

To fill a Boston style “safety pen” simply unscrew the cap pointed up and while leaving the nib/feed within the barrel, squeeze the rubber dropper bulb one full draw of ink and half of another directly into the barrel opening. This will be enough ink to adequately fill the pen while not overfilling (and in case of any overfilling – either extend the nib feed over the bottle opening to catch any excess – or keep a paper towel handy when first extending the nib/feed after filling – just in case there is a little excess ink). Twist clockwise and gently push the rear of the pen forward while holding the pen opening toward the ceiling and once fully extended the pen is ready to write. Twist clockwise and then pull the nib/feed into the barrel then screw the cap back on the pen (ALWAYS WHILE HOLDING THE OPENING TOWARD THE CEILING) when no longer in use. To clean the cap of condensation or any excess ink build up in the threads – simply unscrew the cap/clip counter clockwise and then clean/clear the cap using a q-tip or paper towel. Rinsing the pen between fillings of different inks is as easy as a trip to the faucet – fill with water with pen open toward the ceiling and then drain the water out with a turn toward the sink. Any further details not mentioned here can be seen in the video:

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhGU3QQynBQ>**

With your thumb and forefinger you should be able to disassemble and reassemble the entire pen, as no tools beyond your own hands are needed for service and cleaning because all parts are threaded or friction fit.

Since the 1890s only a "safety fountain pen" has "safely" used many types of bonded inks such as:

- committee of safety inks, india inks,
- gum arabic and shellac
- containing inks, iron gall, etc...

A safety pen is safe: to shake when capped, fly in a plane with, and can even survive many other pressure variations such as thunder storms without leaking when well capped.

In a safety pen the nib and feed are bathed in the ink solution completely, unlike any other kind of fountain pen.

This is why they can use inks containing bonding agents.

**Boston Safety Pen**  
Noodler's Ink Company

This pen is ebonite/hard rubber with o-ring seals and can not survive use with petroleum based writing fluids, but it can use a far wider variety of other writing fluids than any other fountain pen types.

