

Alright, kids. I'm sure you never thought this day would come, but you are actually to cursive lesson 13. After you finish this lesson, you will have learned all 26 lowercase letters, and you will be on your way to being a cursive superstar. So, grab this paper, and we're gonna get started on these x's and z's.

Alright, here is our 'x'. When we make the letter 'x' in print, we just draw a straight line slanted this way and then a straight line slanted this way, and we've got an 'x'. Well, in cursive we start at the bottom, so we've got to get our pencil up to the top. So, we bring up a line, we make like a little hump. Kind of like we do with a 'y' or a 'v', but it's a little wider, so we hump it over. And then you either release, or go into the next letter. Once you're finished with the letter or the word, you pick up your pencil and you cross it. Now, sometimes you cross going this way, that may be more comfortable, but I usually tend to cross this way, which is the opposite direction that you're writing. So, you just do what feels most comfortable for you. So, you are going to hump it and then release, and then you're going to cross if you're done with the word. So, it's just like an 'i' or a 't'. If you're not done with the word, you'll finish the word and then come back and cross the 'x' at the end. So, get ready to write some extra x's.

'x'. It is time for 'x'. So, we're going to code this bad boy. You are doing an over-curve right here, so it's going kind of up and over. Then you are pulling a slant line down. Then you are making the release stroke, or if you were writing the whole word you would finish the word. This is just like 't' and 'i', you don't actually cross the 'x' until you finish the word and lift your pencil. When you come back, you're making a slant line, it's just going to the left, so you're slanting. This actually shows from the bottom up, but I have always slanted my 'x' from the top down, so you do it how it is comfortable for you. This is more natural going in the direction that we're writing, but I have never crossed my 'x' that way. I've always crossed it from the top, so you do what's comfortable for you, but it's just a slant line. Okay, we're going to get started and we're going to make some of these. So, you are starting on the baseline, you're going to go up, down, release. It's kind of like the beginning of a 'y' or a 'v' and then you just cross it. So, you can either cross from the bottom. Or, you can go up, over, down and then you can cross it like that. Okay? Up, over, down and cross. You do what's comfortable for you in the way you cross it. Now we're going to put it with some other letters. Here's an 'a' and then an 'x'. Up, over, down, release, and then cross. And we're going to put it again, 'a' on our own, up, over, down, release, cross. I'm kind of doing the cross both ways just so you can kind of see. Do what's more comfortable for you. Now we're going to have a letter on each side of the 'x', so let's practice that. 'a', up, over, down, go into the 'e', finish the 'e', then come back and cross that 'x'. 'axe'. Okay, go into the 'e'. And it looks funny, like it does not look like a letter. That almost looks like an 'r' that I just humped. So, you've got to come back and cross it, or no one is going to know what letter

that is. Okay. So, now we're going to do 'x-ray'. Up, over, down, cross it. Since technically I'm picking up my pencil to make this hyphen, that's the dash and x-ray. Then make your r... a... y... Okay. So, there you go. And then we'll try that one again on our own. So, x... dash ray, r... a... y..., and loop it. Okay. 'box'. So, loop up tall for the 'b', go back, up, and then your check-stroke goes right into that 'o', and then into the 'x', release, and then cross. Okay, loop up, back, go up, bring it down for the 'o' and then bring it over for the 'x' and cross. Kind of funny making that 'x' off of the 'o', so pay attention to how that's supposed to look. Alright, if you need to slow down or back it up and watch, you do that. Alright, for the 'f' we're looping up high, going back, bringing it down, connect at the bottom into that 'o', right into that 'x', release and then cross. f... o..., keep it up high, 'x', cross. 'text' Oh, I'm sure you have sent a text before, or you've seen your parents do it. 'x', go into that 't', don't lift up yet. Now we're going to cross everything in the order we wrote it. So, it's cross, cross, cross. t... e... up and over, down into the 't', release. Cross, cross, cross. 'text'. Okay. Here we go. 'ex', 'x', 'x'. We're getting ready to spell 'extra'. 'e', go into that 'x', t... r... a... cross the 'x' cross the 't'. 'e', over, t... r... a..., cross it, cross it. Yay! Very good! All right. You find your best 'x'. I'm looking for mine. I actually think this one, that was connected here is pretty good. This one looks really good too. I'm going to pick that one. Okay. And get ready, we're gonna be rocking and rolling with 'z' next.

