

Hey there! Confused about calligraphy tools? Here is a list of the supplies that are in my daily calligraphy toolkit, with clickable links* so you know exactly where to get them!



*Psst... some of these are affiliate links, which means I get a tiny commission when you purchase through them. Doesn't affect my recommendations at all, just wanted you to know =)

PEN HOLDERS

I prefer holders with **adjustable** brass flanges that hold all sizes of nibs, including the most popular ones for modern calligraphy.

The brass flange holds the nib at a less steep slant angle so it doesn't catch as much on upstrokes.

The following are listed from expensive (top) to affordable (bottom), but honestly, the Speedball Comfort Grip is a big step up from the basic plastic holder and only costs around \$17.



Copper and Marble Corian Oblique - by [Toms Studio](#) - *This one's just pretty!*

Blackwell Oblique Holder - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) - *This is my daily workhorse favorite. It's fairly light and I prefer the straight barrel (as opposed to an hourglass shape). But, that's just my personal preference!*

Hourglass Adjustable Oblique - available at [Paper and Ink Arts](#)

Pocket Scribbler Oblique - available at [Paper and Ink Arts](#) - *Good for traveling!*

Comfort Grip or **Dual Use Holder** - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) and [Amazon](#) - *An inexpensive but BIG step up from the Speedball Plastic Oblique. Get it adjusted for a Nikko G nib and it will also fit the Blue Pumpkin nib.*

Speedball Plastic Oblique - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#), [Paper and Ink Arts](#) - *The most inexpensive and sturdy, this is fine for beginners, but if you want to practice calligraphy regularly, I suggest investing in one of the holders above.*

NIBS

My favorites:

Nikko G - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) and [Paper and Ink Arts](#) - *Sturdy and can handle a lot of pressure for hard writers. Also produces fine hairlines and more delicate downstrokes.*

Brause Steno or Leonardt Hiro #40 (aka Blue Pumpkin) - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) - *These nibs are very similar to each other. The large size holds a fair amount of ink and lets you write a little bigger. They're not too delicate or sharp, so you can write on all sorts of surfaces and scans well for digitizing.*

Other fun options:

Leonardt Hiro #41 - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) and [Paper and Ink Arts](#) - *This is a fun, flexible nib that feels smooth and springy. It doesn't produce super thick downstrokes, so it creates a more thin, elegant script.*

Brause EF66 - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) and [Paper and Ink Arts](#) - *This nib looks tiny but flexes to produce impressively thick downstrokes. I find it to be the best for writing on slick or glossy surfaces.*

Hunt 101 Imperial - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) and [Paper and Ink Arts](#) - *Super flexible with tons of contrast between thin hairlines and really thick downstrokes. It does catch a bit more on upstrokes, and can be more finicky with ink flow.*

TOOLS STORAGE

Artbin Solutions Box Medium Size - available at [Amazon](#) - *comes with long and short plastic dividers so you can customize your storage spaces within the box!*





BLACK INK

Moon Palace Sumi Ink - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#), [Paper and Ink Arts](#), and [Amazon](#)



WHITE INK

Dr. Ph Martin's Bleed Proof White Ink - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) and [Amazon](#)



COLORED INKS

Winsor & Newton Watercolor/Gouache - available on [Amazon](#) or wherever you get art supplies

For truly custom color, I mix watercolors with water in a small 1/2 oz jar. It takes some experimenting to get the consistency just right for your nib and paper, but dries quickly and offers endless customization!



METALLIC INK

Dr Ph Martins Copperplate Gold -

available at [John Neal Bookseller](#), [Paper and Ink Arts](#), or [Amazon](#)

This is my go-to ink for professional projects, especially ones that need to be waterproof. This ink flows so smoothly and dries to a rich, dark gold. Like all metallic inks, it needs a lot of mixing. Also, because it's acrylic-based, it's harder to wipe off your nib, so I use a separate nib just for this ink.

FOR SKETCHING

Clic Eraser or Plastic Eraser - available at [Amazon](#) or your local arts/crafts/school supplies store - *Nice and soft so you can gently erase guidelines without smudging your calligraphy ink or scratching your paper.*

Tombow Sand Eraser - available at [Amazon](#) or your local specialty arts store - *For carefully scrubbing away small ink mistakes on fairly thick paper. DOES NOT always work, but is worth a try if that one smudge is ruining your entire calligraphy piece!*

White Mechanical Pencil - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) or [Amazon](#) - *A little pricey, but great for sketching on dark colored paper.*



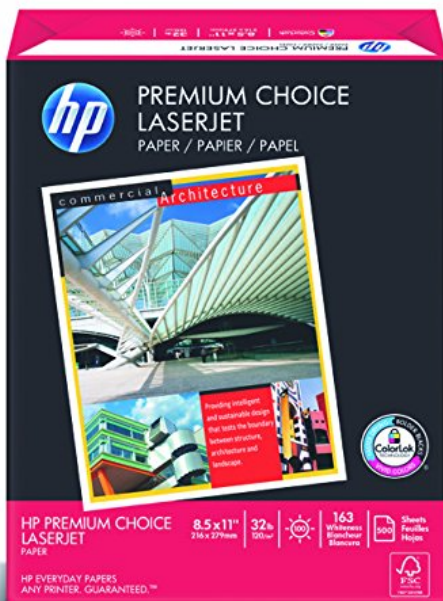
FOR INK MIXING

Water Dropper - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) - *Handy for adding water a few drops at a time so you can really control the consistency of your ink.*

1/2 oz jar - available at [John Neal Bookseller](#) - *The little jars I use to hold ALL of my inks. They seal tight and are just the right size for dipping your nib.*



PAPER



Heavyweight (24-32 lb) Laser Jet Paper - my fav is HP Premium Choice on [Amazon](#) - Widely available, inexpensive, and smooth paper for daily sketching and designs I want to digitize.

Calligraphy Practice Paper from [John Neal Bookseller](#) - This is a little thinner so you can see guidelines underneath it. I use this in all my beginner workshops.

Heavyweight (140lb) Card Stock on [Amazon](#) - This is a nice, heavy stock for professional custom pieces, or if you want to create a greeting card or art piece.

I hope this helps you on your calligraphy journey!
Wootwoot ;)
Shinah