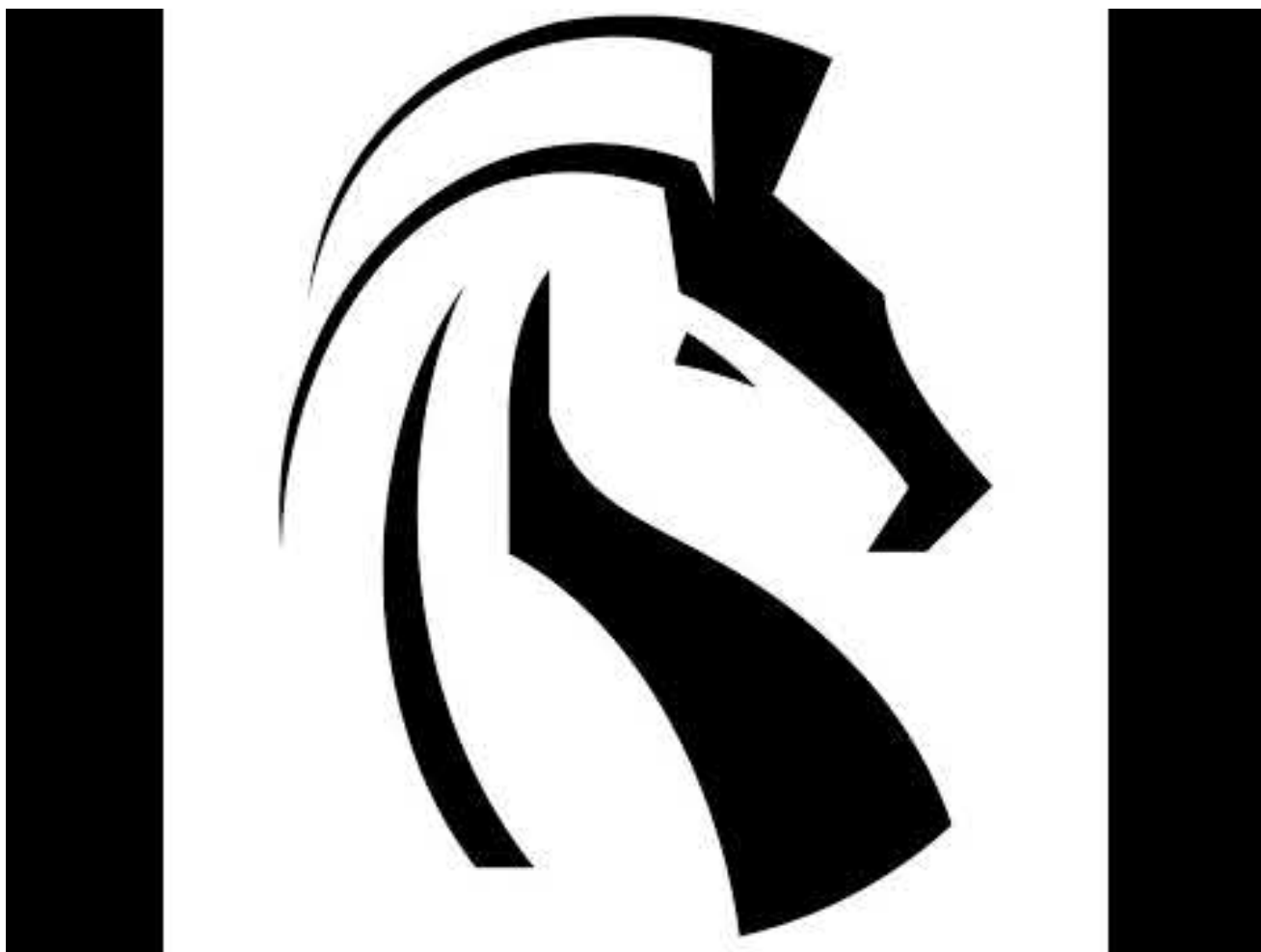


Why the LeStallion Fountain Pen Notebook Became My Daily Writing Companion

For years I chased the perfect notebook. I tried hardcovers and softcovers, dot grids and ruled lines, paper from Japan and Italy and tiny mills in between. Some pages handled fountain pen ink beautifully but felt lifeless under ballpoint. Others had covers that fell apart after a month in a bag. The search felt endless, and I had almost accepted that no single notebook could do everything well. Then I found the LeStallion fountain pen notebook, and it quietly changed how I think about writing tools.

