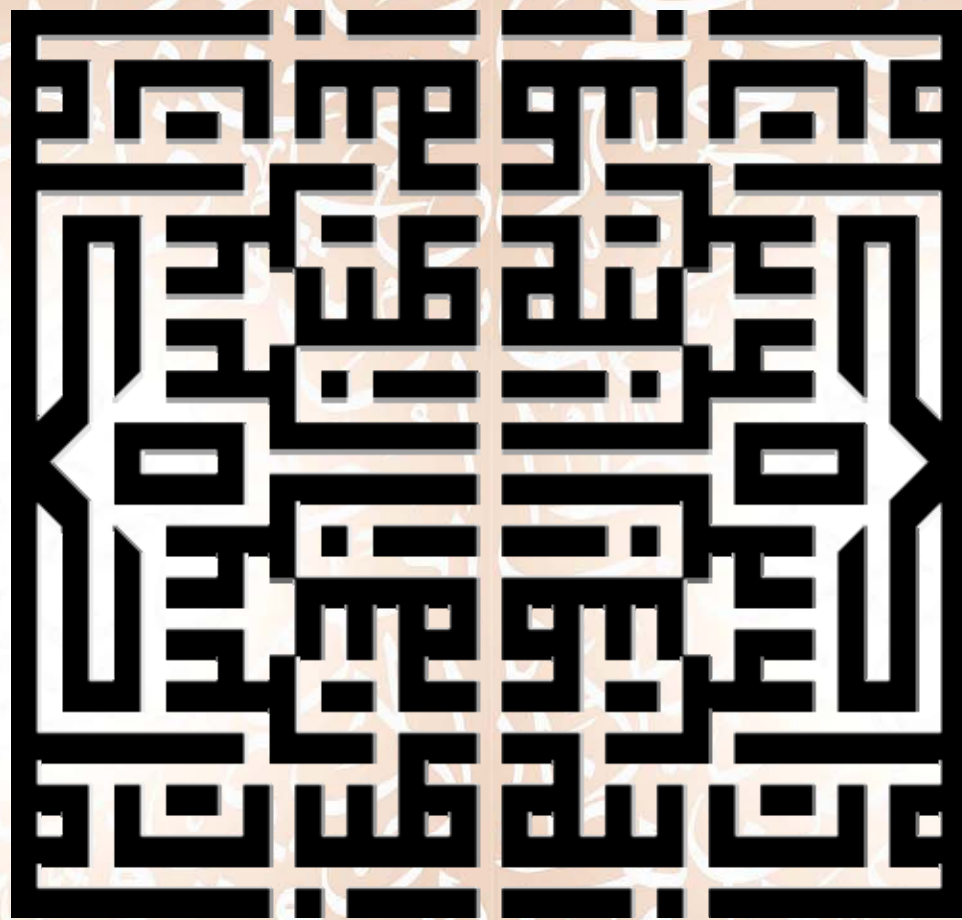


Arabic Calligraphy Workshop



Arabic Calligraphy Tools

Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

Tools for Arabic Calligraphy

1- Pencils:

The most economic and accessible tools are ordinary pencils. You can use a single pencil with a tip shaped correctly, or use a combination of two pencils at a certain arrangement, or you can get a carpenter pencil.

- Two Pencil Combination:

Put together two ordinary graphite (2H) pencils using elastic bands or masking tape. For Arabic calligraphy, the points of the pencils need to be arranged at about 35-40 degrees, or the right point is about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. higher than the left point. When using the two pencil combination, you may need to close the opening using one of the points. This tool is simple and it is useful in the learning stage specially for writing large letters.



- Carpenter Pencil:

Carpenter's pencils are available from construction supplies stores such as Home Depot. These pencils have broad and rectangular center. Harder pencils (H) are better than soft ones. To prepare the pencil, use a utility knife to sharpen the tip rather than using a sharpener. The tip needs to be shaped (cut) at an oblique angle of about 35-40 degrees to be suitable for Arabic calligraphy.



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2 - Felt Tip Pens:

These pens are available from stationary or art supplies stores. You need to select a chisel tip pen such as the one manufactured by ZIG. In the Arab World, you will find pens specially made for Arabic calligraphy by PILOT and ZIG. These pens come in 3 different nib widths: 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 mils.



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3- Permanent Markers:

Chisel Tip markers such as Sharpie



COPIC Wide Extra Broad 100 (Black)



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4 - Calligraphy Sets and Fountain Pens:

Calligraphy Pens such as ozmiled, Shaeffer, and Rotring calligraphy sets and pens can be used for Arabic calligraphy. The nibs of these pens need to be shaped at an oblique angle of about 35-40 degrees using sandpaper. Rotring pens come in 1.5, 1.9, 2.7 mil. See instructions for preparing nib pens below.

