Graffiti Lettering Basics: Block, Bubble, and Wildstyle

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw the letter 'B' in block style with x-height 4 units and stroke weight 0.5 unit. Describe the skeleton and counters.

Answer: Skeleton: one vertical stroke and two rounded lobes on the right. Thicken to 0.5 unit with squared corners. Counters: two enclosed spaces, upper and lower, both open and even.

Reason: Block style uses squared strokes and consistent weight. The skeleton defines the lobes; thickening keeps counters open.

Check: Measure x-height from baseline to midline; confirm both counters are visible and stroke weight is even.

Task 2

Draw the letter 'S' in bubble style with x-height 3 units. Outline at 0.5 unit distance. Describe how you keep the outline even.

Answer: Skeleton: a curved path from top to bottom. Outline at 0.5 unit around the curve, rounding outer corners. Keep the distance even by marking points at 0.5 unit along the skeleton before connecting.

Reason: Bubble style inflates the skeleton. Even outlining prevents tight or bulging spots.

Check: Check that the outline distance is approximately 0.5 unit at several points and the letter reads clearly.

Task 3

Draw the word 'GO' in wildstyle on a 4-square grid. Connect G and O with one extension. Keep main strokes thick and the extension thinner. Describe the connection.

Answer: Skeletons: G and O in separate squares. Add a bar from G's right side to O's left side, passing behind O. Main strokes thick; bar thinner. Both letters remain readable.

Reason: Wildstyle uses controlled connections. A thinner extension preserves hierarchy and readability.

Check: Trace G and O skeletons; confirm the extension does not obscure either letter.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Compare block and bubble versions of the letter 'E' at x-height 3 units. List two differences and one similarity.

Answer: Differences: block uses squared strokes and sharp corners; bubble uses rounded outlines and wider spacing. Similarity: both use the same skeleton (vertical plus three horizontals) and the same x-height.

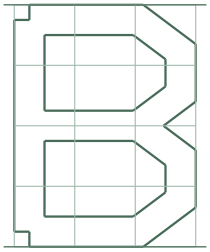
Reason: Style changes outline and corners, not the underlying skeleton or x-height convention.

Check: Measure x-height on both; confirm skeleton matches and note corner treatment.

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Task 1 / answers

Owned lettering examples / 1 selected unit = 8 mm on paper / printed at actual size

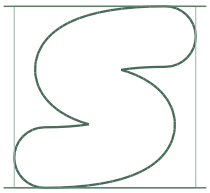


B has one vertical and two squared right lobes. The 0.5-unit bands enclose two separate, clear counters inside the 4-unit height.

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Task 2 / answers

Owned lettering examples / 1 selected unit = 8 mm on paper / printed at actual size

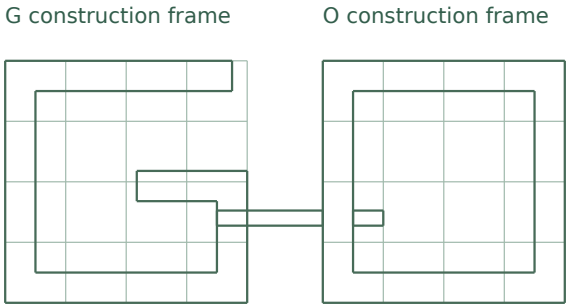


The outer body is 3 units tall. Its inset curved skeleton is buffered by 0.5 unit on either side, giving a uniform rounded bubble outline; guide boundaries refer to the finished body, not an added outside margin.

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Task 3 / answers

Wildstyle GO / two genuine 4 by 4 cell frames / chosen unit 8 mm



One thinner extension joins the G right side to the O region and passes behind the O band.

Your connection description: _____

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Task 4 / answers

Owned lettering examples / 1 selected unit = 8 mm on paper / printed at actual size



Same E skeleton and 3-unit body height: square joins on the block version, rounded joins on the bubble version. Bubble spacing can be wider when several letters are placed together.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Skeleton is clear and readable before thickening.
- [ ] X-height is consistent from baseline to midline.
- [ ] Stroke weight is even within each style.
- [ ] Block letters use squared strokes and parallel verticals.
- [ ] Bubble letters use rounded outlines at even distance.
- [ ] Wildstyle extensions do not hide the letter skeletons.
- [ ] Spacing is even and letters fit the frame.
- [ ] Original lettering is used; no copying of specific artists or tags.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?