Pertical Cur



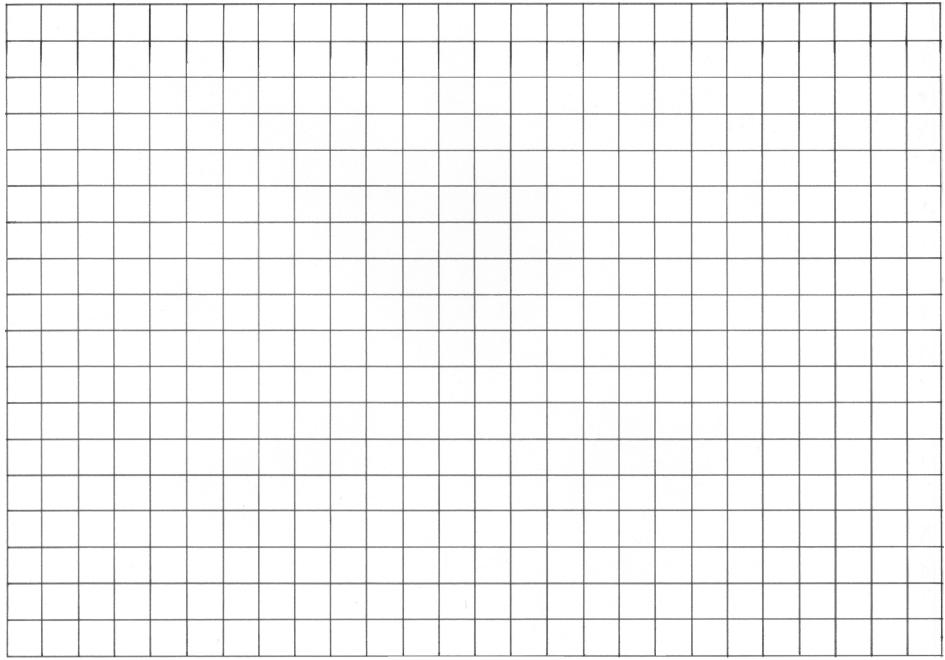
In 1915 the first Speedball Textbook was published as a showcase of alphabets and commercial lettering applications that can be rendered with the assortment of Speedball nibs manufactured by the C. Howard Hunt Pen Co. (now the Speedball Art Products Co.). The Textbook has been continuously in print for 108 years, and the current edition is the 25th.

These lowercase letters appeared for the first time in the 14th edition of the Speedball Textbook in 1942, as part of a two-page spread. On page 8 is a set of sans-serif block capitals lettered with a Speedball B nib, and the set of lowercase letters above is on the facing page (page 9). Together the two sets of letters are referred to as "Vertical Manuscript." I've long ignored the uppercase letters, focusing on just the lowercase, and somewhere along the way began lettering them close enough together that the exit strokes look like cursive joins. Eventually I came up with a corresponding set of uppercase letters that resembles vertical Zaner-Bloser cursive capitals (which felt like a better fit than the block uppercase), as well as a second set of lowercase letters with loops much like you see in the Zaner-Bloser cursive lowercase—and began calling the whole thing "Speedball Vertical Cursive."

The original alphabet above that made its debut in the 14th Speedball Textbook continued to appear in the next six editions and wasn't retired until 1991–almost 50 years later! I really like its charm and vintage feel, and use it for things like greeting cards, envelopes, gift tags and journaling.

Mancy May

Speedball Vertical Cursive Tuidelines for B-5 nib



O Mancy Nay

Speedball Vertical Cursive



Find something you're passionate about and keep tremendously interested in it.

Julia Child

Mancy May

Alfred Betty Cecil Daphne Ezra Fern George Hazel Drving June Kirk Lois Milton Nora Owen Pearl Quinn Ruby Silas Trixie Ulysses Vera Walter Xena Yale Zelda

O Mancy Nay