

Cigar Letter Opener



Needed:

Mandrel A, drill 10 mm, bushing 11A (use the largest (14.59 mm) and second smallest (12 mm) bushings - match up to parts if not sure)

Preparing the blank

1. Cut the blank $\frac{1}{4}$ " longer than the brass tubes so you can square it off once the tube has been glued in.
2. Drill the blank lengthwise through the center with a 10 mm drill bit.
3. Scuff up the tube with sandpaper to clean off the oxidation and give the glue a better adhesion surface.
4. Plug the tube ends with a material of your choice – we recommend baseplate wax – to keep the glue from getting into the tube. Just push the ends of the tubes into a thin section of the material to form a plug.
5. Roll the tube in the glue and insert it into the blank with a twisting motion until it is equidistant between both ends of the blank.
6. Set aside until the glue has had time

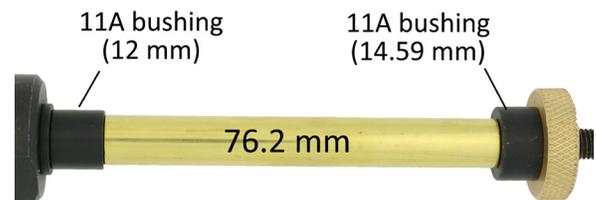
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to reach its maximum strength.

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 or the proper jig and a disk sander, square off the ends of the blanks until you can see bright brass tube.

Turning the blank



1. Assemble the blank on the mandrel using the 11A bushings and following the diagram above.
2. Turn the blank to the desired shape using the bushings as a sizing guide.
3. Sand the surface in progressive steps until you get to 400 or 600 grit.
4. For a high gloss finish, continue sanding with Micro Mesh to 12,000 grit and use a finish of your choice.
5. Remove the blank from the mandrel.

Assembling the kit

1. Slide large gold ring onto black hilt. Press this part into larger end of finished blank.
2. Slide one small gold ring over thread of silver threaded insert. Screw on finial and press into small end of finished blank.
3. Place other small gold ring onto black hilt and screw in blade. The blade will center this small ring.
4. Glue the blade in to help secure it.

