



# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice!

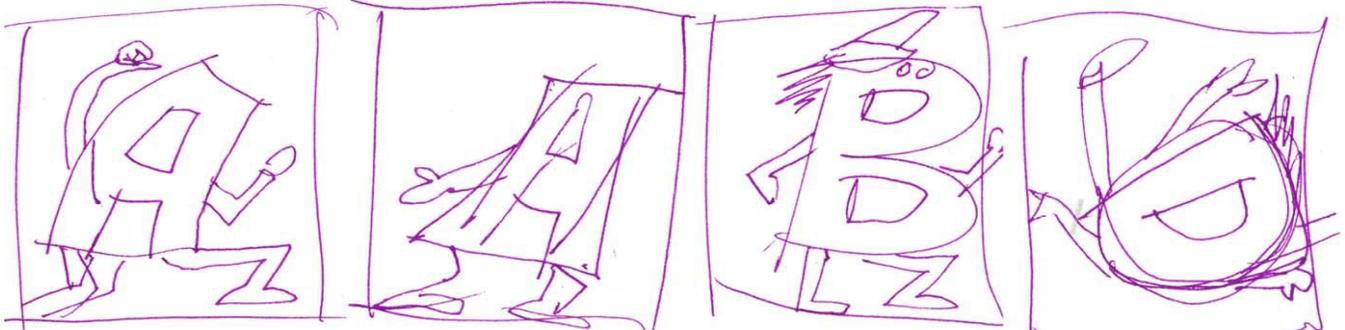
## Lettering



Lettering can be easy and fun!



The lesson called "Make a Cartoon Letter" came to mind while I was driving. I pulled over and jotted down the simple images (below) from my mind so I could work on the idea later. Many art works came from that simple idea. Like the example above. (More on later pages)



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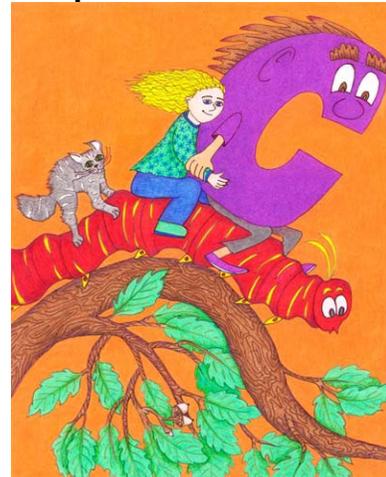
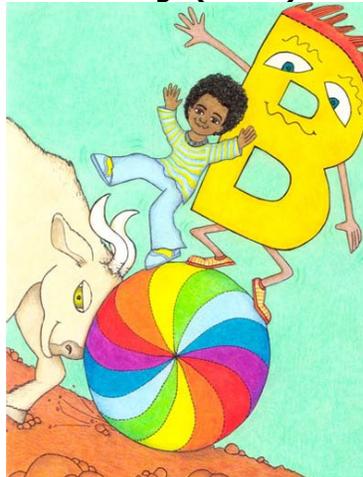
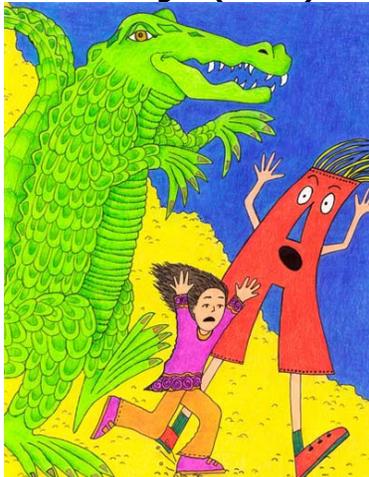
# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! Lettering-Thumbnail to Rough to Finish



Thumbnails (above) are worked into rough sketches (below) to work out the composition. Thumbnails and roughs are usually rough, light, loose lines. Below are roughs made for the 'A' illustration.



Between the roughs (above) & finished drawings (below) there were quite a few drafts & changes.



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# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice!

## Lettering



**BUBBLE LETTERS**

1) Lightly draw large letter.  
2) Draw line all the way around the letter and inside (uniform width).  
3) Optional: Erase inside line.



A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y
Z	1	2	3	4

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# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice!

