

Creating drawings for Wikipedia

When you make drawings of a person based on photos, you can take them as inspiration or reference. But you must make sure that your drawing **is not**:

- a **reproduction**: the same image but in a different mean,
- a **derivative work**: a new work with many recognizable elements of the original.

Quick tips for drawing from photos:

1. **We suggest you gather inspiration, ideally from multiple photos.** This can help you capture the spirit of the person, while making sure your illustration looks original. If it looks like a copy of a non-free photograph, it's likely to be deleted from Wikipedia!
2. **We also suggest drawing in as much of an “encyclopedic” style as possible.** The more abstract your drawing is, the more likely it is to be deleted on Wikipedia. :-)



[Nibia Berois](#) by Lucas Roselli [on Wikimedia Commons](#). Portrait in pencil.

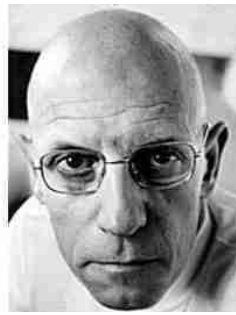
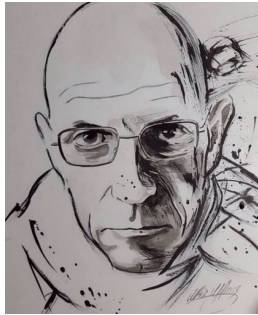
Some examples

In a drawing inspired by a photo, sometimes it's not so easy to know where copyright ends and public domain begins. Let's see some examples to get the point.

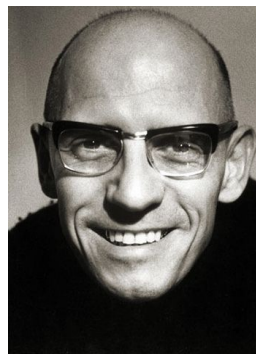
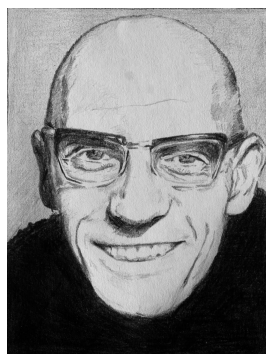


Michel Foucault portrait, by [Nemomain](#) on Wikimedia Commons.

[This portrait of Michel Foucault](#), which illustrates his Wikipedia article, is not a reproduction of any original photo of Foucault. It may be debatable whether it is a faithful portrait or not, but we do not have another photo or drawing of Foucault (for now) in the public domain or freely licensed.



[A drawing like this](#), however, would be a derivative work [of this photo](#) that is not in the public domain.



On the other hand, [this drawing](#) would be a reproduction of [this photo](#), which is also not in the public domain. Neither of these two drawings are likely to be used on Wikipedia because they are too much like the non-free photographs.



Using drawings to illustrate Wikipedia

Nibia Berois

Nibia Berois Domenech (nacida en Uruguay) es una bióloga, investigadora y profesora uruguaya. Trabaja en el Departamento de Biología Celular y Molecular de la [Universidad de la República](#), donde es Profesora Agregada de [Biología Celular](#) (Grado 4) de la [Facultad de Ciencias](#) e investigadora del PEDECIBA. Su trabajo se enfoca en la reproducción y el desarrollo en peces. Sus investigaciones han generando resultados de impacto para la actividad pesquera, el cuidado del medio ambiente y la biomedicina.¹

Trayectoria [[editar código](#) · [editar](#)]

En 1972 obtiene el título de Licenciada en Ciencias Biológicas en la Facultad de Ciencias. Posteriormente, en 1996 realizó su doctorado titulado *Interacciones gaméticas en la corvina blanca, Micropogonias furnieri. Características celulares, ultraestructurales y funcionales de los gametos. Gametogénesis y fecundación.*

Actualmente es responsable del grupo de investigación *Biología de la Reproducción y del Desarrollo*



Another thing that we have to take into account while using drawings in Wikipedia, is that if a higher quality photo or drawing appears later, it will probably be the one used in the article.

If the biography already has a good quality portrait, please do not change it for a lower quality one, even if you think it looks better - this will save your time, as Wikipedians are likely to come and reverse your work.



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