30 Drawing Lessons From The Creator Of Akiko



## Synopsis

It's THE book on manga from YouTube's most popular art instruction Guru! There's more to manga than big, shiny eyes and funky hair. In these action-packed pages, graphic novelist Mark Crilley shows you step-by-step how to achieve an authentic manga style; from drawing faces and figures to laying out awesome, high-drama spreads. You'll learn how a few basic lines will help you place facial features in their proper locations and simple tricks for getting body proportions right. Plus, you'll find inspiration for infusing your work with expression, attitude and action. This is the book fans have been requesting for years, packed with expert tips on everything from hairstyles and clothing to word bubbles and sound effects, delivered in the same friendly, easy-to-follow style that has made Mark Crilley one of the "25 Most Subscribed to Gurus on YouTube." Take this opportunity to turn the characters and stories in your head into professional-quality art on the page! Packed with everything you need to make your first (or your best-ever) manga stories! 30 step-by-step demonstrations showing how to draw faces and figures for a variety of ages and body types! Inspirational galleries featuring 101 eyes, 50 ways to draw hands, 40 hairstyles, 12 common expressions, 30 classic poses and more! Tutorials to create a variety of realistic settings! Advanced lessons on backgrounds, inking, sequencing and layout options

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This is the book fans have been requesting for years." --Arts Book Mix

Mark Crilley is the creator of several manga books, including the Akiko series, Miki Falls, the Billy

Clikk novels and Brody's Ghost. Since being selected for Entertainment Weekly's "It List" in 1998, Crilley has published nearly twenty books across his many popular series and developed a massive internet following for his drawing demonstration videos earning him a spot as one of the top 25 Most Subscribed to Gurus on YouTube. His novels have been featured in USA Today, the New York Daily News and Disney Adventures magazine, as well as on CNN Headline News. Visit Mark online at [MarkCrilley.com](http://MarkCrilley.com) or [YouTube.com/markcrilley](https://www.youtube.com/markcrilley)

Like most people, I discovered Mark Crilley from his excellent tutorials on Youtube. I had high expectations of this book because I know he's a great teacher, but I wasn't sure how it would compare with the videos. You're probably wondering what you get from buying a book that the Youtube videos don't show for free. I've watched lots of Mark Crilley's tutorials, but there's something special about seeing the drawing printed on the page in front of me, there as a reference. If you wanted to, you could trace drawings for practice. The book also allows you to go at your own pace, which may take much longer than a ten-minute video can allow for. I think the book works well on its own or in combination with the videos. The book is divided into three chapters: Heads and Faces, Proportions and Poses, and Setting the Scene. The bulk of the book is made up of step-by-step guides for drawing specific character types. Adults, teens, kids and toddlers are covered, as well as chibis. The written instructions give tips about showing the gender, age and personality of the characters. One thing that sets this book apart is that several pages are devoted to portraying fuller-figured characters, something that I haven't seen much in other manga how-to books. There are also more advanced tutorials for kissing poses and drawing a martial arts scene, as well as thorough instruction for drawing folds and wrinkles in clothing. Some of the most useful content is towards the end. There's information about inking drawings, laying out panels and adding speech bubbles and sound effects. One of the most interesting parts is a page showing Mark Crilley's process in creating a manga page from start to finish. Quite a few page spreads feature a large number of small drawings, for example 101 manga eyes or 50 ways to draw hands. These are good for reference and include some pointers, but there are some that would be worth expanding into a full step-by-step tutorial. I'd love a whole book based on the 20 classic poses! Perspective and backgrounds are covered in the third chapter, and this is another area that I wouldn't mind seeing expanded. The tutorials cover the technicalities of perspective, but they don't show much about how to work characters into these settings. I would also have liked to see more discussion of shading and color. Everything included in the book is great and it's absolutely packed with helpful information on every page, but I do think the author has even more to offer and I'd love it if this

turned out to be the first part of a series. One final note: There's no nudity in this book; all figures are drawn either fully clothed or wearing simple underclothes. Busty vixens and muscle men are notably absent. There's no gore, the content is very family-friendly. This book would be an appropriate gift for adolescents interested in drawing manga. However, the detailed level of instruction would probably be too difficult for young children.

Crilley provides clear step by step instructions for the beginner. In the book, he emphasizes the importance of precise placement of facial features in order to achieve manga facial structure. He provides concrete suggestions as well as various grids/guidelines to help you learn the proper distances between eyes, eyes to nose, eyes to chin, etc. in an easily understandable way. As an added bonus, since Crilley has a strong youtube presence, you can watch his videos where he demonstrates a lot of what is in the book. At first, I was frustrated a little (as expected when you are learning new skills) that the faces I was drawing had an "almost" manga, but not quite right appearance. I'll add that I'm also new to digital drawing so I was learning two skills at the same time. Anyway, in case this tip helps someone else, I'll describe what I did to get over that bump. I copied Crilley's guidelines right into my digital program, then repeatedly traced over them to get a feel for his guidelines (I was especially having trouble drawing chins). Right next to my tracings, I would also draw equal sized guidelines (without tracing) and draw in the features. I learned two things. (1) for some reason, when I'd been marking the center line (horizontal) on my circles, I was drawing my line too low. I don't know why, I mean I'd been going for the "center." (2) when I put the manga features on Crilley's guidelines, or on the guidelines I drew next to his, I was succeeding in getting my drawings to look like real manga. Basically, his formula (feature placement) works, but you have to do it right or figure out where you are going wrong and fix the problem. I should add, while there is a formula for feature placement (and even that "formula" changes to age up/age down a character, etc), each character looks different because you draw the eyes/expression/hair in different ways. I'm really enjoying the lessons, and mostly seeing progress. I highly recommend the book and have purchased his two subsequent books as well. I'll review them once I've got a good grip on the lessons in this book and graduate to those books.

I ADORE this book. Helpful for the clueless beginners on drawing manga. Yet no matter how much I love it, I can't help but notice it's flaws. Mark shows us 40 hairstyles, 101 manga eyes, 12 common facial expressions, 20 chibi emotions (full figured drawings), 101 ways to draw hands, 50 ways to draw feet, 30 classic poses, a few displays of affection etc. etc. What I hate is how he only shows

you each drawing, and not how to draw each way step by step. Although it would have taken more time for him to complete the book, I think that if he did this it wouldn't only make his book more popular, but much more helpful for people buying it.

I purchased this book for my 11 year old son who loves drawing manga style art. Within a few days I noticed that his characters were sharper, better defined and his drawing definitely improved. He loves this book and even brings it to school daily. I was very impressed that there weren't inappropriate images for a kid...it was a little scary looking for manga stuff for a kid and hoping for the best, haha. Definitely recommend!

I'm glad I decided to purchase this book. I know how to draw realistic portraits but somehow I could never grasp the anime look very well. The lessons are very clear and explained in a simple way that you'll be learning how to draw an anime/manga character sooner than later! at least I did :DAlso, the book itself is very beautiful, full of colorful pages and beautiful drawing techniques for reference (hands, feet, eyes, emotions, positions). I found everything very helpful. If the artist Mark Crilley creates more of these books, I'll buy them all!

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