How to Get Free Furry Art

As a furry, a fursona can be a major part of your identity, and a way of interacting with the fandom. However, art isn't always free. It can be difficult to get icons, profile pictures and reference sheets without an initial design for your character. A lot of young, new users can try to blend in by stealing art, using pieces of art designed as personal work by an artist, or using paid commissions or for others. This is pretty universally considered to be rude. So, how can a new furry with no or developing art skills create a fursona?

Fortunately, there are more resources that you can use to build your character. This guide is made to help get you started, with the expectation that you may support the community and get more custom art in the future.

Linked below are a few more resources on what a fursona is, and how to design one if you'd like to.

Character maker | Rune's Furry Blog

How to Make a Furry Persona (Fursona): 5 Steps (with Pictures)

Requests and Raffles

Raffles and requests are advertised on gallery sites, and also on other social media sites like Bluesky or Reddit. These are often made by artists building their following, or younger artists who just need some practice.

Gallery sites may also have accompanying forums where artists meet and exchange works. Sometimes these artists will fulfill requests to practice, make commission samples, or to advertise their work.

- 1. Use the search function to search the terms "request," "raffle" or "free art." Set the search parameters to date in the descending order.
- 2. Click on images that say "request" or "raffle", and check the artist's page to see if they're still open.
- 3. If the artist is, please follow the instructions on their submission to get a request or join the raffle. This may involve watching them, promoting them with a journal, or joining their livestream.
- 4. Please respect the artist. If requests are closed, you should follow their instructions and move on to step one. Do not ask the artist to extend the requests or raffle. Do not complain to the artist if the raffle is over, or if you are not eligible for the request.

https://toyhou.se/~forums/7515.art-freebies

https://www.reddit.com/r/DrawingPrompts/

https://www.reddit.com/r/freeart/

https://www.pixilart.com/requests

Adoptables

Adoptables are premade art pieces that are given away or sold for profit. They're less popular than

custom art, but they can provide good fursonas, even if you don't choose to use them forever. This is a really good option to use if you're looking for a more detailed, hand-colored fursona early on.

If you have an invite code, Toyhou.se is a good resource to find and trade designs and aboptables. Some people (with permissions as outlined by the artist) allow the trading of colored bases as design trades.

Toyhouse

Ko-Fi

Dollmakers

Dollmakers are great ways to put together a basic reference for your character, and also to provide a basic outline for requests. Many artists charge extra, or will refuse to do art for a character with no visual reference. For some anthro characters, a dollmaker of an anime character and an additional picture of the desired animal might be enough, though the links below are specific to furries.

Picrew

Meiker.oi

Base Fills

Artists may also provide free bases that can be used by everyone, these can be found using the search function or in collections on Deviantart, and folders on other art sites. Google searches of "free [species] base" will often open up a whole new set of bases from around the web. Use of Pinterest is not recommended, as the poster is not always the owner of the art. Read the rules of your free base. Some artists have bases that they allow for personal use, but not for reposting. Some artists require a one-time fee. Some allow modification, reposting, and even sale of the modified base for use as adoptables. Respecting these policies ensures the availability of these bases so they can be enjoyed in the future.

Free to use Bases on FA: Userpage of Free 2 use -- Fur Affinity.net

FIGHT Free Base: https://www.furaffinity.net/view/43464778/

Crossdog367 Cat Free Base: https://ko-fi.com/s/72f6657801

Learning to Draw

If you're still unhappy with these options, and want something more custom, it might be in your best interest to learn how to draw. Listed below are a set of tutorials, how to draw guides, and art forums.