

Materials List for Humanist Bookhand

Fall term 2025 • Multnomah Arts Center • Stephanie Byrd

Required materials

- * **ink:** any one of the following: **walnut**, **Higgins Eternal Black**, or **Pelikan 4001**. (Many inks marketed as “calligraphy ink” do not work well. You can bring other inks and try them, but I only personally recommend the ones listed.)
- * A **small sealable container** in case you need to water down some of your ink or if you’d like to try out my walnut ink, which I’m happy to share.
- * **broad-edged nibs** (remember to buy left-handed nibs if you are left-handed):
 - one or more **Speedball C-2** nibs (or Brause 3 mm or Mitchell 1)
 - one or more **Speedball C-3** nibs (or Brause 2 mm)
 - *optional:* smaller nibs, such as **Speedball C-4** or Brause 1½ mm)
- * **nib holder** of your choice
- * **practice paper:** any one of the following: **Capitol Bond**, letter size or 11 x 17”; **Canson Pro Layout Marker** pad; **Borden & Riley #37** pad; or **Rhodia** unlined pad. *Do not* buy generic “Bond Paper”—only *Capitol* Bond.
- * **fine art paper:** we will discuss paper options for your final project in class.
- * archival, acid-free **glue stick**, such as UHU brand
- * **pencil** for ruling lines
- * **writing implement** of your choice and **notebook** for taking notes
- * **T-square**, preferably metal and at least 24” long, but bring what you have if you already have one
- * **watercolors**, in any form that you already have. If not, you can buy an 8-palette set of Prang watercolors or a tube of your favorite color.
- * mixing **brush** for watercolors (the one that comes with the set is fine, or any old brush. Don’t buy a nice brush)
- * small plastic **container** and **lid** (not necessarily matching; container for holding water and lid for preparing colors)
- * **old toothbrush** for cleaning nibs
- * **paper clips**, **scissors**, **cotton rag** or paper towels, **eraser**

Optional materials

- * metal cork-backed **ruler**, at least 24” long (preferred), or any ruler you have
- * painter’s **tape** or masking tape, low stickiness

Local vendors such as Columbia Art and Drafting, PCC Sylvania Bookstore, Artist and Craftsman Supply, Blick, and Michael’s have most of the needed materials. Good online sources include John Neal Books, www.johnnealbooks.com.

*We will discuss materials in the first class.
You can wait to buy certain items if you are unsure; I will have some materials to lend.
Also feel free to contact me with questions: studiobyrd@gmail.com*