

Assembly Instructions for the Totem Pole Inlay Kit



We're going to start this kit by sliding the brass tube from the pen kit into the yellow cedar totem pole barrel from the inlay kit. This will support the barrel while we're pressing in the pieces. Using the numbered diagram on this sheet, insert pieces #1, #2, #3, and #4. Then carefully position the fish (#5) in place. Use one of the supplied elastic bands to hold these in place. Then press the tail (#6) in place by inserting the end closest to the bottom of the barrel in first and then pressing the other end in place. Carefully remove the brass tube and apply a few drops of thin CA to all the pieces you just assembled to lock them in place. Pic.1 will show you what the barrel should look like at this point.

We're now going to slide the brass tube back into the barrel and insert pieces #7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 in place. Remove the brass tube and apply a bit of thin CA glue to lock these pieces permanently in place. Finally we'll insert the remaining pieces #12-#19 in place. On the 2 Blackwood eye pieces (#17), check to see if the small triangle pieces have been removed. If not, poke them out with a pin or needle to allow the small holly pieces to fit. These holly pieces are extremely small. If you have a problem with them you can use a some 2 part epoxy with a small bit of white acrylic paint mixed in. Once all is dry, flood all of the seams with thin CA.

Once the thin CA has completely cured we're going to glue in the brass tube. Check the fit to see if you need to sand the inside of the barrel for the brass tube to fit smoothly. If you do, wrap a piece of sandpaper (100G-150G) around a small dowel and sand the inside until the brass tube fits smoothly.

Scuff up the brass tube with 100G sandpaper before gluing. I prefer 2-part epoxy to glue the brass tube in place. Never use polyurethane (Gorilla) glue with these inlay kits as the expansion while curing could seep through the glue joints of the inlay.

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. Apply whatever finish you're comfortable with as they all work well with the inlay kits. E-mail me at kallenshaan@cox.net with any thoughts or ideas regarding this or any future inlay kits.

