Instructions for the Fire and Rescue Inlay Kit

This kit is made up of Red dyed Basswood, Natural Basswood, Curly Maple and silver acrylic. We’re going to start by sealing all around the edges of the logo pattern on the Maple barrel with thin CA using a small disposable artists brush. Wipe any excess off so it won’t interfere with the fit of the adjacent pieces. This will eliminate the possibility of the red dye bleeding into the maple. Also, at this time put a small dot of thin CA glue on the engraved ladder piece #4 as this piece is very fragile and could break apart during assembly if this isn’t done. Next we’ll slide the brass tube from your pen kit into the curly maple barrel from the inlay kit. Don’t glue this in just yet. We’re just using it to help align the pieces as they’re assembled. The pieces will be assembled in numerical order so we’ll start with the left red cross trim piece (#1) followed by the fire hydrant panel (#2). Pieces #1 and #3 appear to be identical but they’re not so try both pieces for the best fit. Same applies to pieces #5 and #7. Secure this with one of the supplied elastic bands and proceed to the right side, top and bottoms and center using elastic bands as you go. Fig 1 will show you where you should be at this point. Slide the brass tube out and apply thin CA glue to the seams of the pieces you’ve just assembled. When this is dry, slide the brass tube back in and proceed with the remaining pieces. Once they’re all in place, slide the brass tube out again and flood all the seams with thin CA glue.

Use 2-part epoxy to glue in the brass tube. Make sure the tube is perfectly centered so there’s the same amount of space on either end. Once the glue has cured, sand the ends flush with the brass tube using a belt or disc sander. Don’t use a barrel trimmer. Now you can mount the blank on the lathe for final turning and finishing. Apply whatever finish you’re comfortable with as they all work well with these inlay kits.

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