

# Polish for Feature Animation

## What is Polish?

- Last 10% of layered animation
- Polish will not fix your shot
- Splines that are **specific** and **in control**
- Connectivity (ie brow up pulls opposite brow & eye lids)

## Types of Polish

### Physical

- Forces/ Environments acting on your character, and environments reacting because of your character (ie letter hitting post-it notes, fingers on door knobs – Ratatouille)
- Making a character feel more organic
- Making all components work together
- Strengthen ideas of weight (squash & stretch and bend bows)

### Emotional

- Last level of detailed animation to help support the emotional ideas trying to be conveyed
- Adding 'er'. Making something loose, feel looser for example. If it's something tense, then make it tenser. Neck muscles – clench fist, knuckles, brows tightening, jaw clench, shoulders breathing, spit geo

## Remember...

- 1000 paper cuts – death
- Polish from the root → out
- Polish in phrases

## The checklist:

- Arcs and straights (elbows, wrists, nose [arms will move straight too] – not all arcs)
- Lead and follow
- Tying in body movements – arm bend bows in arms showing contact/ force
- Tying the character into surroundings – objects with wheels, wind etc
- Contact areas – fingers touching face (wireframe on), finger/ arm splay
- Motion blur – check your blur frames
- Scaling (hands for emphasis, intermittently)

- Ped and relay (natural movement of bones) what humans are physically capable of
- Residual movement (arm overlap)
- Overlapping action/ residual movement (don't let it steal the show)
- Keep alive (breathing and listening)
- Squash and stretch – head expanding (can do a pass with no other animation)
- Micro accents (lids, lower lids, lip quivers, muscles triggering)
- Breathing
- Dirt – in the arcs, pure randomness like an offset
- Thousand paper cuts – brows plus nostril, plus ears, plus lids...
- Nose & cheek anim copied from jaw
- Bend bows showing energy travelling up through the limbs
- Ears connectivity

The face:

Jaw squash, nose squash, sneers, flares, eye bags, squints, mid face, eye squash, eye stretch, bro LR, brow twitch, head squash – ears.

Head squash – just copy brows into it, and onto ears RX (energy choices).