

Smartpen user

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Why did I decided to use the Smartpen?

The pen was recommended by the e-learning team for use as a back up when taking minutes during meetings.

In what scenarios have I used the Smartpen?

The majority of use is during meetings where I'm taking minutes. If there's a section of the meeting I'd like to hear again I'll put a star within my notes which enables me to quickly locate the audio relevant to that section. I've also shown the pen to others as I'm a big fan.

Pen use - recording

Simply switch the pen on at the beginning of the meeting and start writing.

Pen use - replaying

I still type up the minutes from my notes and not directly from the audio recording and use the pen as a back up if I need to check anything. Drawing a star in my notes during the meeting showing where I need to use the pen to double check information is really useful for reference when typing up.

I access the recordings directly from the pen, and use the controls printed on the paper and my additional stars. I don't use the software at all, and only attach the pen to the computer to recharge it.

Only once have I had to remove the information off the pen as the memory was full, this was about the time I finished the first note book. I did this by going through the inbuilt menu and deleting the recordings.

The negative points

I've had a couple of occasions where the pen has run out of charge during a meeting, it beeps (unfortunately drawing attention to the pen) and then switches off. The only way to recharge the pen is by attaching it to a computer which is not suitable during a meeting so you are left without, but fortunately it still works as a standard writing pen.

I have the newer echo pen model which has a better shape and weight to the pulse model, however, it is still heavy and bulky during a long meeting.

Would you use it again?

Yes definitely, I already regularly use it in for minute taking and may consider using it during training events.

Who would you recommend this pen to?

Already have, I know a number of administrators across campus and have recommended this pen to them. I do struggle to describe how it works and have found it easier to demonstrate it.

Any final notes?

Really handy pen, and recommend it to anyone who would appreciate back up when taking notes