Perpendicular Line given a line and a point not on the line

| After doing this | Your work should look like this |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Start with a line and point R which is not on that line. | * R |
| Place the compasses on the given external point R. | |
| Set the compasses' width to a approximately 50% more than the distance to the line. The exact width does not matter. | |
| Draw an arc across the line on each side of R, making sure not to adjust the compasses' width in between. Label these points P and Q | P |

| After doing this | Your work should look like this |
|---|---------------------------------|
| At this point, you can adjust the compasses' width. Recommended: leave it as is. | • R |
| From each point P,Q, draw an arc below the line so that the arcs cross. | P |
| Place a straightedge between R and the point where the arcs intersect. Draw the perpendicular line from R to the line, or beyond if you wish. | P |
| Done. This line is perpendicular to the first line and passes through the point R. It also bisects the segment PQ (divides it into two equal parts) | P |