

DUAL CODING WITH TEACHERS THE COURSE



PEN CRAFT

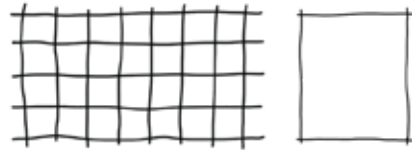
The simplest of changes can transform the quality of your sketches and writing. Instead of thinking of it as art, think of it as communication. A more fitting vision.

GRIP, POSTURE AND MOVEMENT



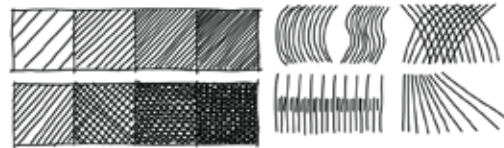
Grip your pen or pencil close to the end, in the way you know is correct. Don't draw from your wrist. Keep it still, locked. The same for your elbow. The movement, then, comes from your shoulder. If you want to make the line straighter, hold your breath while you pull the pen.

LINES



Although you are aiming to draw straight lines, wavering from an absolute straight line — as drawn with a ruler — is very acceptable. Similarly, there is an architectural drawing practice that is worth emulating — overlapping lines when they cross. It is much preferable to the rushed, rounded angle of many sketches.

SHADING

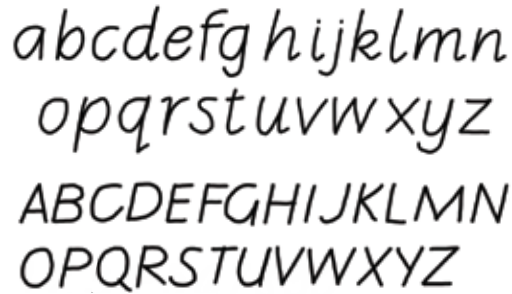


Apply this aesthetic of the line to shading by producing a variety of different parallel lines. With the dotted or squared paper, you will create interesting patterns in an ordered way.

DO

- Practice as much as you can
- Use dotted or squared paper
- Develop an eye for simplicity of lines
- Use ultra fat felt tips for writing on display boards

HANDWRITING



If you use the same firmness of line when you handwrite, you will produce letters and figures of the same aesthetic. The secret is to slow down when you write — no scribbling!

HANDWRITING RULES

This selection from Jarman's 12 rules will prove invaluable.

- The basis is a pattern of ovals and parallel lines
o i o i o i o i o i o
- Similar letters are the same height
r o n c e u l h b k d
- Ascenders and descenders are no more than twice the height of small letters, preferably less
h g l p d

DON'T

- Sketch with a flurry of light feathery lines
- Rush — just a tad longer makes a great difference
- Use your normal handwriting script — stick to printing
- Use too many colours — keep it simple

DRAWING



Remember that your sketches are for communication, and are not works of art. Versimilitude is not the aim. Short, bold lines — not feathery dashes — are needed to create strong, clear images.

TRY

- Keep a small sketchbook with you
- Trace complex images, reducing to simple lines
- Different pens and pencils, even a digital tablet
- Create icons based on the simplest of forms



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GETTING BETTER

