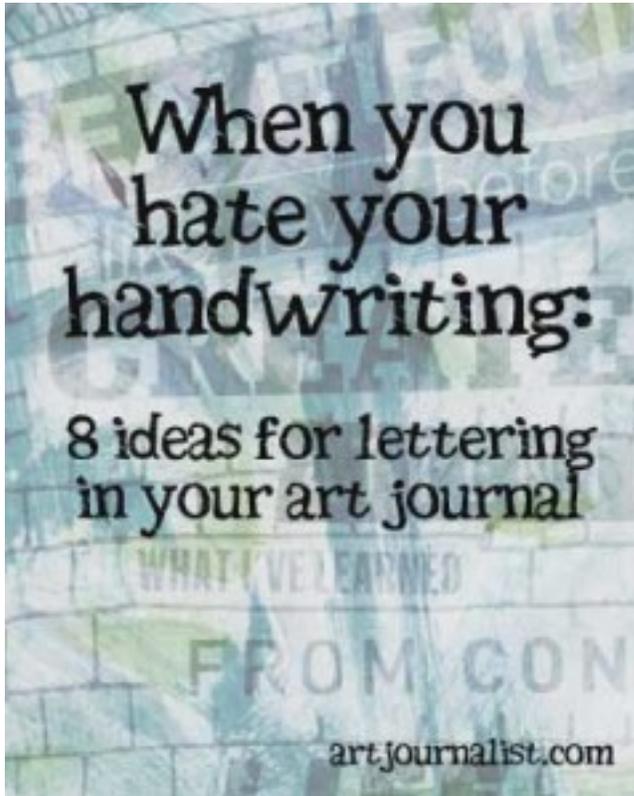


# When You Hate Your Handwriting: 8 Lettering Ideas for Your Art Journal



Most of the time, I don't really like my handwriting. It's messy. It's inconsistent. Yes, I acknowledge its a part of what makes me unique...but even then I still don't like how it turns out!

Since my own handwriting is so terrible, and I know I envy so many of those art journal pages with gorgeous hand lettering and writing...I thought I would share some alternatives to handwriting in your art journal that can help you get beautiful words and letters without having excellent penmanship.

**1. Magazine & Newspaper Ransom Style Letters:** This takes some patience. How do those kidnapers do it, I don't know! But if you have a lot of magazines (what art journalist doesn't? LOL...I know I clean out the magazine rack at our local library where they sell them for 10 cents a piece

all the time!) – then you have everything you need to cut out letters and use them to create words in your art journal with. It takes some time to cut out each letter and find them, but it can be a fun way to relax and find letters for words.

**2. Find Fonts You Like & Print Them Out on Your Computer:** This is a little easier than say rummaging through 10 magazines for letters you want/need as you can simply just type out the alphabet, copy and paste a few times, choose a few fonts you like and print. Plus, you can choose any font and words you like!

**3. Practice Drawing Letters in Pencil First:** It's hard to cover up mistakes in marker or pen. But with pencil you can draw your letters any way you want and then outline/trace and go over with marker or pen once you're done drawing them. This has helped me have much neater letters in my art journals! By thinking of each letter of the alphabet as something to draw it has helped me get much better results.

**4. Journal First, Then Paint/Collage Over It:** The beauty of an art journal is the handwriting doesn't have to be legible and it's all about expressing oneself anyways. So allow yourself to write in a stream of consciousness without worrying about it being messy – you'll be painting, collaging, and gesso-ing over it anyways 😊

**5. Alphabet/Word Stickers:** You can also often find word and alphabet stickers in the scrapbook section of most craft stores. Here's another fun idea – get some of [Avery Sticker Project Paper](#) and then print out letters and words in different fonts that you like onto it. Voila! Instant journal stickers, customized for your words and in your fonts 😊

**6. Write on Separate Piece of Paper & Collage:** For some reason I get the jitters when writing on my art. I'm afraid I'll mess it all up! So, another solution I've found getting around my messy and inconsistent handwriting is to write on a separate sheet of paper and then I know I can just glue it onto the page that way!

**7. Stencils:** I picked up a pack of alphabet stencils at my local craft store for just a few dollars and it is one of the best investments I have made! It makes creating letters for your pages so much easier! No more worrying about messy handwriting or trying to paint letters by hand!

**8. Alphabet Stamps:** There are hundreds of different sets of alphabet stamps, many priced extremely affordably considering you get at least 26 stamps in each set! I wasn't able to find any in my local craft store, but you can find a wide assortment at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) as well as other online shops.

If you have horrible handwriting, don't let it hold you back from creating your art journals! These 8 solutions will hopefully get you creating in no time!