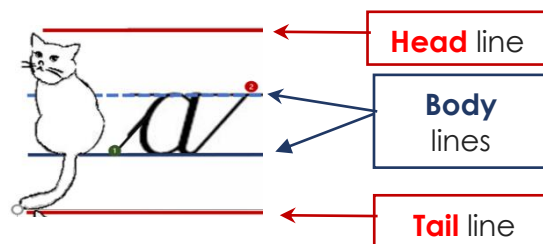


Joining cursive upper case & lower case letters

Getting to know the chart, the lines and the placement

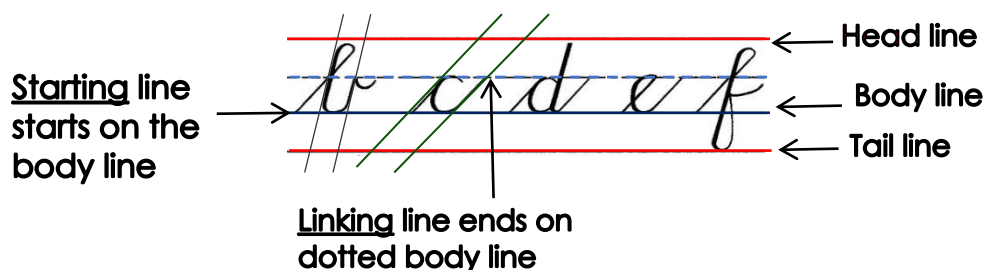
Every letter starts (①) and ends (②) on a specific line. Lines may seem confusing to a child, so it is helpful to use hints with **colours** and **names** for the different lines.



The "Cat" example helps to show letter placement on the correct lines:

- **The cat's head touches the top **head** line**
 - Some lower-case letters touch the top head line *b f h k l t*
 - All upper-case letters touch the head line and sit on the body line
- **The cat's body is in between the **dotted** and **solid** body lines**
 - All lower-case letters begin or start on the solid body line
 - All lower-case letters fit between the dotted & solid blue body lines.
 - All the letters (both lower- & upper-case letters) sit on the solid body line
- **The cat's tail touches the bottom **tail** line.**
 - Some lower-case letters have a "tail" loop *g j p q y*
 - Only a few upper-case letters have a "tail" *ly j Y z*

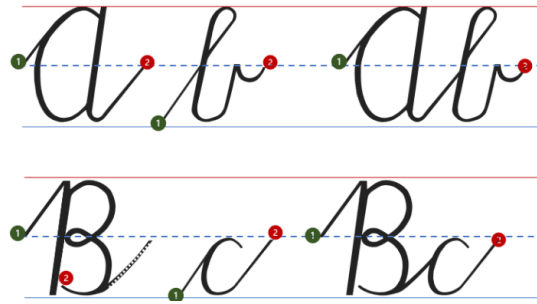
Teaching Lower Case Cursive Letters



1. All cursive letters flow **without lifting** the pen off the page (except to dot an i or j or cross the t)
2. All the rounded letters are oval-shaped and not circular as print letters.
3. The loops at the top and bottom are narrower than the body of the letter.
4. All lower-case cursive letters sit on the **body** line.
5. All **starting and linking lines** lean forward at the same angle.
6. All **down strokes** are **almost vertical**.
7. All **starting lines** start ① on the **body** line.
8. Most **linking strokes** slant to end ② on the **dotted body** line.
9. Some linking lines end with a small little loop like *b, o, r, v & w*

Joining cursive upper case & lower case letters

How to join an UPPER-case letter to a lower-case letter



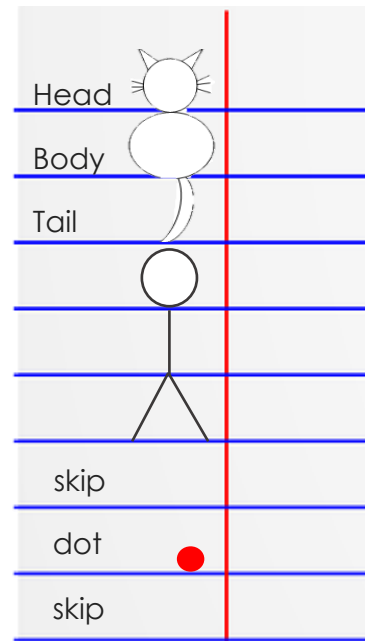
Most upper-case letters will have their own ending line ² that simply becomes the starting line ¹ for the next letter. Only a few upper-case letters will require “an extra” line to start at their base which then becomes the lower-case starting line as in *B b D F H I O P Q J U W*

Practice Sheets

Laminate these next 3 pages or place each page in a plastic page protector and trace over the letters with a whiteboard marker to save on paper. Once your child knows how to start, form and place all the letters in lower- & upper-case, your child can use the chart as a reference and start doing simple copywork as handwriting practice.

When your child first start to write on lined notebook paper, you or your child should first draw simple little hint in the margin to help know where the body line begins. We used these 3 hints:

1. Draw a simple “**Cat**” in the margin to allow 3 lines of regular notebook pages for the head, body and tail.
2. It may be quicker to draw a “**lollipop man**” in the margin. The round shape is the “head” and the stick is the “body”. The “legs” are where the cat’s tail would be.
3. The fastest method is to make a clear **dot** in the body line. My kids would count “Skip, **dot**, skip, **dot**...” to quickly place a dot marker on every alternate line all the way down their margin before beginning their copywork.



Joining cursive upper case & lower case letters

a b ab

B c Bc

b d bd

D e De

F g Fg

h i hi

H i Hi

J j Jj

Joining cursive upper case & lower case letters

J j K k Jj Kk

L l M m Ll Mm

N n Mm Nn

N n O o Nn Oo

O o P p Oo Pp

P p Q q Pp Qq

Q q R r Qq Rr

R r Rr Rr

Joining cursive upper case & lower case letters

S s St

T t Tw

U u Uw

V v Vv

W w Ww

X x Xx

Y y Yy

Z z Za