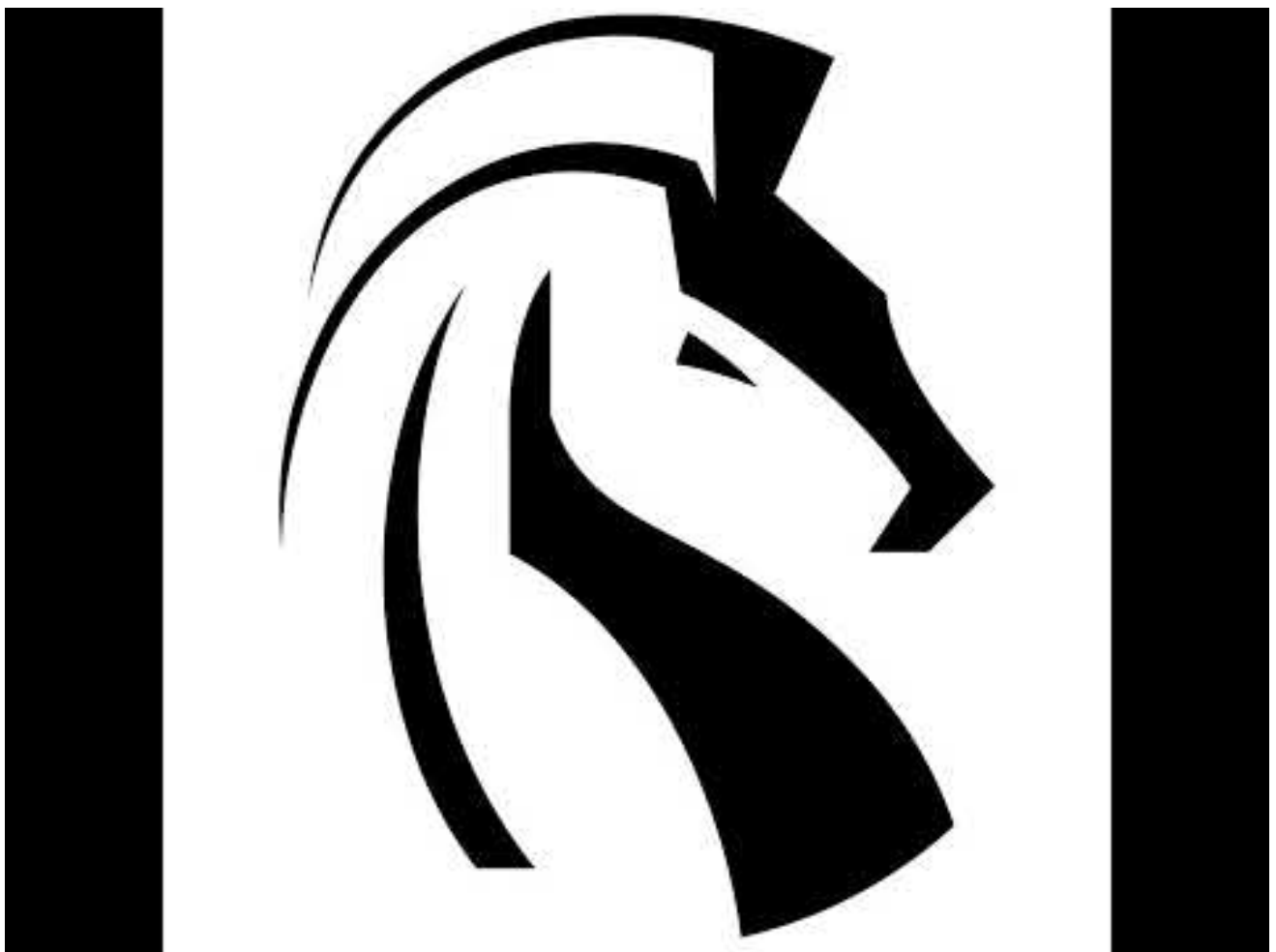


LeStallion Notebooks for Writing: A Practical Review from a Daily User

I have been writing for a living for over a decade. In that time I have filled dozens of notebooks, from cheap spiral-bound pads to leather-bound journals that cost more than a nice dinner. I have learned that the notebook you write in matters more than most people think. It is not about the paper being expensive or the cover looking good on a shelf. It is about how the notebook feels when you open it, how the page behaves under your hand, and whether the thing actually makes you want to write.

That last part is the hardest to find. A notebook that makes you want to write. Most of them are just paper and cardboard. They do not inspire, they do not invite, and they certainly do not help you stay productive. That is why I was skeptical when I first heard about LeStallion notebooks for writing. I thought it was just another premium brand with good marketing. But after using one for several months, I have changed my mind. This is a notebook that actually delivers on its promise.



