

# Cursive Handwriting

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However, you may make copies of the Handwriting Charts on the inside front cover and the two extra practice handwriting sheets at the back labeled for copying.

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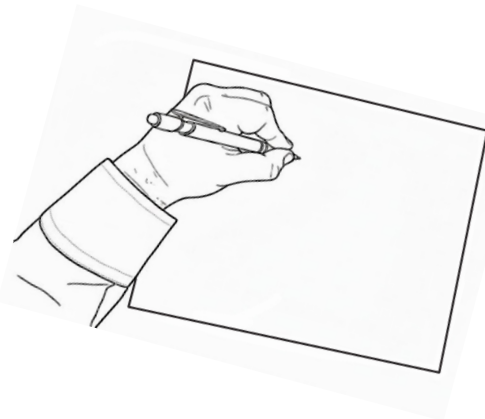
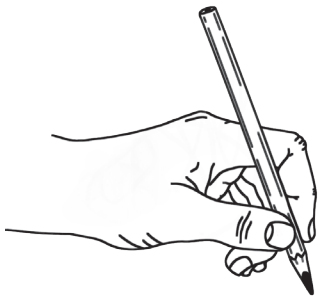
## Tips to Assure Success

- ✎ **Lessons need to be short but daily.** Cursive instruction is most effective when compacted and intensive. Use of this workbook should not lag over the entire academic year.
- ✎ **Complete one or two pages per school day.** If more pages are completed, quality usually suffers.
- ✎ **Cursive is not an independent task.** The teacher should teach each new letter. Have students watch as you write the letter and describe how to form it.
- ✎ **Students need close supervision.** Watch students as they form letters. Corrections and evaluations are essential. As you check each page, have the student make corrections in either quality or letter formation. Teacher input can decrease later if a high standard has been required from the beginning.
- ✎ **Only accept neat, precisely constructed cursive.** If work is not neat, require that it be redone. This high standard must be maintained throughout.
- ✎ **Speed is initially not important.** It will automatically develop as students work through the book. Excessive speed at the expense of quality will produce poor results.
- ✎ **If a letter needs more practice than provided,** use ruled paper to repeat the page or line. You may photocopy the extra practice handwriting sheet at the back of this book.

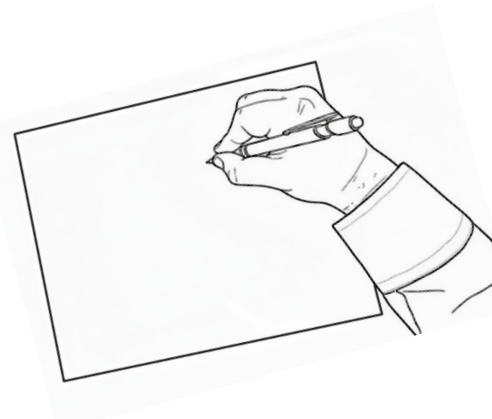
This book is designed for third graders. It is also for fourth to eighth graders who struggle with handwriting or have never learned cursive.

## Correct Paper Position and Pencil Position

**Left-handed students** – Tip your page as shown.



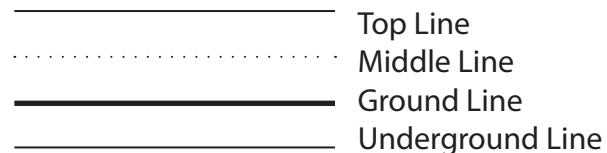
**Right-handed students** – Tip your page as shown.



**How to hold your pencil** — Use your thumb and first two fingers. Keep your thumb bent. Don't squeeze the pencil too tight.

# Quality Control

Pay attention to the size, slant, and spacing of your writing.



## SIZE



The letters fill the spaces.

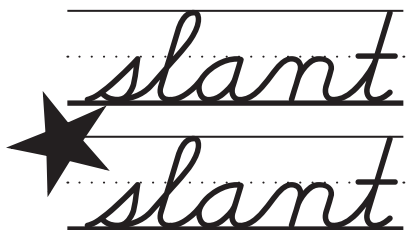


The letters do not fill the spaces.



The letters are too big for the spaces.

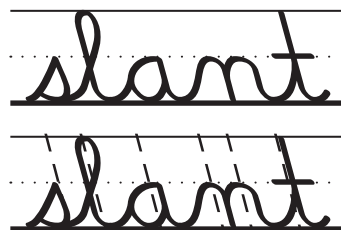
## SLANT



This slant is **very good**.  
It slants slightly to the right.



This slant is straight up.  
This slant is not the best.



This slant is backwards.  
Do not slant backwards.



This slant is mixed up.  
This slant is poor.

## SPACING



Super! These letters are spaced just right. The word is easily read.



The letters are too spread out!



