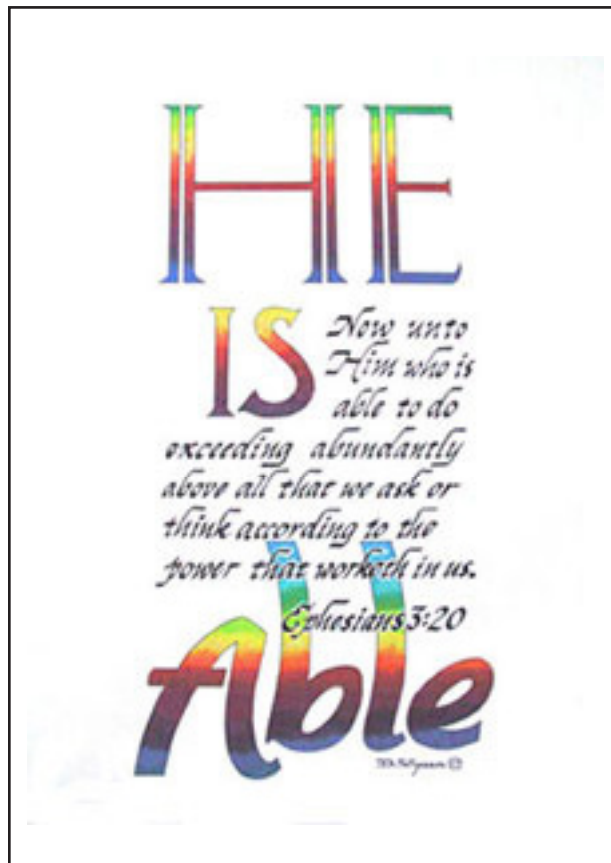


Beginning Calligraphy[©]



a
workbook

for
grade 5
through
adult

Diane Shields Spears
Doctor of Christian Education, Artist
www.spearsartstudio.com



*Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding,
that I may learn thy commandments. Psalm 119:73*

Spears Art Studio MISSION STATEMENT

1. to recognize God's Word and His hand in everything and to give Him glory;
2. to reconnect the Lord as the Supreme Artist into the process and excitement of art for both children and educators;
3. to provide resources for the Christian educator that:
 - a. help students make connections between the Creator, creativity and personal maturity;
 - b. are organized for natural learning progression;
 - c. provide experiences for higher order thinking skills;
 - d. "stretch" academic and manipulative skills;
 - e. introduce students to famous artists and artworks in a seasonal and/or art elements/principles arrangement of art and craft production.

*All products of Spears Art Studio, Inc. are dedicated to the
glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ of Nazareth.*

Spears Art Studio Beginning Calligraphy Workbook Grade Five through Adult © 2006

by Diane Shields Spears. Ed.D. Christian Education

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*FAQ'S about
Spears Art Studio Calligraphy Workbook,
Grade 5 Through Adult©*

1. Q. Does the student need a hard copy?

A. The student needs at least 95% of the workbook reproduced for the letter and numeral instructions and passages with tracing pages. The workbook may be reproduced following the guidelines of the "Limited Copyright" statement on the copywrite page and on <http://www.spearsartstudio.com/curricintro.html>.

2. Is there a less expensive method than reproducing the grids in the workbook?

A. Yes. Inexpensive 1/4 inch grid tablets can be purchased for extra practice.

3. Q. The materials list from Dick Blick shows a different calligraphy marker. Why?

A. Yes, Dick Blick does not offer the same calligraphy marker shown in the workbook. The Elegant Writer broad point recommended in the workbook can be purchased at Hobby Lobby, Michael's, and perhaps other places if you choose not to order through Dick Blick. Both markers will fit the grid suggested for practice.

Spears Art Studio Beginning Calligraphy Workbook Grade 5 through Adult ©

Introduction & Recommendations

Countless styles of manuscript (hand-written) forms exist. The style of calligraphy taught in this book is a variation with flourishes of a common italic cursive/printed letter formation. When this style is learned, other styles are easier to learn. Even combinations of styles can be beautiful. The materials for this study are easily obtained and copies can be made of all pages following the guidelines of the "Limited Copyright" statement on the copyright page.

