Capital Letters

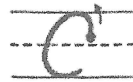**A** — Top start; around down, close up, down, and up.

B — Top start; down, up, around halfway, around again, touch, sidestroke, and stop.

C — Start below the top; curve up, around, down, and up.

D — Top start; down, loop right, curve up, around, close, loop right, through, and stop.

E — Start below the top; curve up, around to the middle, around again to the bottom line, and up.

F — Start below the top; down, around, up, and sidestroke. Wavy cross and a straight cross.

G — Bottom start; uphill high, loop through the middle, up, curve down, around, through the uphill, sidestroke, and stop.

H — Start below the top; make a cane. Top start, to the right; down, up, left, touch, loop right, through, and stop.

I — Start below the middle; sidestroke left, curve down, around, uphill high, loop down, and up.

J — Bottom start; curve up, around, touch on the way down under water, loop up left, and through.

K — Start below the top; make a cane. Top start, to the right; slant down left, touch, slant down right, and up.

L — Start below the top; uphill, loop down, loop right, and up.

M — Start below the top; make a cane, up over the hill, up over the hill again, and up.

N — Start below the top; make a cane, up over the hill, and up.

O — Top start; around down, close up, loop right, through, and stop.

P — Top start; down, up, around halfway, and close.

Q — Start below the top; curve up, around, down, loop right, and up.

R — Top start; down, up, around halfway, close, slant down right, and up.

S — Bottom start; uphill high, loop through the middle, curve down, around, through the uphill, sidestroke, and stop.

T — Start below the top; down, around, up, and sidestroke. Wavy cross.

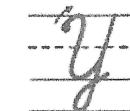**U** — Start below the top; make a cane, around, up, down, and up.

V — Start below the top; make a cane, around, slant up right, sidestroke, and stop.

W — Start below the top; make a cane, around, up, down, around, up again, sidestroke, and stop.

X — Start below the top; curve up, slant down right, and up. Cross down left.
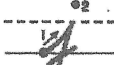
Y — Start below the top; make a cane, around up, down under water, loop up left, and through.

Z — Start below the top; curve up, around, down, around again, and down under water, loop up left, and through.

Cursive Letter Descriptions

Lower-case Letters

_a_   Overhill; back, around down, close up, down, and up.

_b_   Uphill high; loop down, around, up, and sidestroke.

_c_   Overhill; back, around, down, and up.

_d_   Overhill; back, around down, touch, up high, down, and up.

_e_   Uphill; loop down, through, and up.

_f_   Uphill high; loop down under water, loop up right, touch, and up.

_g_   Overhill; back, around down, close up, down under water, loop up left, and through.

_h_   Uphill high; loop down, up over the hill, and up.

_i_   Uphill; down, and up. Add a dot.

_j_   Uphill; down under water, loop up left, and through. Add a dot.

_k_   Uphill high; loop down, up into a little tummy, slant down right, and up.

_l_   Uphill high; loop down, and up.

_m_   Overhill; down, up over the hill, up over the hill again, and up.

_n_   Overhill; down, up over the hill, and up.

_o_   Overhill; back, around down, close up, and sidestroke.

_p_   Uphill; down under water, up, around into a tummy, and up.

_q_   Overhill; back, around down, close up, down under water, loop up right, touch, and up.

_r_   Uphill; sidestroke, down, and up.

_s_   Uphill; down, around, close, and up.

_t_   Uphill high; down, and up. Cross.

_u_   Uphill; down, around, up, down, and up.

_v_   Overhill; down, around, up, and sidestroke.

_w_   Uphill; down, around, up, down, around, up again, and sidestroke.

_x_   Overhill; slant down right, and up. Cross down left.

_y_   Overhill; down, around, up, down under water, loop up left, and through.

_z_   Overhill; around down, around again, and down under water, loop up left, and through.

