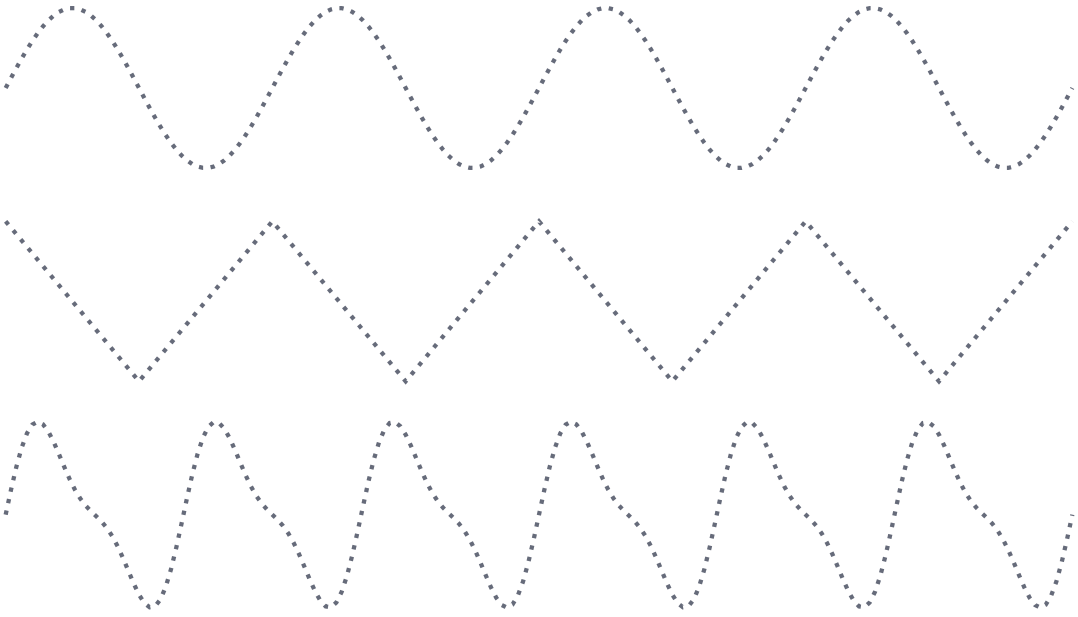
Pre-Writing Lines

10 stroke worksheets for the stage before letters



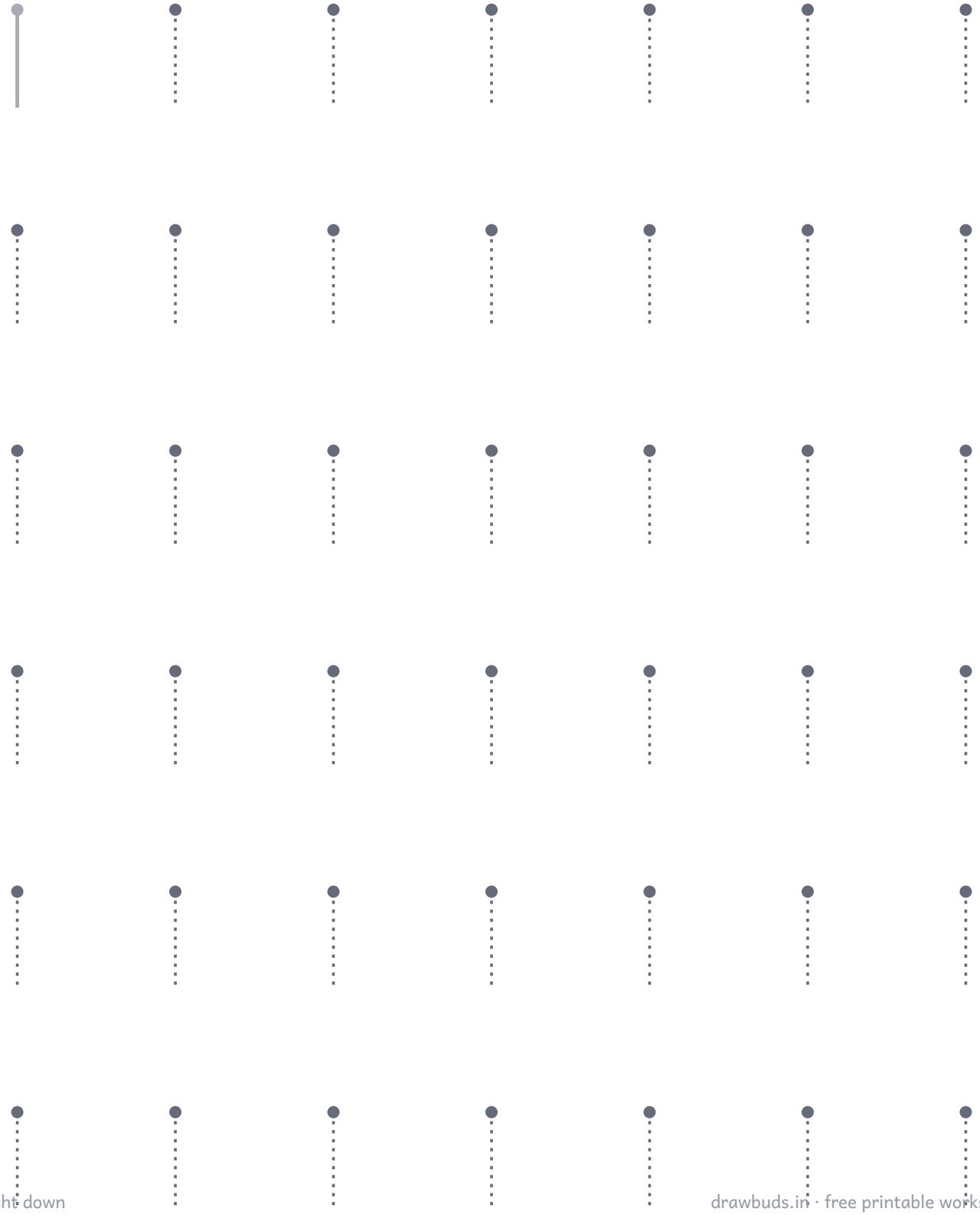
Every letter is built from about ten movements.
A child who can already draw them writes letters sooner,
and holds the pencil more loosely while doing it.

