We have listed the commonly asked questions with answers to allow our customers to use "Chou Kuro" ink with peace of mind:

Q1. Can anything other than purified water be used for cleaning "Chou Kuro" ink?

A. Washing the ink with anything other than purified water is strictly prohibited as it will cause the ink to adhere to the minerals, making it hard to remove.

Q2. What precautions should be taken when switching from general dye ink or pigment ink to "Chou Kuro" ink?

A. Before switching to "Chou Kuro" ink, use an eyedropper (or a converter) and rinse well with purified water until it runs clear.

Q3. Can I use Platinum Pen's fountain pen ink cleaner kit?

A. Avoid washing the ink with ink cleaner to prevent the ink from adhering to the nib. Please make sure to use purified water.

Q4. What precautions should be taken when sucking the ink from the bottle using a converter?

A. Insert the converter into the fountain pen, submerge the entire nib into the ink bottle and draw ink into the pen. If there is any tap water left in the converter, use an eyedropper and rinse it with purified water.

Q5. What should I do if there is tap water left in the converter?

A. Flush it out using purified water before using the converter.

Q6. Can “Chou Kuro” ink be used with all Platinum Pen’s fountain pens?

A. The ink is not compatible with inhalation type fountain pens launched in the past.

Q7. Can the ink be mixed with other inks?

A. No. Please do not mix with other inks.

Q8. What is the recommended storage environment?

A. Close the lid tightly and store at room temperature and in a cool, dark place away from direct sunlight.

Q9. Can the purified water be used repeatedly?

A. Please dispose of the water once it is used for washing.

Q10. Where can I purchase purified water?

A. Purified water is available at pharmacies, etc.

Q11. What precautions should be taken when transferring purified water to another container?

A. If there is anything other than purified water left in the container, wipe it off well and rinse it with purified water before use.

Q12. Can I switch to “Chou Kuro” ink from classic inks like blue black ink?

A. We do not recommend switching the ink from classic inks as they contain iron components, which may not be completely removed even after washing.

Q13. Is “Chou Kuro” a pigment ink?

A. Yes, it is a pigment ink. Before use, tighten the lid and shake the bottle several times.

"Chou Kuro (Blackest Black)," Platinum's Blackest Ink to Date

Ultimate Carbon Ink for Fountain Pens, Achieving the Deepest Black

To meet the demand of deeper black ink, Platinum Pen has developed the ultimate carbon ink for fountain pens that achieves the deepest black yet. The ink also boasts exceptional water and light resistance, resulting in the unparalleled "Blackest Black" ink.

超黒

Chou Kuro

1. "Intense blackness" demonstrated by numerical data
2. "Fade-resistant blackness" makes it perfect for long-term storage
3. Practical "no bleeding through ink"
4. "Exceptional water resistance" makes it ideal for journaling and letter-writing

"*Chou Kuro*" ink was developed with the goal of achieving the ultimate blackness for fountain pen ink. The ink's pigment particles react and gather with the mineral components in the paper, resulting in remarkably condensed blackness. Try it to experience the deepest,darkest black imaginable.

1st Intense Blackness

Proven with Numerical Data

"Chou Kuro" ink has been proven through brightness and saturation testing to possess an unmatched level of darkness relative to other inks.

+L*

Platinum Pen current carbon ink
34.4

Platinum Pen dye ink
32

Platinum Pen *"Chou Kuro"*
18.3

* Since it is a scanned image, there is a slight error from the actual ink color.

*The smaller the value the closer to pure black.

