

Zeal Pearlio		
Switch Type: Linear		Gateron
29	/35	Push Feel
22	/25	Wobble
6	/10	Sound
8	/20	Context
5	/10	Other
70	/100	Total

Notes Push Feel

Carrying a much heavier factory lubrication than any of Zeal's previous switches, these UHMWPE stemmed, medium weighted linears are perfectly smooth out of the bag and don't require modification on any of the batch that I received. That being said, though, the one relevant but not overbearing issue with the push feel is that of the thinner, occasionally poppy topping out onto the polycarbonate top housings which can be inconsistent at different activation speeds.

Wobble

The stem wobble on the Pearlios is by far one of their best-selling points. While there is still the tiniest amount in both N/S and E/W directions, its among the least wobbly of switches that both Zeal and Gateron have ever put out, regardless of whether or not they use the new CAP design.

Sound

Closely mirroring that of the push feel section above, the sound of the Pearlios is entirely dominated by the thin, pointed, and somewhat high-pitched topping out that drowns out the rather muted and quiet bottoming out. Occasionally, the poppy topping out feeling is accompanied by a sticking like sound, as well, which is a bit distracting all things considered.

Context

While the Pearlios switches certainly show a strong surge in improvement among Zeal's strictly linear switch line, the contextual side of these switches really couldn't be worse. Aside the overshadowing of these by the tandem release with Clickiez switches, the price at \$1.40 per switch is astronomical for the performance it provides as a *linear* switch in 2022.

Other

This switch will forever be a conflicting one and certainly one which did not help Zeal's public opinion in 2022. While undoubtedly a tangible improvement over that of other previous Zeal linears, the pricing – regardless of design upgrades – is simply tone deaf to the community.