HB

✓ **HB** is part of the ***graphite grading scale*** that shows how hard or soft a pencil's lead is.

- **H** stands for *hard*, which makes lighter, finer marks.
- **B** stands for *black* or *bold*, which makes darker, softer marks.
- **HB** is right in the middle—balanced between hard and soft—making it ideal for general use like writing and light sketching.

✓ The **HB pencil** is commonly referred to as a No. 2 pencil in U.S. schools—it's the standard for exams and everyday **writing**.

✓ Because HB hits the middle of the scale, it produces a good balance:



- Not too soft (minimal smudging)
- Not too hard (easy to see)
- Easy to erase

Term	What It Means
H (Hard) Rs 695	Light, precise lines; great for technical drawing
B (Black/Soft)	Dark, bold lines; great for shading and art
HB (Balanced) Rs 349	Everyday writing and sketching—versatile and reliable