

PEN END SANDER

Designed by Bruce Wood

Two part, or one part, pen kits which rely on a brass tube inside a piece of wood rely on an end mill to dress the ends of the wood down to flush with the end of the brass. When a pen is made with a resin instead of wood the end mill chips rather than dresses the end of the resin. A better way to dress the ends is to sand them down. A jig is needed to hold the pen part perfectly square to the sanding surface.



Assemble the parts. The securing plate may be made in two parts or some other manner that does not require removal of the banjo and tailstock to get the pen sander fitted to the lathe. The bolts to hold the securing plate may be secured at one end and may pass either up through the base plate or down.

You will need to obtain a series of brass or steel mandrels to fit inside the pen blanks you intend to sand. These mandrels should be at least twice the length of the pen blank.



The swinging arm must be clear of the sanding disc when it is at rest position.

Mount a sanding disc on the lathe. Fit a mandrel to the pen part sander so that it protrudes for a distance slightly greater than the pen part to be sanded. Mount the pen part sander so that there is space to lift the swinging arm, with the mandrel fitted, clear of the sanding surface. Lower the swinging arm below the edge of the sanding disc, slide on a pen part, raise the swinging arm, slide the pen part up to the sanding surface.