



Recommended Stores

1. The Bombay Lettering Company

We have an online store with all the calligraphy tools and supplies for beginners as well as seasoned calligraphers, we ship pan India only.

2. John Neal Booksellers

If you're based out of India, check out John Neal Booksellers. They stock a huge range of calligraphy supplies and ship across the world.

Recommended Supplies

OBLIQUE HOLDERS

From day one I have been using one of these oblique pen holders. It's nothing fancy, but it gets the job done. You can change your nibs easily and it's very pocket friendly :)

Deuce by Yoke Pen Company - The most affordable Metal Flange Pen holder on the market and it's TWO Pen Holders in ONE - straight and oblique.

Luis Creation Moblique Holder - Moblique 2-in-1 is a budget straight & oblique penholder designed by Luis Creations. It has a compartment to hold nibs inside the body.

It comes in many chic colors for you to choose from

TBLC's Oblique Holder for Beginner's - Custom made oblique holders designed by yours truly to get you started in your calligraphy journey.

We all like to upgrade every now and then, after a couple of months or years of practice and below are a few high end holders I absolutely love

Michael Sull wooden oblique holder - I'll never forget the day he adjusted my flange so patiently at IAMPETH.

AB Holders - Handmade wooden oblique holder with an adjustable flange made by Aqino is one of my all time favorites.

TBLC Holders - Our very own premium holders made in collaboration with a renowned pen maker in Italy. They're made of hardwoods, brass flange and give an excellent ergonomic grip.

NIBS

The G series nibs are best suited for beginners which include **Nikko G**,

Tachikawa G, and Zebra G - these nibs are very sturdy and inflexible which is why it's good to get started with. They also work very well on handmade paper as the tip is not too sharp so it doesn't pick up fibres.

As you progress, you want to try out other nibs and see what works best for you, my personal favourite is **Principle EF**.

Principle EF - was the nib I started using and is still the one I reach for most frequently. You can achieve beautiful, thin hairline strokes as well as thick down strokes by simply adjusting the pressure applied. It's strong, it's sturdy, and an all-around great nib.

It will take some getting used to, especially if you are just starting out, so give yourself time and grace to practice and learn how nibs work.

Hunt 101 and Hunt 22 - are two of my most used nibs after Principle EF, they're great for practice, it also works really well for addressing envelopes and working on finished pieces. They produce very fine hairlines and thick swells which gives a delicate look overall.

Gillot 303 - I've found it to be especially useful while creating flourishes, it just glides over the paper so easily letting us create some beautiful strokes. Super fine hairlines, and great swells.

Brause Steno aka Blue Pumpkin - is an excellent nib and the best one for writing on very large X heights as it's very flexible.

Note: What I have found very helpful over the years is setting aside a different holder for different nibs. By doing this we adjust our flange to suit a particular type of nib so we do not need to readjust it.

INKS

There are a variety of inks that can be used and over the years I have found my go to inks for practice as well as final work as given below

Sumi Ink - In my experience, it's the best black ink available and recommended by artists across the world. My go to Sumi ink is a famous Japanese brand called Moon palace and is available with another brand called Kuretake. It's also one of the best ink for beginners.

Walnut ink - It's a beautiful natural ink made from the green husk surrounding the nut of walnut. The ink comes in two forms: liquid or crystals that are mixed with water before use. I love the inconsistent shade of brown that is produced with walnut ink.

Fox and Quills - are the most stunning home brewed inks made by my dear friend Serge in California. The colors are beautiful, vibrant and they work like a dream. We're so proud to be their sole retailers in India.

Ziller Inks - are perfect for steel pointed nibs, broad edge pens and brushes. They are a multi-faceted medium for wherever your imagination takes you. And I absolutely love the variety of shades available.

Higgins Eternal - It's another favourite of mine when it comes to black ink, the consistency and shade are absolutely stunning.

Dr Ph Martins - has a beautiful range of iridescent shades, they're the finest metallic inks.

Their white ink called **The Bleed Proof white** - is hands down the best white ink available.

Krishna Inks - are a recent discovery made by a doctor in Chennai, India. These are beautiful pocket friendly inks, more suited for broad edged, but on the right paper it can be used for pointed pen too.

Windsor Newton - Inks that have been formulated with carefully chosen pigments to ensure maximum brilliance of colour. The 18 colours in this range are lightfast for long lasting results.

Quick Tip: If you feel your ink is too thick you can always add a few drops of distilled water to improve the viscosity of the ink. Alternatively, if you find that your ink is too watery, you can add a little bit of gum arabic.