Drawing a Block and Serif M: Stroke Order and Style Practice

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

On a grid 6 units tall and 5 units wide, draw a block M with the center point at 2.5 units across and 3 units above the baseline. List the four strokes in order.

Answer: Left vertical from top left to baseline; first diagonal from top left to center; second diagonal from center to top right; right vertical from top right to baseline.

Reason: The order keeps the center point fixed and balances the diagonals. The center point at 3 units matches the midline.

Check: Measure both verticals; they should be 6 units. Check that the center point is at 3 units above the baseline and 2.5 units across.

Task 2

Draw a serif M on a grid 6 units tall and 6 units wide. Add simple horizontal serifs of 0.5 units to the top and bottom of each vertical. Describe where the serifs go.

Answer: Serifs go at the top and bottom ends of the left vertical and the right vertical, extending 0.5 units outward. Small angled serifs go at the top ends of the diagonals.

Reason: Serifs are added after the main strokes so the letter shape stays clear. The wider grid allows room for the serifs.

Check: Check that each vertical has a top and bottom serif and that serif lengths are about 0.5 units. Confirm the M still fits within 6 units width.

Task 3

A block M is drawn with verticals 6 units tall, but the center point is 1 unit above the baseline. Is this acceptable under the rubric? Explain.

Answer: No, because the center point is 2 units below the midline, which is outside the 1-unit tolerance. The M may look like a W.

Reason: The rubric requires the center point to be near the midline within 1 unit. At 1 unit above the baseline, the center is too low.

Check: Measure the center point height. The midline is 3 units; the allowed range is 2 to 4 units. A center at 1 unit fails.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a block M 6 units tall and 4 units wide with the center point at 2 units across and 3 units above the baseline. Then draw a serif M with the same main strokes and add serifs. State one difference in your check.

Answer: The block M has no serifs. The serif M has added serifs at the stroke ends. The check for the serif M includes confirming serif consistency, while the block M check focuses on straight stroke ends.

Reason: Both styles share the same main stroke order. The serif style adds a separate check for serif size and placement.

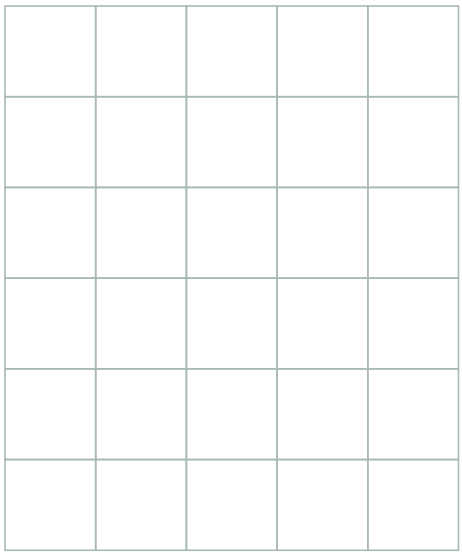
Check: For both, measure verticals and center point. For the serif M, also measure serif length and confirm serifs appear on all main stroke ends.

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Task 1 / square-cell layout example

Task 1: 5 columns x 6 rows; one character per square cell.

Schematic cell size; task does not specify physical cell dimensions.



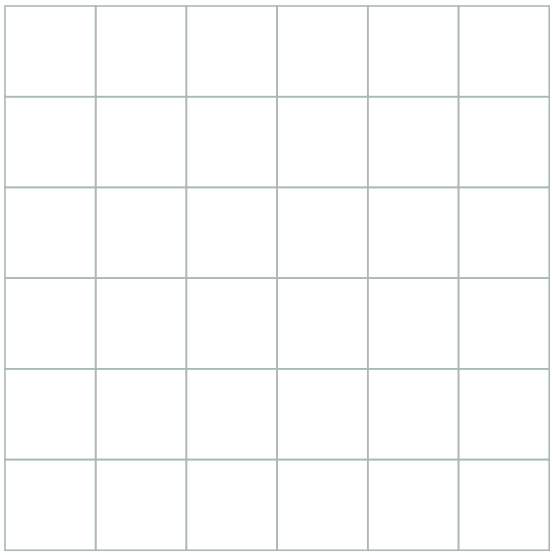
Reading-direction example: down each column, with columns ordered from right to left. Empty cells are deliberate: supply your own characters, one per cell.

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Task 2 / square-cell layout example

Task 2: 6 columns x 6 rows; one character per square cell.

Schematic cell size; task does not specify physical cell dimensions.



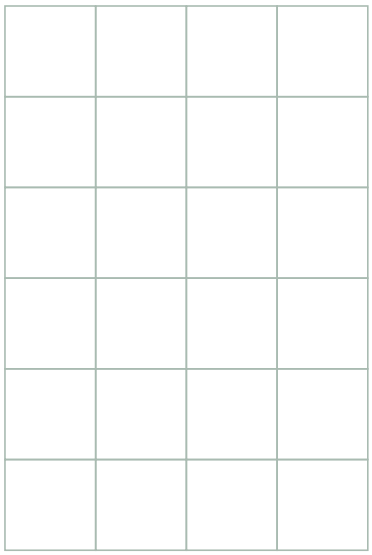
Reading-direction example: down each column, with columns ordered from right to left. Empty cells are deliberate: supply your own characters, one per cell.

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Task 4 / square-cell layout example

Task 4: 4 columns x 6 rows; one character per square cell.

Schematic cell size; task does not specify physical cell dimensions.



Reading-direction example: down each column, with columns ordered from right to left. Empty cells are deliberate: supply your own characters, one per cell.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Both verticals are present and similar in height.
- [ ] The two diagonals meet at one center point.
- [ ] The center point is near the midline, within 1 unit.
- [ ] The M fits within the planned width and height.
- [ ] For serif M, serifs are present on the main stroke ends and are consistent in size.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in width, center height, serif shape, and stroke direction are accepted if the letter remains readable as M.

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