## Lettering



**BLOCK LETTERS**

1) Draw lightly.  
2) Fill the whole quadrangle.  
3) Keep letters wide and uniform.

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y
Z	1	2	3	4

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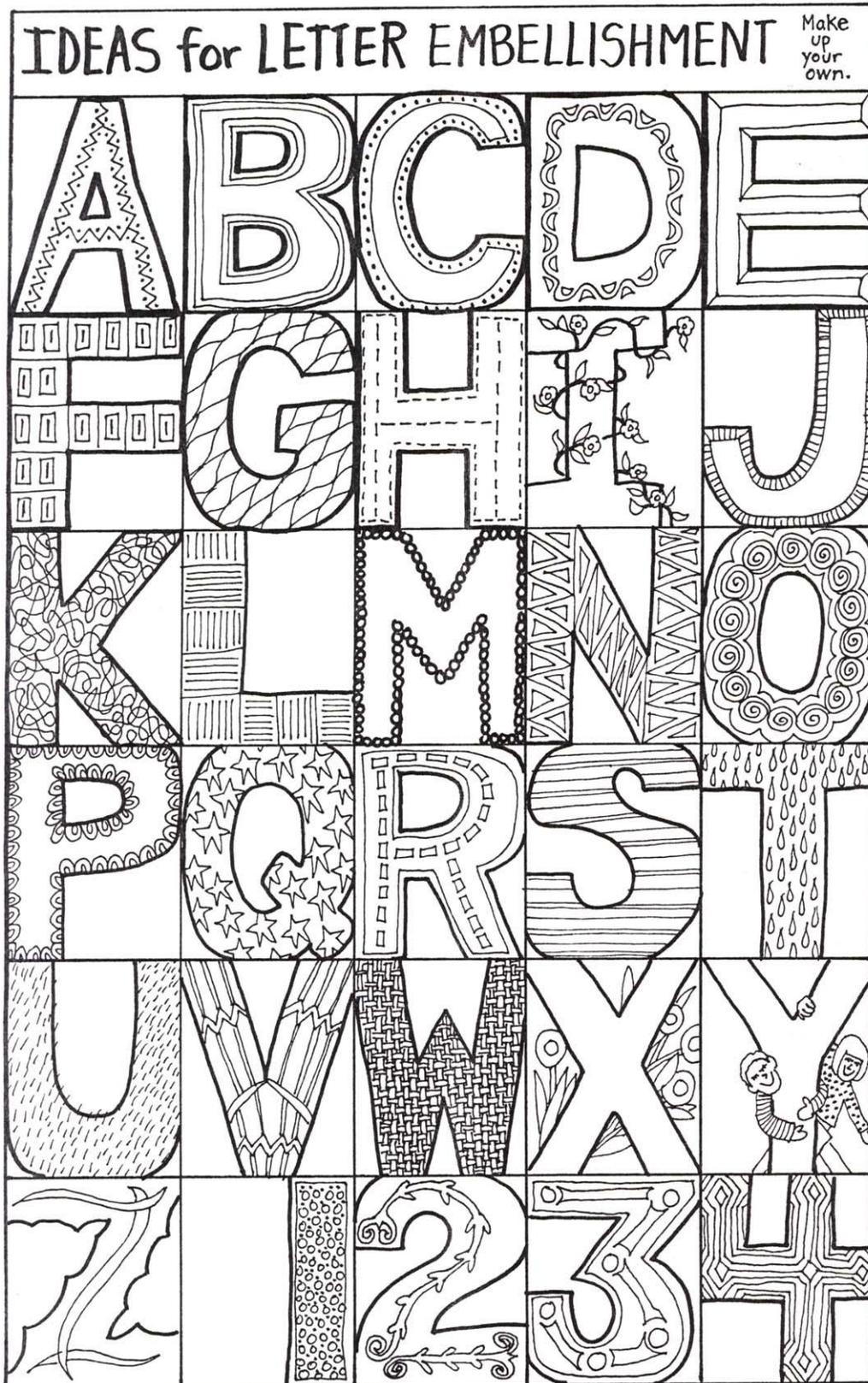
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## Lettering



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# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! A Variety of Lettering



KIND

It's so easy!

READ

I CAN!

SMILE

AN ARTIST

Word

LOVE

Use your imagination



PEACE

Try it!

