

A repost taken from The Educator, 1955 (Special Edition, single issue). See reference image in next message.

Joe Vitolo

Good Spacing

By E. A. Lupfer

Pleasing spacing in handwriting, lettering, scrolls, etc., can be secured by dividing fields or areas into equal sections. Unpleasing spacing is where areas are divided into unequal spaces.

A few illustrations are presented to show how equal spaces have been used in designing practically all the forms in handwriting, lettering, etc. We hope they will give you something new to think about and arouse your interest for further study.

No. 1 shows a single field. In No. 2, the field is divided into two equal or nearly equal parts. If this field were divided with one large and one small space, it would not be pleasing to the eye. In No. 3, the field is divided into three equal parts.

Each of the letters O, D, U, V, (Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8) is constructed with one large unbroken field for a background. In letters H, F, K, S, B, (Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13) the background is broken up into two nearly equal parts.

Perhaps letterers observe the above rule more faithfully than penmen and teachers.

Let us examine a few letters and see if you can improve the spaces in your handwriting.

The o (No. 15) has a single unbroken center or background. The u (No. 16) is broken into two main parts. These two parts forming the turns should be equal in size. The n (No. 17) has three parts. The word in (No. 18) has four sections, and Kind (No. 21) about eleven.

This same principle of dividing spaces into equal parts surely applies to all kinds of scroll borders, ornaments, etc. In No. 22, we have two equal ovals. In No. 23, these ovals are divided into additional equal spaces. In No. 25, there are six fairly equal sections.