

Instructions for the Ladybug Inlay Kit



This kit is made up of a total of 6 pieces. The woods used are green dyed Boxelder burl, red dyed Basswood, Blackwood and Styrene rod. We're going to start by sliding the brass tube from your pen kit (not included) into the green boxelder barrel. This makes it easier to fit the remaining pieces of the kit together. Position the 2 red ladybug body pieces and then the 2 blackwood ladybug head pieces into the barrel. Carefully slide the brass tube out of the boxelder barrel. Secure the pieces with a small bit of thin CA glue being careful not to get any glue in the remaining recesses of the barrel. Press the styrene rod piece into the "eye" openings of the ladybugs use a small drop of thin CA glue to secure them in place. Once the glue has cured, trim flush with a pair of nail clippers. We've included a small block of blackwood with this inlay kit. Place a piece of 100G sandpaper flat on your workbench and use the block to make a bit of blackwood sawdust. This will be used to fill the small circles in the body of the ladybug. Use thin CA glue to lock the sawdust in place.

Now we'll glue the brass tube into the barrel. Check the fit of the tube as you might have to lightly sand the inside of the blank for a good fit. If you do, wrap a small dowel with 100G sandpaper and sand the inside of the barrel until the tube fits.

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.

E-mail me at kallenshaan@cox.net with any thoughts or ideas regarding this or any of our other kits.

