

OPTIONS

A personal handwriting style is created by variations of shape, size, slope, spacing, and speed.

SHAPE

Italic is based on an elliptical shape which may be standard, expanded, or compressed. See *Shape Guidelines*, page 57.

Standard

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

Expanded

a quick brown fox jumps over the

Compressed

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

SIZE

Each person has a comfortable letter size. See *Size Guidelines*, page 58.

4mm

3mm

2½mm

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

SLOPE

Writing slope may vary from 0° to 15°. Standard slope is 5°. Whichever slope is preferred, be consistent. See *Slope Guidelines*, page 59.

0°

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

5°
(standard)

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

10°

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

15°

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

SPACING

The spacing between letters in a word and between words may be standard, expanded, or compressed. See *Spacing Guidelines*, page 60.

Standard
spacing

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

Expanded
spacing

a quick brown fox jumps over the

Compressed
spacing

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

SPEED

Let the speed of writing fit the need, maintaining legibility. Notice how speed affects shape, size, slope, and spacing. See *Speed Guidelines*, pages 60–61.

Moderate
speed

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

Rapid
speed

a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy

As you progress, italic handwriting becomes personal and unique. Whichever combinations of options are used, the goal is even shape, even size, even slope, and even spacing.