

[illegible]

# MODULE 1 = Tagging.



The writers bench was  
never just a place to sit.  
It was a living gallery.  
Writers flipped through  
each other's black books  
while trains rolled past,  
studying styles, debating  
who was up, who was  
biting, who was pushing  
things forward.

# The Writer's Bench

In Make Your Mark, the writers bench is where you can get inspired, check out the train art, and explore how to tag, & write in VR.

Based on '149th Street Grand Concourse subway station in The Bronx, on the 2 and 5 IRT lines.

It was active from the 1970s until the decline of subway painting in the late 1980s.

# The Writer's Bench



Before walls,  
there were  
sketchbooks.  
Writers built  
their style in  
black books:  
sketching letters,  
testing ideas,  
borrowing tricks,  
crossing things  
out.

In this course,  
this is where we  
begin.





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Sketch tags,  
explore  
letter shapes,  
and collect  
references.  
Moodboards,  
rough ideas, half-  
finished thoughts  
all welcome.  
This stage is  
about repetition,  
curiosity, and  
developing  
muscle memory,  
not perfection.





Black books  
are private at  
first. You build  
confidence alone  
before you show  
anything to the  
world.

King of the  
Sketchbook :  
Dondi





# Step 1: The Tag

learn the movement

Start with a simple tag.

One continuous line. One rhythm. Focus on flow, pressure, and speed rather than detail

createf



©MarthaCooper



# Step 1: The Tag

*create!*

learn the movement

Start with a simple tag.

One continuous line. One rhythm. Focus on flow, pressure, and speed rather than detail



