

Pen Making Steps

1. Select pen kit and blank
 - A. Ensure you have the correct drill bit and bushings
 - B. Match blank to the finish of the pen kit
2. Mark blank
 - A. On some blanks (acrylic or dark wood) use tape and mark on it
3. Cut blank
 - A. Band saw works great. Table saw works too.
4. Drill blank
 - A. Can use drill press or lathe with a Jacobs chuck
 - B. Go slow. Clear the drill bit every ¼ inch, especially with acrylic.
5. Glue tubes
 - A. Sand outside of tubes—roughens the brass and gives better adhesion
 - B. Apply glue to inside of blank (I use an old screwdriver) and then apply to outside of tube
 - C. CA glue sticks to fingers—use insertion tool (made from nib, washer, and 7mm tube)
6. Square ends
 - A. If ends are not square, the blank will not meet up with the pen components properly (gap)
 - B. Sander—Need a jig to keep the blank straight (my preference)
 - C. Squaring Mill—Need to hold blank tight—can chip out blank
7. Turn as desired
 - A. Overall shape/design is up to turner
 - B. Turn ends close to bushings
8. Sand
 - A. Use sandpaper on wood
 - B. On acrylic, I use sandpaper to 320 and then use Zona polishing paper (wet).
9. Finish
 - A. Wood
 1. Friction polish
 2. Mahoney's Walnut Oil
 3. CA glue
 4. Wipe on Poly
 - B. Acrylic
 1. Plastic polish
10. Assemble pen
 - A. Use a press (pen press, drill press, or [lathe](#))
 - B. Keep components straight (can cause damage if not straight)
 - C. If clip can be removed before assembly, remove it or use plastic bags from the pen kits

Send me an email for suppliers that I use for pen making supplies jimspencreations@gmail.com