I AM

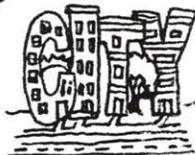
HOT

Hey friend! We are loveable.

I agree. We have what it takes to be free.



STANDING ON OUR...



BIRTHRIGHTS

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# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! Combine Lettering & Drawing



**Materials needed: Paper & pencil**

1) Draw guidelines freehand.

Draw very, very lightly.

(If needed, a ruler or templet can be used.)

2) Carefully, lightly with pencil print the word.

3) "Bubble" the letters using squared edges.

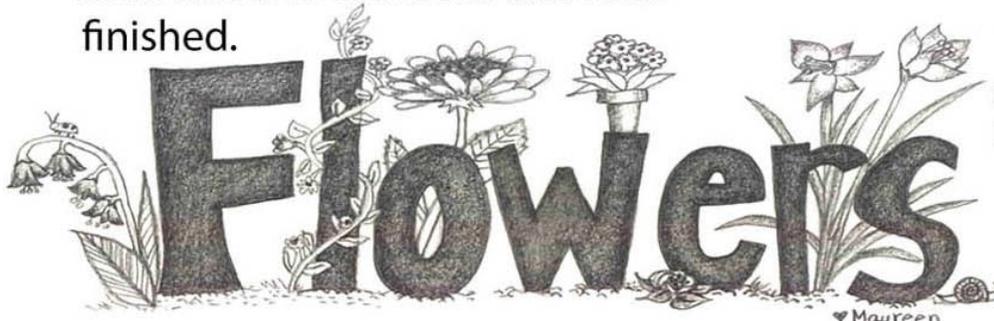
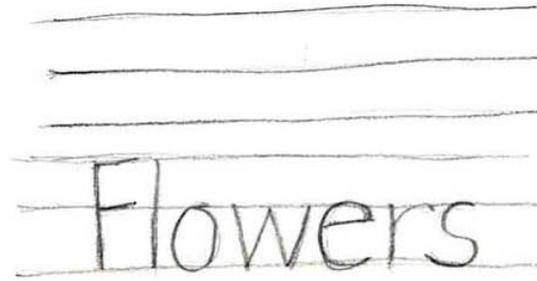
4) Lighty sketch in a variety of images.

5) Begin shading the letters. Try to keep them the same value.

6) Whoops! This step could be done sooner. Erase unwanted guidelines.

7) Finish shading letters. Add more flowers.

8) Add more detail and shading until the artwork looks and feels finished.



Notice the imperfections in the finished work. It doesn't have to be perfect to be beautiful.

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# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! Make a Cartoon Letter



- 1) Practice drawing bubble or block Letters.
- 2) Lightly draw a big letter in pencil.
- 3) Lightly pencil in a face, arms, legs, clothes, and whatever else you want to add.
- 4) Erase any unwanted pencil lines.
- 5) Color with your choice of media (markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc.).



