





Letters are made from a selection of shapes. The drills below will soon become an alphabet, so for now, focus on getting the pressure consistent.

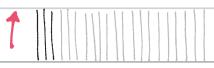
Work over the grey, making your strokes the same thickness. Then, carry on working freehand.

DOWNSTROKES

The tines will split open as you push down, the more they open the thicker your line will be.

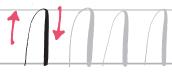
UPSTROKES

To make a thin line use the very tip of the pen and use the lightest touch. Try and loosen your grip on the pen to reduce wobbles.



TRANSITION ARCH

This change of pressure is developed further to make arches and underturns.



TRANSITION UNDERTURN

Carefully change the pressure so the transition is smooth.



CROSS-STROKES

Both cross and diagonal strokes are thinner than a downstroke, thicker than the upstroke.

DIAGONALS

They looks nice if you vary the pressure to get a bit more weight in the middle of the stroke.

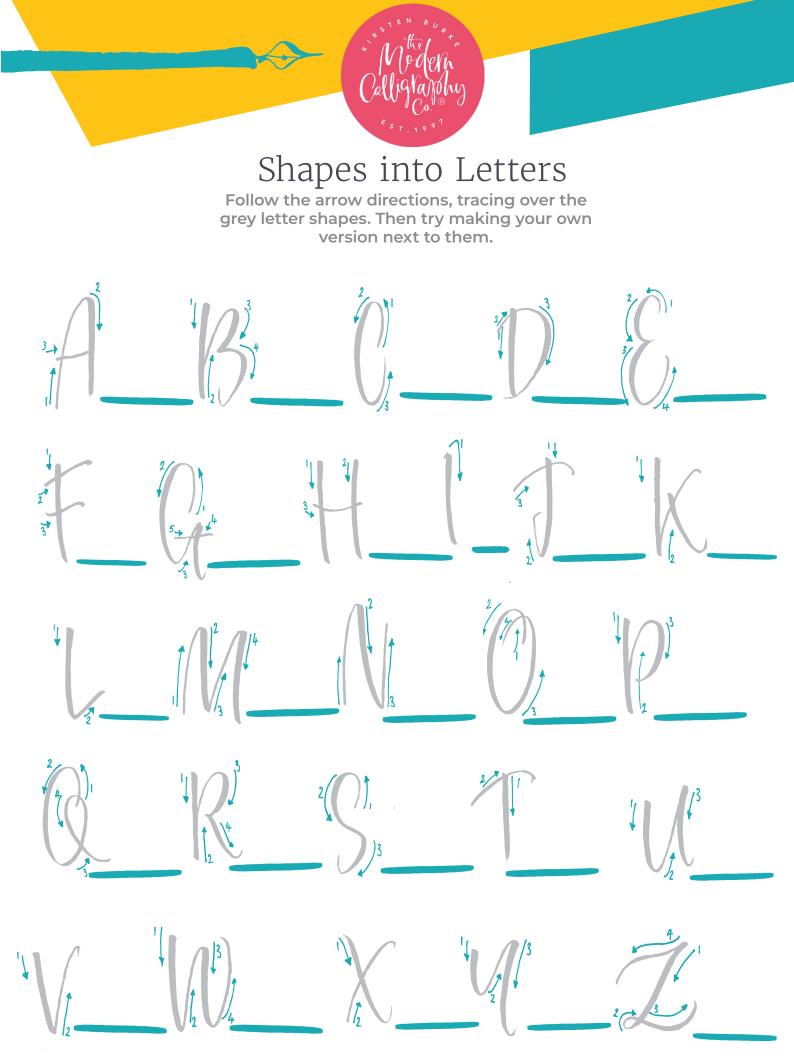


OVALS

Transition smoothly, keeping the thick line to the side of the oval shape, don't let it fall to the bottom.



The tines of the nib must be touching the paper equally for the ink to flow.

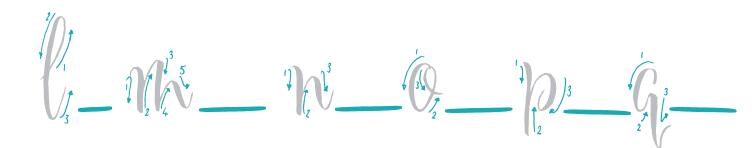




Shapes into Letters- lower case









X = Y = Z



Letters into Words

As you follow the letters that have become words on this page, concentrate on the direction of each stroke. The arrows aren't there now, but the thick stroke is always made moving down, thin going up.

> Work over the grey, making your strokes similar. Although the thick and thin strokes need to be consistent, the letter shapes can vary.

ALL CAPITAL LETTERS

Writing a whole word in capitals looks effective when you are designing a calligraphy piece.

The fact that each letter is the same height means they look neat when positioned together.

MIXING CAPITALS & LOWERCASE

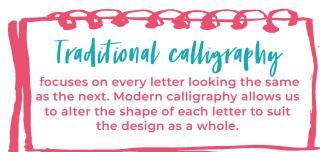
In modern calligraphy you are free to mix upper and lowercase letters within a word.

Doing this allows you to choose the letter with the best shape for your design.

DOODLES

For an extra element of fun, why not change one of your letters to become a shape that emphasises your message?







Use these templates and work over the phrases. Then finish the phrase, remembering to keep changing the pressure you apply to make the strokes either thick, thin or somewhere in-between for the cross and diagonal strokes.



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