

DESIGNING LETTERS WITH MELBOURNE ART BOOK FAIR



Texts, words and letters can be found everywhere. They help us share ideas, tell stories and understand the world around us.

We see letters in books, on screens and our clothes, and we use them every day to read, write and type. Letters can be designed to appear *new*, **old**, neat, **messy**, *wobbly*, **BOLD**, tiny, *silly*, or SERIOUS.

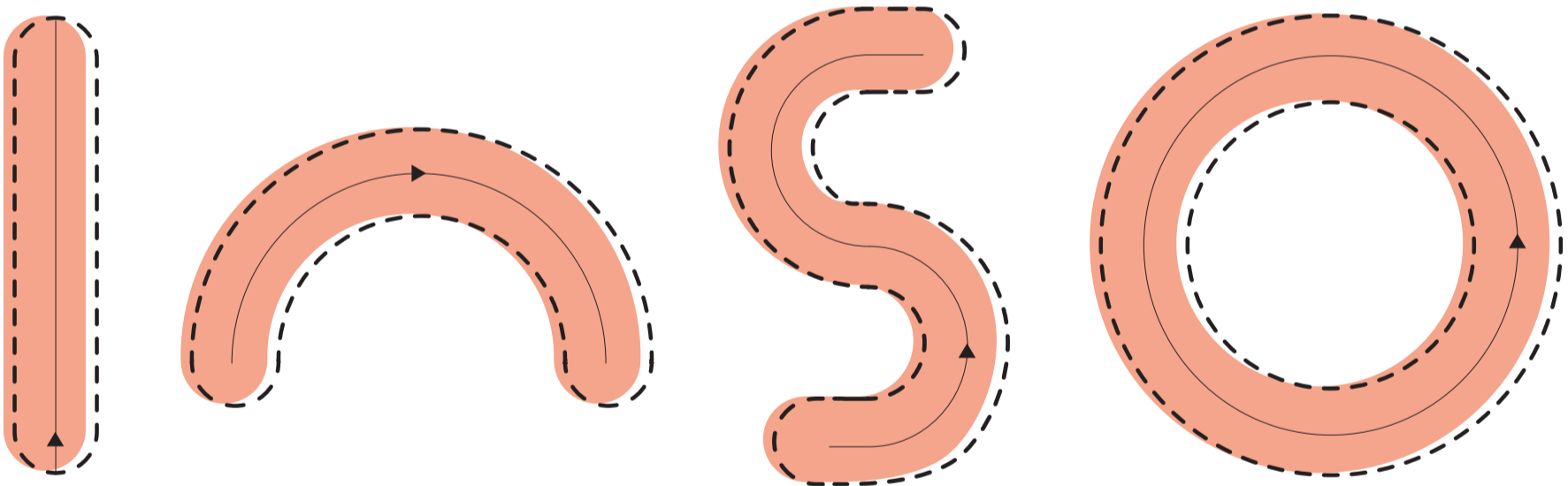
The design of a group of letters such as the alphabet is called a **typeface**. The different typeface styles are called **fonts**. For example:

'Arial' is a typeface, and *Arial Italic*, **Arial Bold Italic** and **Arial Black** are fonts that belong to it.

Before designing your own typeface, look around the room and see if you can find any letters for inspiration. Perhaps there are letters on a sign, your clothes, a backpack, or pencil?

1. TRACE FIRST

Let's warm up our hands by tracing these shapes.



Later, you can use these shapes to create letters.

2. WRITE YOUR NAME

Now write your name. This is because it is a word you know well as it belongs to you. Using a familiar word helps you focus on the shapes of the letters.



Write your name again but this time make changes. For example, you could try:



BIGGER

Thinner

Rounder

Squishier

TALLER

3. MAKE IT FUN

Letters can communicate many things just from the way they look. Some letters appear *happy*, **spooky**, *AWAKE* or *dreamy*.

Write your name again but this time give it a mood or a feeling. If you need inspiration, try thinking about:

- What kind of letters you see on a birthday card
- Labels on the foods you like, such as a cereal box or chocolate wrapper
- Your favourite cartoons and shows (e.g. Bluey)
- Logos on your clothes, shoes or hat
- The cover of your favourite book

4. NAME YOUR LETTER STYLE

Every typeface needs a name. Try naming yours.
My typeface is called:

You just made your own style of letters! Nice work.