Axonometric

Introduction

Axonometric sketching enables you to visualize 3D volumes by projecting vertically from a plan. When the plan is rotated (skewed) so it sits at 30° or 45° to the horizontal you can project up from this and add true heights of your elevation to produce pictorial drawings of spaces or objects. Because you can project up from the plan these drawings are suited to making exploded diagrams, or partially extruded plans that show flat and built up views in the same sketch.

All three axis are drawn to scale in a way that seems to distort the shapes you draw, so they sometimes looking stretched or compressed. As you grow familiar with the distortion you will begin to compensate, and will be able to ‘see’ in axonometric.

This type of drawing does not depend on the viewer having a specific viewing point (as perspective drawings do) but rather, gives you the sensation of looking down on a model.