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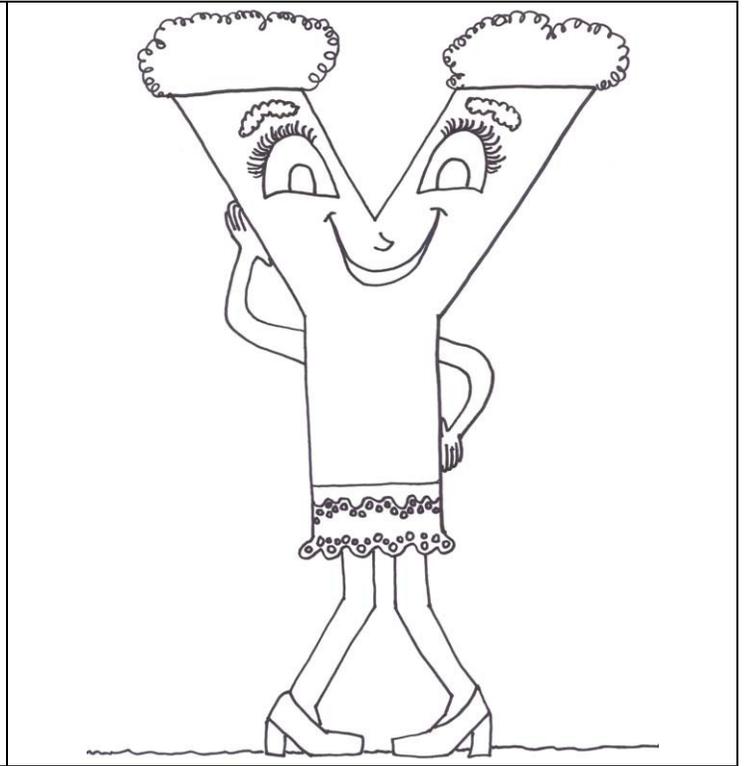
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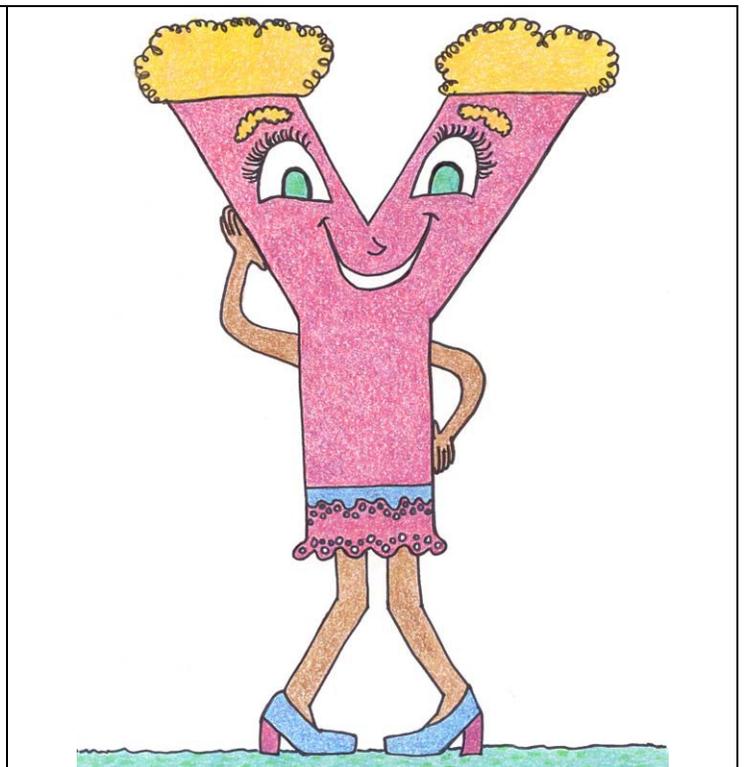


# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! Lettering Examples



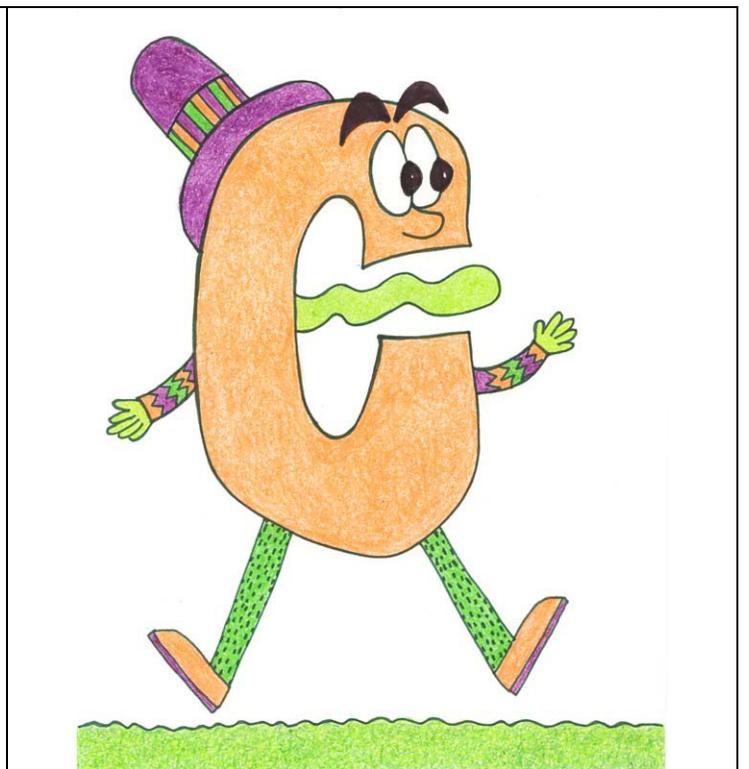
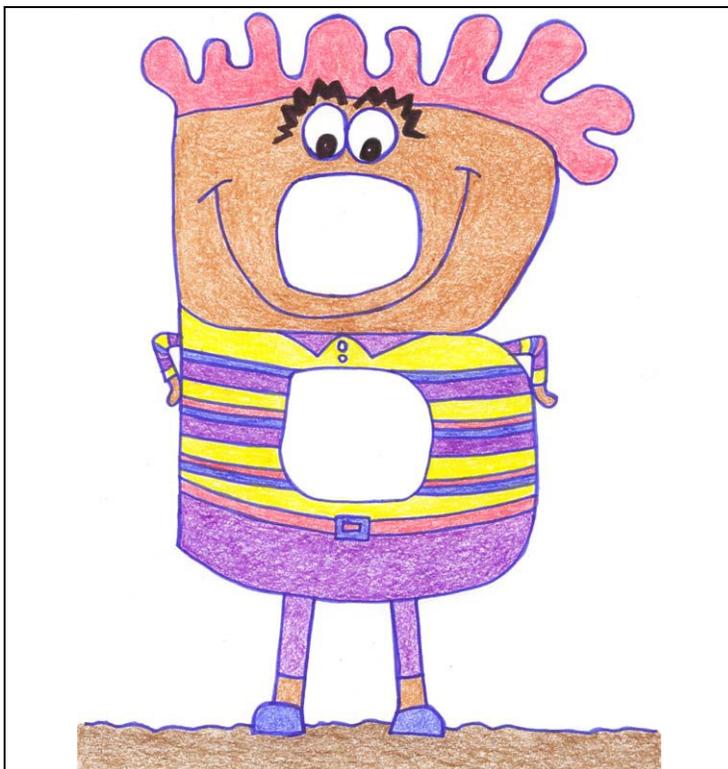
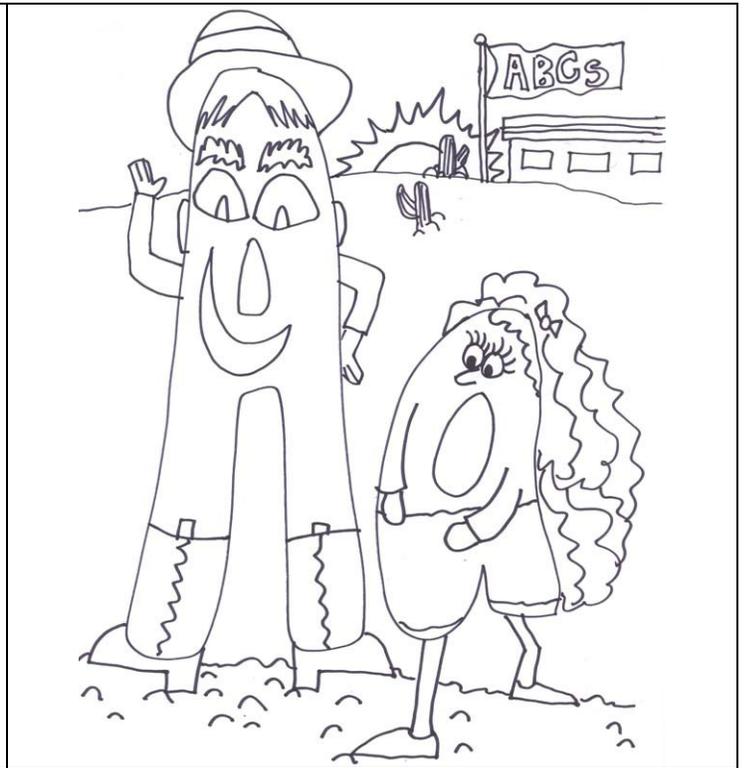
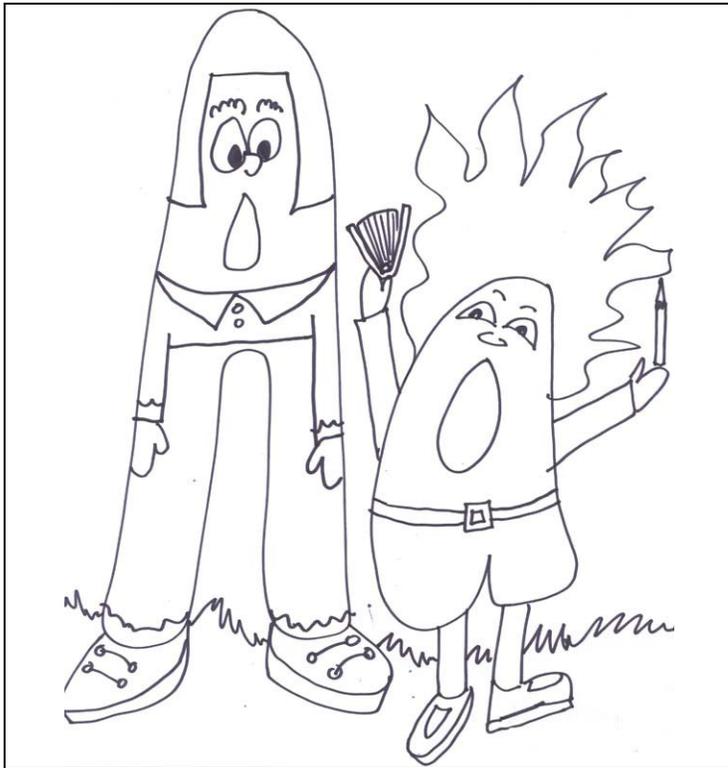
Here you can see 1, 2, 3 steps.  
First I sketch out lightly in pencil what I intend to draw.  
Second, I trace over the lines with a fine line permanent marker, allow the lines to dry, and then erase unwanted pencil lines.  
Third, I add color.

