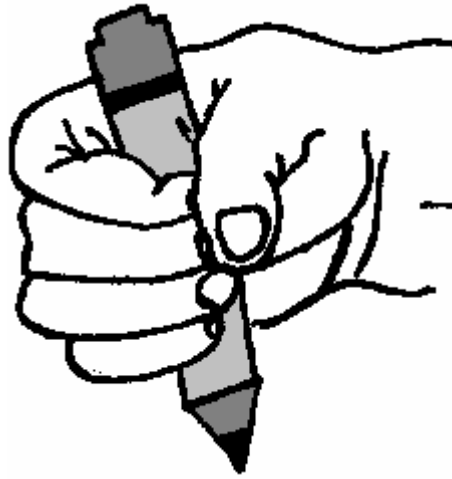


Fisted Grasp



Age guide: 1 - 2 years

This is the way that most children will hold on when they have their early experiences with a crayon or texta. Sometimes this type of grip will be called a power grasp or a dagger grasp. If you watch a child with this grip or try it yourself, you will see that most of the movement comes from the whole arm. This kind of grip really suits young children who are just starting to scribble and enjoy the feeling of using their hands to make their first "pictures". It does not really suit older children who are needing to make more precise hand movements in order to be successful at drawing and early writing.

Key skills needed to move to a more mature grasp:

- body and shoulder stability
- increased wrist strength
- better wrist position
- increased hand strength
- early development of the intrinsic (small) muscles in the hand