

CALLIGRAPHY SUPPLY GUIDEBOOK

COPPERPLATE

Begin your journey with confidence, knowing which tools to get and where to find them.



Flourished Hope

© Flourished Hope - Calligraphy & Design 2023 | For Personal Use Only



I want to learn calligraphy...
Where do I begin?

About 90% of the questions I receive from beginner-level calligraphers are related to supplies and tools.

Questions like, 'Which pen holder is the best?', 'What is a nib, and what's the difference between a flexible nib and a sturdy one?' or 'Where can I get that ink?'

With so many tools and numerous choices, it's easy to feel overwhelmed and even frustrated, not knowing which tools are best suited for you.

I've certainly been there. I wish I had someone to guide me in choosing the right supplies and tools when I first started my journey and explain why those choices were ideal.

I am certain that this FREE Calligraphy Supply Guidebook will provide you with clear direction on how to begin your journey.

This guidebook marks the initial step toward the Calligraphy Kickstart Course. It will seamlessly guide you from a beginner to a professional calligrapher, ensuring you make progress without unnecessary time and energy spent.

Learning calligraphy can be one of the most satisfying and impactful gifts you could give yourself or someone you love.

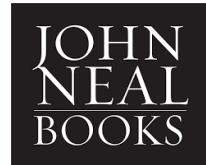
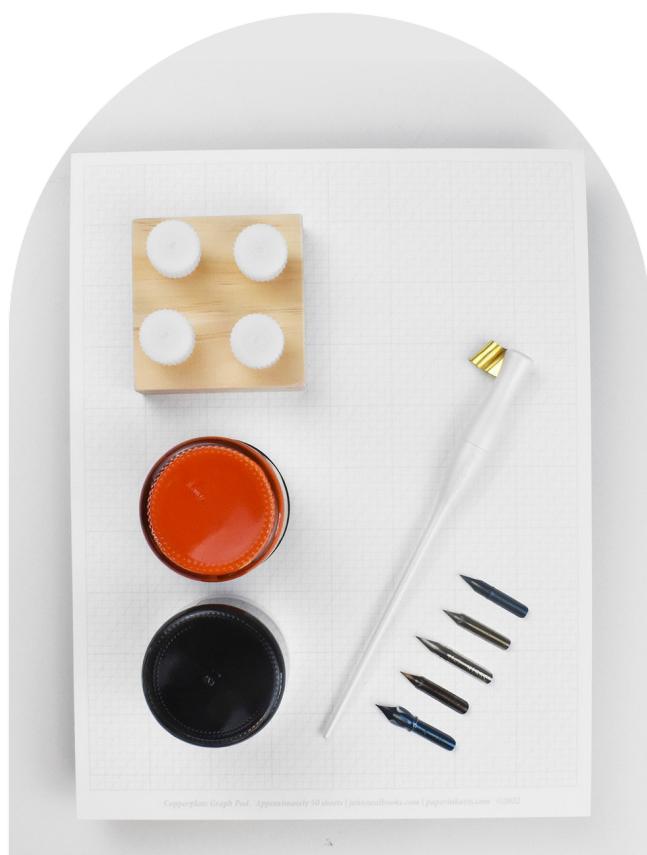
Get all the essentials tools *with just one simple click!*

If you'd like to easily acquire all the essential tools without any hassle, simply click the link below. The '**Liz bundle**' is a curated set of calligraphy tools available at John Neal Bookseller. With these selections, you can start your calligraphy journey right away.

[CLICK HERE to Make Your Purchase!](#)

Disclaimer

It's worth noting that these brand recommendations are not sponsored; I'm not receiving any compensation for endorsing them. I've tested various supplies and tools and have personally found these to be the most suitable for specific reasons, as I'll explain in the video course.



This kit includes the following items:

- 1x Copperplate/Engrosser's Pad
- 1x Nikko G
- 1x Hiro #40 (Blue Pumpkin)
- 1x Gillott 404
- 1x Hunt 101
- 1x Leonardt Principal EF
- 1x White Nacre. Moblique Dual Penholder
- 1x Moon Palace Sumi Ink
- 1x Moon Palace Vermillion Sumi Ink
- 1x Daniel Smith Walnut Ink
- 1x Sqaure. Small Screw-Top Dinky Dip
- 1x Transfer Pipettes, Pack of 9.