Of course, this is only one technique. There are an infinite number of possible ways to create a work of art. Use your imagination.





# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! Lettering - More Examples

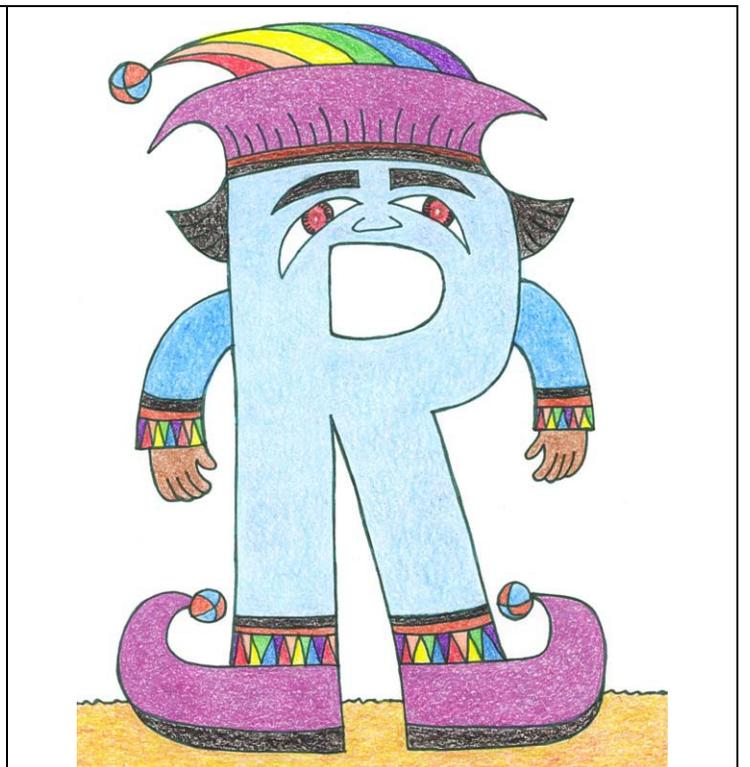
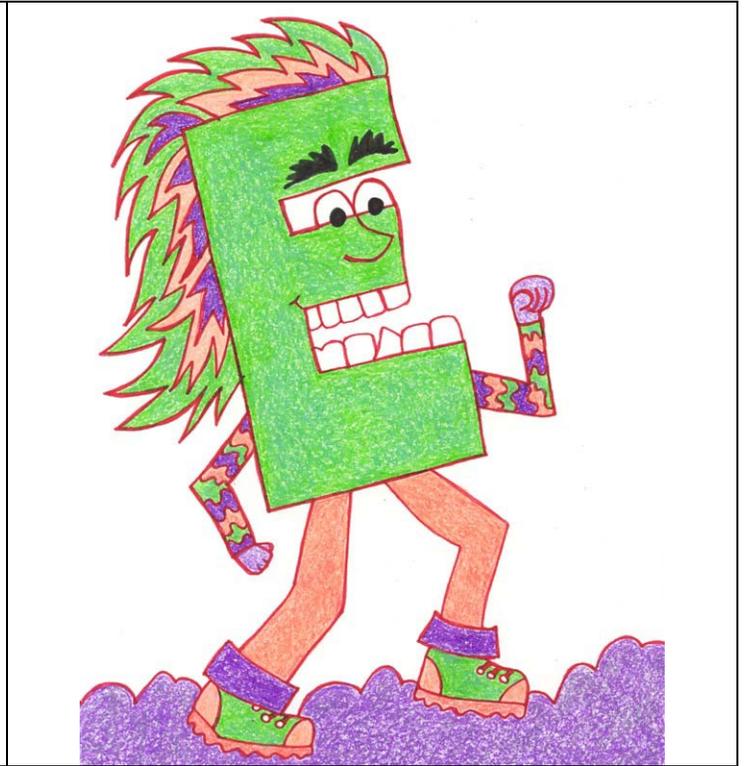


