

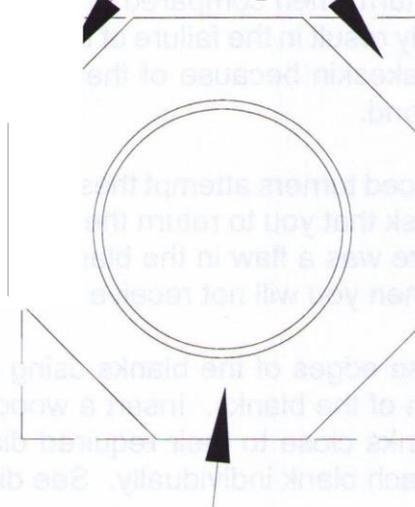
Rattlesnake Pen Blank Turning Instructions

Always use eye protection and a dust mask while turning!

These blanks can be more difficult to turn when compared to wood or alumilite so it is recommended that more experienced turners attempt to turn these blanks. Failures to follow these directions will more than likely result in the failure of the blank(s).

If you 'blow up' a blank we do not automatically replace it. We will ask that you to return the damaged blank for examination and if the manufacturer determines that there was a flaw in the blank they will replace it.

Sand Edges



Pen Blank

Using a disc sander which is (recommended) - (**not a barrel trimmer**) and being careful, trim the ends of the blanks (for length) per the pen kit instructions. Chamfer the mouth of the brass tube in order to remove any burrs inside the mouth of the brass tube. If you do not feel comfortable turning the edges off, simply sand them off using a disc or belt sander.

Place the blank with the appropriate bushings on the mandrel and turn your blank down to the bushings. Rather than using turning tools, some people will use a fine-tooth, flat bastard file to bring the acrylic down. **DO NOT SAND THE ACRYLIC MATERIAL ALL THE WAY TO THE BUSHINGS!** Leave a small amount of acrylic above the bushings for final sanding (about .05" to .07"). The snake skins add about .07" to the diameter of the tubes. If you sand the acrylic down to the bushings you can easily ruin the blank by exposing the snake skin.

Some kits have the necessary "extra diameter" to accommodate the extra diameter need for the snake skin blanks but, until you are absolutely sure that sanding down to the bushings will not expose the skin, we suggest that you err on the side of caution. If the finished acrylic material is larger than the nib, center band, finial, etc. round off the sharp edge of the acrylic with sandpaper so as to blend in with the metal parts. If you have any tool marks than lightly sand them out to 800 grit. If an air bubble is exposed while sanding use a tiny drop of medium CA glue to fill it BEFORE you begin the final finishing process.

Finishing: Wet sand using the acrylic finishing pads (BG114) and then buff the blanks with the Acrylic Pen Buffing System (BG012). Remember to chamfer the inside of the blank before assembly to ensure that the inside of the tubes are free of any debris prior to assembly to avoid cracking the blanks.