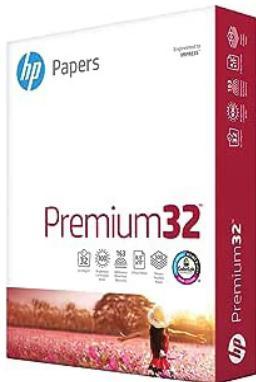
SUPPLIES & TOOLS

- 1** Paper
- 2** Pointed Nibs
- 3** Pen Holder
- 4** Inks
- 5** Inkwell & Dinky Dips
- 6** Ink Tools
 - Spoid
 - Blunt Needle Syringe
 - Distilled Water
- 7** Tools
 - Paper Towel
 - Basic Stationaries
 - Coffee Splash Stopper
- 8** **OPTIONAL BUT VERY USEFUL TO HAVE :**
 - Light Pad
 - Leather Blotter Mat
 - Two Finger Glove



1. PAPER

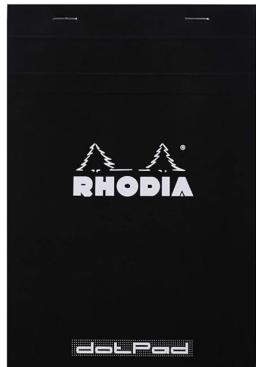
Choosing the right type of paper is crucial in calligraphy practice, as it significantly impacts the quality of your work. Ideal calligraphy paper should feature a smooth surface that prevents ink from bleeding through, ensuring precise and clean lettering.



HP Premium 32

- Smooth paper
- Cost effective

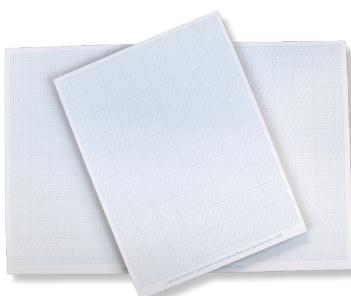
PURCHASE HERE



RHODIA Dot Pad

- Smooth paper
- Many different sizes
- Comes in graph, dot, and plain versions

PURCHASE HERE



JOHN NEAL BOOKS Copperplate / Enrossers Pads

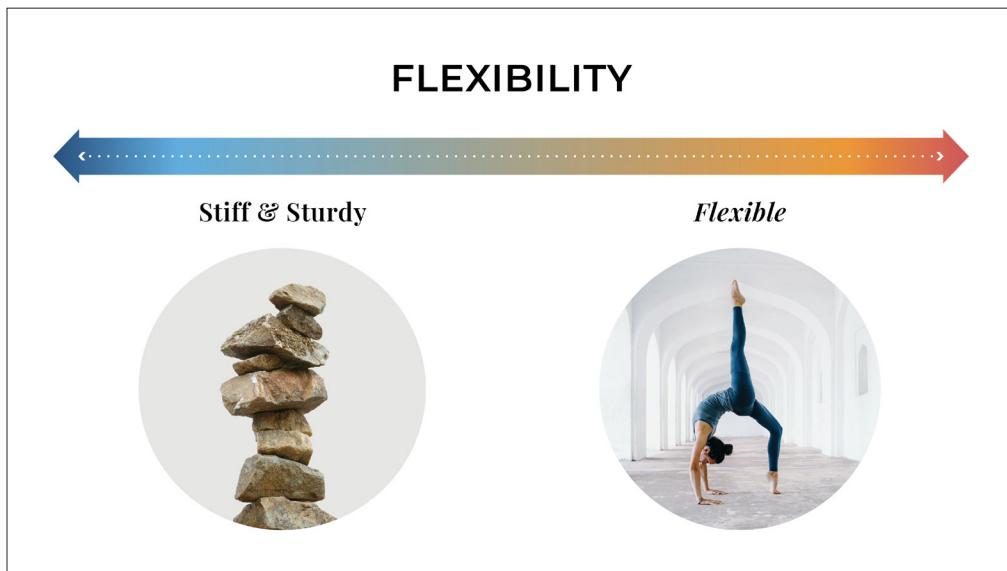
- Smooth paper
- Comes with all the guidelines already drawn
- The green guidelines disappear when you scan your ink work
- Two sizes (8.5 x 11 and 11 x 17)