Okay, so I think 'z' is the funniest letter in cursive. So, this is the printed one. It's just straight, and then slanted, and then straight, and when you make this in cursive, it definitely changes a lot. It looks pretty funny, because you've got to start down here in cursive, and to get your pencil to get up there, you make a couple funny little moves. So, we do this little hump up here, so that's like getting our pencil up there to make the top of the 'z', and then we do like this extra little hump here. Then, for some crazy reason, we come down below the line and loop it. I guess that's just to make sure that it doesn't look like some other letter. So, it is kind of goofy. It's kind of like making an 'n', but this second hump doesn't come up all the way, because then it would look like an 'n'. So, it just comes up a little bit, and then you loop it down below just like you do with a 'y', and then you either release or go into your next letter. So, let's get ready to write some of these zany z's.

Okay. We are going to code this 'z'. Now this 'z', it's a little hard to tell in here exactly what's happening. There's actually an extra little hump. You can't quite see it in here, but you're making an over-curve. Then you are slanting down, then technically you're making another over-curve. It's just really small, and then you're actually coming all the way down. So, this is where it gets a little crazy. You're slanting down below the line but you're looping backwards and then this is technically another over-curve right here and you're going into your release stroke. So, it gets a little crazy in the middle, but it will seem simpler when we're making it all in one solid movement. So that's what we're going to do now. So, let's go

ahead and get started. We're going to go up and down. Okay? And then up and make another little hump, bring it down below the line and loop and then release. So, it's not that tricky when you do it all at once. It's kind of like making an 'm'. You just don't bring the second hump up to the line, it's just real small and then you loop below. So up, down, up, just a little bitty one and then loop and then release. Okay? Up, up, down, bring it down, loop and release. It's kind of a funny letter. Hump below the line and then we're going to connect it to the 'o' and leave it off with the check-stroke. Okay. Hump, little hump, loop it, go right into that 'o', check-stroke.

Okay. Now we're going to spell 'zoo.' 'z'. There's our little hump, loop, go into that 'o'. Remember 'o' is going to stay at the top for the next one. Check-stroke. And then we'll write it on our own. Hump, little hump, loop, go into that 'o', next 'o', 'zoo'. Good! Alright. Then 'z' again, go into an 'e'. Okay. We've got the beginning of 'zebra'. So hump, hump, make an 'e', release. Hump, hump, loop below, up into the 'e', and then go up into the 'b', loop back. Keep it up high to connect to that 'r', and then go right into the 'a', and release. Okay. z...e..., go up into a b... r... a... And release. Looks good! Okay. z... o... n... Go right into that 'e'. 'zone' z... hump, hump, loop, o... n... e... 'zone'. And 'zip'. Hump, loop, i... p... Bring it down low, loop back, curve up and around and release dot your 'i'. z... hump, hump, loop. Into the 'i', 'p', loop back, curve up and around, and release and dot the 'i'. Okay. Now 'z', and we're going to connect it to 'a' this time. 'a', release. 'z' 'a', release. And now we're going to spell 'zany'. You might be feeling a little zany after writing so many cursive letters. 'y', loop, release. 'z', hump, loop, go into that 'a', two humps for the 'n', into that 'y', release.

Wow. Congratulations. You have made it through 13 cursive lessons and you've learned every single letter in the alphabet! Go ahead and circle your best 'z'. As always, you can practice. And honestly, you need to give yourself a big pat on the back because you have come a long, long way from the very first cursive letter you made on lesson 1. So, you just keep practicing, watch these videos again if you need to. And congratulations you are officially a cursive superstar!