Sale of Three

X

X

X

X

X

X

Scale of Two

X

X

X

X

X

Scale of Two

X

X

X

X

X

X

Scale of Four

X

X

X

X

X

Writing to Scale: Copperplate

Writing to different scales give a whole new look to your writing. Scale refers to the proportion of ascenders and descenders to the x-height of letters. X-height refers to the middle line of a letter. For some, like "r, n, e, o, u," the x-height comprises the entire letter.

In the scale of three, for example, ascenders and descenders are twice the size of the x-height, making the x-height one-third of the entire letter.

Historically, the scale taught depended on individual writing masters. No scale is right or wrong, just different. A writer's preference is a matter of one's own taste. Choose some words, names or phrase and write them to each scale below. Note how the look changes. Do elongated ascenders and descenders add a sleek elegance to the hand?

Try the words with thinner and fatter loops in the ascenders and descenders. They change the look even further.

Change the look even more with extra space between letters. Change the look some more with thinner or thicker shades (the thickest lines in a letter).

Eventually, you will settle into a scale, loop style, and shade thickness that you really like and will adopt as your personal style.

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Scale of Two

X

X

Scale of Three

X

X

Scale of Four

X

X

Copperplate/English Roundhand Practice Sheet
52-degree slant in scale of three.

x

x

x

x

x

x

x

x

x

x

x

x

x

Copperplate/English Roundhand Practice Sheet
52-degree slant in scale of three.

X

X

X

X

X

X

X

X