

ARCHITECTURAL LETTERING

Architectural lettering was established to avoid costly mistakes and is still part of the curriculum in most architecture and design schools. Good lettering makes a polished presentation, and bad lettering can doom a project to failure.

GUIDELINES:

Guidelines will not be erased: the text box is part of the beauty of this hand-drawn lettering style.

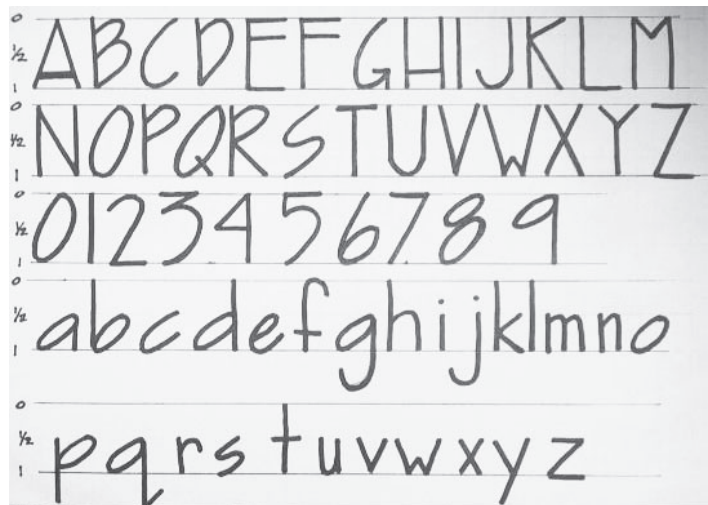
- Draw guidelines with a sharp H pencil in regular intervals using the Lettering Guide.
- Sets of lines should be drawn to the width of your text box or label.
- Skip a half space between each line

LETTERING:

Lettering can be written by using sharp B pencil or technical pen.

- When learning, it is helpful to use a straight edge to draw the vertical lines for the letters
- Letters are usually written in all caps
- Letters should all be the same width

In this example, note how all vertical strokes are perpendicular to the guidelines. The horizontal strokes are located high or low of center. Rounded letters slant forward.

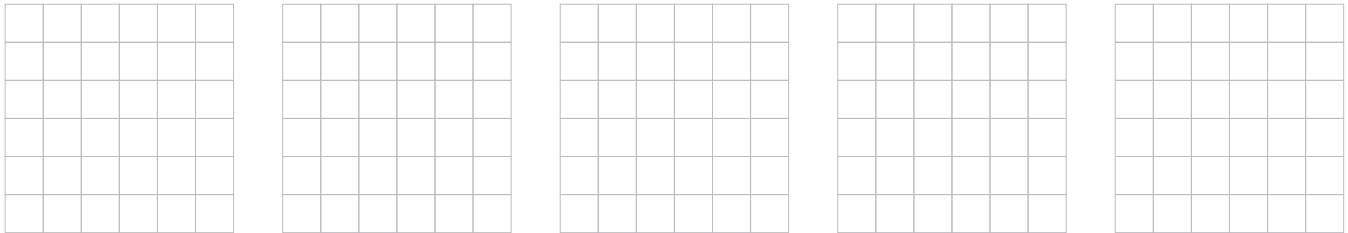


ABCDEFGHIJKLM
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO
PQRSTUVWXYZ&12
34567890(\$.,!?)

This example preserves a hand-drawn personality by slanting the letters slightly backward and extending the ascenders above the guideline.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD LETTERING CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASIZED. THE LETTERING CAN MAKE OR BREAK AN OTHERWISE GOOD DRAWING.

PENCIL LETTERING SHOULD BE DONE WITH A FAIRLY SOFT SHARP PENCIL AND SHOULD BE CLEAN-CUT AND DARK. ACCENT THE ENDS OF THE STROKES.



ARCHITECTURAL LETTERING HAS AN ANIMATED QUALITY WHILE APPEARING VERY UNIFORM AND NEAT. AS YOU PRACTICE, YOUR LETTERING WILL DEVELOP ITS OWN PERSONALITY!