©BarryMcGee



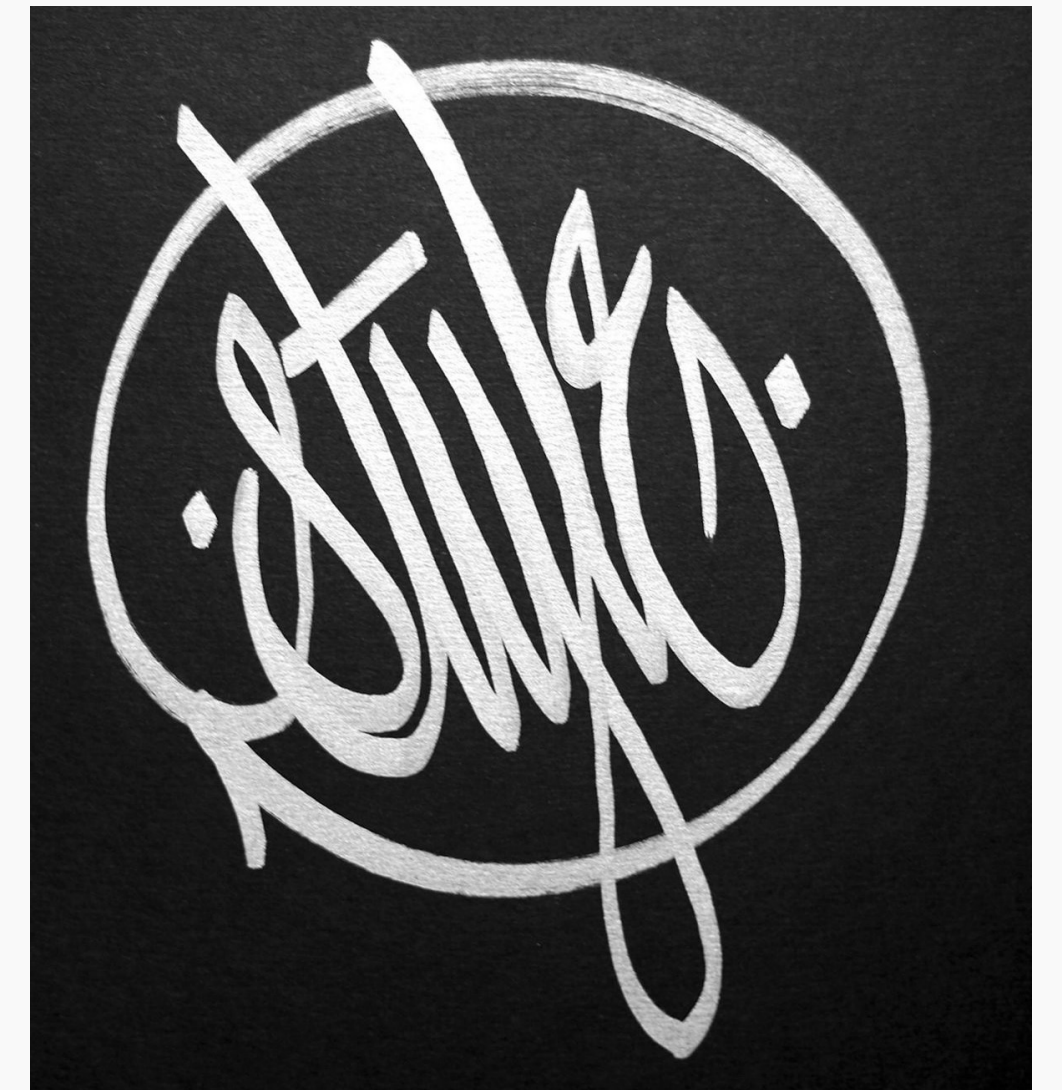
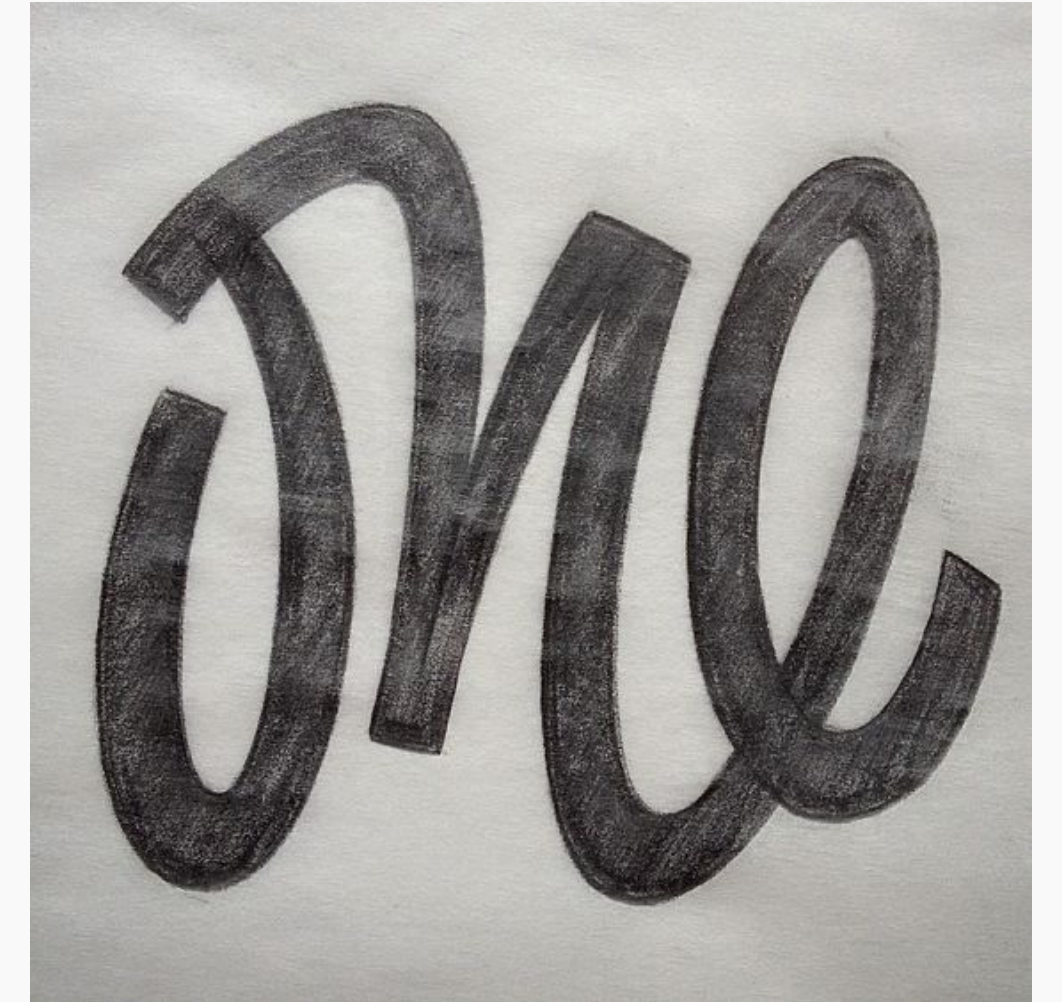