PURCHASE HERE

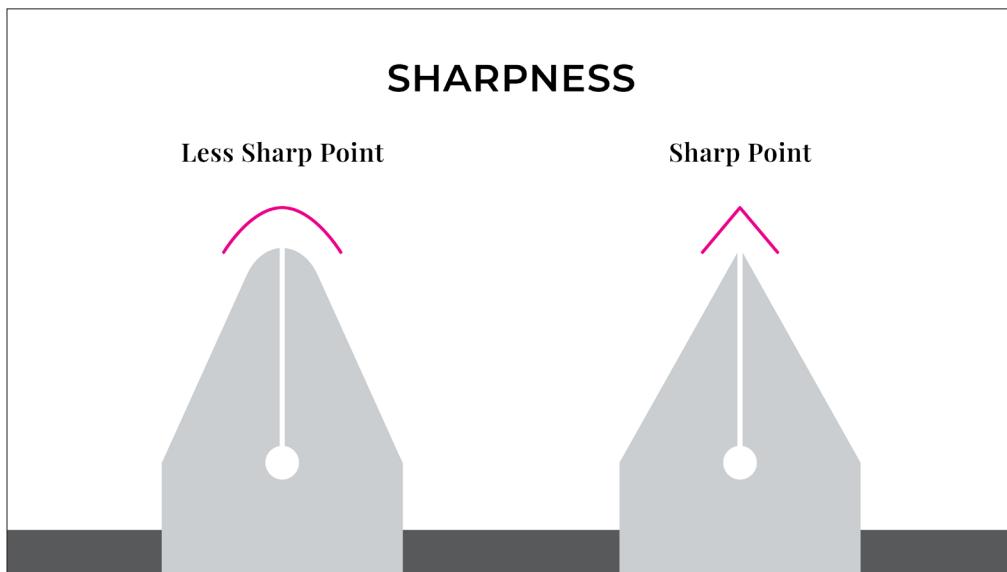
2. POINTED NIBS

In case you're not familiar with the term 'nib,' it refers to the writing part of a pen, the pointed steel instrument. It's important to emphasize that you need **POINTED** nibs for Copperplate script.

Keep in mind that each type of nib varies in **flexibility** and **sharpness**. Some are highly flexible, while others are more rigid and sturdy. Starting with a flexible nib can make stroke control more challenging in the beginning.



Also in terms of sharpness of the nib, if the nib has a very sharp point, it might catch on paper fibers more easily. Which can be very annoying especially for a beginner.



2. POINTED NIBS

So here are my 3 recommendation for the best nib to start with for a beginner-level calligrapher or a total newbie.



NIKKO G

- Best beginner friendly nib!
- Flexibility: Medium (Stiff & Sturdy)
- Sharpness: Not too sharp

PURCHASE HERE



BLUE PUMPKIN

- Best nib to use on textured papers!
- Flexibility: Medium
- Sharpness: Not too sharp
- There are two nibs that goes by the same nickname of Blue Pumpkin (Hiro/Leonardt #40 & Brause Steno 261)

PURCHASE HERE



GILLOTT 404

- Best nib to use with metallic inks!
- Flexibility: Medium
- Sharpness: Not too sharp

PURCHASE HERE

2. POINTED NIBS

Once you master how to control the pressure on the nib, you will enjoy how these three flexible and sharp-pointed nibs can give you the most beautiful and delicate hairlines.



HUNT 101

- Best nib for delicate script with control & precision
- Flexibility: High
- Sharpness: Sharp
- Can create thick & thin contrasting strokes

PURCHASE HERE



LEONARDT PRINCIPAL EF

- My personal favourite nib!
- Flexibility: High
- Sharpness: Sharp
- Gives very fine hairline
- Can create thick & thin contrasting strokes

PURCHASE HERE



BRAUSE 66 EF

- Best nib for very small writing!
- Flexibility: Medium-High
- Sharpness: Sharp
- Tiny nib but it can create contrasting fine hairline & thick shades

PURCHASE HERE

3. PEN HOLDER

A nib holder is a crucial tool in calligraphy, designed to hold and control the nib while you write. There are three types of nib holders: **straight**, **oblique**, and **dual**. The key is to figure out which pen holder type feels more comfortable for you to write with.



JOHN NEAL BOOKS Turned Wood Oblique

- Oblique pen holder
- Cost-effective
- Detachable metal flange

PURCHASE HERE



LUIS CREATIONS Moblique

- Dual pen holder
- Detachable metal flange
- Multiple color choices available
- Lightweight
- Has a nib storage compartment

PURCHASE HERE



TOM'S STUDIO Flourish Pen

- Dual pen holder
- Screw mechanism allows for a variety of nib sizes
- It can turn into a pencil by fitting in a graphite stick
- Allen key allows for custom nib angle adjustment

PURCHASE HERE

4. INKS

For calligraphers, one can never have enough inks! While the choices are abundant, these are my all-time favorites that I use every day.



MOON PALACE Vermillion

- Smooth as butter
- Allows for both thin hairlines and thick shades

PURCHASE HERE



MOON PALACE Sumi Ink

- Yields stunning black results
- Becomes waterproof once dried

PURCHASE HERE



Walnut Ink

- Pure and watery consistency
- Produces the most stunning hairlines
- Ideal for daily practice
- Easy to clean off the nib, just swish it in water
- Creates watercolor-like pretty edges when dry

PURCHASE HERE

4. INKS

Compared to the three inks on the previous page, I would say these inks may not be as essential when you start your calligraphy practice. However, you will soon discover how these two inks can enhance your projects and add another level of wow factor to your writing pieces.



