

Hey, cursive crusaders. We are ready to start another cursive lesson. We are going to be working on 'v' and 'y', so go ahead and grab this page and get ready to get writing.

Hey, kids. We are ready to take a look at the letter 'v'. So, here is the printed 'v' that you're used to seeing when you read and similar to the one that you would write. And here is the cursive 'v'. We can see that it is curved at the bottom and not pointed like the printed 'v'. And since we start on the baseline to get your pencil up to the top to make this line coming down, we kind of make a little hill right here. So, it kind of looks like a little hill, and then you come down and you curve it. And that I think of as the valley, like the little scooped out part at the bottom of the hill, then when you go back up, you're going to leave a check-stroke at the top. And the reason is because if you came back down, it would kind of look like a 'u' or maybe an 'i', so we've got to connect this to the letter that's coming next up at the top, and that way you can tell that it's a 'v' and not some other funny letter. So, let's get started writing some of these.

Alright! We are ready to code this 'v'. This line that we're going to get, going here from the baseline up to the midline is an over-curve. So, it kind of goes out and over, then we're going to bring a slant line down. And then we're going to bring an under-curve, line up. And then it connects to the next letter up high, so we make a check-stroke to connect it. If we brought it back down, it would look kind of funny like an 'i' or something. So, when we're making this 'v', we kind of have to remember we make a hill and then we make a valley. We make a high point and then we make a low scooped out area. And then we connect at the top with an under-curve. So, let's get going and start making some of these v's. We're going to go up, over, down, up, and check-stroke. Up, over, there's our hill, scoop it out, there's our valley, and then our check-stroke. Up, over, scoop it, and check-stroke. Now we're going to write an 'e' before the 'v'. So 'e', and then up, over, scoop it out, and check-stroke. Then we'll try that one on our own. 'e', up over, check stroke.

Now we're going to actually spell a word. 'e', up over, keep it at the top to connect to the 'e', and we've got eve like Christmas eve. Now we're going to write it on our own. Up. Keep it at the top. Make that 'e' connected to the check stroke. Looks good! Alright. Now we've got 'ever'. 'e', up, over, down. Keep it at the top to connect it, 'r'. There we go. Now we're going to do it on our own. 'e' up over down, scoop it out, keep it at the top, connect to the e... r..., and release. Good. Okay. Now we're going to start with a 'v'. Up, over, down, connect to that e... t..., up and then trace back down, release and cross. 'vet'. That's who you take your dog to when he's not feeling well. Okay. 't' and cross. Alright, now we're going to spell 'leave'. Bring a line way up for the 'l', loop back, 'e', go right into that 'a', curve up and around, up, over, down, scoop it out, keep it at the top for the 'e', connect, 'leave'.

Okay. Now we're going to write this on our own. l... e... go right into that 'a'. Connect it, and then up, over, down, bring it up, keep it at the top to connect, 'leave'. And we can write that one again. l... e..., curve it around for that 'a', up, over, down, scoop it out for the 'v', keep it at the top. There we go! 'have' Okay, loop way high, come back, trace up and around, 'a', connect, up, over, down, scoop, and connect it to the 'v'. Alright, 'have'. 'h' around, connect, up, over, down for that 'v'. Just keep reminding yourself that's how you make it. You've got to get that little hump in there even though it looks kind of funny at first. Okay, 'have'. Now we're going to write 'love'. Big tall line for the 'l', loop back, 'o', up, over. Now we're connecting that 'o' to the top of the 'v', so then it's connected to the check-stroke on both sides for the 'o' and for the 'e' there. Okay. 'l', go over, connect, go off of that check-stroke, over, down, 'v', connect it to the 'e'. There we go, we've got it! Alright! Now you're going to look for your very best one. I've got some that are pretty good. This one looks pretty awesome, so I'm going to circle that one. And we're going to start working on 'y'.