First Impressions and Build Quality

The first thing I noticed when I opened my LeStallion notebook was the cover. It is thick, textured, and feels like it will last. I have carried it in my bag every day for three months, and it still looks new. The stitching is tight, the corners are reinforced, and the elastic band that holds it closed has not loosened at all. That matters because a notebook that falls apart after a few weeks is useless for any serious writing project.

The paper is the real star here. It is 100 gsm, which is thicker than most notebooks offer. I write with a fountain pen, and I have never seen any bleed-through or feathering. Even with a wet nib and a heavy hand, the ink stays where it belongs. The pages lie flat when the notebook is open, which is a small thing that makes a big difference when you are trying to write quickly. You do not have to fight the book to keep it open. You just write.

How It Affects Your Writing Habit

The real test of any notebook is whether it changes how you write. I have found that [LeStallion notebooks for writing](#) actually do. The paper has a slight tooth to it, enough that you feel the pen moving across the page, but not so much that it slows you down. That tactile feedback is important. It makes writing feel like an active, deliberate act, not just something you do to fill a page. I write more slowly and more carefully in this notebook than I do in others. That is not a bad thing. Slowing down helps me think more clearly.



The layout is another factor. The pages are dotted, which I prefer over ruled or blank. The dots give you a guide for writing straight lines and drawing small diagrams, but they are subtle enough that you forget they are there. The notebook also has a ribbon bookmark and a back pocket for loose notes. Those are small features, but they keep me from losing ideas on scraps of paper. Everything goes in the notebook now.

Comparing to Other Notebooks

I have used Moleskine, Leuchtturm, Rhodia, and Field Notes. Each has strengths. Moleskine has a classic look but thin paper that bleeds with fountain pens. Leuchtturm has numbered pages and a table of contents, which is great for bullet journaling, but the paper is only 80 gsm

and can ghost. Rhodia has the best paper for fountain pens, but the covers are flimsy and the spiral binding can snag. Field Notes are small and portable, but the paper is too thin for anything but ballpoint.

LeStallion notebooks for writing sit in a sweet spot. The paper quality matches Rhodia, the build quality beats Moleskine, and the design is more thoughtful than Leuchtturm for everyday writing. It is not cheap, but it is not overpriced either. If you write every day, the cost per use drops fast. A \$30 notebook that lasts three months and improves your writing habit is a bargain. A \$10 notebook that you hate using and abandon after two weeks is a waste.

Practical Tips for Getting the Most Out of It

Here are a few things I have learned from using this notebook daily:



- Use the back pocket for index cards or sticky notes. I keep a few blank cards in mine for quick ideas that I transfer to the main pages later.
- Write the date and a one-line topic on the first line of each page. It makes finding things later much easier.
- Do not worry about making it perfect. The notebook is meant to be written in, not preserved. Scratched-out words and messy pages are part of the process.
- Pair it with a pen that you enjoy using. The paper works well with almost any pen, but a good pen makes the experience better.
- Keep it on your desk, not in a drawer. If it is visible, you will use it more often.

These are simple habits, but they help build consistency. And consistency is what turns writing from a chore into a practice.

Who This Notebook Is For

This notebook is not for everyone. If you only write a few sentences a week, a cheap pad will do fine. But if you write regularly, if you care about the feel of the paper and the durability of the binding, then it is worth considering. It is especially good for writers who use fountain pens or gel pens, because the paper handles wet ink well. It is also good for people who carry their notebook everywhere, because the cover protects the pages and the elastic band keeps it closed.

I have recommended it to a few friends. One is a novelist who uses it for drafting scenes. Another is a product manager who keeps it for meeting notes and sketches. Both have told me that it improved their note-taking habits. That is not a small thing. A notebook that changes your behavior is rare.

A Final Thought on Productivity

The site that sells this notebook uses the tagline "A journal that actually inspires your productivity." I was skeptical of that claim at first, but after using it, I understand what they mean. The notebook does not make you productive by itself. No object can do that. But it removes the friction that often stops you from writing. The paper is a pleasure to write on. The binding holds up. The layout is unobtrusive. All of those small things add up to a tool that you want to use.



When you want to use a tool, you use it more often. When you use it more often, you write more. And when you write more, you get better at writing and at thinking. That is the real productivity gain. It is not about doing more tasks in less time. It is about doing the right tasks more consistently. A good notebook helps with that. This is a good notebook.

If you are still using whatever notebook you grabbed at the store, try something better for a month. See if it changes how you write. I think it will.