

*Howard's Comments about Wellington:*

This pen is a great writer.  
...its flexibility gives the writer an opportunity to vary the lines.  
The Wellington initially struck me as somewhat garish, but the more I wrote with the pen, it grew on me—I really came to like it.





RATING CATEGORIES	Mel	Howard
Design/ Style (15)	15	14
Balance/ Size (15)	14	14
Ink Flow/ Line Quality (15)	14	14
Fit and Finish/ Material (15)	14	14
Filling System (10)	8	8
Depth of Offering* (15)	14	13
Value (15)	14	13
Total Points (out of 100)	93	90

\*includes range of nibs and finishes, sophisticated engineering and packaging

The Conway Stewart Black Whirl Wellington is offered as a standard-size pen, but when posted, it is quite long in the hand. It is very well proportioned, with gold bands at the section, near the barrel end and at the cap lip. The washer clip is attached with a screw-down cap crown, leaving the gold edge of the ring exposed. It is very well balanced, both with and without the cap posted on the end of the barrel. It presents a very comfortable grip at the section, and it should satisfy those who like large pens, as well as those who prefer medium-sized pens.

The Wellington is a great writer. The nib has dreamy flex that delivers a steady ink flow, and it writes as well as any modern pen we've tried lately. It is a very well-made pen, with all edges highly polished. When removing and replacing the threaded cap, one feels the smoothly turned

threads, and the pen delivers a good grip on those threads when closed. Though we'd love to see a pen manufacturer make a converter with a larger ink capacity than the standard ones we see every day, the Wellington fills with a rather ho-hum standard version.

Conway Stewart is well known for a wide range of nib sizes. Our test pen had a medium-sized nib, but its flexibility gave us an opportunity to vary the lines. Although there is nothing new in the engineering associated with this pen, it is a good, steady performer. The pen has a retail cost of \$490, which seems a touch high considering the pen's size. But considering the overall high-grade fit and finish, this is still reasonable. The Wellington is also available in jet black, brown and green. It is presented in very attractive packaging that will make an already nice pen a very impressive gift. 