Straight, slanted, arches, bumps, waves, zigzags,
loops and spirals - in the order they get harder.

US Letter - black ink only - ages 2-5

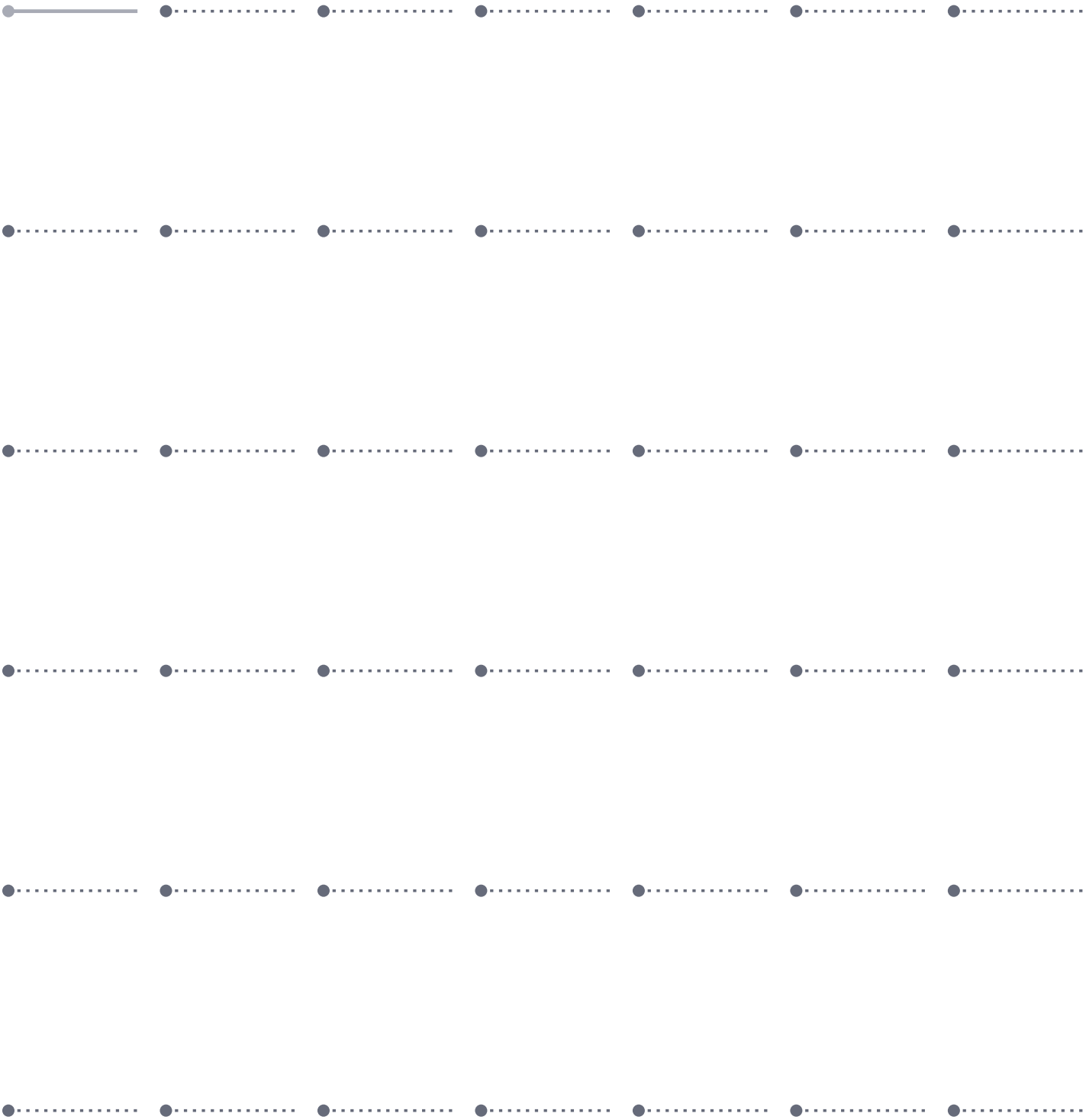
1. Straight down

Start at the dot at the top and pull straight down. This is the stroke inside l, i, t and every capital that stands up.



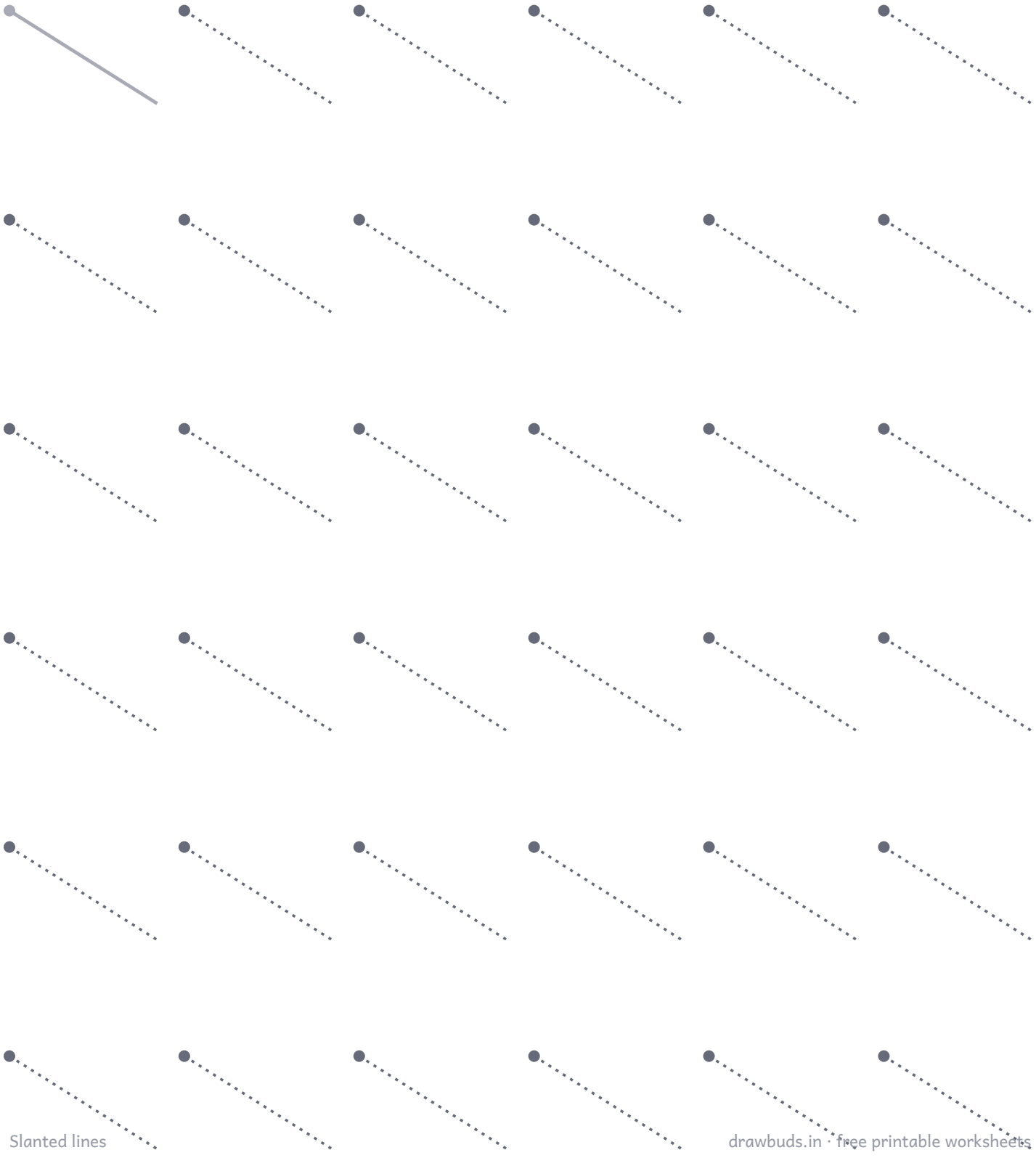
2. Straight across

Left to right, every time. Left to right is the habit that makes reading and writing agree.



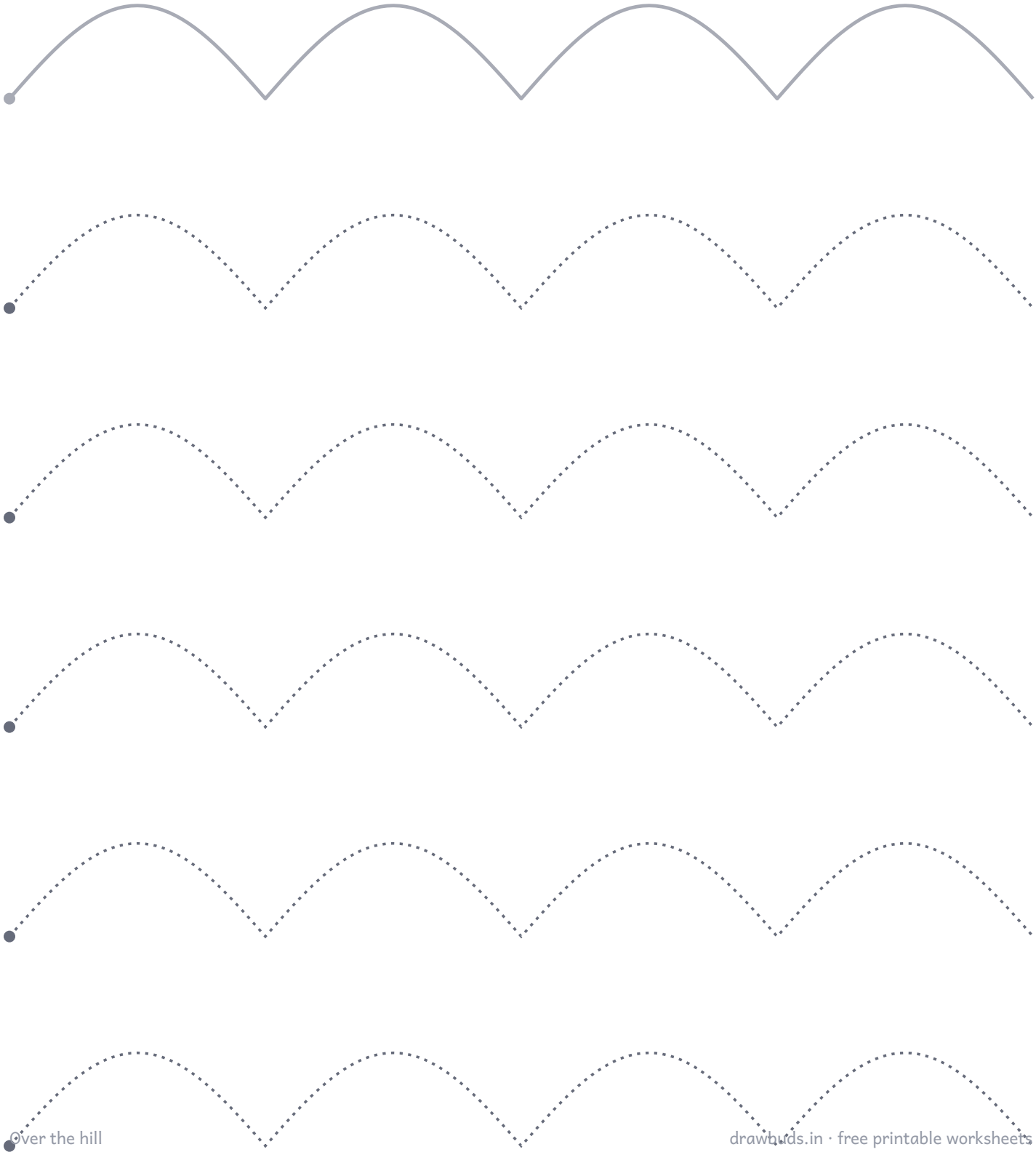
3. Slanted lines

Down and across in one movement. This stroke builds A, V, W, X, Y and Z.