DR. PH MARTIN'S Bleedproof White

- Provides a beautiful opaque white on dark papers
- Easy to use with just a few drops of water

PURCHASE HERE



COLIRO FINETEC Watercolor Gold

- The best metallic ink
- Provides the most beautiful shine (fine mica powder)
- Easy to use with just a few drops of water

PURCHASE HERE

5. INKWELL

A container is essential for holding your ink, and that's where the inkwell comes in. The small jars, known as 'dinky dips,' are designed to hold ink, and you can place them inside the inkwell.



CREATIVE INK HOLDERS Inkwell Charm

- Magnetic wood holder allows you to rotate the angle for easier nib dipping
- Available in a variety of colors!

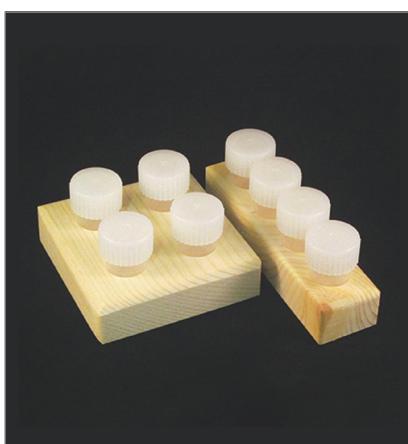
PURCHASE HERE



CREATIVE INK HOLDERS Rotating Carousel

- Store and use numerous inks in one convenient inkwell
- The rotating design makes it easy to find your ink

PURCHASE HERE



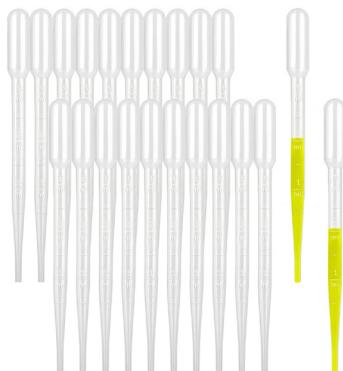
JOHN NEAL BOOKS Small Screw-Top Dinky Dip

- A convenient set to kickstart your calligraphy journey!

PURCHASE HERE

6. INK TOOLS

In calligraphy practice, achieving the correct ink thickness is paramount. To attain the perfect consistency for your calligraphy ink, these handy tools come to your aid, ensuring a smooth and seamless writing experience on paper.



Spoid

- Gently adds essential water droplets to the ink

PURCHASE HERE



Blunt Needle Syringe

- Perfect for transferring inks from a large jar to a dinky dip

PURCHASE HERE



Distilled Water

- Prevents potential issues from tap water minerals and fluoride, which can affect ink and nib
- However, I haven't personally encountered any problems using tap water.

PURCHASE HERE

7. TOOLS

These are simple, everyday items that support your calligraphy practice.



Paper Towel

- You can use a lint-free rag, but I just use ordinary paper towels for cleaning the inks from my nibs



Stationaries

- Pencil / Mechanical Pencil
- T square Ruler
- Eraser
- [Kneaded Eraser](#)
- [TOMBOW MONO Sand Eraser](#)
- [TOMBOW MONO Black Eraser](#)



Coffee Splash Stopper

- Perfect for mixing or waking up inks as they settle over time.

8. OPTIONAL TOOLS

Optional but highly useful, the following tools can enhance your calligraphy experience.



Light Pad (I enjoy size A3)

- Useful for writing on top of guidesheets without reprinting them.
- Ideal for tracing purposes.

PURCHASE HERE



Leather Blotter Mat

- Use a cushion under your writing paper for a smoother experience
- Papers or newspapers can work as a makeshift cushion if needed

PURCHASE HERE



Two Finger Glove

- Acts as a protective barrier against smudging from hand oils
- Easily slip it on
- Or use extra paper or a deck card underneath when writing.

PURCHASE HERE

ABOUT LIZ

CALLIGRAPHY TEACHER

Hello! My name is Liz, and I am a graphic designer and calligrapher based in British Columbia, Canada. I fell in love with the pointed pen calligraphy in 2020. Since then, it has become my goal and dream to share my passion and joy of calligraphy with those who wish to learn and pursue a creative journey.

Find more resources here...



WEBSITE

www.flourishedhope.com



YOUTUBE

www.youtube.com/flourishedhope



INSTAGRAM

@flourishedhope



EMAIL

flourishedhopedesigns@gmail.com



Mother of Two Boys

Saved by Grace

Watercolorist

Stationary Lover

Flower Admirer

Iced Latte Drinker

Flourished Hope