



Abbey School Handwriting Guide

Handwriting Joins-The Journey to Continuous Cursive

Diagonal joins (the most common letter join - formed from the baseline)	used to join: a, b, c, d, e, h, i, k, l, m, n, p, q, s, t, u, x, z	to these letters: b, e, f, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, p, r, t, u, v, w, x, y, z	and to these tricky letters (where the letter is formed in an anticlockwise movement): a, c, d, g, o, q, s
Horizontal joins (formed from the top of the letter)	used to join: o, r, v, w	to these letters: b, e, f, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, p, r, t, u, v, w, x, y, z	and to these tricky letters (where the letter is formed in an anticlockwise movement): a, c, d, g, o, q, s
Descender joins (formed from the loop of a descender)	used to join: f, g, j, y	to these letters: b, e, f, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, p, r, t, u, v, w, x, y, z	and to these tricky letters (where the letter is formed in an anticlockwise movement): a, c, d, g, o, q, s



Letter families

Engaging, fun and visual learning.

The ladder family (l, i, u, t, y, j)



- l** down from the top
- i** down, lift and dot
- u** down, round, up and down
- t** down from the top, curve, lift and across
- y** down, round, up, down and round
- j** down to the bottom, around, lift and dot

The one-armed robot family (n, m, h, k, b, p, r)



- n** down and up, around, down and stop
- m** down and up, around, down and up around, down
- h** down from the top, up, around and down
- k** down from the top, up and right round, kick
- b** down from the top, and around
- p** down from the top, up and around
- r** down, up, around and stop

The curly caterpillar family (c, a, d, e, s, g, f, q, o)



- c** curve around and stop
- a** curve around, up and down
- d** curve around, up to the top and down
- e** up and diagonal across, curve round and stop
- s** curve around, curve around
- g** curve around, up, down to the bottom and around
- q** curve, down and cross
- o** curve around, up, down to the bottom and flick
- f** curve around and up around

The zigzag monster family (z, v, w, x)



- z** across, diagonal down, across
- v** diagonal down, diagonal up
- w** diagonal down, diagonal up, diagonal down and diagonal up
- x** diagonal down, lift, diagonal down



Capital Letter Families

Capital letters are all formed at the same height and they're not joined to other letters. Although this means the order of the strokes is not as important as when lower case letters are formed. Please see below for some formation suggestions.

Capitals without lifting (C, L, O, S, U, V, M, W, Z)

C L O S U V W Z

Capitals with one lift (B, D, G, J, K, M, N, P, Q, R, T, X, Y)

B D G J K M N
P Q R T X Y

Capitals with two or more lifts (A, E, F, H, I)

A E F H I



How to Write Continuous Cursive Letters

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm

Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz