



## **GOOD TO KNOW**

Find the Goldilocks of pens: not too big, not too small, not too fat, not too thin.

The pen that's right for you should be adapted to the shape of your hands. It's a good idea to try out several models, as there are different sizes and types of grips. A rubberized grip or one with small ridges will prevent the index finger from slipping, helping to prevent muscular tension. Something to consider for those with weaker hands.

#### For left-handed users

The best choices are ballpoint and rollerball pens because they dry faster.

# Did you know?

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Studies have shown that writing by hand improves cognitive function and creativity!

January 23 is World Handwriting Day. The perfect day to try out different types of pens!

# DIFFERENT PENS FOR DIFFERENT STROKES

How to pick a pen.

Questions to ask yourself:

- What will you use it for?
  (daily or occasional use, taking notes or signing documents, etc.)
- How do you want it to feel on the paper? (smooth to very smooth glide)
- What kind of mechanism and tip size do you prefer? (from ultra-micro to large)

Here are the 4 types of pens to choose from:

- Ballpoint
- Gel Pen

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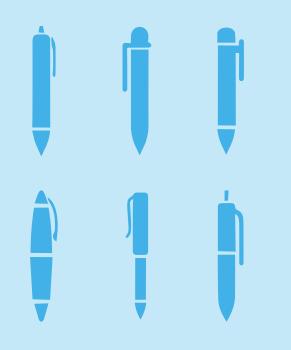
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- Porous tip
- Rollerball

Tip: Stock up on different types of pens for the office so you have one for every situation!



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#### **BALLPOINT** - SMOOTH

Ideal for frequent, daily use (taking notes, filling out forms or documents).

#### **Pros**

- Constant ink flow via a small rotating ball
- Ink dries quickly so is virtually smudge-free
- Affordable
- Lasts longer than other types of pens

#### Cons

- · Less sophisticated handwriting
- Risks drying out if left uncapped too long
- Ink tends to fade over time, so not recommended for contracts

Tips: fine, medium, broad.

### **GEL INK** - SMOOTHER

The reliable performance of a ballpoint with a smoother writing flow.

#### Pros

#### Ink:

- Vivid, intense colours
- Wide choice of colours
- Acid-free, ideal for archiving
- Dries quickly (less risk of smudging)
- Penetrates paper fibers better than a ballpoint pen, ideal for signing checks and contracts

Runs out faster than a ballpoint pen.

Tips: ultra-micro, micro, needle, medium, broad.

### **POROUS TIP** - SMOOTHER

Great choice for different writing styles and sketching. The favourite pen of architects!

- Quick-drying ink
- Wide range of bright, uniform colours
- Adheres to a variety of surfaces (wood, plastic, textiles, cardboard)
- More precise writing (requiring) meticulousness, technical drawing)
- Offers the widest choice of tips

#### Cons

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Can be fragile when used on abrasive surfaces.

Tips: extra fine, ultra-fine, fine, medium, wide, conical, and bevelled.

### **ROLLER BALL** - ULTRA SMOOTH

Thanks to a ball that continuously dispenses fluid, water-based ink, writing is more uniform than with a conventional ballpoint pen.

#### Pros

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- Glides smoothly over paper
- Requires minimal pressure to write
- Can be used comfortably for long periods
- Durable metal tip (more resistant than gel-ink and porous-tip pens)
- Rich, vivid colors

Ink takes more time to dry than oil-based ballpoint ink so is more prone to smudging or smearing.

Tips: micro, needle, fine, broad.

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