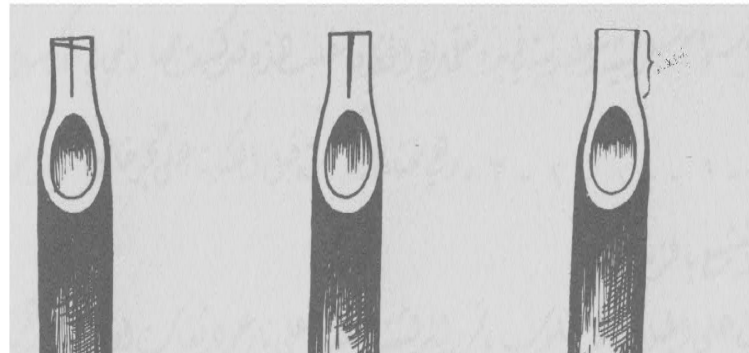


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5 - Bamboo/ Reed Pens:

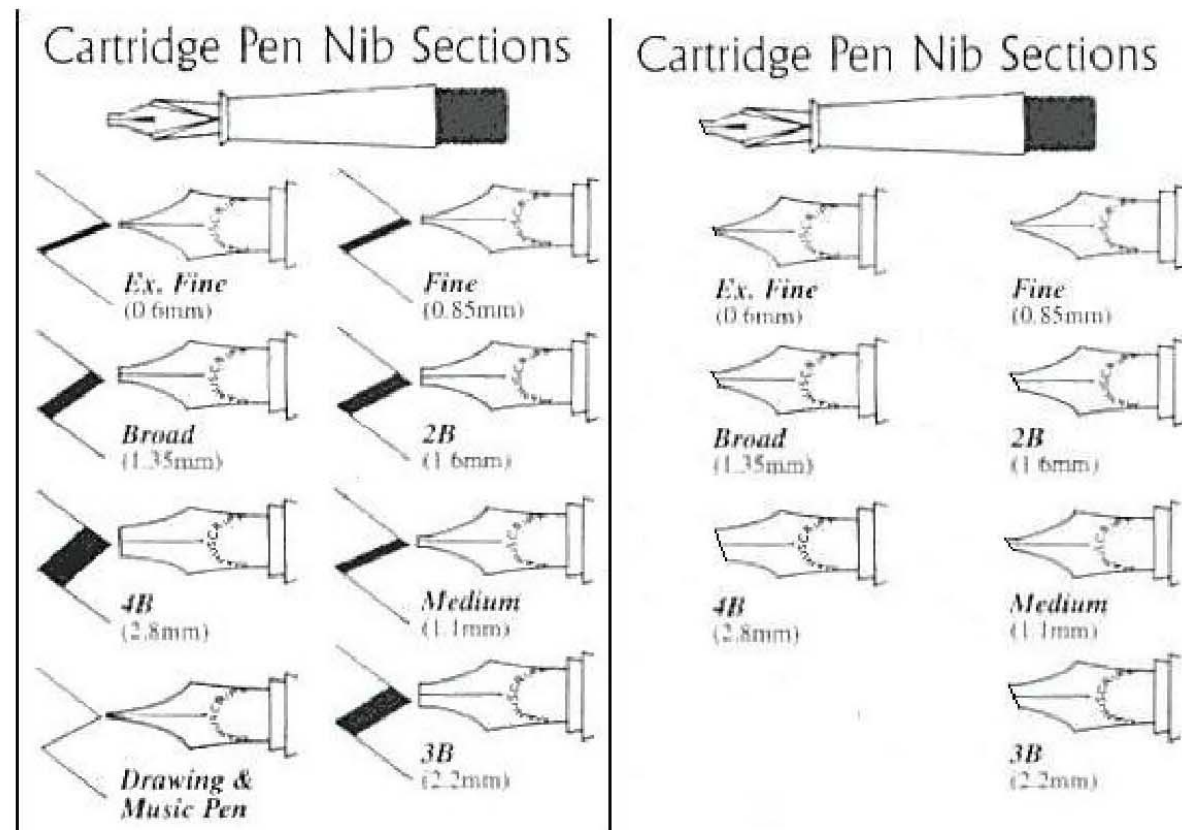


From a traditional perspective, the reed pen carved from a dry bamboo stalk is certainly the essential beginner's tool. The harder or more mature the bamboo, the less trouble it will give you once carved. Soft bamboo tends to absorb the water in the ink and the nib swells out of shape. Carving the pen is an art best learned in the traditional way at the hands of a master calligrapher.



