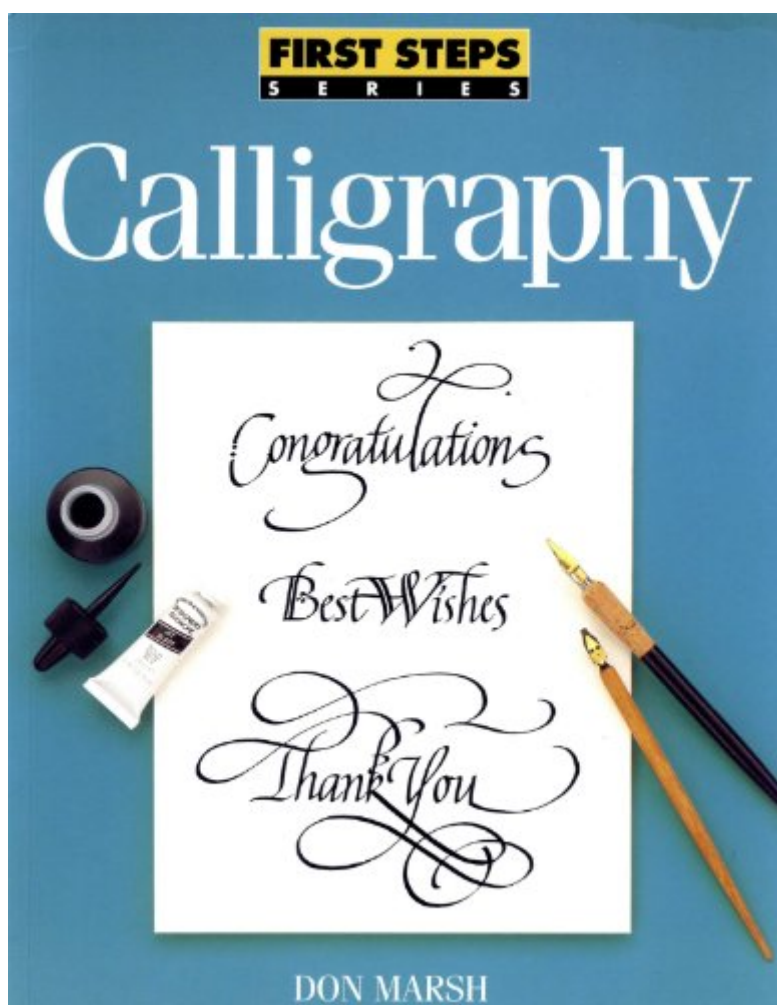


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# First Steps Calligraphy



## Synopsis

Make your first steps in calligraphy fun and rewarding! You'll be delighted at how easy this guide makes it to address invitations with a touch of class, send unforgettable greeting cards, and craft unique and meaningful gifts. With Don Marsh's simple and straightforward instruction, you'll be creating graceful handwritten expressions in no time! By learning a few key strokes (most of them found in the letters "a" and "n") you'll be able to form all the letters of the alphabet. In this book, you'll find everything you need to begin—including: Which tools and materials to buy to get off to a good, affordable start Easy-to-follow instructions for the most practical and popular lettering styles—simple italic minuscules, simple roman capitals, simple italic capitals and swash caps Easy (but effective) exercises that make learning fun How to create numerals and decorative flourishes Copy-and-use practice sheets Inspiring examples of the art of calligraphy More than a dozen projects—complete with stroke-by-stroke instruction—show you different ways to apply your new skills. You'll find practical and imaginative ideas for greeting cards, invitations, romantic verse and much more. And with Don's help, you can get started right away.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

First bought this book 10 years ago, and have been doing calligraphy for a long time, but keep coming back to the manual that showed me how to do it right in the first place. I'd tried dozens of times to "get" calligraphy, but this is book that really showed me everything I needed to make it work right. It is so clear that you won't miss any of the details that take calligraphy from pretty handwriting to real art. Illustrations and instructions abound. There are great examples of many different types of lettering. As someone who wants to know "why" as much as "how", I really appreciated how Marsh gave context to the different styles of lettering.

This book would be good for someone who has never tried Calligraphy. I am a beginner that just finished my first class and I found the book to be a little too basic. On the positive side, there are a few good pro/con lists that explain the advantages and disadvantages of some tools, nibs, inks and erasers.

I'm a brand-new calligrapher, and Don Marsh's First Steps Calligraphy is just right for me. With his or her prior knowledge, I can see why the previous reviewer did not find this beginner's book very helpful. For someone who has never attempted calligraphy (like me!), this is a great selection. I just started practicing under the guidance of this book last night, and I'm already grasping the basics! Marsh offers some tips on choosing tools. It was published in 1996, and now in 2009 I'm finding quite a few of the same products are available on the market. Beyond the lowest basics, I see some instructions on flourishes toward the back. Can't wait to get to those! Bottom line: Just right for newbies, too basic for anyone with prior knowledge.

You want to know and start in the art of calligraphy? This is your book, simple, to the point, practical comments for the ignorant but interested person, just like me. Before reading this book you may have an idea of what calligraphy is, once you read this book you will have a very clear idea of it, the book will guide you and show you all the details of this art. The needed technical information is easily explained; where to start, what to buy, styles and techniques are explained without excessive technical language. For a starter, this is the book.

I ordered Don Marsh's book after I thumbed through a copy in the local high school library and was delighted to see ideas that I could use even as a practicing calligrapher. The explanations and exemplars are just what beginners need in both how clearly stated and sized they are presented, and the copies of historical scripts and embellishments can help even seasoned artists.

This workbook offers many opportunities to trace and provides a lot of practice for the new calligraphy student. I have completed and re-worked many of the activities. It's great to go back to the basics when I become frustrated with some of the more advanced techniques. I have used and abused this workbook! Great for practice and an introduction to lettering.

I really like this book! It's perfect for me-- a beginner! It has good information about how to get started, and some nice samples too! I'm very happy with my purchase!

This is the first book out of the many I've purchased that clicked for me. It's not expansive in that it doesn't cover many hands, but it does a great job setting you up to master the basics, and use that knowledge and skill to master any hand.

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