

test:

Staffers rate the new Conway Stewart

WELLINGTON

Cartridge/convertor-filled fountain pen in colorful resin with hallmarked 18 karat gold bands and 18 karat gold nib available in eight different grades, \$490. 425.432.0816; conwaystewart.com.



Intro: When venerable English maker Conway Stewart announced an entirely new model, we were naturally intrigued. The Wellington is a bit of a departure from earlier Conway Stewart pens in that it presents a subtly curved profile in both its barrel and cap. The *PW* review team couldn't wait to try it out. Here's what they found.

EVEN IN PLAIN BLACK, I'D GO FOR THE Wellington. The section's curvature feels organic in the hand. With my index finger at the lower end of the section, my thumb rests just above the barrel threads, and there is perfect balance—I wrote for hours without interruption. With its cap posted, Wellington is a bit top heavy. Anyone who holds the pen at a more upright angle will love the weight because it seems to drive the Wellington across the page. It may, however, be cause for mild concern for those whose pen-to-page profile presents a more acute angle.

—Barry Gabay, contributing editor

WITH COLORFUL SWIRLS OF RED, SALMON, orange and black and gold bands at the ends of the cap and barrel, this is a beautiful, luxurious-looking pen. I fitted the pen with a cartridge, and seconds later I was writing. It provides smooth ink flow; it is comfortable in the hand; it handles well and the 18 karat gold nib responds nimbly to the faintest pressure and barely touching the paper. Great looks and outstanding performance make this pen a winner.

—Bill Albers, assistant editor

THIS PEN REMINDS ME WHY A NICE fountain pen is such a pleasure. The writing experience alone is enough to recommend this pen, because it is one of the best I have ever tested, but there is more. The cap and barrel are subtly curved, giving the pen a graceful profile, while the barrel's shape provides unexpected writing comfort. For the pen aesthete, this is a stylish pen that will please the sensibilities, and for the writing enthusiast, it is a well-performing pen of choice.

—Glen B. Bowen, publisher