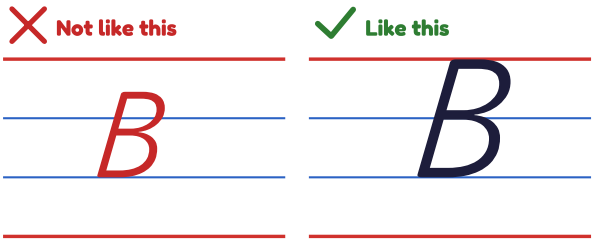
Common four-line mistakes

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.



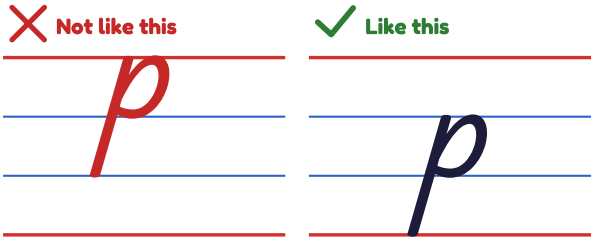
2. Small letter too tall

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



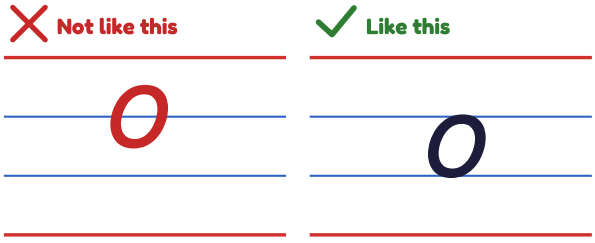
3. Tail sitting on the baseline

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



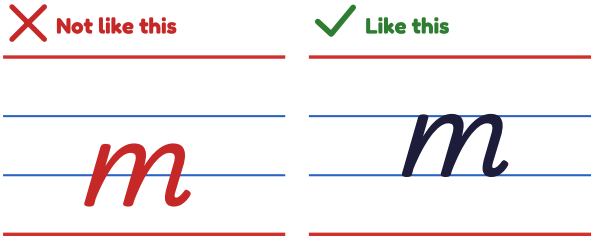
4. Floating letter

Every letter touches the baseline.



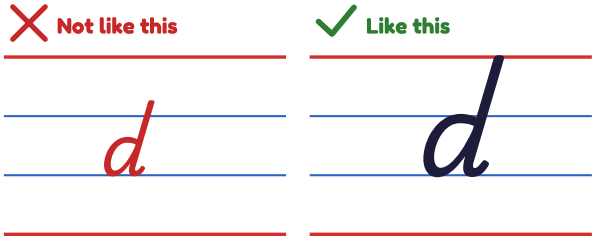
5. Sinking letter

Nothing goes below the baseline except tails.



6. Tall letter too short

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



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.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