

Caring for your Bolt-Action Ballpoint Pen

1. Cartridge Replacement:

- Celestial Metalworks Bolt-Action Pens use cartridges from “*Papermate FlexGrip Ultra*” ballpoint pens which are easily modified to fit your pen perfectly.
- These modifications are:
 - Cutting down to the appropriate length,
 - Slight filing of the “flanges” on the cartridge that brace against the spring.
- Your pen has been supplied with 3 additional cartridges that have already been modified to fit.
- If you do ever need more, these can be purchased online and modified at home to match the ones you already have.

2. Maintaining the desired level of polish:

- The brass components of your pen will slowly patina (dull) over time.
- This is a natural process which is accelerated through humidity, heat and use (contact with skin oils).
- This process does not functionally degrade the material, and indeed you may prefer the aesthetics of the patina over the highly polished look.
- However, if you wish to maintain a high polish on the brass components, we recommend polishing the affected areas:
 - Fortnightly during periods of extended daily use,
 - Every 6 weeks during periods of infrequent use.
- To reiterate, polishing less frequently (or never) does not reduce the functionality of the pen, it will just allow for more patina to develop.
- Brass polishing kits can be purchased cheaply online.
- The aluminium sections do not typically dull over time.

3. General care tips:

- Avoid laying the pen on hard/rough surfaces to prevent scratching,
- Avoid putting the pen in your pocket/bag with keys or other harder metal items which could scratch it,
- Avoid dropping the pen,
- Store the pen in a known location to avoid losing it!
- When unscrewing the pen (e.g. to replace the ink, or just to fidget), avoid unscrewing the spacer (thin part made of the highlight material).
- If you do wish to unscrew it for whatever reason, ensure you remember which way up it goes on the pen. Small concentricity deviations in manufacturing lead to small “steps” between the spacer and surrounding parts if it is assembled upside-down.

4. Enjoy using and displaying your handmade bolt-action pen!