Basic Assembly Instructions for the Celtic Knot Epoxy Filled Pen Blank

The pen you see above is not an inlay. All of the recesses you see in Fig.1 are filled with 2 part epoxy mixed with a bit of Spring Green Pearl Ex pigment (Fig.2). We’ve included enough Pearl Ex with each kit to complete this pen. We’ll start by inserting the brass tube from your PSI Celtic twist pen kit into the basswood barrel. Make sure it’s centered and then apply a few drops of thin CA into all of the cutouts as well as the walls of the cutouts. This will seal the basswood and prevent the pigment from possibly bleeding into the wood. Once the glue has set, mix approx. 1 teaspoon each of the 2 parts of the epoxy (See Fig.3) available at any Home Depot. Once mixed, add about 1/3 of the supplied Pearl Ex powder and mix just enough so there’s no powder remaining in the mix. We’re going to use 3 batches of epoxy to complete the pen barrel. Fig. 4 will show you what recesses to fill with the first batch. This is 5 minute epoxy so you’ll have to work at a good pace. Apply the epoxy with a small pointed dowel or toothpick and poke the smaller holes to eliminate any trapped air. The 2nd and 3rd batches will obviously fill the right side and the left sides of the pattern. Once all recesses are filled and the epoxy has cured, square up the ends of the blanks flush with the brass tube. Do not use a barrel trimmer for this. Sanding or a cut-off saw is the way to go. Because of the thickness of the finished blank there should be no concern about turning away the engraved lines in the pattern as they’re cut about 95% through the barrel. Use any finish you’re comfortable with on this. These blanks can also be cast with resin so if you make you own blanks, the possibilities are endless. We’ll be making more of these using different patterns in different pen styles in the near future.

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