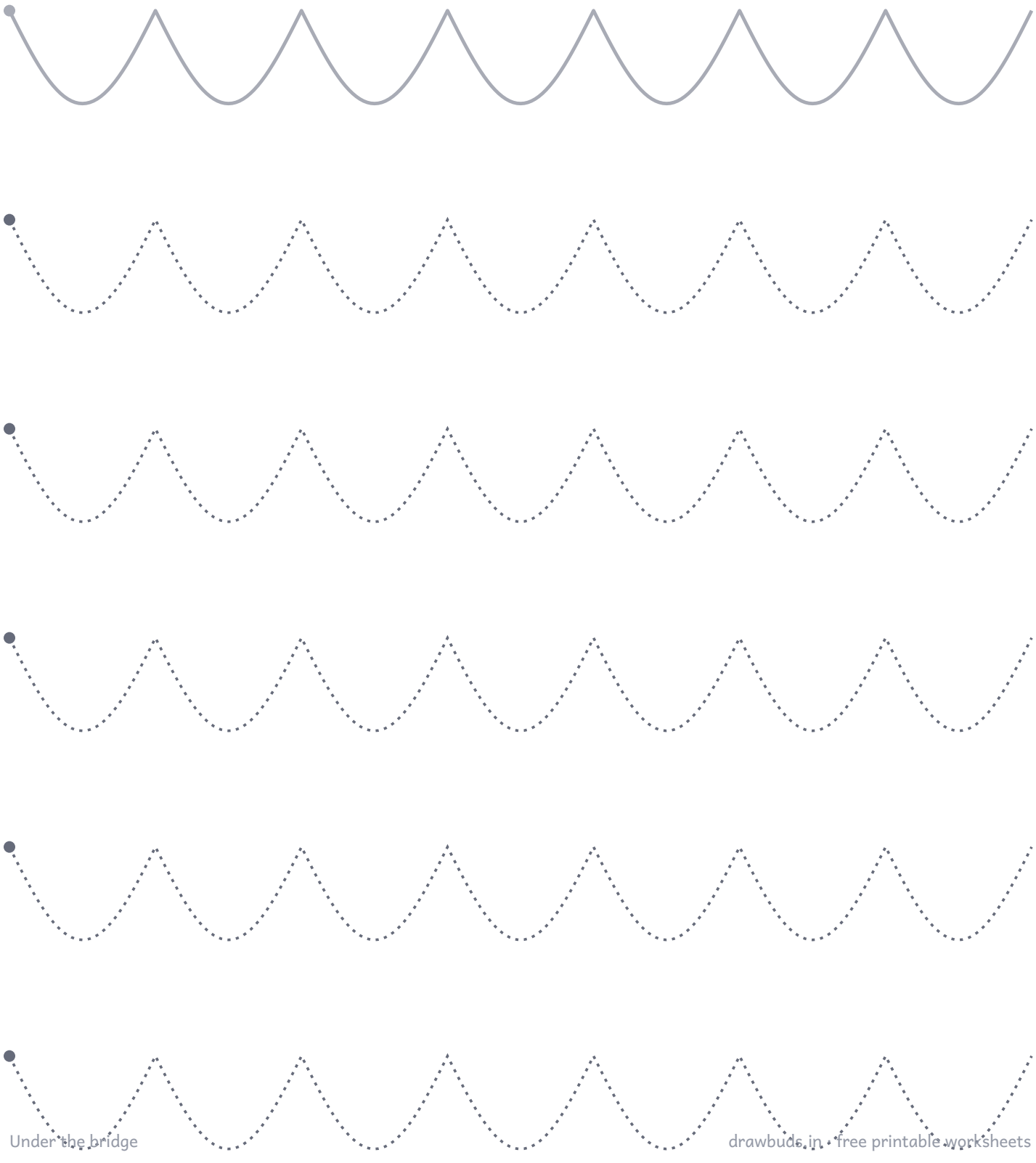
4. Over the hill

Up, over and down without stopping. It becomes the shoulder of n, m, h and r.



