

william wood-write

Key Chain Kit Assembly Instructions



Needed:

Mandrel A, drill J/7mm, bushing 1A

Preparing the blank

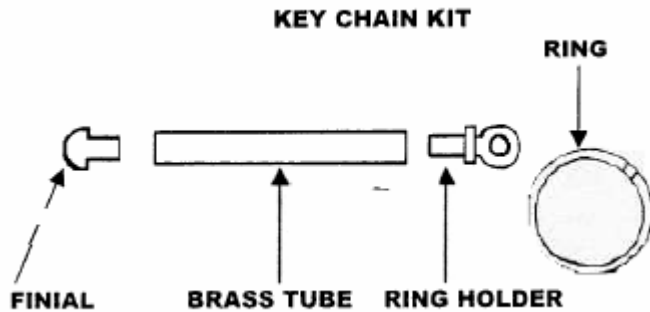
1. Cut wood a little longer than the length of the tube (1/16" – 1/8") so you can square off.
2. Scuff up the tube with sandpaper to clean off the oxidation and give the glue a better adhesion surface.
3. Plug the ends of the tube with a material of your choice – we recommend base plate wax – to keep the glue from getting into the tube. Push the tube ends into a thin section of the material to form a plug.
4. Prepare your glue. We recommend two part epoxy glue – use a fast drying type, one hour or less. Be sure to mix it thoroughly. Wax or baking paper or even a Post-it notepad all make excellent mixing surfaces. You can also use thick flexible CA glue, but you have to work quickly to get the tube all the way into the blank before the glue dries.
5. Roll the tube in the epoxy. Insert the tube with a twisting motion until it is almost entirely inside the blank. Then use a dowel or small stick to push it until the tube is equidistant between both ends of the blank.
6. Set aside until the epoxy has had time to reach its maximum strength.
7. When the glue has cured, use a hobby knife to remove the plugs from the ends
8. Using a barrel trimmer of the proper size, square off the ends of the blanks until you can see bright brass tube. STOP at this point. This can also be done with the proper jig and a disk sander.

Turning the blank

1. Assemble the blank and bushings on the mandrel.
2. Tighten the tailstock before tightening the blank on the mandrel. This will centre the mandrel first. Then lightly tighten the nut that holds the blanks. Do not over-tighten the brass thumbnut or apply excessive force as this can bend your mandrel and cause your pen to come out oval. You may use a spacer to give you more room between the thumbnut and the last bushing.
3. Turn the blank to the desired contour, using the bushings as a sizing guide.
4. Sand the surface in progressive steps until you get to 400 or 500 grit.
5. You can use a finish of your choice, but for a high polish finish, we recommend using thin CA glue and Micro Mesh through 12,000 grit. Remove the blank from the lathe, and apply a layer of thin CA in even strokes, using a Q-Tip. Try not to overlap the glue, as this creates ridges you will have to sand off.
6. Put the blank back on the lathe and sand until smooth, using 1,500 grit Micro Mesh. This first coat of CA seals the wood.

7. Remove the blank from the lathe again and repeat. This can be done as many times as you want, although two coats of CA are usually sufficient.
8. When you're done applying CA, sand using all grits of Micro Mesh to 12,000 grit. This will give your blank a durable, shiny finish. You can also use other finishes of your choice, and sand using Micro Mesh.
9. Remove the blank from the mandrel.

Assembling the kit



1. Push the finial and ring holder into the ends of the finished tube as per the diagram above.