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Strokes That Make Cursive Letters: Uphill Strokes
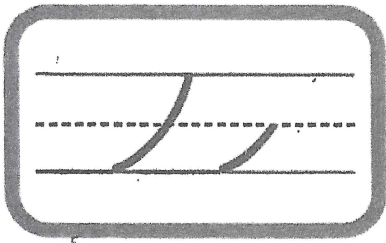
uphill strokes
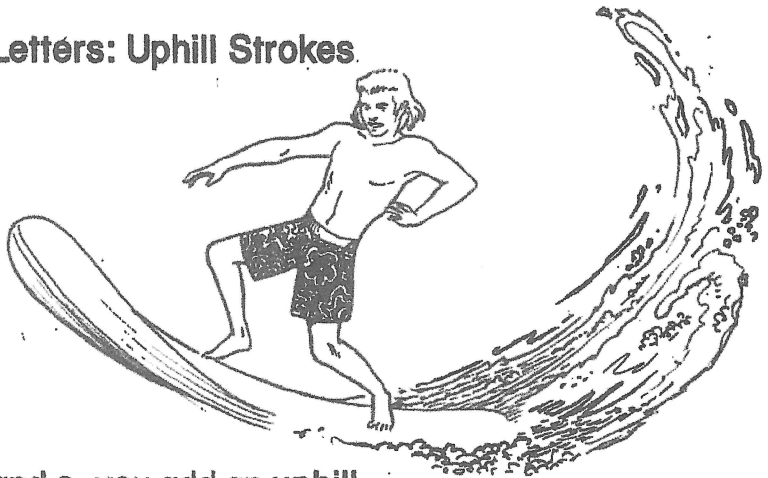
To write cursive l, h, k, t, i, u, and e, you add an **uphill stroke** to each letter you already know. These letters already have an ending stroke. Now look at **j** and **p**. To write them, begin with an uphill stroke and add an ending stroke.
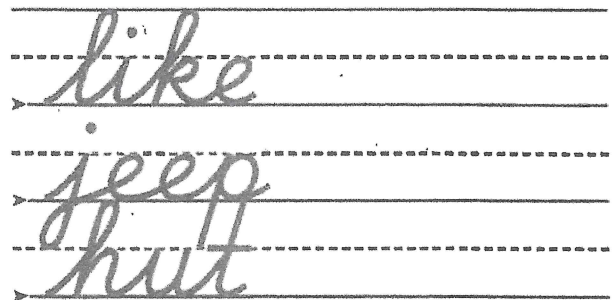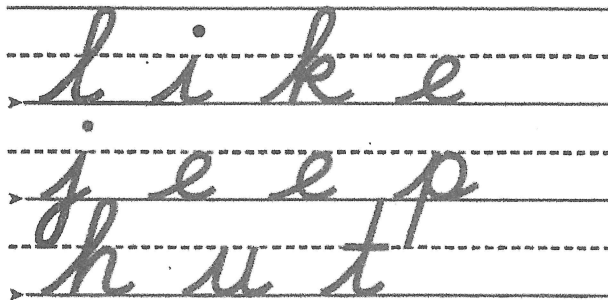
With your finger, trace the uphill stroke in each letter. Circle the ending stroke in each letter.

l h k t i u e j p
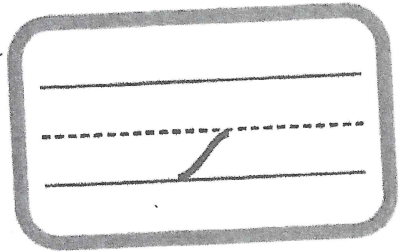
An uphill stroke can be tall or short. Practice each one.
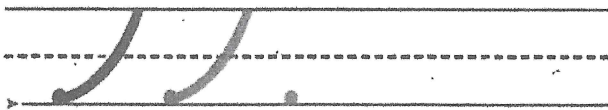
Now look at the letters below. Notice that they begin with uphill strokes. Trace the words.
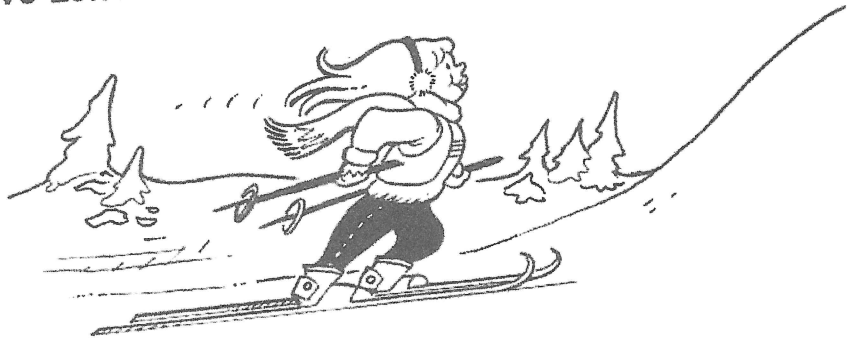
like   like

jeep   jeep

hut   hut

Strokes That Make Cursive Letters: Overhill Strokes

overhill stroke

To write cursive a, d, c, n, m, x, g, y, and q, you add an **overhill stroke** to each letter you already know. With your finger, trace the overhill stroke in each letter. The letters g, y, and q also need ending strokes added to them. Notice how the ending stroke is formed in each letter.

a d c n m x g y q

Practice the overhill stroke.