Platinum Pen *"Chou Kuro"*

Platinum Pen current carbon ink

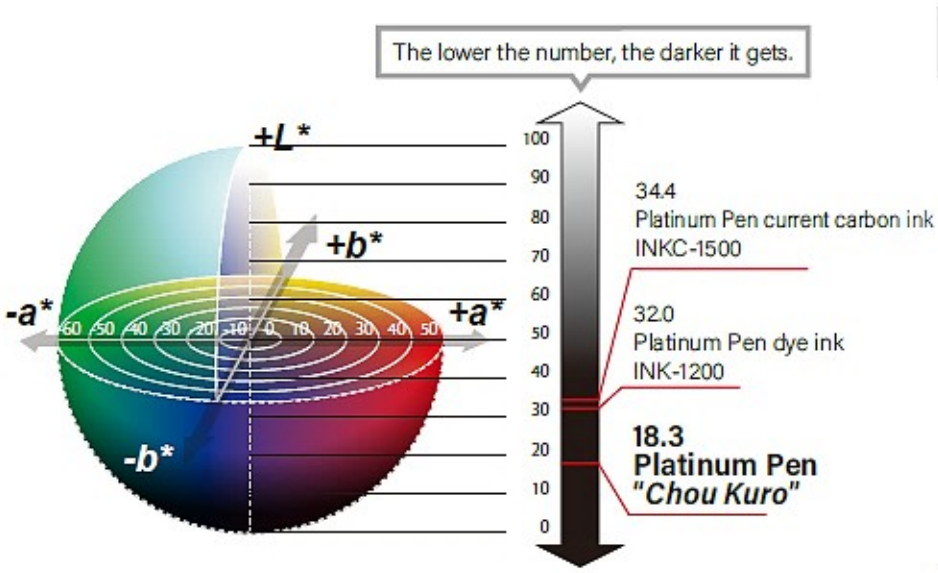
Method for testing L value

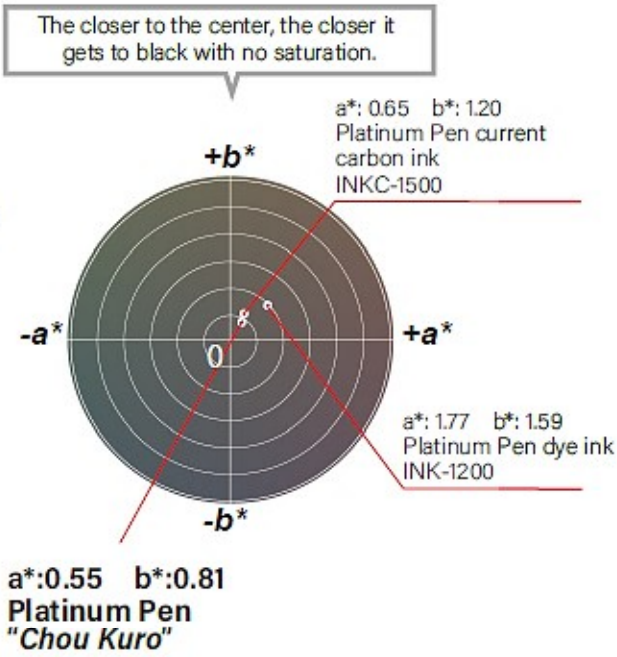
① Drop 0.5 ml of ink onto paper.
② Spread the ink with #6 bar coater*.
③ Let the paper dry naturally for 10 minutes at room temperature.
④ Dry the paper for 60 minutes in a drying machine at 50℃.
⑤ Measure the color using a spectrophotometer.

※*A bar coater Is a tool used to uniformly apply paint or ink.Coating thickness differs depending on the number of the bar coater.

L*a*b* color space chromaticity diagram

- L* : Brightness. The closer the value is to 100, the brighter it is, and the closer to 0, the darker it is.
- a*b* : Chromaticity indicating hue and saturation. When both a* and b* are zero, it represents an achromatic color.





L*a*b* color space is currently the most popular color model used in all fields to represent the color of objects.

2o Fade-Resistant Blacknes

Resistant to Changes over Time and Forever *"Chou Kuro"*

A lightfastness, or fading resistance, test was administered by exposing the ink to ultraviolet rays. The ink was measured before and after the test to detect any change in colo r (ΔE: Color difference / distance from color). *"Chou Kuro"* has an extremely small ΔE, proving that it is a highly fade-resistant ink.

Platinum Pen current carbon ink

	L*	a*	b*		ΔE
Before fading	33.44	0.71	1.33		0.19
After fading	34.36	0.65	1.46		

Platinum Pen *"Chou Kuro"*

	L*	a*	b*		ΔE
Before fading	18.52	0.75	1.23		0.18
After fading	18.70	0.76	1.24		

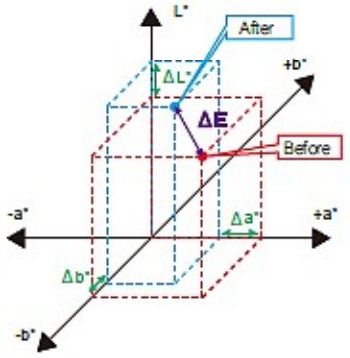
Method for testing resistance to light

① Drop 0.5 ml of ink on paper.
② Spread the ink with #6 bar coater.
③ Expose the paper to ultraviolet carbon arc light for 24 hours using a light resistance tester based on JIS L0842.
④ Measure the l*a*b* values of the ink and calculate Δ E. Takethree measurements for each sample and compare the average values of preand post-testing.

