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Fountain pen nib guide

After the shape of the top, the size of the tip of the nib will have the greatest impact on how the pen of the fountain writes. Larger tip sizes create wide lines suitable for exhausting writing and displaying ink, but many people prefer smaller tip sizes for each day because they create a line width closer to that of a typical pen or gel pen. Round nibs usually fall into one of four tip sizes: extra fine (EF), Fine (F), medium (M) and wide (B). Total nibs can be sized using the same conventions or in terms of the actual width of their peaks. The most common nib sizes are medium-4 and 1.1 mm, which are usually equivalent. Just so you know the size of a nib, however, it's not enough. Japanese pens usually have much smaller tips than non-Japanese or Western brands. That's because Japanese writing is much denser and more complex than Western writing, requiring more subtle, more accurate advice. The actual line width created by a particular fountain pen may vary depending on a number of factors, such as the ink and paper used, but the following table shows the typical line widths that can be expected from most Japanese and Western nibs under normal conditions. Typical nib widths for Western and Japanese fountain nibs

| Tip Size | Western Nib Width (mm) | Japanese Nib Width (mm) |
|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Extra Fine (EF) | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Fine (F) | 0.6 | 0.35 |
| Medium (M) | 0.75 | 0.45 |
| Broad (B) | 0.9 | 0.6 |

*Because Japanese writing requires finer nibs, wide nibs are among Japanese pens. Below are listed some of the main brands of the pen of western and Japanese fountains. Note that some brands such as Ohto and TWSBI are considered Western despite being located in Asia because they come from their nibs from European manufacturers that use Western sizes. Other tip size effects

Besides the obvious difference in line width, there are other factors to consider when choosing a tip size. Wider nibs often have a higher ink flow than finer nibs, creating both a wider and thicker line of ink. The faster ink flow lubricates the nib to create smoother and smoother writing. However, it can also make ink more likely to wash or bleed through lower quality sheets. For more information about choosing pen paper, see our article here. Finer nibs, on the other hand, tend to have a more controlled flow, making them more tolerant of different qualities on paper. Finer nibs are usually not as smooth as the wider nib nibs, but very fine nibs such as the Japanese ERV can actually cling to the paper if too much pressure is used. Pros and cons of fine and wide nibs