What Makes a Notebook Work for Fountain Pens

Fountain pens demand a lot from paper. The nib lays down a wet line, and if the paper is too absorbent, the ink feathers into a fuzzy mess. If the paper is too smooth and coated, the ink sits on top and never dries, smudging at the lightest touch. The sweet spot is a surface with enough sizing to hold the ink on top while letting it absorb just enough to dry in a reasonable time. The LeStallion fountain pen notebook hits that balance better than any other journal I have tried in the past decade.



The paper weight matters too. Lightweight sheets ghost badly when you use a wet medium nib, and heavy cardstock adds unnecessary bulk to a notebook meant to travel. The paper in this notebook is thick enough to show almost no ghosting with most ink colors, yet the notebook remains slim and easy to carry. That combination is harder to find than you might think.

First Impressions Out of the Box

When I opened my first [LeStallion fountain pen notebook](#), I noticed the cover first. It is a soft, flexible material that feels like leather but holds up to scuffs and coffee rings without showing them. The binding lies flat when you open it, no fighting to keep the pages down. That might sound like a small thing, but if you have ever tried to write in a stiff new notebook with one hand while holding a cup of coffee in the other, you know it matters.

The pages have a subtle cream tone that is easy on the eyes under both warm lamplight and cold office fluorescents. The ruling is a faint gray grid that guides writing without competing with it. I usually prefer dot grids, but the grid here is light enough that I forget it is there after the first sentence.



Writing Experience Over Time

I have been using this notebook daily for about three months now. The first thing I noticed is how consistent the paper feels from the first page to the last. Some notebooks have a few pages at the beginning and end that behave differently, maybe because of the glue or the manufacturing process. Not this one. Every page offers the same smooth, controlled feedback under the nib.

I tested it with several pens: a fine-nibbed Pilot Custom 74 with Iroshizuku kon-peki ink, a medium Lamy Safari with Noodler's Heart of Darkness, and a broad TWSBI Eco with J. Herbin Emerald of Chivor. All of them performed well. The fine nib laid down crisp lines with no

feathering. The medium wrote wet but dried within a few seconds. The broad showed some shading and sheen without bleeding through to the other side.

The notebook also handles pencil well, which matters to me because I often sketch layouts before writing. Erasing does not damage the surface, and there is no ghost line left behind. That kind of versatility is rare in a notebook designed primarily for fountain pens.

Practical Details That Add Up

Small design choices make a big difference in daily use. The LeStallion fountain pen notebook has a ribbon bookmark sewn into the spine, which I use to mark my current page. There is also an elastic band that wraps around the cover to keep it closed when the notebook is in my bag. That band is tight enough to stay put but loose enough not to dent the pages over time.

The pages are numbered, which is a feature I used to ignore until I started keeping an index of entries. Now I find it essential. The back pocket inside the cover holds a few loose sheets and a plastic stencil I use for diagrams. It is not bulky, just practical.



I have filled about two-thirds of the notebook at this point. The spine shows no cracking, the stitching is intact, and the cover still looks new. That kind of durability comes from careful construction, not luck.