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# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! Lettering - More Examples





# I Can't Draw...Until I Practice! Cartoon Words



Look real carefully. Analyze the picture.  
What shapes and lines did the artist use?

Look for the simplest shapes or lines and start there. One at a time, add shapes and lines, until the picture is complete. Practice! Practice! Practice makes better.



1. With a pencil, carefully print a name or word in capital letters.

NAME WORD

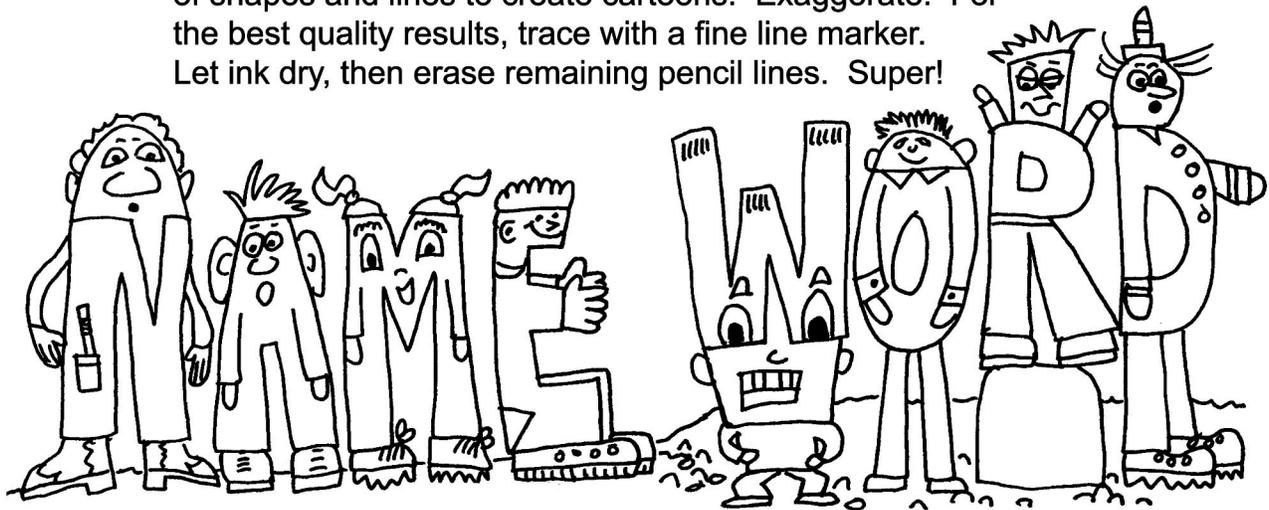
2. Continue using a pencil. Trace around the word or name to create block or bubble letters.

NAME WORD

3. Erase the inside lines (the first lines you drew).

NAME WORD

4. Now, use that fabulous imagination of yours. Use many different kinds of shapes and lines to create cartoons. Exaggerate. For the best quality results, trace with a fine line marker. Let ink dry, then erase remaining pencil lines. Super!



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