



Carbon inks are made from carbon particles (obtained as smoke deposits by burning wood, oil or gas) suspended in water with a binding agent. They will not fade.

Dye based inks are made from synthetic dyes and will fade. Some fade very quickly.

Pigment Inks are a ground powder in a variety of mediums, many of which are waterproof when dry. Mostly lightfast.

Iron Gall Ink, which is very rare, is made from oak galls and iron. It is a free flowing ink giving very fine 'thins' and is highly favoured for Copperplate, fine italics and drawing and pen & ink wash.

Waterproof inks or, more accurately, water resistant inks are suitable for a dip pen/brush as they will dry in a fountain pen and clog the flow. They can also tend to dry on a dip pen so frequent rinsing and wiping will help to maintain the sharpness of the pen.

Fountain pen inks are dye based and of thin consistency to flow through the nib unit. They usually contain a retarding agent to inhibit drying out in the pen and will quickly corrode mild steel nibs.

For the dip pen the most popular black ink is **Higgins Eternal** which is carbon based and permanent. Add 10-12 drops of Gum Arabic to prevent set-off or smudging. For colour, **Ziller Inks** (page 18) is a range of superb pigmented waterproof inks that clean off the pen with a little ammonia in the rinse water. Blot's **Iron Gall Ink** is the choice for Copperplate, fine italics and line & wash drawing. It dries to a distinctive velvety blue/black.

For fountain pen use :-

Higgins Fountain Pen India which is not waterproof or

Pelikan 4001 - a well regarded fountain pen ink in several colours.

Winsor Newton Calligraphy Inks non waterproof and pigmented.

Higgins

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| 5S0001 | Calligraphy Ink (Waterproof)73.9ml | £4.95 |
| 5S0002 | Sepia Calligraphy Ink 73.9ml | £4.95 |
| 5S0003 | Eternal Black Ink 73.9ml | £4.95 |
| 5S0005 | Fountain Pen India Ink 73.9ml | £4.95 |
| 5S0006 | Black Magic (Waterproof) 29.5ml | £5.25 |

Pelikan

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| 5R4001 | Brilliant Ink 28ml (List £4.50) | £4.20 |
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Available in:- **Black, Blue Black, Royal Blue, Red, Green, Brown, Violet, Turquoise**

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| Blot's Iron Gall Ink | 28ml | £3.99 |
| Pack of 4 Jars | | £12.00 |