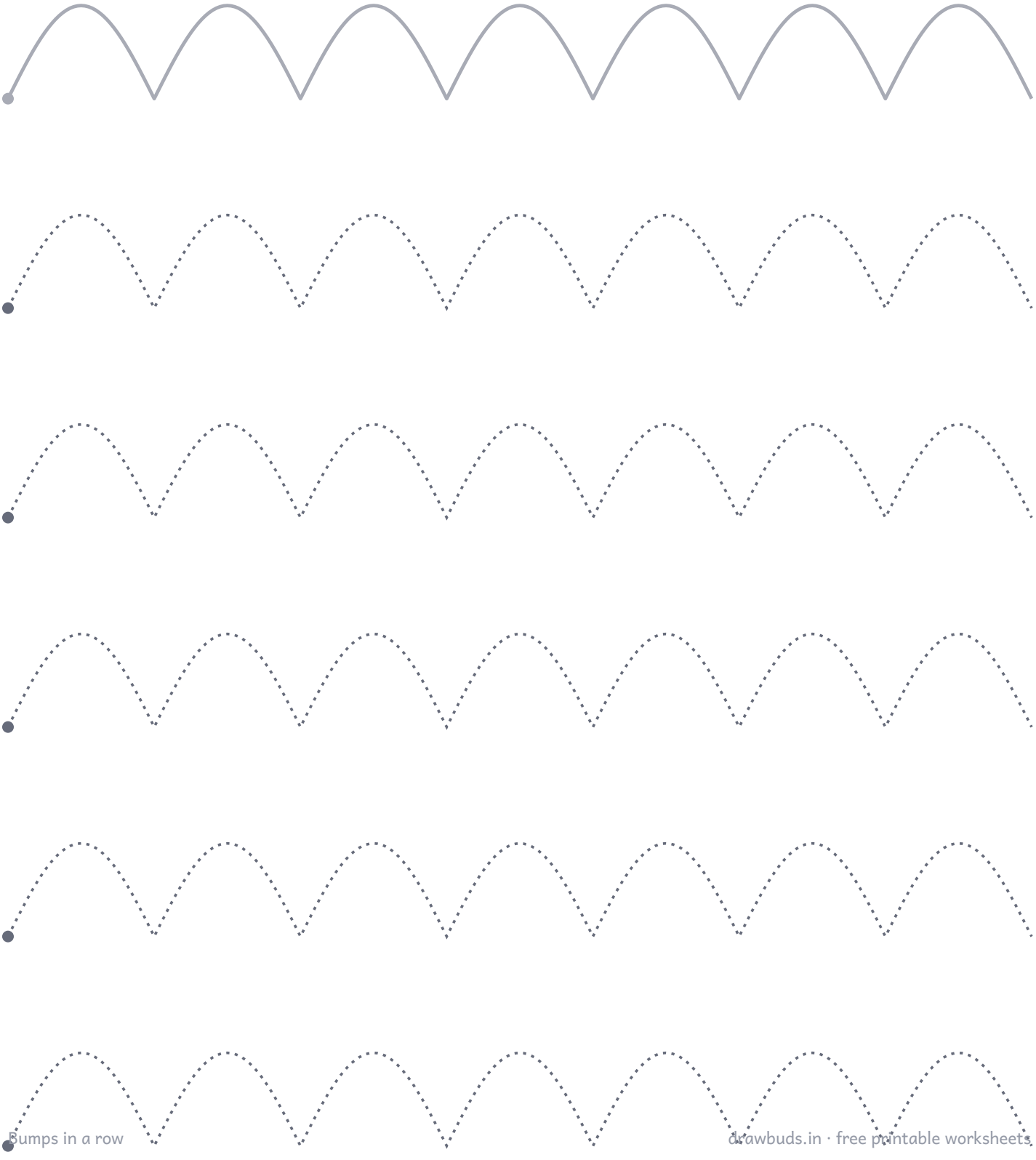
5. Under the bridge

Down, along the bottom and up again. It becomes the bowl of u, y and j.



