

Pencils for score keeping

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My 'baseball pencil' choice

Last month Joshua from the Netherlands sent me an email. He is using pencils for the purpose of keeping score during baseball games. He wrote:

For baseball score keeping addicts, like myself and many others out there, there are three important things to a pencil:

1. lead must not smear
2. a good sharpener so you can use the pencil without sharpening too often during a match (which can take up to three and a half hours)
3. a good eraser.

(4th optional: a good red pencil!!)



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Pencils are the secret... and some minor details of the inside of our scorebook @allyomally07 just drop me a DM for any inquiries. We're quick 📝 ✎ 📱 📧 #keepscore #scoreboek #scorebook #iittala

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Pencil (graphite) and no sharpener

Keeping all the requirements in mind my first idea for a graphite pencil is a Mars Lumograph in F. It doesn't smear and will keep the point for a long time. I have written many pages of text in meetings with the Lumograph in F, without sharpening, so I think it should be able to survive 3½h of writing of score keeping.

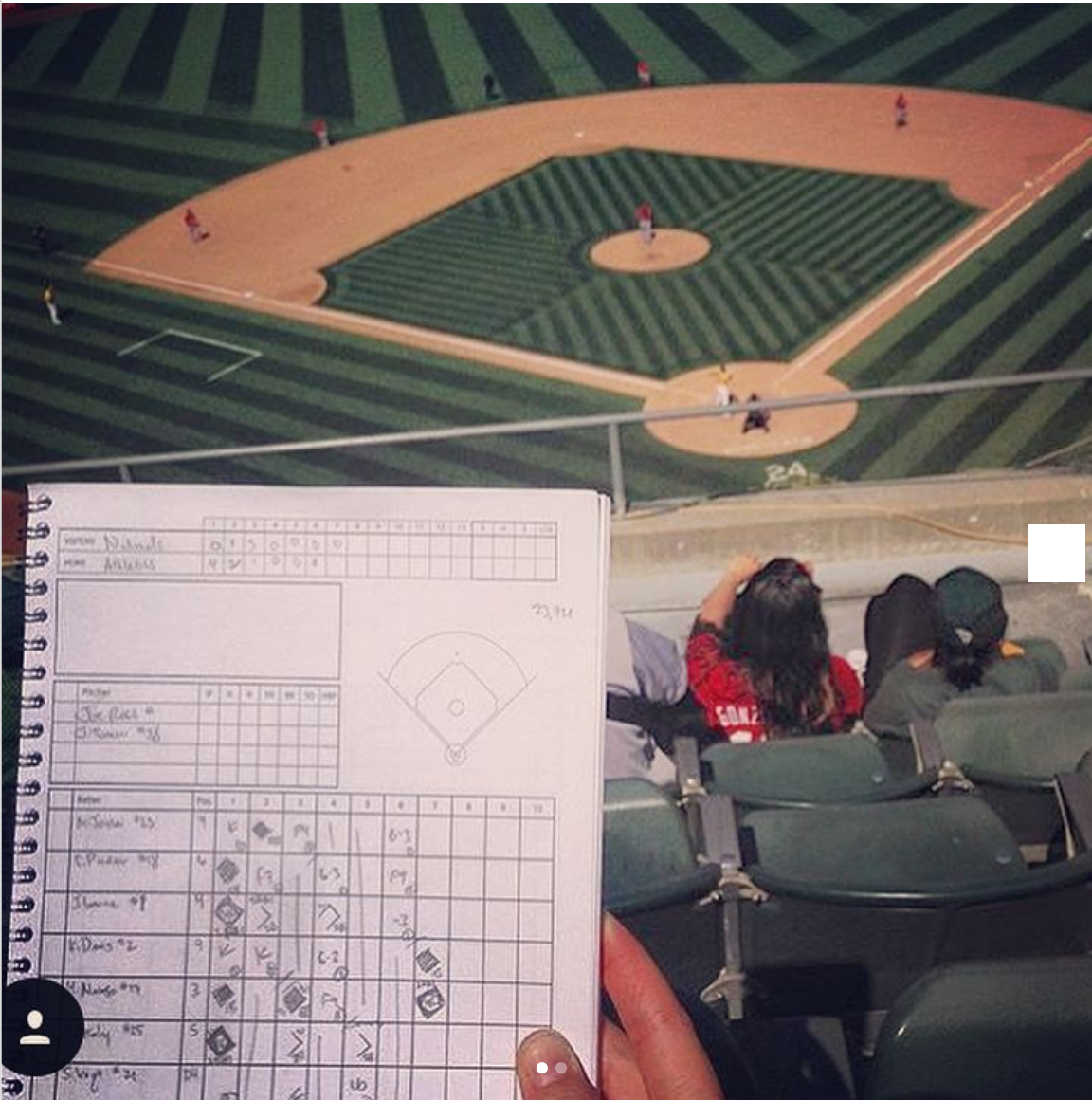
Eraser

There is no eraser tipped version of the Lumograph, so I would take a dust free eraser with me. My favourite type of eraser. You can get them from Faber-Castell (in [big](#) and [small](#)), Staedtler, [Tombow](#) and [many other brands](#).