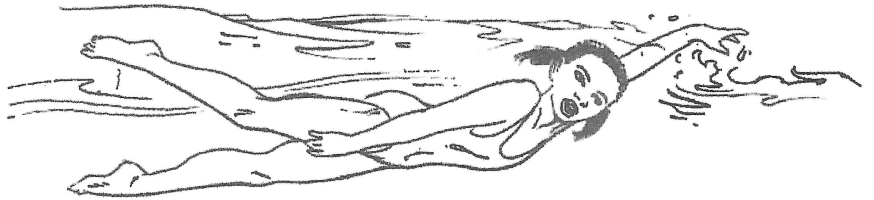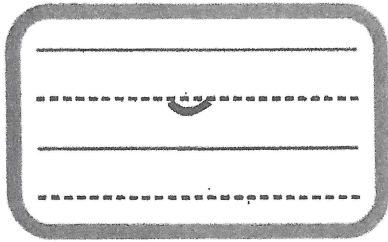Look at the letters below. They begin with overhill strokes. Circle where the letters begin and end. Trace the word.

m a d   mad

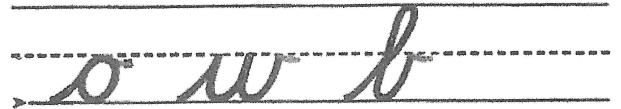Which letters below have uphill strokes? Which letters have overhill strokes? Trace the word.

p a n   pan
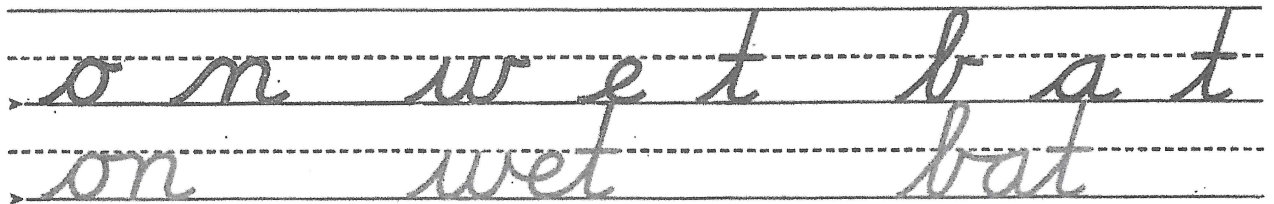
Strokes That Make Cursive Letters: Sidestrokes

sidestroke

The letters o, w, and b end with a
sidestroke. With your finger trace the
sidestroke in each letter. Which letter
begins with an overhill stroke? Which
letters begin with uphill strokes?

o w b

Practice the sidestroke.

Look at the letters below. Notice where they begin and end. A side-
stroke letter always joins the following letter near the middle line. This
changes the beginning stroke of the following letter. Notice how the
sidestroke changes n, e, and a in **on**, **wet**, and **bat**. Trace the words.
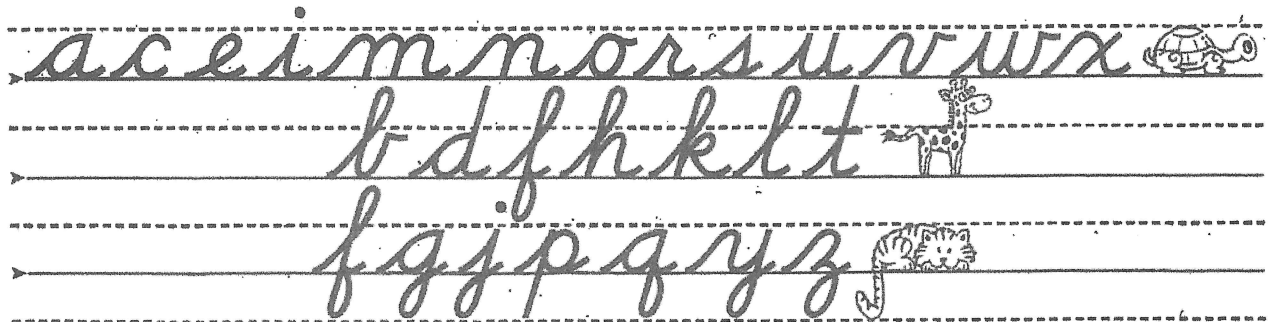
o n   w e t   b a t
on   wet   bat

