Calligraphy Guide Paper: Baseline, x-Height, Ascender and Descender Lines

Worked example / complete source key

A planned guide sheet states a 3:2:3 ratio with a 6 mm x-height zone. Calculate the ascender zone, descender zone, and total guide height for one line.

Answer: In 3:2:3, the ascender and descender zones are each 1.5 times the x-height zone. With a 6 mm x-height, each is 6 × 1.5 = 9 mm. The total guide height is 9 + 6 + 9 = 24 mm. The sheet is consistent with 3:2:3 only if all four lines are present and the measured zones are 9 mm, 6 mm, and 9 mm.