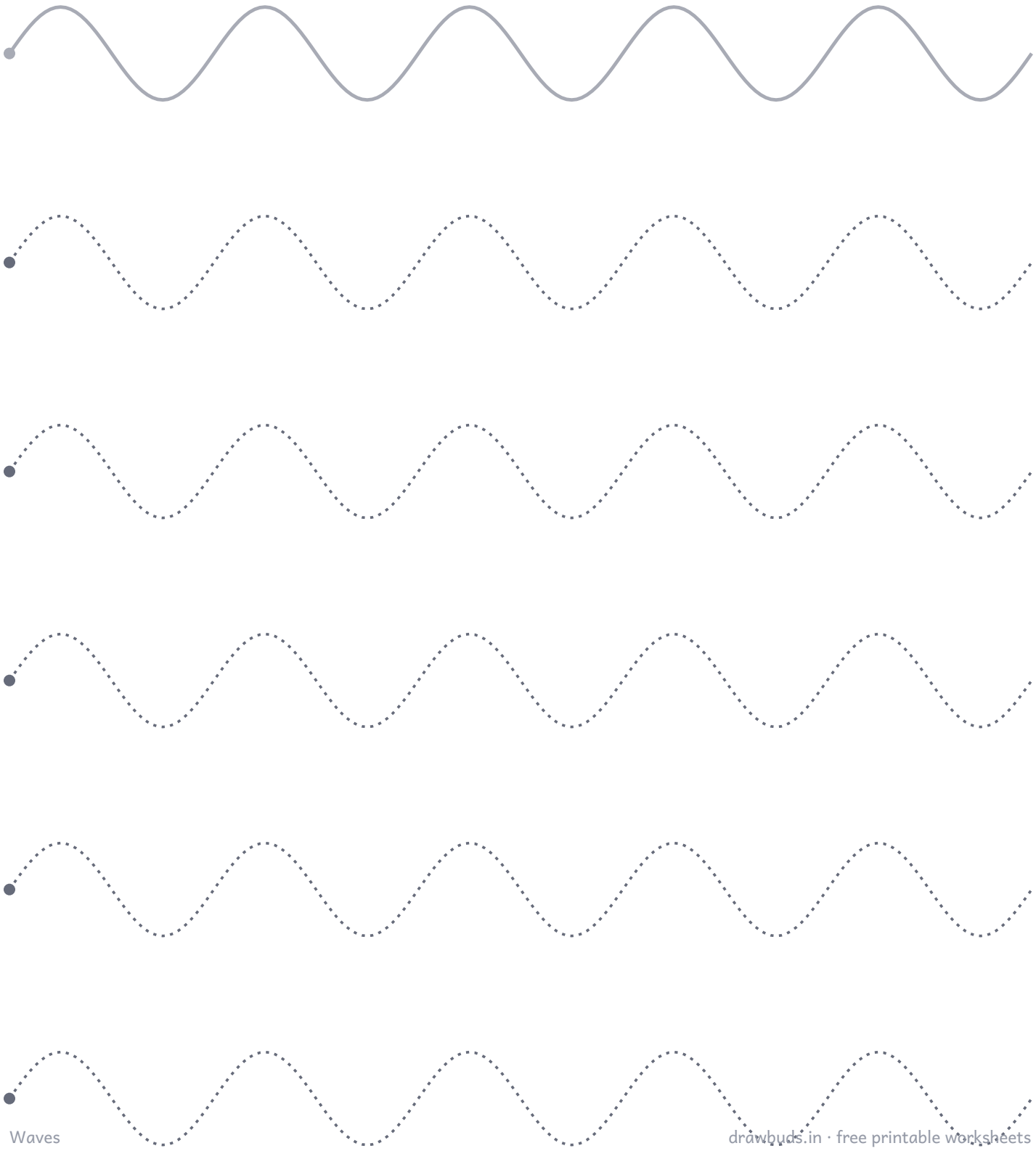
6. Bumps in *a* row

Four arches without lifting the pencil. Rhythm matters more than neatness here.