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Repost from my personal account... these photos ought to be on this account as well... thanks @girlswhokeepscore for the photos!! #scorebook #keepscore

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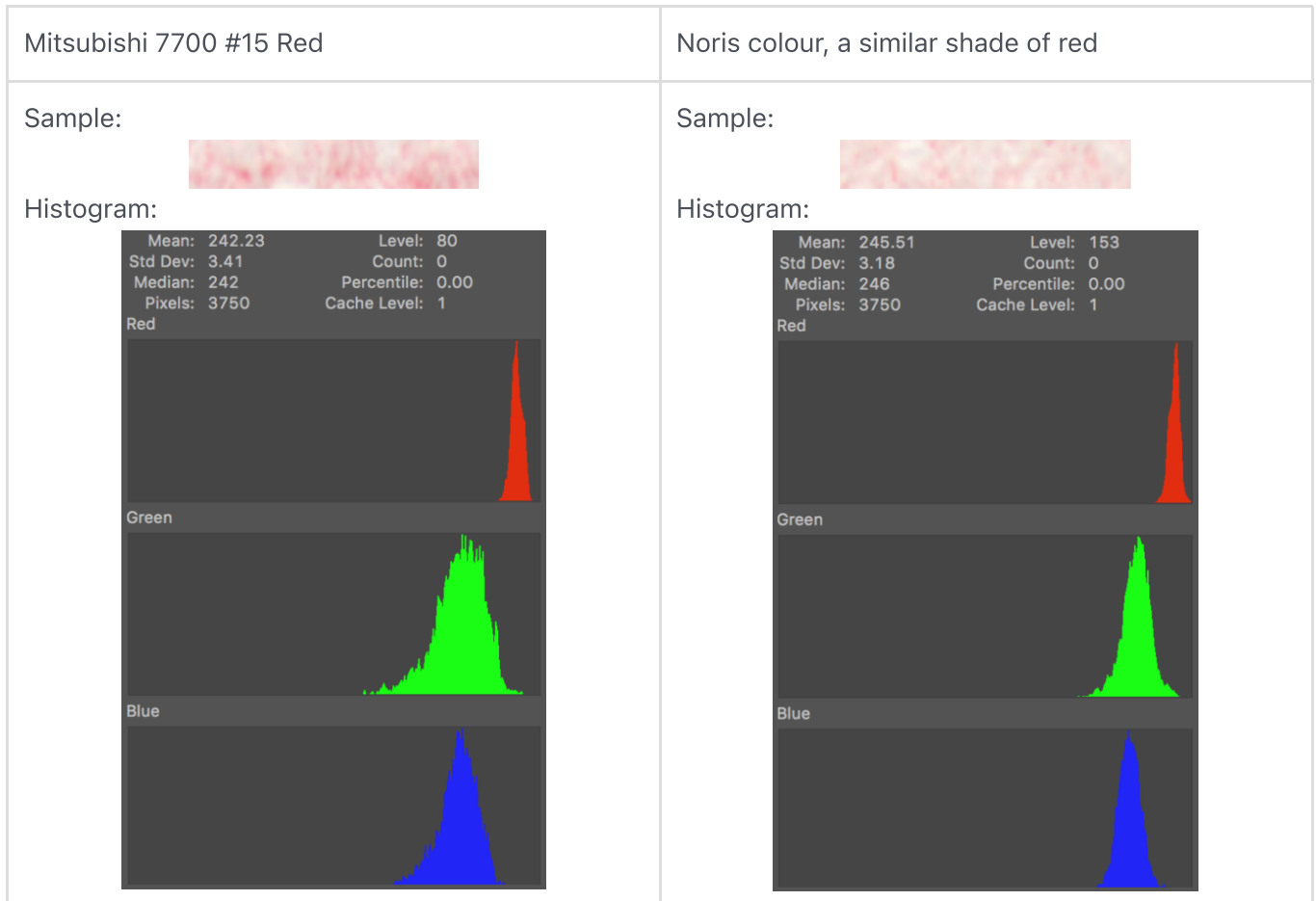
Red pencil

Joshua explains:

The red pencils are commonly used for the things: number the strike-outs and underline red handed players. So they're mostly used for writing numbers.

As a good red pencil that keeps the point for while I would go for the Staedtler Noris colour, made from Wopex material, or the Mitsubishi 7700. Both pencils have been [covered in this previous blog post](#). Mitsubishi's 7700 line was stopped, but luckily the red 7700 is still available.

As described in that blog post the Mitsubishi creates a darker shade of red on the paper (...at least when used with 1.8 N and an angle of 90° while moving along the paper with 25 mm/s. The pencils will behave differently under different conditions).



The comments from Josha's Instagram account imply that he is selling notebooks he made for baseball score keeping. I don't have further information and didn't try to explore this further. I just liked matching the pencil requirements to real world pencils.

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