



## Your Calligraphy Kit

The following is a list of suggestions for usual calligraphy equipment that you may find helpful

- A pad of A3 Bond paper (a paper that will take ink is what you need). The paper should not be so 'soft' that ink will 'bleed' (i.e., spread with tiny 'furry' lines).
  - Broad-edged / chisel nibs - William Mitchell, Brause, Speedball C series (and holders for the nibs)
  - A 2B pencil - the propelling types are best.
  - An eraser
  - A 40cm ruler - our secretary uses a plastic ruler with a grid on it, which she says is invaluable.
  - Remember - if working on dark or black paper, a white ruler (possibly unavailable in 40cm length) is best, so that you can see the gradation markings.
  - A metal ruler - useful for cutting and tearing paper against
  - A bottle of non-waterproof black ink - Pelikan 4001, Japanese, Chinese ink, ink stick/s + small slate dish for grinding the ink. Waterproof ink contains acrylic, making it thicker and bad for nibs.
  - If writing on dark or black paper, a bottle of Dr Martin's Bleedproof White is advised. This product comes in a semi-solid state in a small bottle, but you will need another small container in which to put up to a small teaspoonful of BPW and just enough distilled or rain water to give a 'creamy' consistency.
  - Small bottle of distilled and/or rainwater to add to gouaches, acrylics, watercolours, inks.
  - A medium size glass jar for water for washing brushes, nibs etc
  - Several colours of gouache or watercolour paint and palette or mixing containers.
  - Some rags or old towelling or tissues
  - An old toothbrush - for cleaning nibs
  - Masking tape, Blu-tak
  - A drawing board - approx. 450 mm x 600 mm (doesn't have to be fancy - off-cuts from hardware store are fine and can be covered in calico).
- Please Note:** boards and blocks are available for use at Primrose Park - the usual site of ASC workshops.
- A small notebook - for taking workshop notes + containing a few favourite quotations.

### USEFUL BUT NOT ESSENTIAL

- French curves can be very useful for drawing wavy lines.
- A small piece of extra fine sandpaper can be useful for fine-tuning a scratchy nib
- A bone folder if you plan to be folding paper for cards etc.
- Rolling ruler for ruling parallel lines.
- Small protractor and triangle (good for checking 'squareness' of paper)