

Diary Study - Analog pen usage

Overview

Ready to kick it old school?

In this study, we'd like to learn about how you use traditional tools like pen, pencil and paper for writing, sketching, drawing, annotating or anything else you would use these for at home, work and/or school.

By "paper" we mean anything from napkins to notepads to calendars to handouts to books to post-its... you get the idea. And "pen and pencil" could also include markers or highlighters or anything else you might use to write, mark or draw with.

You'll share all this by sending us photos plus a bit of commentary (we call these "snippets") right from your mobile phone.

Instructions

Over the next 2 days, your mission is to catalogue all the ways you use pen, pencil, and paper-like tools. It could be something you do...

- for work, school, or personal use
- frequently or infrequently
- individually or with others
- in the past or “in the moment”

If you do it, we want to see it!

Take a moment before diving in to look around your home or office and really think about the ways you use traditional tools that are important, meaningful, unique, or otherwise representative of you in some way. Try to focus more on *uses* than the tools themselves -- we're more interested in what you're doing with that favorite pen, than about the pen itself. And if a way you use traditional tools doesn't come up during the 2 days of the study, feel free to get creative to recreate it or take a photo of a past artifact of it.

For each snippet, take a picture, give it a title, and tell us a bit about what you're doing and why by answering the follow-up questions. We're looking for 20 snippets total, but if you feel like sending more – go for it!

Here are some tips for submitting superstar snippets:

- Spell it out. A picture may be worth a 1,000 words, but a detailed description from you is priceless! A sentence or two is ideal for the follow-up questions. Think of each snippet as a mini story that you are telling us, almost like a diary entry.
- 3-5 minutes per snippet is all you need. We know you want to do a good job, but don't make this harder than it needs to be.
- Mix it up. Get creative and aim for variety in your snippets. Remember we're looking for you to catalogue ALL the different things you do, so think broadly and about what really represents you.
- Set the scene. Help us understand the situation or context around what you're doing. Perhaps take a step back before taking the photo, to include not only what you're writing with and on, but what's going on around it.
- Start now, and don't wait 'til the last minute. Trust us, we don't like nagging you any more than you like being nagged.
- Ask for help. If something is confusing or not working or un-fun in any way...stop, drop, and call Amy! We are here for you. Use us.
- And lastly, be thoughtful and be yourself. We like you, that's why you're here. So let your personality come through and make each submission count.

Thanks in advance for your help & participation!

Snippet Content

1. Open-Ended Question

Tell us about what's in the photo – what tools are being used, what are you trying to accomplish, etc.?

2. Picture Prompt

Picture + Title

3. Short Response

Title your snippet

Entry Headline

4. Open-Ended Question

Why do you choose to do it this way instead of digitally (e.g. using a computer, tablet, phone, etc.)?

5. Single Select Question

How often do you do this?

- Constantly!
- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Only once in a blue moon