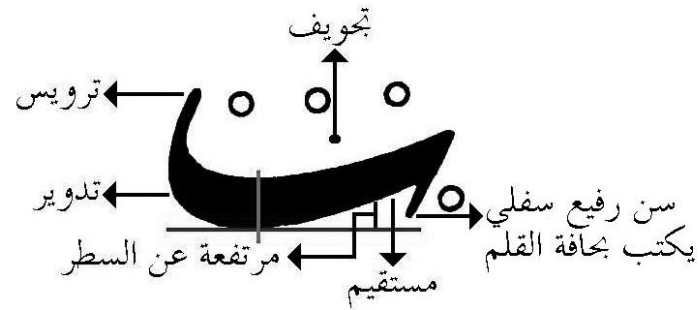
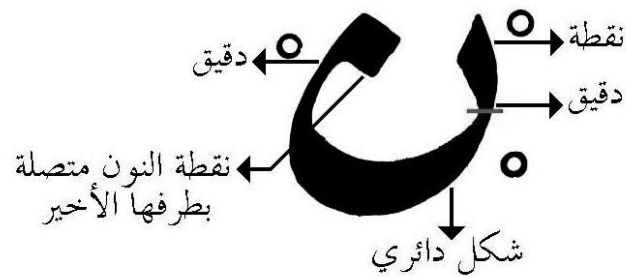
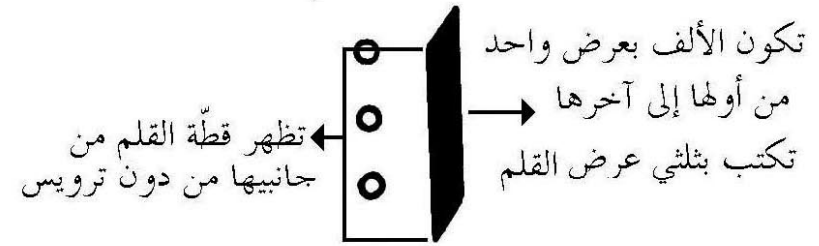
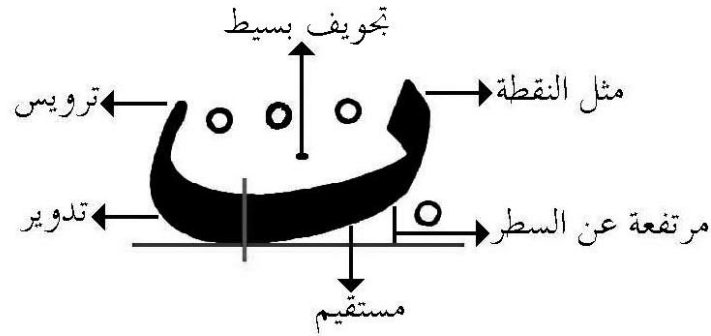
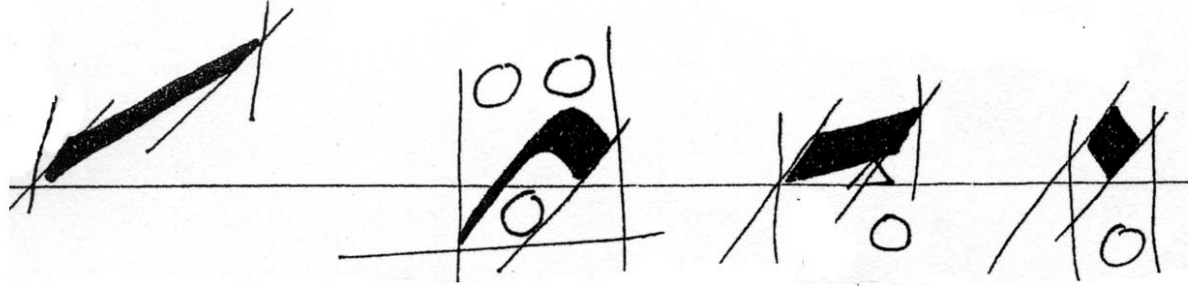
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6- Nib Pens:



**Left: Standard Nibs with flat heads.
Right: After shaping the nib to 35-40 degrees**

Arabic Calligraphy Workshop



Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

Riq'a Style

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Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

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Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

Diwani

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الخط الديواني

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

Thuluth

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خَطُّ الثَّلَاثِ

أَبَتْ حَجَّعَ زَنْزَلِيضَ

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Kufi Style

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Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

Square Kufi Style

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