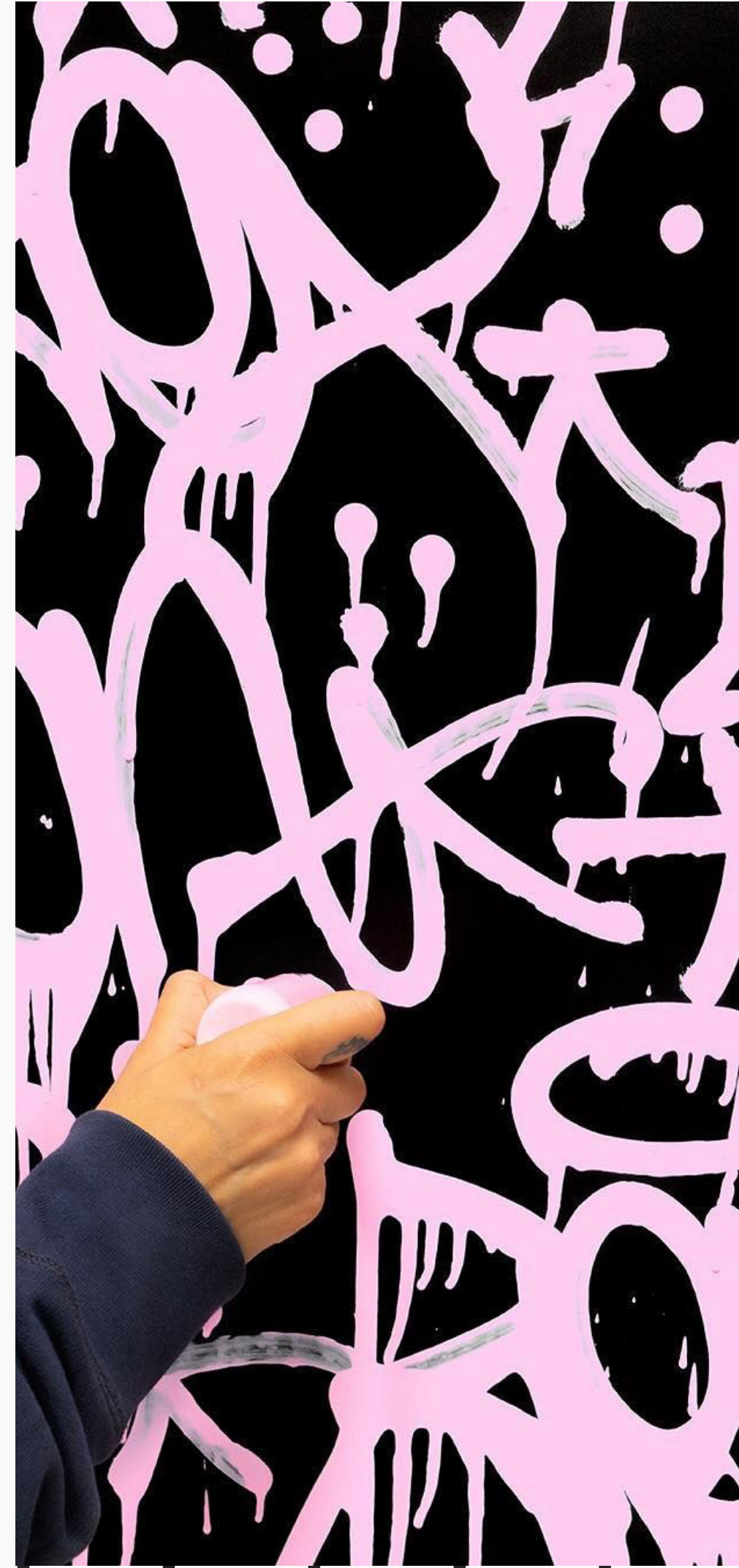
# Step 1: The Tag