How It Fits Into a Writing Routine

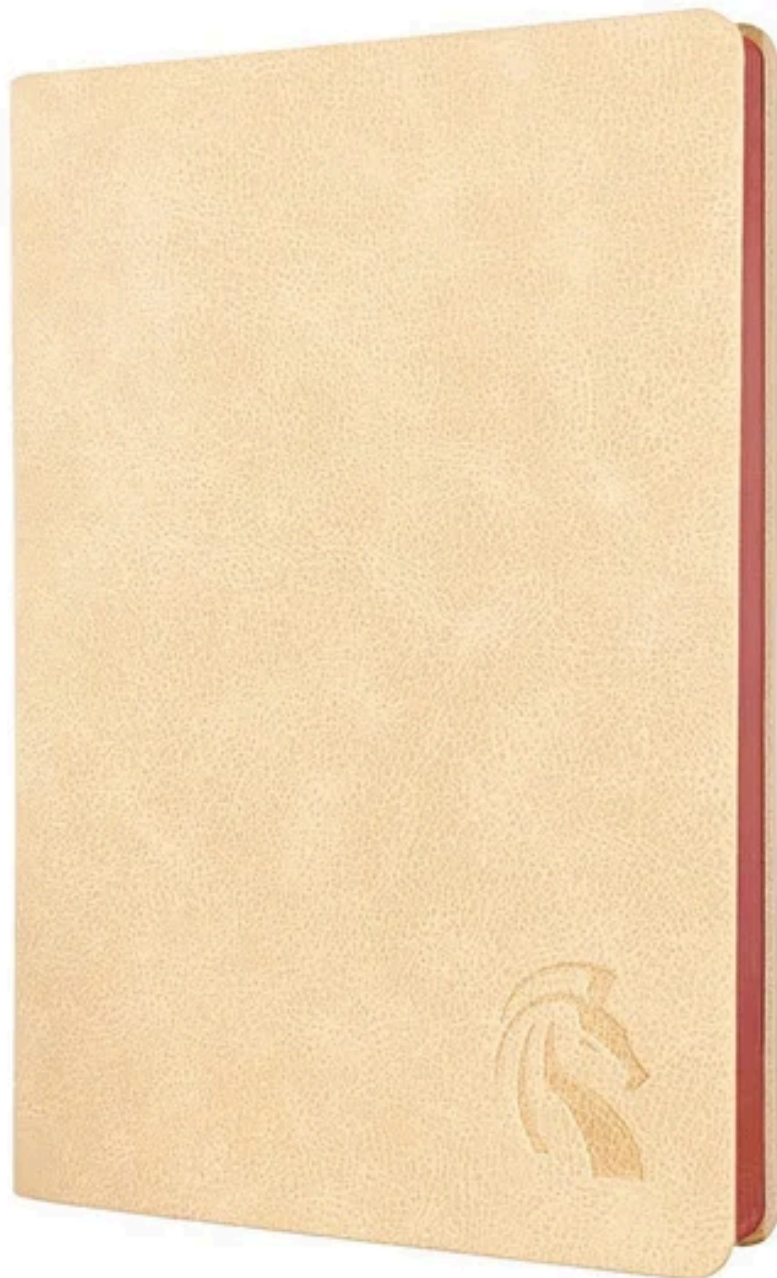
A good notebook does not make you write better, but it can make you want to write more. The LeStallion fountain pen notebook sits on my desk next to my keyboard, always open to today's page. When I have a thought, I reach for it instead of a screen. That shift alone has improved the quality of my notes. Writing by hand forces me to slow down and think before forming

sentences. It also lets me draw connections between ideas with arrows and marginal notes in ways that typing cannot replicate.

I use the notebook for morning pages, project planning, and the occasional bit of journaling. The paper handles all of it without complaint. I have spilled water on a page, dropped the notebook on concrete, and stuffed it into a backpack full of textbooks. It still works perfectly.

Comparing Alternatives

Before settling on this notebook, I tried several popular options. One well-known brand uses paper that is too smooth for my taste, causing ink to sit on the surface and smear hours later. Another brand has excellent paper but a stiff cover that does not bend well for writing on the go. A third uses paper that ghosts badly with anything wider than a fine nib. The LeStallion fountain pen notebook avoids all of those pitfalls. It is not the cheapest notebook on the market, but it is far from the most expensive, and the quality justifies the price.



If you value paper that shows ink shading and sheen without feathering or bleeding, this notebook delivers. If you need a notebook that survives everyday carry and still looks presentable at a meeting, it delivers on that front too. The trade-off is that the notebook does not come in many size or ruling options. You get a single size and a single grid ruling. That simplicity works well for me, but if you need a pocket notebook or a dot grid, you will have to look elsewhere.

Final Thoughts

Finding the right notebook is a personal journey, and what works for me may not work for everyone. But if you use fountain pens regularly and you have not tried the LeStallion fountain

pen notebook yet, I recommend giving it a chance. It is the kind of tool that fades into the background and lets you focus on what matters: the words themselves.