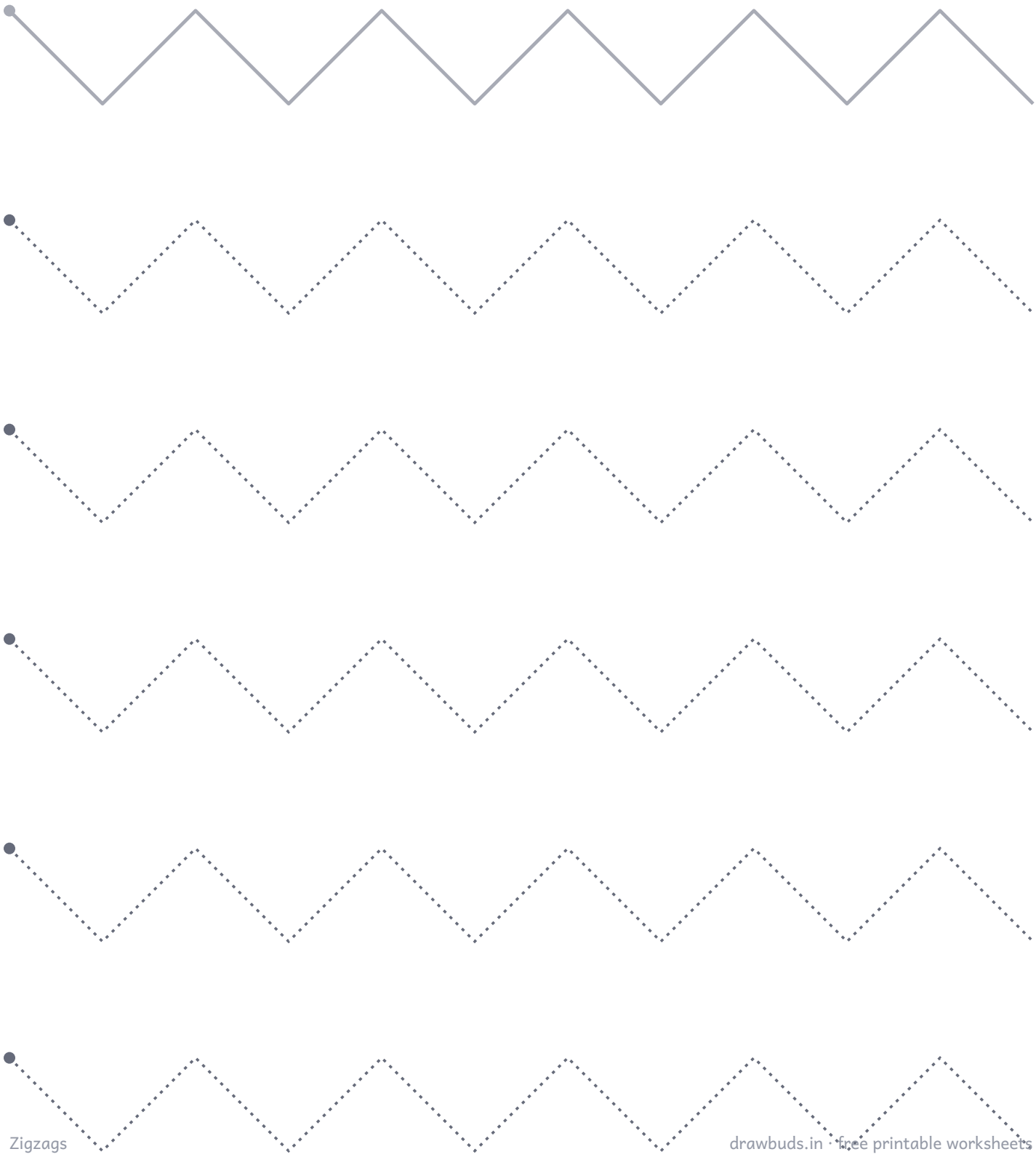
7. Waves

One smooth line that rises and falls. The wrist moves, not the fingers.



8. Zigzags

Sharp corners, straight sides. Stop at each point before changing direction.



9. Loops

The joined-up movement cursive is built from, practised long before any letter.



10. Spirals

Round and round, getting smaller. Hardest of the ten, so it comes last.