*Exposure testing performed at the Kaken Test Center.
*JIS L0842 is a Japanese industrial standard for testing resistance to light. It evaluates the degree of color change caused by light.
*A light resistance tester using ultraviolet carbon arc light that uses high-intensity spectral distribution in the ultraviolet region. Ultraviolet light has strong energy, making it possible to evaluate fading in a short period of time.to evaluate fading in a short period of time.

ΔE : Color difference /distance from color

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{(\Delta L^*)^2 + (\Delta a^*)^2 + (\Delta b^*)^2}$$

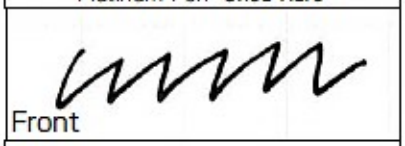


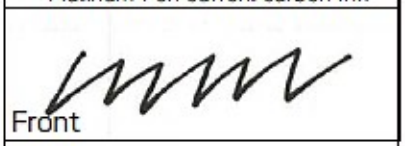
This is one of the metrics defined between two colors.The greater the color difference, the easier it is to distinguish between them, and the smaller the color difference, the more difficult it is to distinguish between them.

3o No Bleeding Through Ink

Deep Black that Stands Out Clearly on Paper

"*Chou Kuro*" pigment particles firmly adhere to the paper surface, practically eliminating the issue of bleed through. In general, liquid ink tends to penetrate the paper.

Platinum Pen "*Chou Kuro*"
 Front
Back
Visually: No bleeding
Under magnification: No bleeding
Translucency: Yes

Platinum Pen current carbon ink
 Front
Back
Visually: No bleeding
Under magnification: No bleeding
Translucency: Yes

Method for testing bleed through

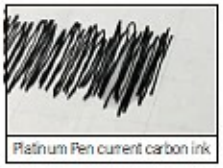
① Write on our test paper using the ink in question.
② Let it dry naturally for 10 minutes.
③ Check for bleeding on the back of the paper using visual inspection and a magnifying glass.

4 Resistant to Water

Stays Vivid Even when Wet

Pigment inks are generally known for their excellent water resistance as the pigment particles adhere to the surface of the paper. "*Chou Kuro*" ink, which boasts incredibly deep black, does not smudge or float on paper, making it suitable for long-term preservation of important documents.

Platinum Pen "*Chou Kuro*"



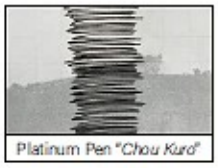
Platinum Pen current carbon ink

Platinum Pen dye ink

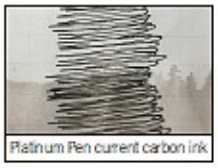
*Dyes may blot

Method of testing water resistance (1)

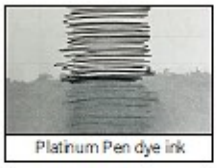
① Write on paper.
② Let t dry naturally for one minute
③ Drop water on it.
④ Leave for one minute.
⑤ Check to see if the ink has floated.



Platinum Pen "*Chou Kuro*"