Cursive letters v, z, s, r, and f look different from the letters you already know.
Which letter ends with a sidestroke? Which two letters begin with overhill
strokes? Which three letters begin with uphill strokes? Trace the letters.

v v   z z   s s   r r   f f
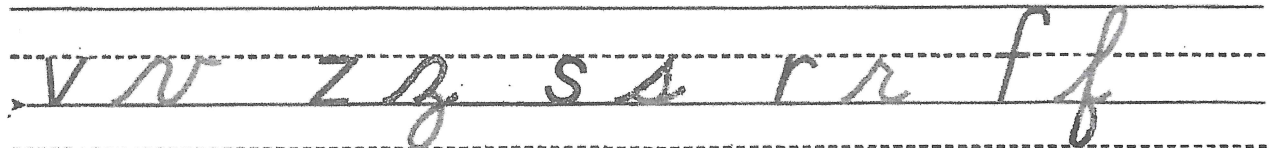
Name _____

Letter Size and Form

*a c e i m m n o r s u v w x* 🐢

b d f h k l t 🦒

f g j p q y z 🐱

Cursive letters come in the same three sizes as manuscript letters. There are small letters, tall letters, and letters with descenders. Which tall letter also has a descender?

To make your handwriting clear and easy to read, be sure to form your letters correctly.

Some cursive letters must be closed.

a o d

To practice closing letters, trace these letters.
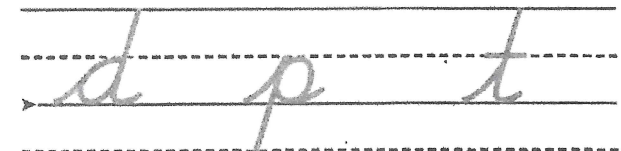
a o d
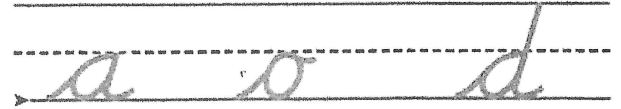
Some cursive letters have loops.

b g f

To practice looping letters, trace these letters.

b g f

Some cursive letters need retracing. Go over a line that you've already written.
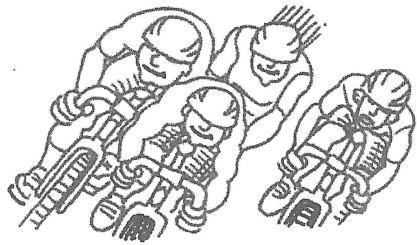
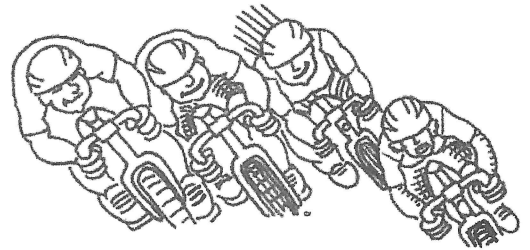*d p t*

To practice retracing, trace these letters.

d p t
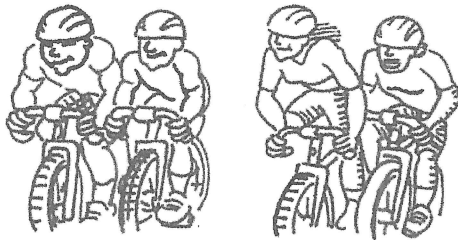
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Letter Slant and Word Spacing

When you write in cursive, slant all your letters the same way.
You may slant your letters to the right or to the left. You may
write them straight up and down. Do not slant your letters
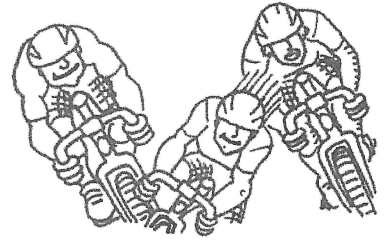different ways. Choose the slant you like best. Trace the word.

right

left

straight

different

Which writing is hard to read? Why is it hard?

Use correct spacing when you write. The letters in a word
should be evenly spaced. Leave more space between words
than between letters in a word.

red bi k e   *red bike*

Which writing is easier to read? Circle it. Why is it easier?

Name _____   Date _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____