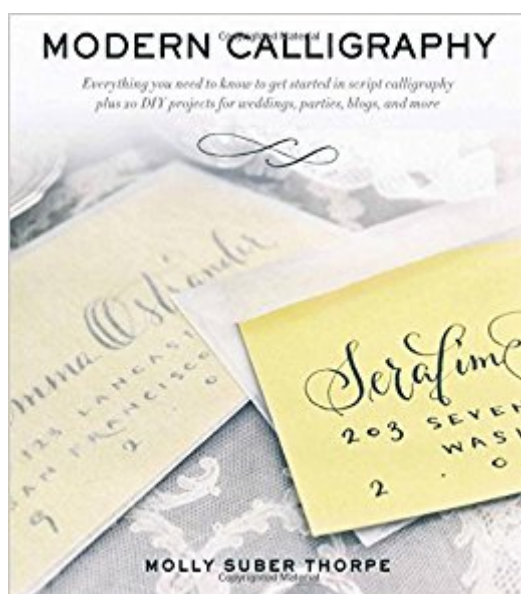


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# Modern Calligraphy: Everything You Need To Know To Get Started In Script Calligraphy



## Synopsis

Learn script calligraphy from an in-demand calligrapher and wedding invitation designer. Calligraphy is about creating something uniquely beautiful, whether to celebrate a special occasion like marriage or to use every day in the form of stationery. Author Molly Suber Thorpe, an award-winning designer and calligrapher based in Los Angeles, works closely with her international clients to give them the distinctive products they're looking for. Now you can learn from this experienced expert how to master this fresh modern lettering style. The first book to teach this bold new style breaks the calligraphy process down into simple steps so anyone can learn to create their own stunning wedding invitations, thank you cards, gift tags, and more. Starting with an overview of the supplies—from paper to ink to pens—you will learn how to form letters, words, and then phrases by following Molly's clear step-by-step instructions, and by practicing with the provided templates. After mastering letter forms using a pointed pen and ink you can take it to the next level by learning how to use watercolor and gouache, or how to digitize your calligraphy. The twenty projects in the book provide lots of inspiration for making your own and are grouped into three sections: weddings, entertainment, and personal stationery. With loads of ideas, practice exercises, and helpful tips, soon you will be turning out gorgeous script calligraphy pieces like the ones featured in wedding magazines and popular websites like Pinterest.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Molly has reinvented the art of calligraphy! There is nothing more exciting than receiving an envelope in the mail that was calligraphed by Molly. Her playful and charming script makes such a

statement and her envelopes instantly become treasures (not trash)!  
Berry, Cheree Berry Paper and former Kate Spade designer  
marvel: her work is creative, fun, full of energy, and marked with personal style.  
Ashley Maddox of Where I'd Stay blog

MOLLY SUBER THORPE is the award-winning designer and calligrapher behind Plurabelle Calligraphy. She is known for her original, contemporary lettering styles and unique, nontraditional letterforms, combined with modern layouts and bold color palettes. Molly's calligraphy has appeared in such publications as Martha Stewart Weddings, Country Living Magazine, C Magazine, The Guardian, and I Heart Stationery, as well as on hundreds of blogs and in dozens of weddings. Molly lives in Los Angeles.

I have done calligraphy for friends in the past, and I also do a lot of hand lettering and chalkboard art and was looking for a book to help me improve. I dug through a lot of reviews before finding this book, and I can't be more pleased with it! In skill, I am somewhere in the Intermediate area, but this has beginning tips as well as pointers on working with watercolor and gouache. Molly Suber Thorpe gives helpful pointers on nibs, nib holders, ink, and paper (which is worse - having paper that your nib skips on, or the sound of your nib skipping on paper?) for those just starting out, and then segues into writing - "letters first, then words, then sentences." There are some wonderful reference pages with upper- and lower-case letters of the alphabet, followed by a page with numbers and punctuation. Some reviewers complained that the pages are ordered by letter of the alphabet, but I prefer to look at individual letters rather than alphabets. (A note on the printing - the background of the letter pages has a grid pattern, and in my book the page with Ss and Ts has the background grid visible over the letters. I found it slightly distracting but not detrimental; I'll add a photo showing what I mean.) The book explains spacing, working with rulers or with a light box to achieve a straight line, as well as digitizing one's calligraphy. Writing with watercolor and gouache are covered (as well as ink and watercolor washes in general) in the Intermediate Technique section. The section on addressing envelopes also has a handy etiquette chart! The final section of the book is devoted to DIY calligraphy projects, and while I may not directly do these projects, the information is sure to be useful for similar projects in the future. Projects range from calligraphed wrapping paper to stationery to digitizing one's calligraphy in order to create a custom stamp. Molly Suber Thorpe's expertise shows in her work, and her writing style is casual and easy to understand. I feel like I have improved already - it has given me the confidence to attempt calligraphing in Greek - and Modern

Calligraphy is both a great instructional tool and a helpful resource. I couldn't be more pleased.

Loved this book. Offers great samples on lettering for every occasion. Has a few great tips and samples to guide you. I used it to help guide me with lettering for napkin bands for a client. I wrote 150 name cards on fabric and felt accomplished thanks to having this book handy.

I purchased this book upon the recommendation of a blog called the Postman's Knock, as I was delving for the first time into calligraphy and wanted some guidance. It has been very handy to have and I'm thankful that I was recommended it. I'm really enjoying my first venture into calligraphy!

This book is exactly what I was looking for - it provides a concise overview of tools, background history, font examples, branching out into new font design basics, and DIYs. Each section is just long enough to be informative and keep your attention through the whole thing so that you actually read it. I wanted to learn how to write more modern calligraphy that you see in some of the popular wedding fonts like "bombshell" and "jacques and jilles" without it being a huge history of typography and serifs, etc. This book, with its example pictures and overall layout is very aesthetically pleasing, and it definitely has pages and pages of fonts to practice too that are all very beautiful and subtly different. It also is fairly short, so you can actually read through the whole thing without too much investment of time, which helps since you'll be excited to try out all her different scripts. I would highly recommend this book if you are looking to dabble/learn just enough to write very professional, modern "wedding" fonts with minimal extraneous info.

This is my favorite modern calligraphy book. It starts with a description of different calligraphy supplies, types of nibs and nib holders and how they work, inks, papers, etc., which I found helpful when I went to purchase my own supplies. The author explains, and shows, the proper way to hold your pen and demonstrates different types of strokes. There is a section with examples of each letter of the alphabet, drawn out in several different styles, both uppercase and lowercase, and numbers. There are many inspiring photos throughout the book, and the author guides you through about 20 projects. I had purchased several calligraphy books when I decided I wanted to learn, this is the book I find myself referencing most, mainly because of all the photos and examples.

This book is a must for any calligrapher. Great examples and plenty of great resources.

A truly beautiful book for my library! Lots of information and great photos! Wish I could do a workshop with Molly in person!

This book is fantastic. The best BEST parts about this book are (1) the pages and pages of letters in 6+ styles, so you can get inspired and creative with your lettering, (2) realistic and useful DIY projects, (3) pictures of gorgeous calligraphy that are both traditional and new. While it is not a true step by step beginner calligraphy book (there are not numbered directional arrows for each letter), seeing all of the different permutations of how letters can be drawn has given me great ideas and has taught me more than what a traditional calligraphy book has (e.g., Mastering Copperplate Calligraphy). A great buy!!

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