

## Reading and Transcribing Old Documents

Whether indexing or transcribing, some handwriting can be difficult to decipher. Each writer had his/her own style of handwriting and coupled with different aging and storage damage that occurs, the best way to learn to read and transcribe is to **practice**.

Getting started could require some instruction. Below are some links that may help.

To access the sites, place your cursor on the link, hold down the ctrl button on your keyboard while giving the left side of the mouse a click.

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How to Read 18<sup>th</sup> Century British and American Writing

[http://dohistory.org/on\\_your\\_own/toolkit/writing.html#STEPS](http://dohistory.org/on_your_own/toolkit/writing.html#STEPS)

A Paleography Tutorial from the National Archives

[http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/where\\_to\\_start.htm](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/where_to_start.htm)

Transcription Tips

<https://www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist/transcribe/tips>

Reading Old Handwriting

<https://www.thoughtco.com/reading-old-handwriting-1422260>

Alphabet Examples of English Script From the 1500s and 1600s

[http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/FHD/Community/en/FamilySearch/Handwriting/English/Lesson\\_1/Alphabet\\_Examples\\_of\\_English\\_Script\\_from\\_the\\_1500s\\_and\\_1600s.pdf](http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/FHD/Community/en/FamilySearch/Handwriting/English/Lesson_1/Alphabet_Examples_of_English_Script_from_the_1500s_and_1600s.pdf)

Technology and Software That May Help

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/word-word-document-transcribing-technology/>

<https://blog.eogn.com/2014/12/16/genscriber-a-free-transcription-tool-for-genealogy-research/>