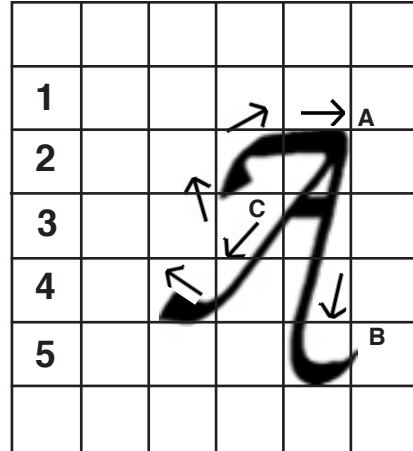
The recommended marker is a black ink calligraphy marker, broad size single tip (see page 9 for an image of one recommended marker). The broad size marker fits the 1/4" grid format in this workbook. Other brands of markers are available with some slight differences in the sizing, but most will fit the grid. Plan on purchasing at least two markers to begin. Calligraphy fountain pens are not recommended for beginners, as the sizes are not compatible with the practice pages and they are much more difficult to use.

The Method

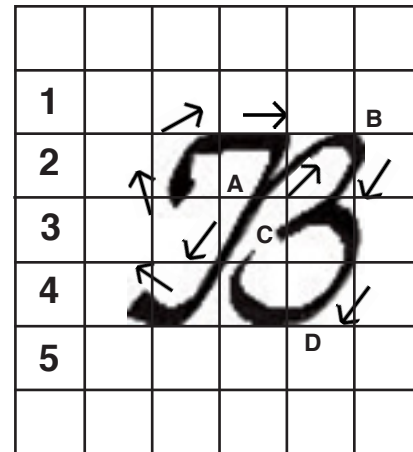
- 1. The key is practice, practice, practice.*
- 2. A less expensive option for additional practice is a 1/4" graph paper tablet. Number your graph and blank practice papers exactly as shown on page 8. Before attempting letter formation in earnest, practice several times on copies of page 7, the thick and thin and letter spacing guide on pages 7, 9 and 10.*
- 3. Holding the marker correctly is important to achieve the desired lettering angle. Remain conscious of the angle while using the marker.*

Upper Case Letter Formation, continued

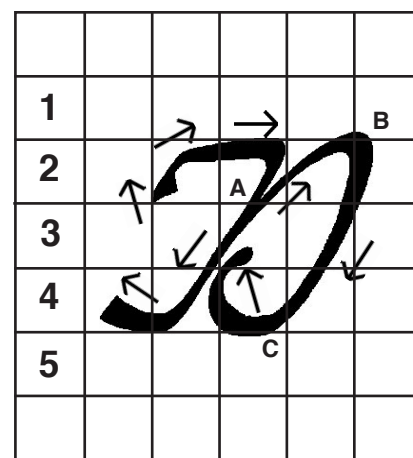
A Begin with the left side stroke as in the previous practice. To finish the letter, begin at the point marked **A** and draw down at a slight left angle to the bottom of row 5, then to the right with a slight "whip" at the end **B**. This last little stroke is called a serif. Draw the short cross bar touching the top of row 3 **C**. The tail can dip below row 5 (see the letter *H* formation, page 14).



B Begin with the left side stroke. Continue from the point marked **A** and draw up and to the right to the top of row 2 **B**. Curve down to the middle of row 3 **C**. Curve up and around down to the bottom of row 4 **D**. Curve back up to the right and end almost at **C**.



D Begin with the left side stroke. Continue from the point marked **A** and draw up and to the right to the top of row 2 **B**. Draw a slight curve down and to the left. Curve under when it touches the bottom of row 4 **C**. Curve back up to the right and end slightly above the bottom of row 3 **D**.

