

My Pen Collection Stats- End of 2024

View the blog post online at <https://racheldelafuente.com/blog/pen-collection-2024/>

Another year, another overview of my collection. This is still one of my favorite posts of the year. Based on metrics, you all seem to prefer the "highlights" infographics version of this that I did [last year](#) over the in-depth dashboards I've put together [previously](#). So, I stuck with that style.

For anyone who needs, or wants, an accessible version of the graphics below, I put together a text-only PDF version of this post. I've also made sure that the most important data in the graphics is also in the text of this post. So, you can choose the method of reading this post that most appeals to you: text, graphics, or PDF.

Collection Overview

Here's a quick overview of my current fountain pen collection.

I currently own 190 pens.

- 160 of them are my "active collection"
 - 139 are in active use
 - 7 are in review to possibly sell
 - 12 are retired, but kept for sentimental or collectability reasons
 - 1 is decommissioned
 - 1 is my "vacation" pen, only used for travel
- 30 of them are not in my possession or on their way out
 - 1 is out for aftermarket customization
 - 4 are with Jim
 - 25 are for sale
- 2 additional pens are pending
 - 1 commissioned, still in progress
 - 1 not yet arrived

Collection Timeline

I didn't include a timeline last year, but I always find it fascinating to see how my collection has evolved over the years. I separated out rollerball (RB) and Ballpoint (BP) pens from fountain pens (FP) since I treat them as separate, but linked, collections. Each year has the collection size at the start of the year, additions — purchases and gifts — deductions — sales, gifts, donations, etc. — and collection size at the end of the year.

2016

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	0	3	0	3
Rollerball/Ballpoint	0	0	0	0

2017

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	3	24	1	26
Rollerball/Ballpoint	0	0	0	0

2018

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	26	37	22	41
Rollerball/Ballpoint	0	1	0	1

2019

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	41	50	14	77
Rollerball/Ballpoint	1	11	1	11

2020

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	77	38	15	100
Rollerball/Ballpoint	11	3	1	13

2021

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	100	38	15	123
Rollerball/Ballpoint	13	3	0	16

2022

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	123	46	19	150
Rollerball/Ballpoint	16	9	0	25

2023

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	150	40	16	174
Rollerball/Ballpoint	25	7	3	29

2024

	Year Start	Additions	Deductions	Year End
Fountain Pens	174	23	7	190
Rollerball/Ballpoint	29	2	1	30

NOTE: The rest of the infographics below are based on the 160 pens that are currently in my possession, excluding the ones that I have for sale.

Pen Origin

It's always fun to see where my pens are from. I'm still interested in finding pen makers in South America and Australia so I can have pens from every permanently inhabited continent.

I looked at pen origin differently this year, separating it into indie makers (36% of my collection) and mainstream manufacturers (64% of my collection).

Indie Makers

- USA: 65.52%
- South Africa: 17.24%
- Russia: 6.90%
- UK: 6.90%
- Canada: 1.72%
- Poland: 1.72%

Mainstream Companies

- Japan: 31.37%
- Taiwan: 18.63%
- Italy: 11.76%
- Armenia: 10.78%
- Germany: 10.78%
- USA: 9.80%
- China: 2.94%
- Russia: 2.94%
- UK: 0.98%

Pen Distribution

In opposition to pen origin, I *didn't* separate pen distribution this year. Rather than overlapping distribution types, I pulled out exclusives this year. Allow me to provide *my* definition of some terms I've used:

Normal: These are standard editions *and* pens that indie makers make as part of their normal work, as opposed to pens that are custom ordered.

Special Edition: If a pen edition will be retired sooner than a standard edition, but is *not* numbered, I call it a special edition.

Limited Edition: A limited edition pen is basically a numbered special edition. You know how many pens the edition is limited to. This shouldn't be confused with Retro 51's open numbered edition, where each pen is numbered, but there is no pre-set limit to the total number of pens produced.

Custom: A pen I custom-ordered to my specifications.

After Market: This is a pen that has after-market customization, like Bokumondoh does.

- Normal: 36.25%
- Special Edition: 28.75%
- Limited Edition: 21.88%
- Custom Order: 10%
- Vintage: 1.88%
- Prototype: 0.63%
- After-market: 0.63%

Among these different pens, 18 were exclusive to a specific store or distributor.

Pen Color

When referring to color, I'm thinking of the dominant color of the pen. For example, the [Nahvalur Original Plus: Halloween](#) is orange. Pens that don't have an obviously dominant color are classified as multicolor. Jonathan Brooks' [materials](#) are an excellent example of this.

- Red & Pink: 16
- Orange: 8
- Yellow & Gold: 4
- Green: 11
- Teal/Turquoise: 12
- Blue: 9
- Purple: 11
- Brown & Copper: 11
- Black, Silver, Gray, Ivory, White, & Clear: 31
- Multicolor: 47

Nibs

I decided to look at nib modifications and nib width or style for non-modified nibs.

Modifications

I have nib modifications in five major families, with a few miscellaneous grinds.

- Architect Family: 7.69%
 - Architect
 - Mini Cutlass
- Stub Family: 23.08%
 - Stub
 - Flat Cut Stub
 - Cursive Italic
 - Big Bottom Girl
- Oblique Family: 25.64%
 - Oblique
 - Cut Oblique
- Flex Modifications: 23.08%
 - Crossflex
 - Secretary of the Flex
 - Semiflex
 - Spencerian
 - X-Wing Harpoon
- Layered: 7.69%
 - Karasu
 - Kissaki

- Reverse Chimera
- Miscellaneous Grinds: 7.69%
 - Flat Round (AKA Monoline)
 - Naginata Togi
 - Waverly

Non-Modified Widths

The nibs counted toward the values below are only ones that remain unmodified. This may be a mainstream pen, like the Custom 74, or an indie-made pen that came with a nib that I have yet to modify. I have not included any extra nibs I've purchased separate from pens. It's pretty easy to see what my nib width preference is.

- Extra fine: 12.50%
- Fine: 39.38%
- Fine-Medium: 1.25%
- Medium: 31.25%
- Broad: 2.50%
- Stub: 3.13%
- Oblique: 0.63%
- Flexible: 3.75%
- Unknown: 1.25%
- Purchased without nib: 4.38%