

Practical Tips

- Students may benefit from some drawing tips so that precision drawing skills are fostered during the activities.
- Encourage students to use a sharp pencil or a fine-point pen.
- Use unlined paper.
- As they trace the shape, students should gently press on template near the shape being drawn.
- In order to get sharp corners on traced shapes, students should make sure that they hold the pencil or pen upright and draw each line segment from corner to corner, rather than the whole shape with one sweep of the hand.
- In some lessons, pencils are preferable to pens as incorrect lines and construction lines which do not form part of the finished designs can be erased if necessary.
- When students are constructing three-dimensional models from card, they should always use a fine-point pen and the edge of the MATHOMAT to lightly score all fold lines. This is a very important step in constructing neat solids with sharp edges. However it takes practice to produce score lines which are sufficiently firm but which do not rip the card. Students should practise this on scrap pieces of card before scoring their nets. The fact that the resulting edges are marked in pen does not detract from the finished solid.