AXMINSTER woodturning

Click-it Pen Kit Instructions

Gold code: 504661

Kit Includes
1. Refill
2. Button Extension
3. Click Shaft
4. Click Sleeve
5. Click Mechanism Spring
6. Refill Spring
7. Click Mechanism Nib
8. Brass Tubes
9. Centre Coupler
10. Finial/Clip Assembly
11. Nib Assembly

What's Required
• Pen Mandrel
• Bushings (code: 506321)
• Suitable blank 16 x 16mm
• 11/32" Drill Bit (code: 502105)

Preparing the Material Blanks

1. Two blanks are required for this pen. Cut the material blank approx 1/8" longer than the brass tubes.

2. Drill the blanks through the centre , lengthwise, with an 11/32" drill bit.

3. Roughen the brass tubes with sandpaper. The purpose of the sanding is to clean off the oxidation and roughen the tube so that the glue will have better adhesion to the surface.

4. Plug the ends of the tube with the material of your choice. Some use base wax, a dental product, or Play Dough, or even a slice of potato. Just push the ends of the tubes into a thin section of the material. This will form a plug to keep the glue from getting into the tube.

5. Clean the tube, after plugging, with acetone or alcohol on a rag.

6. Prepare your glue. We recommend two-part epoxy glue that is available in all hardware stores. Use a fast drying type, one hour or less. Be sure to mix it thoroughly. (A Post-it Note Pad makes an excellent mixing place. When you are finished just peel off the top page and throw it away.) Polyurethanes and thick flexible CA's can be used, but they each have their drawbacks.

7. Place some epoxy into the blank using a small piece of dowel or other small stick.

8. Roll the tube in the epoxy.

9. Insert the tube with a twisting motion until it is almost in the material blank. Then use the dowel to push it in until the end is flush with the blank. Use the stick to rake off the excess glue flush with the blank and the tube.

10. Push the brass tube through the blank until the other end is flush with the blank.Then rake the glue flush with that end. Now push the tube back into the blank until the tube is equidistant between both ends of the blank.

11. Set aside for 60 minutes until the epoxy has had time to reach its maximum strength.

12. If you are using CA glue, the wait is only about 60 seconds. When using polyurethane glue the wait can be up to 24 hours.

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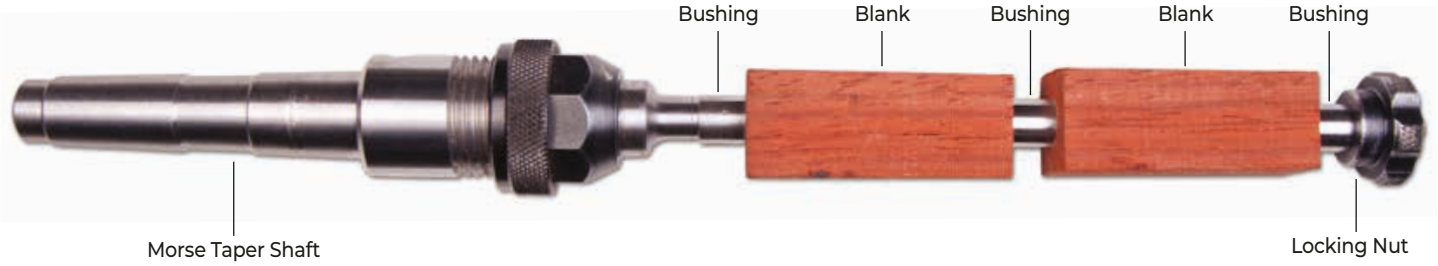
Turning the Blanks



1. Assemble the blanks onto the mandrel using the (506321) bushing set. The blanks should be finished flush with these bushings at each end.

2. If using a standard pen mandrel you will need to add spacers to the mandrel shaft so that the mandrel nut can be tightened onto the assembly. The Axminster deluxe mandrel (211322 1MT or 211323 2MT) can be adjusted for length so no spacers are required.

3. Mount the assembly onto the lathe and do not over-tighten the tailstock centre onto the mandrel causing it to flex. Make sure the mandrel nut is secure.