Alright, we are ready to take a look at 'y'. Here is the printed 'y' that you see in books and this is similar to the one that you write. Now, when you write in print, you may make it like this with two straight lines. You may also actually curve it, and then just bring your pencil back down and curve at the bottom, which is pretty close to how you're going to make the cursive one. When you make the cursive one, you are going to do the same thing that you do with a 'v'. You go up and you make a little hill right here and then you scoop it out to make this little valley. So, the 'y' in print is more pointed right here, and in cursive, it is more curved. That just goes a little better with the strokes that we make in cursive. Then you come up, and with a 'v', you would make a check-stroke right here. But, with the 'y', you're just going to trace back down that line. You're going to go down below, and then loop just like you do on a 'j' and then release or go into the next letter. Alright. You're ready to start trying some of these y's.

Okay. When we make a 'y', we are doing kind of the same thing at the beginning of a 'v'. So, we do an over-curve line up, and then we bring a slant line down, like that. And then we actually make an under-curve to come up here. And then we bring a slant line down, down, down, down. And then this is actually another over-curve. It's not really important. It's just getting us from the bottom of this loop to connect to the top and then we will make our release stroke. So, as always, you can just trace over this with one color just to get the flow of the movement. I like to color code it just so that you can see what strokes we're making. We're going to go ahead and get started now with some of these y's. So, it's going to look very much like a 'v' at the beginning, up, going to look very much like a 'v' at the beginning. Up, over, down, scoop it out, but when you get to the top, you don't make a check-stroke. You trace back down that line, loop back, and then release. Up, over, down, bring it up, trace it back, bring it down low, loop and release. Up, over, down, trace it, loop it, release.

Okay, now we're going to connect a 'y' to another letter. Loop it, connect it right into that 'e' and release. Up, over, down, trace back, bring it down low and then the 'e'. Okay, now we're going to spell a word. 'y', connect it to that 'e', now bring it up for the 's'. Make a point at the top, bring it out fat and connect it and then release. 'yes'. Up, over, down, bring it down low, loop it. y... e... Here's the 's'. Gonna make that big... think of it like it's a big belly on the 's' and then release. Okay, now we're going to write 'baby'. So, we've got some letters connecting with a check-stroke here. So, let's pay attention to that. Loop it back, bring it up to the midline, check stroke, connect to the 'a', and another 'b', up to the midline, now we're connecting it to the 'y' up here. So, there's our little hill. And then bring it down and loop it.

Okay. Now we're going to do it on our own. 'b' up to the midline, check stroke, connect to the a... b..., up to the midline, check-stroke, connect to the 'y' and loop it. Alright, looking good! Now we're going to write 'ivy'. You might think of poison ivy, I've had that a time or two. 'y' and loop, and then go back and dot your 'i'. Okay. So up, trace back down, up and over, scoop it out for the 'v', connect it to the 'y' at the top, scoop it out, trace back down, 'y'. You may need to trace this one several times to get that movement because you do have that hump there, and then the hump on the 'y' is connected to the check-stroke, so that one's kind of tricky. Alright. Here we go with 'you'. y... loop, connect it right to that 'o', now the 'o' is going to stay at the top to connect to the 'u', and release. Okay, up and over, scoop it, trace back down, loop right into the 'o', and connect it to the 'u'. There you go! 'very'... up and over, there we go, e... r... up and over for the 'y', loop and release. Okay, e... r..., up and over for the 'y', and release. Looks good! 'sorry' Okay, swing up just like you're making an 'i' or something. Remember, it's a straight line, then you bring it out in the front. o..., connect up high for the 'r', up high again, up and over, trace down, loop. Alright. So now we're going to try that one on our own. 's', bring it out, o... r... r..., up and over, 'y' and loop. And we can fit that one on there again. 's', up and over, connect with that check-stroke, up and over for the 'y' and loop. Great! Alright, I'm going to find my best 'y'. I've got some pretty good ones. This one looks nice. And then if you have time, go back and do some practice with that movement. Your hand will just start to know what to do, and you won't have to think about it so hard. Practice all of those. Go slow. Don't get sloppy just because you're using a highlighter, but it is a little bit easier, especially if you're using a yellow one because you don't have to stay on the line so perfectly. But keep practicing. Keep using the muscle memory in your hand to help you remember how to make those letters. You are almost through all 13 lessons and you're doing great! I'll see you in the next one!