INSULIN PENS

For many people with diabetes, insulin pens are a more convenient and portable option than vials and syringes. They can also make insulin delivery easier for anyone with arthritis or other dexterity issues. Here’s a roundup of available insulin pens.

NOVO NORDISK TRESIBA FLEXTOUCH
Disposable INSULINS
Tresiba U-100
Tresiba U-200
DOSE DELIVERY
For U-100: 1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time.
For U-200: 2-unit increments, up to 160 units at a time.
TOTAL CAPACITY
For U-100: 300 units
For U-200: 600 units
DETAILS
Pen is dark blue with a light green (U-100) or dark green (U-200) label. Spring-loaded mechanism requires less force for dose delivery. Includes a non-extending dose button. There is an audible click at the end of the dose, but to ensure full dose is delivered, keep needle under skin and dose button depressed after dose counter returns to zero, then slowly count to six.

NOVO NORDISK FIASP FLEXTOUCH
Disposable INSULIN
Fiasp
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is navy blue with a yellow label. Spring-loaded mechanism requires less force for dose delivery. There is an audible click at the end of the dose, but to ensure full dose is delivered, keep needle under skin and dose button depressed after dose counter returns to zero, then slowly count to six.

NOVO NORDISK LEVEMIR FLEXTOUCH
Disposable INSULIN
Levemir
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is navy with a green label. Spring-loaded mechanism requires less force for dose delivery. There is an audible click at the end of the dose, but to ensure full dose is delivered, keep needle under skin and dose button depressed after dose counter returns to zero, then slowly count to six.

NOVO NORDISK NOVOLOG FLEXPEN
Disposable INSULINS
NovoLog
NovoLog Mix 70/30
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 60 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is blue, with different colored labels, cartridge holders, and dosing knobs for various types of insulin. Dial returns to zero after injection to indicate delivery.

NOVO NORDISK NOVOPEN ECHO
Reusable INSULIN
NovoLog PenFill Cartridges
DOSE DELIVERY
Half-unit increments, up to 30 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is red with optional decorative skins. Memory function shows units of last dose and hours since last injection.

NOVO NORDISK TRESIBA FLEXTOUCH
Disposable INSULIN
Tresiba U-100
Tresiba U-200
DOSE DELIVERY
For U-100: 1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time.
For U-200: 2-unit increments, up to 160 units at a time.
TOTAL CAPACITY
For U-100: 300 units
For U-200: 600 units
DETAILS
Pen is dark blue with a light green (U-100) or dark green (U-200) label. Spring-loaded mechanism requires less force for dose delivery. Includes a non-extending dose button. There is an audible click at the end of the dose, but to ensure full dose is delivered, keep needle under skin and dose button depressed after dose counter returns to zero, then slowly count to six.

SANOFI ADMELOG SOLOSTAR
Disposable INSULIN
Admelog
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is yellow with a burgundy label.

SANOFI APIDRA SOLOSTAR
Disposable INSULIN
Apidra
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is blue.

SANOFI LANTUS SOLOSTAR
Disposable INSULIN
Lantus
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is gray.

SANOFI TOUJEO MAX SOLOSTAR
Disposable INSULIN
Toujeo
DOSE DELIVERY
2-unit increments, up to 160 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
900 units
DETAILS
Pen is off-white with a green label.
SANOFI
TOUJEO
SOLOSTAR
Disposable
INSULIN
Toujeo
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
450 units
DETAILS
Pen is off-white with a green label.

ELI LILLY
BASAGLAR
KWIKPEN
Disposable
INSULIN
Basaglar
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 80 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
450 units
DETAILS
Pen is dark gray with a burgundy label.

ELI LILLY
HUMALOG
KWIKPEN
Disposable
INSULIN
Humalog U-200
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 60 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is light gray, with a green ring on the end of the dose knob and green bars on the label.

ELI LILLY
HUMALOG
KWIKPEN
Disposable
INSULINS
Humalog U-100
Humalog Mix 50/50
Humalog Mix 75/25
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 60 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is blue, with different colored labels for various types of insulin.

ELI LILLY
HUMALOG
KWIKPEN U-200
Disposable
INSULIN
Humalog U-200
DOSE DELIVERY
1-unit increments, up to 60 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
300 units
DETAILS
Pen is blue with an orange label.

ELI LILLY
HUMALOG
KWIKPEN
Disposable
INSULINS
Humulin N
Humulin 70/30
Humulin R U-500
DOSE DELIVERY
For all except U-500: 1-unit increments, up to 60 units at a time.
For U-500: 5-unit increments, up to 300 units at a time
TOTAL CAPACITY
For all except U-500: 300 units. For U-500: 1,500 units.
DETAILS
Humulin N and Humulin 70/30 pens are beige, with different colored labels and dosing knobs. The U-500 pen is aqua.

STAY SHARP
There’s no one-size-fits-all insulin pen needle, so shop around to find one that works for you. Focus on the needle’s length and thickness, its two most important features.

Needles range from 4 to 12.7 millimeters long. Your health care provider can advise you on the best length for you, but short needles generally work for most people. The thickness of a needle—what’s known as its gauge—may seem tricky. Here’s what you need to know: The higher the gauge, the thinner the needle. While thinner needles cause less pain during injection, thicker needles can deliver a dose more quickly.

Diabetes educators can recommend other features, such as needles that click onto a device. They can also help you troubleshoot issues, such as painful injections. Tip: Change your needle after each use. Dull needles make for more painful injections.