

THE ART OF  
*Brush  
Lettering*  
WORKBOOK

# what's brush lettering?

Brush Lettering is a style of Hand Lettering using a brush pen or a brush as a tool. Using a regular pencil, pen, or marker will not work unless you are going for the “faux calligraphy look”. Brush lettering mimics the look of Old Calligraphy style of lettering.

The beautiful thin and thick strokes can be achieved by applying various pressure while drawing the letters. There are many different techniques that we will go through in the class to get you started and to get you comfortable to try brush calligraphy. But before we begin to create a quote, you have to learn how to letter the words, but before you can letter the words, you have to learn how to letter a letter (pun intended), but before you can letter a letter, you have to learn how to draw the strokes to build your letter. And that is where we will begin.

## Understanding the basic strokes:



Thin Strokes or I also often refer to as Upstrokes are the thin lines that can be achieved by applying very light pressure. Every time you write away from your body this your upstroke motion. Use the tip of your brush pen and apply very light pressure while you write.



Thick Strokes or I also often refer to as Downstrokes are the thick lines that can be achieved by applying heavy pressure. Every time you write away towards your body this your downstroke motion. Use the tip and body of your brush pen as you apply heavy pressure while you write.

Practice your upstroke



Practice your downstroke



**“UPSTROKES” & “DOWNSTROKES”**



Thick Strokes or I also often refer to as Downstrokes are the thick lines that can be achieved by applying heavy pressure. Every time you write towards your body this is your downstroke motion. Use the tip and body of your brush pen as you push the whole body while applying heavy pressure while you write.

Thin Strokes or I also often refer to as “upstrokes” are the thin lines that can be achieved by applying very light pressure. Every time you write away your body this is your upstroke motion. Use the tip of your brush pen as you push towards the top of the page while applying very light pressure while you write.



It's best to hold the pen at a 45° angle between the pen and paper.

Let's understand the basics:



These are the basic strokes that we will use to build our letters



These are the basic strokes that we will use to build our letters



o + l = a

j + l + n + n + l = M

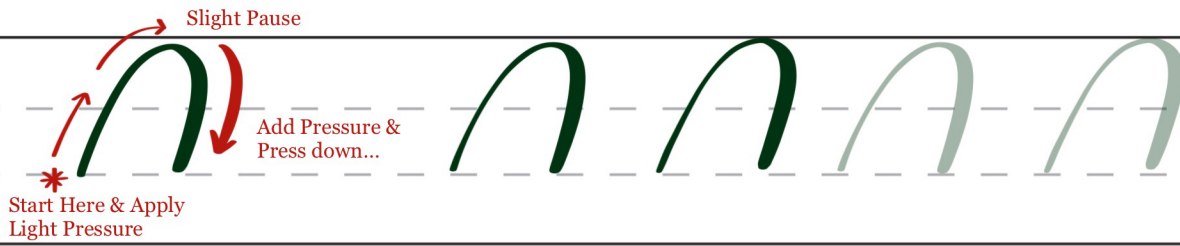
u + l = u

u + j = y

j + n = h



As you can see, we build our letters using these simple strokes. Another important thing to remember is to lift your pen from the paper after every stroke you create. You have to remember, doing brush calligraphy isn't the same as writing your regular script. You have to be intentional with every single stroke knowing that you are illustrating each letter to build your phrase or quote.



A B C D E

F G H I J

K L M N O

P Q R S T

U V W X

Y Z ? ! # @

A B C D E

F G H I J

K L M N O

P Q R S T

U V W X

Y Z ? ! # @

a b c d e f g

h i j k l m

n o p q r s t

u v w x y z ! ?



a b c d e f g

h i j k l m

n o p q r s t

u v w x y z ! ?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline, repeated across the page.



**Lhey Bella Ralston** is the artist and the creative director behind her brand Mommy Lhey Designs.

She is an illustrator, and a creative director with licensed products for the scrapbooking community that are currently being sold nationwide.

*"Creativity not only opened up new avenues in my life, but it constantly heals, inspire & teaches me to be a better "me" every single day."*  
- Lhey Ralston

She enjoys teaching her skills and sharing techniques through workshops and her love for what she does reflects all over her social media accounts.

She inspires people to keep a journal that is centered with positivity using brush lettering, kawaii illustrations and adding photos for a fun, creative way to document your own adventures.

She believes that everyone is an artist, and that no one is ever too old or too young to learn something new everyday.

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♥ Lhey