Finer nibs Broader nibs Pros for people with compact writing styles Less likely to require high quality pen friendly paper Showcases ink smoother writing Cons May be too wet to use the pen on fountain friendly paper Every pen fountain used to write with and it is composed of three parts parts are from the nib, the barrel and the cap. When these three parts are assembled, they are mounted at the bottom of the pen in what is known as the unthreaded section. Many of them are manufacturer-specific and cannot be replaced by other pen manufacturers. However, there are some manufacturers of nibs, whose nibs are interchangeable with different brands of pens. In this guide we will cover all the large sizes of the manufacturer and nibbing, as well as how to replace the nibs. In the early days, many of the brands of the fountain pen made their own nibs at home, but today this is not the case. The two main centers in the production of nibs are Japan and Germany. Other countries make nibs like France and India, and it can be argued that China can be considered a power plant, only in terms of the volume of nibs produced. The three main Japanese companies that produce nibs are Pilot, Platinum and Sailor. While there may be some smaller independent companies like Ukaia, whose artisans have all previously worked for Platinum. Japanese nibs are made in a house by each brand, making them have different characteristics than other brands. It is worth noting that the Japanese environment and the wide width of the line is approximately equivalent to the western nib. However, fine and extremely fine are narrower by about one size. So, the width of the Japanese thin line is more closely related to an additional western fine, and their extremely fine nib is downsized than that. This is where the production of nibs begins to get interesting as Japan has German pen brands that make their own nibs in a house like Llamas and Pelican. However, there are two main manufacturers of nibs that produce nibs, which are a standardized size that is used by many different pen brands. Although they also produce custom sizes as well #6 #5. Bock uses a three-digit code to indicate the size. 250 is their standard size, which is equivalent to Jowo #6 and 180 is their standard size, which is equivalent to Jowo #5. Generally speaking, it is possible if the fountain pen has friction fit hooking then you can exchange #5 nibs with other #5 nibs and #6 with #6 nib. However, you can not exchange #5 nibs with #6 or vice versa as #5 nibs are very thin and shorter than #6 nibs. Here is a warning generally speaking, there are some nibs that can not be replaced, even if they are simultaneously #5 or #6. You can damage your pen fountain, if you get it wrong our advice will be to do an internet search on how to change the brand of your nib and pen model. Then search a forum like the fountain pen network. If you can't find the answer, set the pen's network of Fontana and someone will be able to help you. You can also ask a question about the nib with a nibber. Speaking of Reddit there is a very good subreddit for replacing Jowo #6 nibs, it's well worth a look. 2. Chinese nibs Entertainment really starts when it comes to Chinese fountain pen nibs it's a minefield trying to determine which nib manufacturer of most Chinese fountain pens really is. So, you will find some Chinese nibs stamped with Iridium point Germany, as they have not changed dies and let's face this is not bad in terms of marketing, although nib has never seen Germany in his life. On the plus #5 nibs are quite common on Chinese pens and can usually be replaced for a different no 5 nib. However, you will need to do some research first before trying to swap nibs as not every #5 nib will work in every #5 pen. An example of this is the pen from the Decca decca uses the number 5 of the nib, but it is shorter and thinner, so the nib would not work properly if you exchanged the nib. Another example is Wing Sung 659 & 698 can take number 5 nib, but it's pilot-style nib and nibber, so it's not compatible with Bock & Jowo #5 nibs. There are also some Chinese pens that take #6 the Jinah X750 is a very popular cheap Chinese pen with #6 nib. This is often replaced by a German nib or Jowo replacing a nib. Also, many people swap for a Japanese Zebra G Super Flex steel nib, which is also #6 nib and costs only a few dollars. So how to replace the nib of the fountain and fit something different. Before diving into a quick disclaimer, removing the nib from the fountain pen can permanently damage your pen and nib. If you decide to do it at your own risk, I can't be held responsible. My advice would be to practice on cheaper Chinese pens first and if in any doubt you do not try it on more expensive pens. It is already off the road almost all fountains can be removed and replaced. He may be a few years old, but Kevin in Fountain's Pen Revolution does a good job of showing how to replace a nib and feed in this video. Maybe you've already seen people on YouTube just pull the nib and eat from the end of the nib. These are what is known as friction fit and the best kind to change their own nib, but there are other types that we will go into more detail. The thing to keep in mind is that when changing friction fit nib and feed is that the housing of the nib may have a small hole cut into it, so you will need to make sure that the nib is sitting in the center of the nib and oriented correctly, so that its place on the nib will fit in the locking channel Feed. It sounds complicated, but it's not bad when you have a cup of tea and eat from the hull of a pill. Hold the casing for up to and you will see if there is a locator cut into the hull wall. Some fountain pens like Kaweco have a nib and feed that it is pre-assembled into a casing with a carved edge that turns into the barrel. With these types of pens, it is best to change the entire nib, since you may not be able to disassemble it without damaging it. Choosing the right size of the nib can be difficult. If you have no idea where to start, or buy for someone else, look at the size of the handwriting. Those with a small manuscript usually prefer a finer class of nibs, while the broader classes of fine handwriting are usually better suited to a larger manuscript. Below is a guideline for the different types of available nibs, and their best case use. Standard nibs are normal nibs, as you're probably used to, that come in different sizes. Extra Fine Extremely fine nib for precise work of the figure. It's not meant for general writing. Extra Fine For fine line writing with a light touch. Fine Excellent for general writing and taking notes. The moderate pressure force creates a thin line. Average for medium pressure writing, average line width. General use for a whole nib. Wide heavier, rounded nib for wide lines. Extra Broad A large rounded nib, excellent for heavy lines and bold signatures. Oblique Nibs Oblique nibs are designed for those who tilt the nib when writing and are precisely grounded at an angle at the top of the writing point. A person holding the nib at an angle can get the same writing and line smoothness effect as any pen holder straight. Oblique is usually used by right-handers. The reverse oblique is usually used by left-handed writers. Italic & calligraphy nibs A nib with a cleft provides flair and linear variations in the ink while maintaining smooth writing. Calligraphy tends to have sharper angles, which gives a sharper line and a more variation in the width of the line. Writing with calligraphy is usually slower, since nibs should be kept at the right angle continuously to prevent skipping. Straight Italian knife Cut right through the nib. Provides flair and variation of the line. Calligraphy Nib Guide This manual from the manuscript helps to show the difference in the most common calligraphy nibs. Nibs.