4. Turn the blanks to the desired shape making sure that the diameter at each end is the same or slightly proud of the bushing diameter.

5. If finishing timber, progressively sand down to around 400 grit and apply the finish of your choice. For Acrylics continue sanding the sanding process with Micro-Mesh abrasives to 12000 grit and then use polishing compound for a high gloss finish.

6. Remove the finished blanks from your mandrel and your pen is now ready for assembly.

Assembling the Pen

1. Press the Tip into the end of the Lower Tube. Make sure you choose the appropriate end of the Tube to preserve the pattern or grain match for your pen.

2. Press the Centre Coupler into the open end of the Lower Tube, leaving the threaded end exposed.

3. Thread the Threaded Brass Insert onto the Centre Coupler and then align the grain pattern of the Upper and Lower blanks. Using hand pressure, push the Upper Tube onto the Threaded Brass Insert until the Upper Tube is firmly seated and will not twist or fall out.

4. Gently unscrew the Upper Tube, making sure the Threaded Brass Insert does not shift. Fully press the Threaded Brass Insert into the Upper Tube

5. Insert the Click Sleeve into the Finial/Clip Assembly, the end with the “ribs” is slightly smaller and will fit inside easily.

6. Insert the Button Extension into the Click Shaft until the gears mesh together.

7. Insert the Button Extension assembly into the Click Sleeve, threaded end first.

8. Insert the Click Spring into the Cap Coupler, around the threaded end of the Button Extension.

9. Thread the Button onto the Button Extension assembly. Use the black end of the Ink Cartridge to push the Button Extension assembly toward the end of the Cap Coupler.

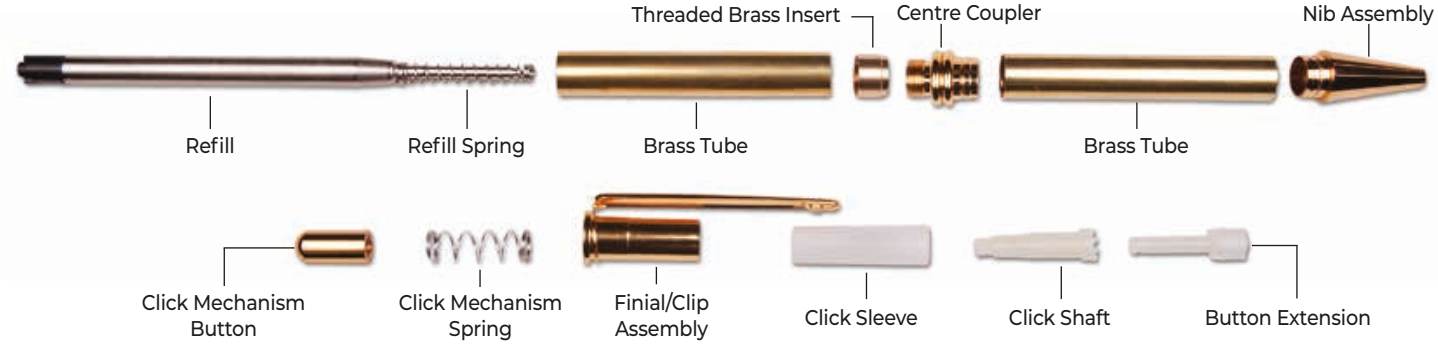
10. Make a pressing block by drilling a 1/4” diameter hole into a 3/4” thick piece of scrap wood.

11. Slide the Clip onto the Clicker assembly, then insert the Clicker assembly Button into the pressing block. Press the Clicker assembly into the far end of the Upper Tube, using the pressing block to prevent damage to the mechanism when pressing into place.

12. Slide the Spring onto the writing tip of the Ink Cartridge.

13. Insert the Ink Cartridge into the Lower Tube through the Center Coupler.

14. Thread the Upper Tube onto the Lower Tube and check the operation. If the operation is a little stiff, click the mechanism several times to break it in.



To replace the refill unscrew the lower body from the upper body as illustrated above.

Axminster Tools, Axminster, Devon, EX13 5PH

axminstertools.com