Wilson-Style Lettering Boxes: Skyline, Plane Line, and Baseline Practice

Worked example / complete source key

A learner draws a hypothetical 12 mm lettering box. The plane line is at half height. The learner writes a small o and a tall l. Check zone placement using simple arithmetic.

Answer: Half of 12 mm is 6 mm, so the plane line sits 6 mm above the baseline. The small o should touch the baseline and reach the plane line at 6 mm; its x-height is about 6 mm. The tall l should reach the skyline at 12 mm and touch the baseline. If the o reaches only 4 mm, it sits below the plane line and needs adjustment. If the l reaches 10 mm, it falls short of the skyline and needs adjustment. These values are hypothetical examples; measure your own box.