

Writing Chinese Characters

Chinese characters are not random drawings but based on 8 basic strokes and about 35 variations. Every character has a fixed number of strokes (for example, a square 口 is written with 3 strokes) and is written in a certain sequence - usually left to right; top to bottom; frame first before filling in the content etc. Once you have mastered the basic pattern, you can write any new character with ease. Below are a few characters for you to write.

(你好=hallo; 荷兰=Holland (The Netherlands); 再见 See you again/goodbye)

The basic strokes and the name of the strokes:

héng shù piē nà diǎn dī (héng)zhé (shù)gōu
 横 竖 撇 捺 点 提 (横)折 (竖)钩



1 horizontal 2 vertical 3 left-/right-falling 4 dot 5 rising 6 turning 7 hook 8