learn the movement

Start with a simple tag.  
One continuous line. One  
rhythm. Focus on flow,  
pressure, and speed  
rather than detail

my  
your  
my

createf



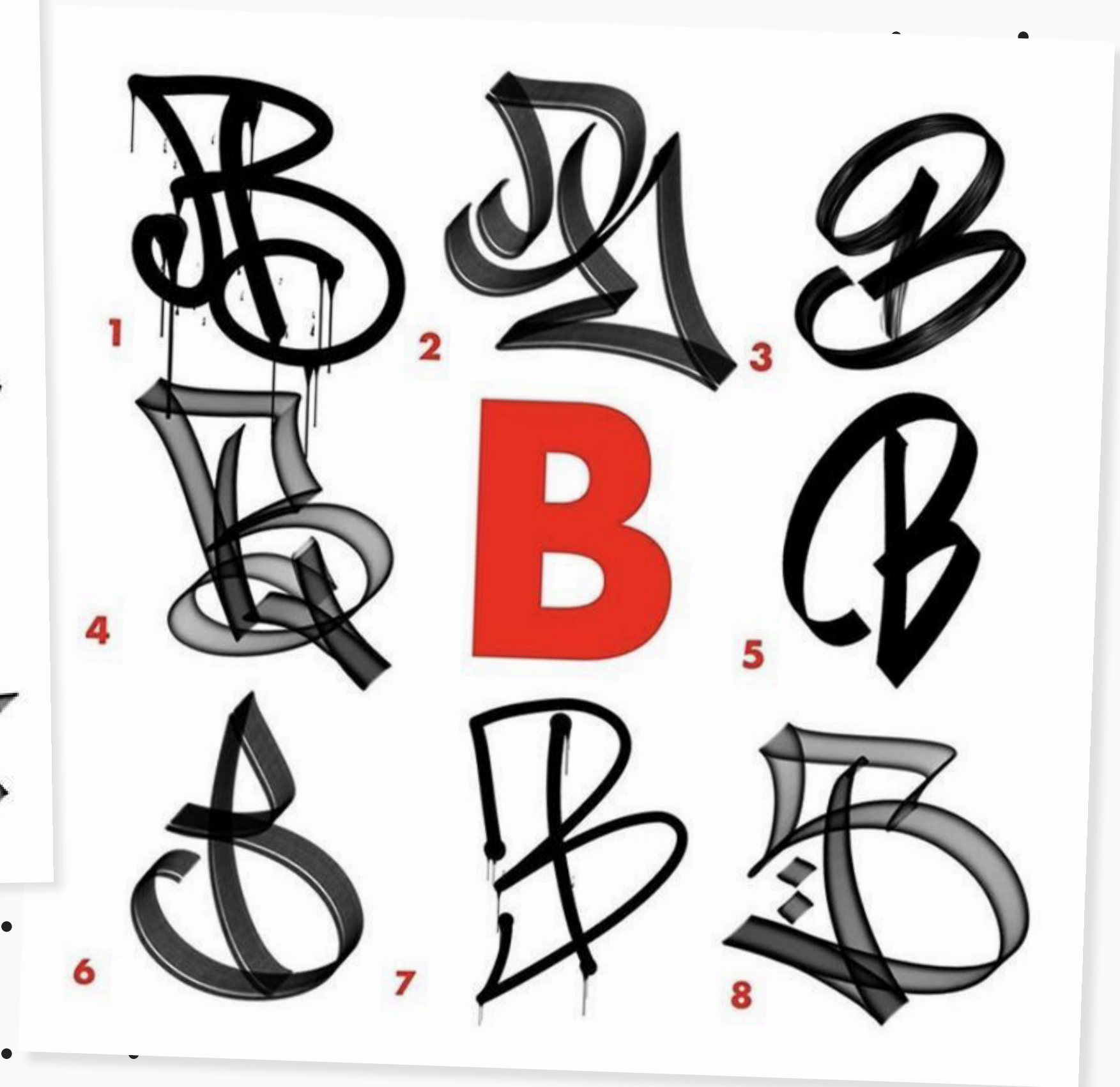


# Step 1: The Tag

createf

Try different styles

Find your flow

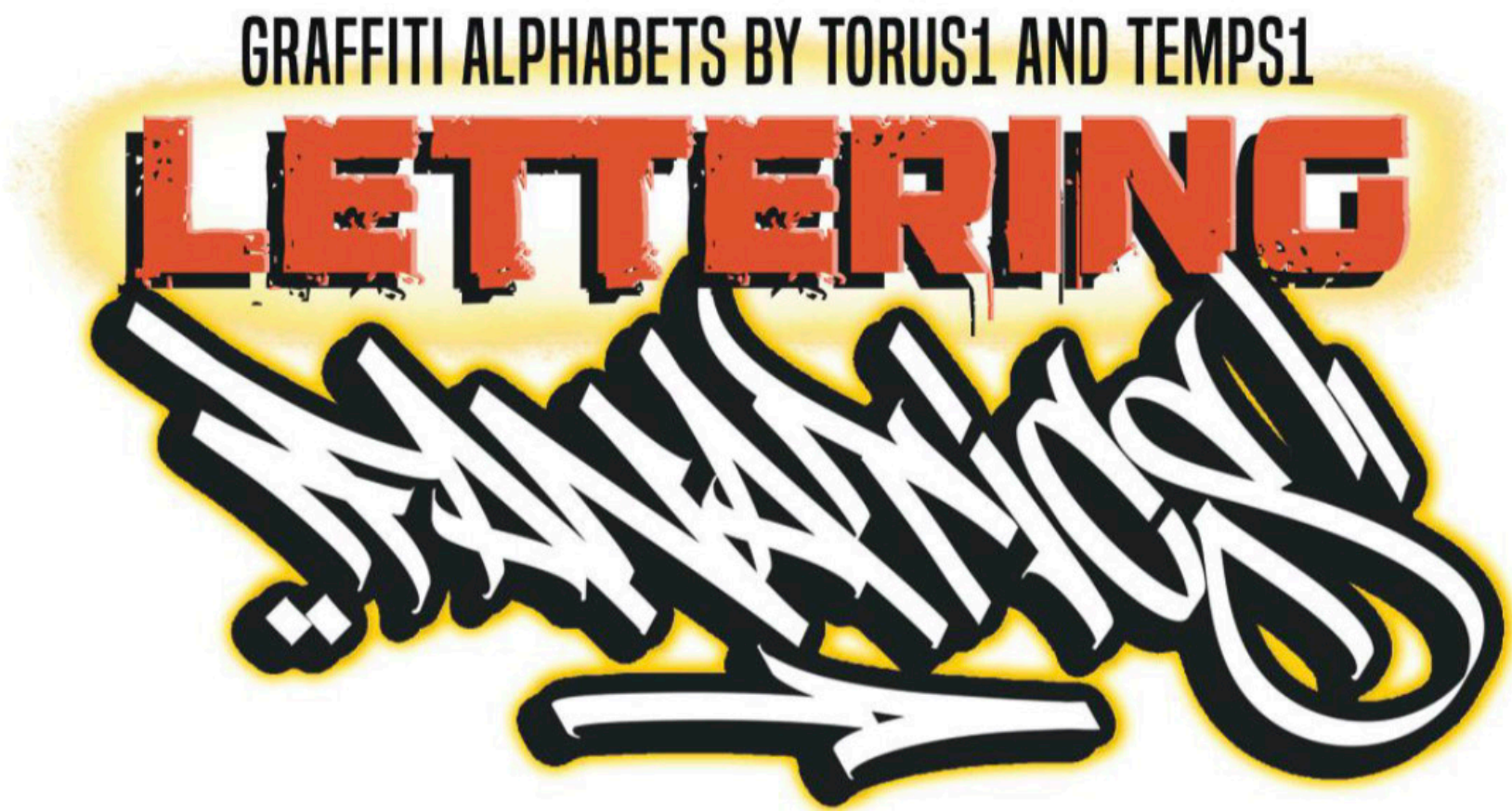


WY  
your  
WYK



# Step 1: The Tag

check out >



create



# Step 2: The Throw-up

createf

Take the tag and build  
bubbles around it.

Inflate the strokes.

Keep it readable.

Balance the letter so  
it works at a glance.

Here you learn  
structure and  
proportion without  
overthinking.





## Step 2: The Throw-up

*createf*

HOW TO THROW UP  
AKA THROWIE

Step 1: Write

CREATIF

Step 2: Fill

CREATIF

Step 3: Write

CREATIF

Step 4: Shadow

CREATIF

WY  
YOUR  
WYK

# Step 3: Wildstyle

create

Now the letter gets pushed.

Bars twist, overlap, interlock. Connections cross through the letter. Arrows and extensions appear, but they follow the logic of the form.

Wildstyle is controlled complexity.

