

# Making the Diplomat pen



The “kit” contains ALL THIS:



Start by taking the brass tube out.

Now, take your pen blank and cut it to the length of the brass tube, plus about a half an inch (total 2.75” plus or minus a little).

Now, drill the blank with a 10.5mm (for plastics) or 27/64” (for wood blanks) drill bit. After drilling the hole, test fit the brass tube into it, the tube should slide in, without much friction. If you are using a resin that you expect to be somewhat translucent, now is the time to paint your brass tube, and/or the inside of the hole you just made. IF you are going to paint, you MAY want to make the hole a little larger, either by using a 7/16” bit or by sanding the inside of the hole a little, by putting sandpaper around a wood dowel.

Once the blank is glued on, “face” the ends with a barrel trimmer or sand the ends smooth and flat to the brass. The brass length is NOT a critical adjustment.

mounted on  
bushings

Mount on a standard “7 millimeter” mandrel rod and turn the blank down close to the bushings. (Bushing sizes will range from .465” to .50”) It is a good idea to measure the kit components and determine what diameter YOU like. On the Diplomat 2 kits, 0.47” is a nice fit, on the Diplomat 4, there is considerable latitude, because the four rings are actually .5” ish. A caliper is a good investment and can improve the quality of ALL your turned pens. But, you can use the above as a rough guide and achieve a pretty good result!!

## Page 2--Assembly

“clip  
assembly”



Before beginning assembly, make certain there is no glue remaining in the ends of your tubes. The first half inch of each end MUST be CLEAN. Use a small penknife or a round file to clean it out thoroughly!!!

The Diplomat is different from many other kits (similar to the original kits called sierras). You can put the spring on the refill and insert it into the “nib end” and screw on the transmission without having to do anything with your turned blank (now pen barrel).

Once the lower part of the pen is assembled, test it using the transmission, does it extend? Retract? It works!!!

NOW, line up your pen barrel (that you just turned) with the nib end (that you just assembled) and see which end of the barrel fits better on your nib end. Remember, this is the junction that you will feel when you write--try to optimize your fit on this end. Then, push the clip assembly into the end you have decided to make the “top” of the pen.

Test operation again, if it does NOT move smoothly, you have crud in the brass tube. Reclean!!

If it works great, just “take a bow” and make the next one!!!

It should look a lot like this:



Thank-you for purchasing your Diplomat  
components from:

*[www.exoticblanks.com](http://www.exoticblanks.com)*