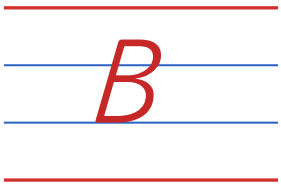
Common four-line mistakes

For parents and teachers: the six placement mistakes children make most, each beside the right way. Look for one at a time.

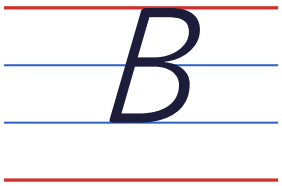
1. Capital too short

Capitals reach the red top line.

✗ Not like this



✓ Like this



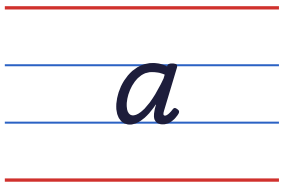
2. Small letter too tall

a, c, e, o … stay between the blue lines.

✗ Not like this



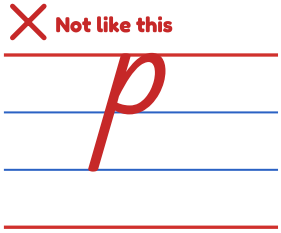
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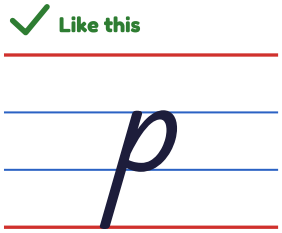
3. Tail sitting on the baseline

The body sits on the baseline; the tail goes below.

✗ Not like this



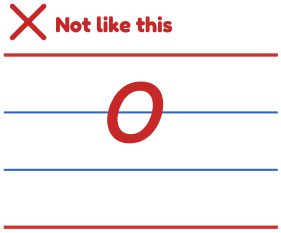
✓ Like this



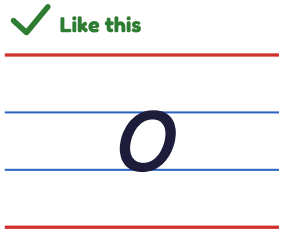
4. Floating letter

Every letter touches the baseline.

✗ Not like this



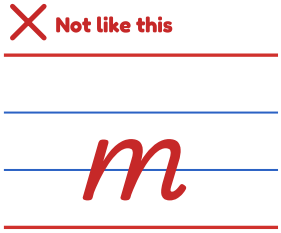
✓ Like this



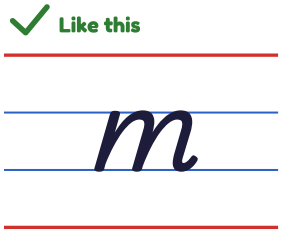
5. Sinking letter

Nothing goes below the baseline except tails.

✗ Not like this



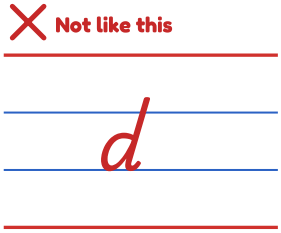
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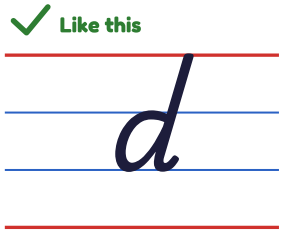
6. Tall letter too short

b, d, h, k, l start at the red top line.

✗ Not like this



✓ Like this



My four-line checklist

Check your writing at the end of each day. Tick each box you can say yes to.

Name _____ Date _____

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
My capitals touch the red top line.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
My small letters sit between the blue lines.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
My tall letters touch the red top line.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
My tails touch the red bottom line.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Every letter sits on the baseline.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
My numbers are as tall as capitals.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I left a gap between words.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I started my sentence with a capital.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I ended with a full stop.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