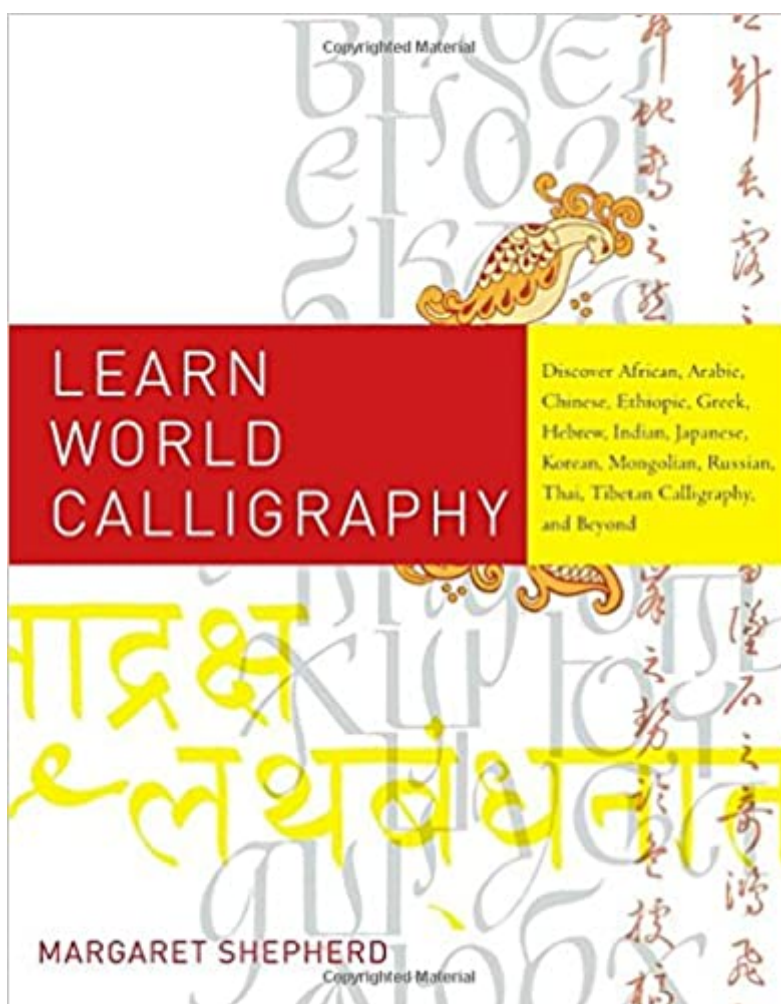


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# Learn World Calligraphy: Discover African, Arabic, Chinese, Ethiopic, Greek, Hebrew, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Russian, Thai, Tibetan Calligraphy, And Beyond





## Synopsis

Learn World Calligraphy has something for everyone. Whether you want scholarly insight, artistic inspiration, classroom projects, or a theme for your next party, this comprehensive, unparalleled full-color book will guide you on a virtual trip around the globe. Covering nearly all of the world's writing systems—from African to Arabic, Chinese to Greek, Hebrew to Russian, and beyond—Learn World Calligraphy offers a unique glimpse of scripts worldwide and the calligraphers who write them. Lushly illustrated with gorgeous examples of both historical and modern calligraphic designs, this book is filled with practical instruction for how key aspects of each exotic script can be applied to the English alphabet, generating calligraphic hybrids with a distinctly foreign flair. Like a new cuisine that you can't wait to cook at home, the scripts you meet in this book are sure to infuse your own calligraphy with the flavor of abroad. Bon voyage!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

MARGARET SHEPHERD is a renowned calligrapher, prolific author, and popular lecturer. For more than three decades, starting with the classic *Learn Calligraphy: The Complete Book of Lettering and Design*, Ms. Shepherd has penned numerous instructional books that have helped legions of aspiring calligraphers discover their talent. She resides in Boston, Massachusetts.

Mahayana Buddhists in Tibet believe that every spoken or written repetition of the prayer "Om mani padme hum" brings enlightenment one step closer. Copies of the mantra are rolled up inside handheld wheels like the one at left, which people whirl while praying. Rows of large wheels outside

monasteries, like those shown on page 141, are given a spin by anyone passing by. Tibetan top strokes are written first, not last, and they do not extend beyond the leyyers. Pen angles vary from 60 to 120 degrees. A flexible brush, held upright, may be used instead of a rigid pen. Review basic Chinese brush technique on pages 66-69. Squared off on top, many letters descend to a sharp point. Consonant-vowel combinations do not merge side to side but stack up vertically.

I have taught over 200 courses in calligraphy, and when my students asked what calligraphy book I would recommend if they wanted to buy only one, I told them to look at Margaret Shepherd's calligraphy books. She has written many. This one is fun as well as instructional. You can start in any chapter of the book with whatever area of the world you prefer. She has remembered to include Sci-Fi fans! If you have a child as young as 10 years old interested in art and/or history, this would be a good resource to springboard them into the beauty & cultures of the world. Margaret teaches the basics, supplies ample guideline charts, and encourages creativity. I couldn't pass up this one, although I already own dozens of calligraphy books.

This book has gems on every page, even for the non-calligrapher, like me. Who knew that the Chinese write in vertical lines because originally they wrote on bamboo slats? (p. 76). Or who invented the ubiquitous Greek-key takeout coffee cup and why? (p. 110) Or that Cyrillic was once the alphabet of eighty languages from Bulgaria to Mongolia? (p. 163) My only complaint is that it's too packed; I'd like more white space, a blank page or two, a breather! Because of its many insights, multi-culturalism, and beauty, not to mention its low price, this is the perfect holiday gift for everyone.

I have started researching manuscripts and calligraphy in a couple of languages and found this book to be a very valuable resource for anybody interested in expanding their calligraphy knowledge or get some ideas for future projects. I have been able to adapt some of the alphabets to meet my needs and found it easy and user-friendly. Even my 7 year-old found this book very exciting to look at as it is not only full of a variety of applications per language but also has many pictures of uses of calligraphy in the foreign language as well as very engaging English adaptations of them. Highly recommended especially for teachers interested in integrating World Studies into their new Common Core curriculum.

I particularly liked the tips on adapting the styles of other alphabets to English calligraphy, to lend an

exotic yet still legible panache and flourish to hand-written correspondence.

This is a fascinating look into the marks of various cultures. I love playing with the various curves ...fascinating. I have to get a print version, the digital keeps skipping out on the images.

This book is so helpful and I really love it!!

My daughter loves to study different cultures and wanted a book about calligraphy....this is perfect!!!

Are you interested in calligraphy and line art. this is a must have book for you, for sure. I enjoyed the images and googling the names of current artists all over the world to learn more about them. What a great book, thank you Margaret Shepherd for putting it together for us.

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