Platinum Pen current carbon ink



Platinum Pen dye ink

*Dyes may blot

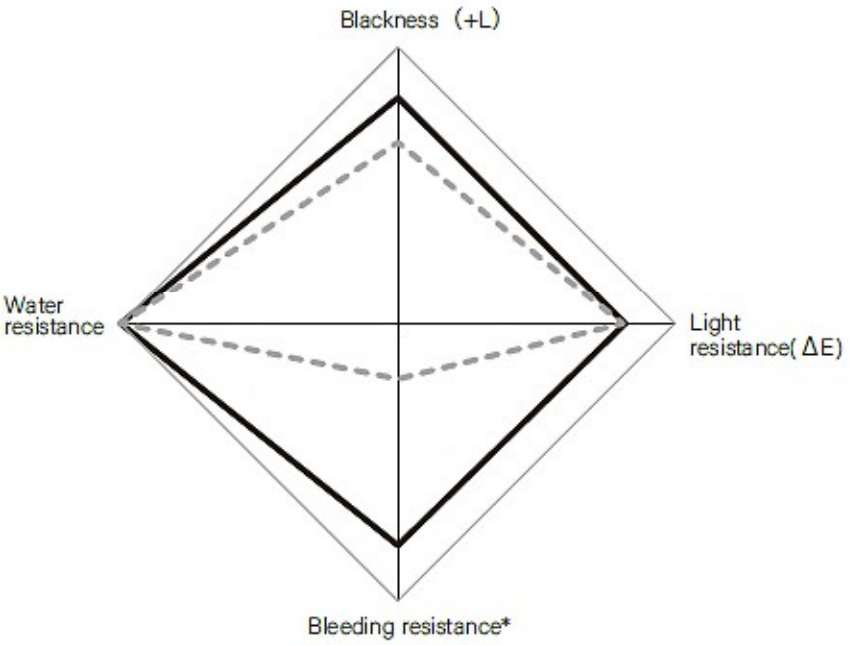
Method of testing water resistance (2)

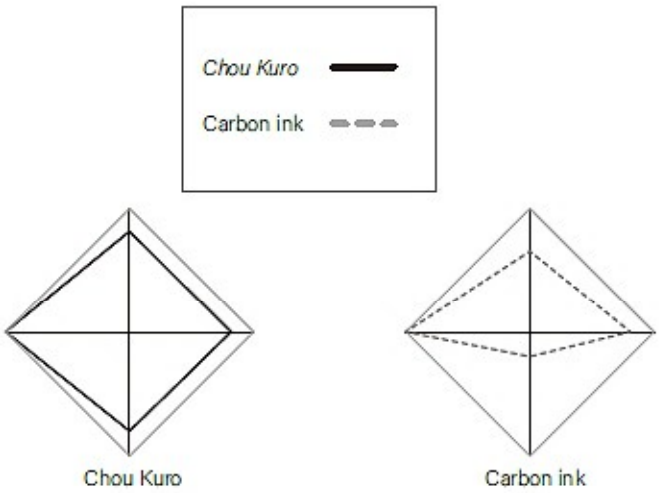
① Write on paper.
② Let it dry naturally for one minute.
③ Submerge half of the paper into water.
④ Leave for 30 minutes.
⑤ Remove from water and check to see if the ink has floated.

Concluding Remarks

"Chou Kuro", the Ultimate Black Ink

"Chou Kuro" ink satisfies the requirements for a pigment ink in every aspect. This ultimate black ink boasts exceptional blackness as well as resistance to fading, bleeding and water.





*Scoring method for bleeding: Deduction system out of 10 based on three criteria:
① Visual inspection
② Under magnification
③ Translucency.
Two points deducted for each if bleeding is observed.

Maintenance

Retain Intense Blackness with Proper Care

Careful maintenance is required to ensure that *"Chou Kuro"* ink stays intensely black.
PLEASE USE PURIFIED WATER, DO NOT USE TAP WATER WHEN CLEANING *"CHOU-KURO"* INK.

This ink stands out because the pigment particles react with and adhere to the mineral components in the paper. Tap water typically contains minerals, and if a fountain pen is cleaned using tap water, the ink particles inside the pen nib that were not washed away may adhere to the minerals and potentially affect ink flow.

Cleaning method What you need : A converter, purified water, container and dry cloth

① 

Fill a container with an ap propriate amount of purified water. Attach converter to the gripping section, then soak it into the water and squeeze water in and out of the converter.

② 

Repeat until no more ink comes through. Fill the container with fresh purified water and soak the gripping section (with converter removed) overnight to loosen dried ink and other dirt inside the section.

③ 

Attach the converter again and squeeze water in and out for a few times to clean inside the gripping section.

④ 

Rinse the pen nib with purified water and wipe it with a dry cloth. Leave it to dry in a place avoiding the direct sunlight.

Specifications

Name	Chou Kuro
Item no.	INKC-5000
Color	#1 Black
JAN code	4977114-409578

Product Specifications

Bottle size	56 mm (W) 56 mm (D) 63 mm (H) Standard weight : Approx. 178 g
Capacity	60ml