

Pencil Defined as a Concept

Definition A *pencil* is a writing instrument that —

- is long enough to hold comfortably in the hand.
 - has a sharpened point on one end.
 - has an eraser on the opposite end.
 - uses a thin rod of graphite as a writing medium.
 - sheathes the writing medium in wood to strengthen the graphite and to facilitate sharpening the point.
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Exception A pen is not a pencil, because it —

- has no sharpenable point.
 - usually has no eraser on one end.
 - uses a writing medium other than graphite.
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Diagram This diagram displays the concept group, tagged as *writing instrument*, containing —

- the concept group, tagged *pencil*, and
- the exception group, tagged *pen*.

