

Introduction to Pointed Pen Calligraphy

Instructor: Megan DeSelms

Workbook Only \$20

Starter Kit (Supply Kit + discounted workbook) \$40

Supply Kit (no workbook) \$25

Supply Kit includes:

2 nibs (Zebra G)

1 jumbo dinky dip with wooden stand

Sumi Ink (liquid)

Dual-Use Pen holder (can be used straight or oblique)

1 Brush Pen (Tombow Fudenosuke -OR- Pentel Sign Brush Pen)

1 Pencil

1 sheet white craft felt, 9"x12"

50 sheets practice paper

If students prefer to purchase supplies on their own these are my recommendations:

Suppliers (order online): Paper & Ink Arts, John Neal Booksellers, Amazon

Nibs:

Zebra G, Nikko G, or Tachikawa G

Hunt 101

Leondardt EF Principal

(The G nibs are best for beginners)

Ink (black preferred):

Sumi (Moon Palace, Zig, or Yasutomo Brand recommended - it needs to be liquid Sumi, not stick Sumi, unless student plans to grind/prepare the ink ahead of time at home).

Ziller Ink in Soot Black

Walnut Ink (any brand is fine - this is a sepia brown color)

Tube Gouache can be thinned with water to work well as a calligraphy ink.

India Ink (any brand) and Higgins Ink (ie, Black Magic or Eternal) are not recommended due to bleeding/feathering.

Pen holder:

Oblique recommended for right-handed calligraphers, straight recommended for lefties. Righties may also use a straight holder if preferred. Lefties who wish to use an oblique holder should get a left-handed oblique (harder to find). There are many varieties of beautiful penholders at every price point imaginable available from the sources listed above and from small-business owners/makers online (such as on Etsy). They can be wood, plastic, acrylic, or even metal. Some are more ergonomic than others. Speedball plastic holders are cheap and fine for beginners but the oblique version is not adjustable and most calligraphers abandon it quickly. For those with arthritis or hand pain, I recommend a holder with a larger barrel such as a "carrot" holder (Paper & Ink Arts) or the styles sold on www.inkmethis.com

Paper:

Rhoda Grid pad

Canson Pro Layout Marker Paper

Clairfontaine or similar smooth writing paper

Strathmore Calligraphy pad

HP Premium Laser Jet 32lb (smoother than most printer papers and less likely to bleed/feather)

Canson XL Mixed Media paper is also good for finished projects but may require student to draw guidelines or use a lightpad as it is too thick to see through to a guide sheet placed behind it.

Pencil:

Mechanical (I like the cheap Papermate Sharpwriter twisty pencils)

or Drafting Pencil

***Optional Supplies** (some of these I will have in the classroom for shared use):

Paper towels or lint-free cloths for wiping nibs

Windex (in a small dropper bottle is ideal)

Eraser (the white pentel click erasers are great!)

X-acto knife and/or sand eraser for lifting ink (not needed for learning but helpful for finished pieces)

Ruler

Protractor

Ames Lettering Guide (a small drafting tool)

Case or Bag for supplies

Seat Cushion or pillow for height/posture