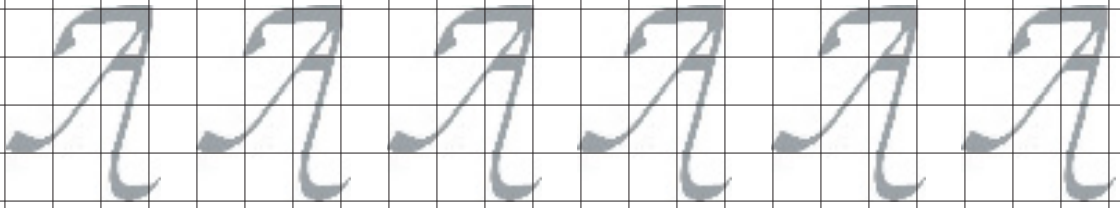


Left side-stroke directions will not be repeated from this point.

- Remember the 45° pen angle.
- Study the angles, directions of the arrows, the rows, and the spaces occupied by each letter. Trace them on the following page and practice on several blank pages free-hand before going ahead to new information.

PRACTICE WORKSHEET
REMEMBER THE 45° PEN ANGLE

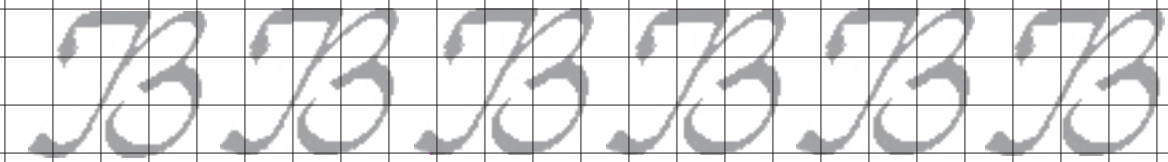
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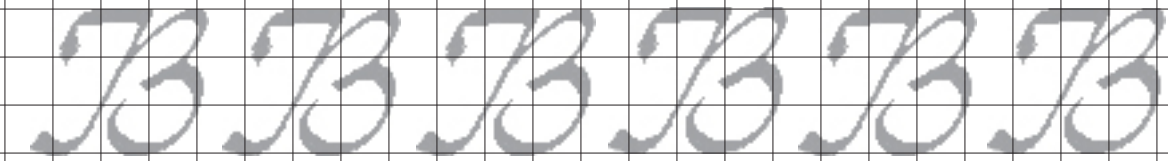
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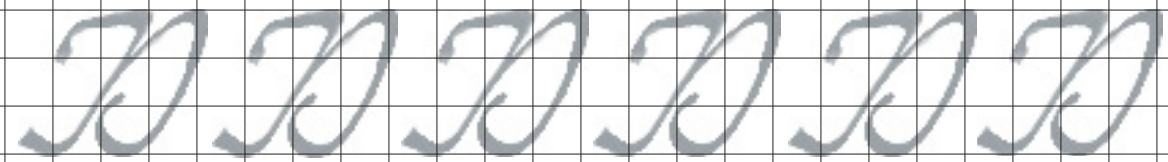
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Writing Passages

Now, you should be ready for passages if you have practiced diligently as directed.

The following pages contain passages that you may trace. After you trace each one, be sure to practice these also free-hand on blank grids. You probably noticed that in your practice there were days when you formed more rounded letters, and other days when you formed more pointed letters. You may always experience this variation, just like you do in your "regular" cursive writing. Therefore, when you write a passage, try to finish it on the same day.

Calligraphy is most attractive when the letters are close together and the words have just enough space between them to discern the message. What you are writing is just as important as the beauty of the writing. Passages should be written like cursive writing; i.e. with upper case letters for the beginnings of sentences and for proper nouns. (In fact, this type of italic is also called italic cursive for that reason and because many letters are formed in one stroke like cursive.) A passage with all upper case letters is difficult to read, and would not be appropriate in regular cursive writing either. When you become proficient in this type of letter formation, you may begin to adapt the shape of any letter. Many calligraphers adapt their initials for special effects.

When you complete all the recommended practice in this workbook, practice other passages of your choice. You will then be ready to explore other styles of calligraphy. I hope you have had fun!

