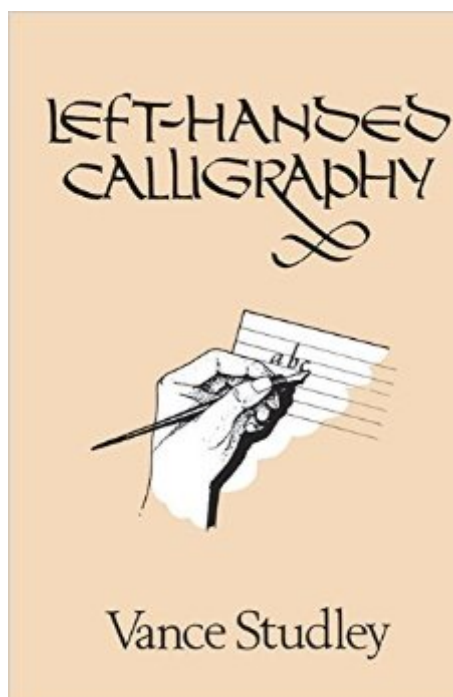


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# Left-Handed Calligraphy (Lettering, Calligraphy, Typography)



## Synopsis

The art of beautiful handwriting is no more difficult to master for the left-handed than for the right-handed student. But the left-handed writer requires a special orientation which most guidebooks on the subject do not provide. This excellent study remedies that situation handsomely. Generously illustrated, it offers full, intensive coverage of the art of calligraphy from the left-handed writer's point of view. Vance Studley, an award-winning calligrapher and well-known arts educator and author, shows left-handers how to select appropriate tools and materials, learn correct hand, pen and nib positions, master composition and page layout, and much more. Four model alphabets are introduced â " Italic Hand, Chancery Cursive, Uncial Hand, and the Foundation Hand â " each providing valuable lessons in the mastery of left-handed calligraphy. With each lesson, students will move forward confidently to new levels of skill in this time-honored art.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I didn't buy this book to become an impressive calligrapher. I bought the book because I was seeking help in my penmanship with only a casual interest in calligraphy and, as a lefty, this book looked promising. I was not disappointed. A major strength of the book is that it doesn't patronize us lefties, and could easily be modified for right-handed writers. The author doesn't explain how to cope as a lefty, but presents the full topic as though all writers were left-handed. This focused approach makes the book invaluable to the left-handed writer who wants a meaningful book on calligraphy, and not just a supplement to a book for right-handed writers. The book also presents

history of calligraphy and other supportive background information. Overall, a nice reference and the size, at 64 pages, is perfect for my needs. A person seeking professional status may need much much more, but this is a great introductory and basic text.

As a (right-handed) calligraphy tutor, I would disagree with a previous reviewer that this book is a waste of money. Contrary to the reviewer's comments, there is no such thing as a dedicated "left-handed script style," just as there are no dedicated right-handed script styles. That's why he couldn't find any such scripts in this book. ALL calligraphic alphabets can be learned by both right and left handers. It's just a bit more difficult for a left-hander to achieve success. I would suggest that a left-hander should go to a calligraphy class to learn the craft. Failing that, a book such as "Left-handed Calligraphy" will explain essential information such as how a left-hander should write with an oblique nib, and with their paper sloping. I own a copy of this book, and my left-handed students find it very useful. When learning calligraphy there is no substitute for formal tuition, but a book like this one can certainly help left-handers to achieve success. It just takes determination, patience and a lot of practice. I know from personal experience that this book is useful to left-handers, and is certainly not a waste of money.

I read the reviews for this book and found some of the negative ones to be way off base. If you are looking for a detailed book on calligraphy, this is not the book for you. However, if you are left-handed and need a book that will teach you a "left-handed" way of looking at calligraphy, then buy this book. Straight forward and to the point, it tells the reader what one NEEDS to know in order to achieve an understanding of calligraphy from a leftie perspective. You will not find a lot of fonts in there, in fact only four are covered in detail, but the point of the book is show you the right way to make your angles, strokes, etc, so that you can do other alphabets. A good understanding of the proper techniques will help you to know how to tackle other alphabets and this book give you just that. Five stars!!

Our daughter is left handed and was going through a calligraphy section in art class. She was disappointed that her letters never came out right. Even though the teacher assured me that the techniques are the same for both right and left handed writers, I got this book for her and she was able to see how to do things correctly. It got to the point where she would nod politely at the instructions, look in her book and do it perfectly.

This book is an easy-read and gives hope to lefties. I bought it after looking up some info on left-handed calligraphy and calligraphers. There are some and they did it. So can I. I am a life-long lefty and run into some things that my left-handedness just won't accommodate. Some providers of products and services are kind enough to provide alternate versions for us; but, for the mostpart, we are on our own to struggle or not buy/use. I can do a few things right-handed but it feels and looks very awkward. This pad is for practice.

I am a handed person and i wanted to learn how to write calligraphy with my left hand and not have to conform to a right handed persons way of writing. This book give you a lot of tips on how to do so. Shalom

I bought this book to help me learn to be a little neater when writing and it has helped. There aren't any great answers to how to become a great calligraphy writer, but the book did have practical information you can use. Practicing on the papers I got and reading the information in the book has helped me become a neater writer so the book did what I wanted it to do.

I purchased this along with the Modern Contemporary Calligraphy Beginner Kit. I am so glad that I purchased the Leftie book. Even if I wasn't left handed this book explained so much more than the Kit and it's few pages of instruction. It took only about an hour or so to read the Leftie book and really made a lot of sense out of everything that goes into making these beautiful letters. I have a background in desktop publishing so many of the terms and ideas were very familiar to me and made the reading easy. Another thing is that this book identified what sort of nib a left handed person needs (oblique) whereas the other book said a leftie really doesn't need a different a different nib. Opinions differ here. I've not started practicing yet with the right-handed nibs I have so I can't yet comment. But I've found a slew of Speedball oblique nibs at [www.paperinkarts.com](http://www.paperinkarts.com). ( doesn't sell them.) The right vs. left comes down to this: a rightie pulls her pen across the page, so a sharp-tipped nib is okay. But a leftie pushes her nib across the page making it likely that she will rip the page with a sharp-tipped nib depending on how much pressure she applies. And there are other considerations also, like being able to see where the ascending and descending parts of an "o" or "a" will meet up, for example. Therefore, if you order the Modern Contemporary Calligraphy Beginner Kit, too, which comes with some great practice pages and sample projects, know that you will not get the oblique nib that a leftie might need. You need to order that separately.

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