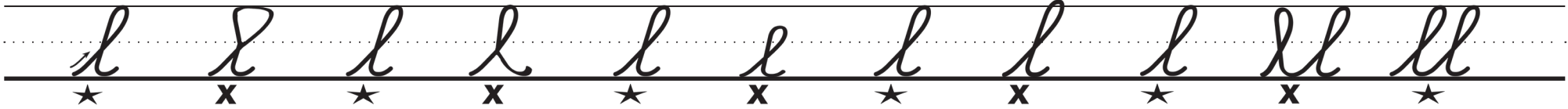
The letters are too close!

Letter Name	Cursive
I	<i>l</i>




**WRITE SLOWLY!** Train your hand and eyes to make letters just like the examples. Speed will automatically increase as you work through this workbook. If you do fast, messy work now, you will do fast, messy work at the end. **If your cursive is slow and neat now, you will be able to do fast, neat cursive at the end of the book.**

Explain what is wrong with each letter that has an X.



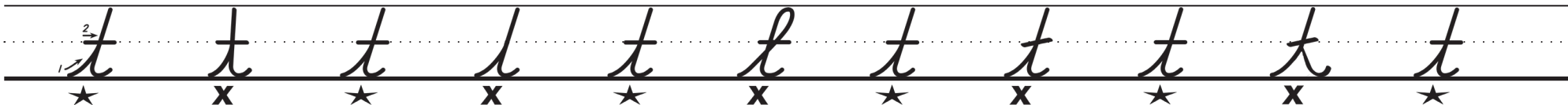
Slowly trace 3-5 letters. Then write the letters on the next line, filling the entire line. If you need more help, trace all the letters in the example row.



Letter Name	Cursive
t	

**Does your hand get tired?** You might be pushing down too hard. Perhaps you are squeezing the pencil too hard. Maybe both! **Relax! Your cursive will be smoother and faster if you can relax enough to let your hand and pencil flow.**

Explain what is wrong with each letter that has an X.



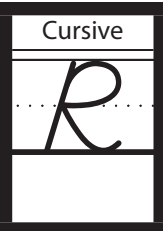
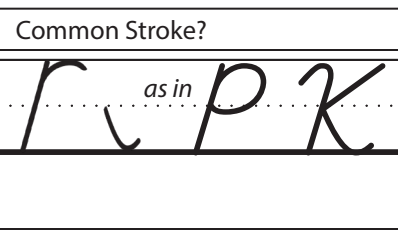
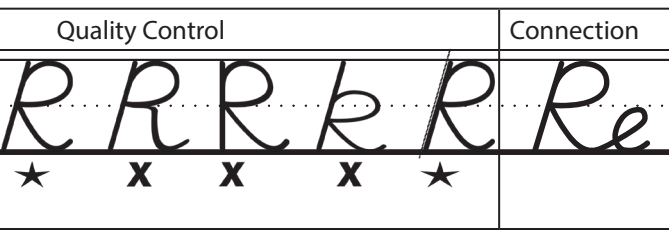
Slowly trace 3-5 letters. Then write the letters on the next line, filling the entire line. If you need more help, trace all the letters in the example row.



Cross the t when you finish the word (or letter groups).



Is your book tipped correctly? Remember: A **right-handed** student tips the paper to the **left**.  
A **left-handed** student tips the paper to the **right**.


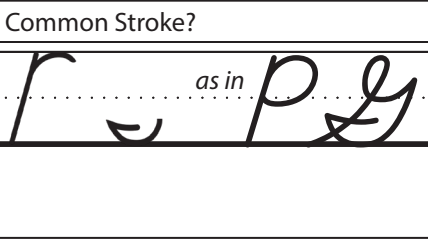
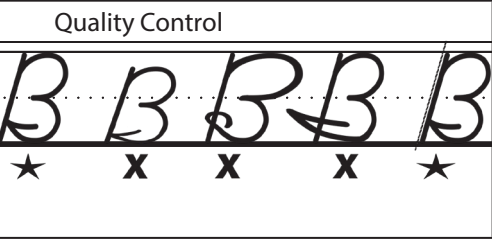
Letter Name	Cursive	Common Stroke?	Check out these details!	Quality Control	Connection
R			Begin at the top line, slanting down to the ground line and back toward the top line. Before reaching the top line, loop around to the middle line. The stroke from the middle line to the ground line is slanted and straight, with a small upward curve at the end.		

R R R R R R R R Rick Ron Ray

Rudolph Rex Russia Rome Rip

Rose Robin Renton Rhode Rim

Robert Reed ate French fries.

Letter Name	Cursive	Common Stroke?	Check out these details!	Quality Control	Connection
B			Begin at the top line, slanting down to the ground line and back toward the top line. Before reaching the top line, loop around to the middle line, and then the bottom line. The top loop is slightly smaller than the bottom. Be sure the ducktail is pointed, and has a little dip.		

Practice the "ducktail" before making this letter. See page page 57.

B B B B B B B B Bud Bob

Beth Bogata Baltimore Betsy

Boston Brent Barbara Bailey

Mr. Brad came on Friday.