

# Installing Disposable Ink Cartridges and/or Pumps in Fountain Pens

**NOTE:** *If installing a new converter (pump) on a fountain pen be aware that most converters come from the manufacturer with a small amount of oil in the tube that can cause problems when filling. Before installing a new converter take a moment to wash the converter reservoir. Take a cup of room temp water with one drop of dish soap and fill and expel your converter several time followed with clean room temp water to rinse clear.*



From l to r: 2 types of converter pumps, disposable ink cartridge. Membrane ends shown.

Both disposable ink cartridges and fountain pen converters are installed in the same way. Simply remove the cap from your pen and unscrew the nib assembly from the body of the pen. You will see a prong inside the collar at the back of the nib assembly. This prong will pierce the seal of the cartridge or converter and allow ink to travel to the feed tube. Locate the membrane end of your disposable ink cartridge or converter and insert into the fountain pen nib assembly from the back until it is snugly secured. This will require firm pressure and you will likely hear or feel a pop as the membrane is pierced. Once the cartridge/converter is firmly in place twist it a half turn to insure a good seal.

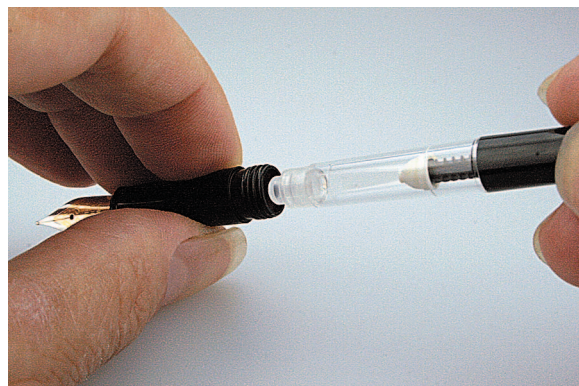


Inside the back of the nib assembly. See prong inside collar.

If you're installing a disposable ink cartridge gently squeeze the tube once, hold the pen nib down and allow a minute or two for the ink to travel the length of the feeding tube to the nib. It is not necessary to scrub the nib on paper. When the ink reaches the back of the nib it will flow off the tip. If the ink doesn't flow after waiting several minutes, try rotating the tube another half turn followed by a *gentle* squeeze and another wait. Squeezing too hard can rupture the seal and cause the ink to leak making a mess you do not want to clean up. Have patience. (*For instructions filling a converter see the link to: "Filling Fountain Pen Pumps" on the Resources page.*)



Inserting a disposable ink cartridge into the back of the nib assembly.



Inserting a converter pump into the back of the nib assembly.