The Art And Craft Of Hand Lettering: Techniques, Projects, Inspiration

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The Art & Craft of Hand Lettering

Techniques
Projects
Inspiration

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Synopsis

One of the most highly recommend instructional books for broad-edged calligraphy, this handbook is ideal for classes or self-study to master the basics of calligraphy. All of the essentials are included in this volume, from the history and practices of this ancient art to a guide to the tools, materials, and design basics needed to create elegant, beautiful writing for all occasions. Also featured is a gallery of examples from today’s best scribes, along with detailed exemplars and diagrams.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

On first inspection (if you borrow this from your local library) you’ll notice it has MANY color photos on just about every page. This book is filled with marvelous examples of tools and finished calligraphy examples. I think I’d tend to disagree with other reviewers that rave about it’s relevance in your home library. This book is very broad in scope and is missing many common fonts that are covered in other similar calligraphy reference and how-to books. The lessons are short and not very comprehensive, so I’d say if you’ve fallen in love with the idea of learning calligraphy or even any particular style or hand, this isn’t the only book you’d end up buying.

Chapters 1 & 2 cover materials, writing history, studio / space lay-out area for practice and getting started with various tools, nibs, inks and papers. Chapter 3 covers mono line letters; Roman caps (with a handy proportional guide). Chapter 4 is about using a broad-edged pen covering foundational type and a variety of Roman fonts and Italics. Chapter 5 does briefly cover Copperplate and pointed pen styles from the early 1900’s however it quickly moves on to using a brush and into drawn letter-forms. In other words, I would say this is really where the book jumps off into developing your own hand. The rest of the
Some of the projects covered include: addressing envelopes, greeting cards, scrapbooks, stamps, guest book, maps, screen printing on cloth (t-shirts, pillows), large format work such as a frieze, lettering on a mailbox and deck. It's nice I suppose for people who are interested in using calligraphy in a crafty application but over-all this isn't the best book I've found on the how-to's of learning or developing your own style.