

24 kt Key Chain Kits - Instructions

Kit Features:

- Heavy 24kt plating
- Simplified construction through the use of a single brass tube

Step 1 - Cut wood blank

From 1/2" or larger square stock cut blank to the length of the tube plus 1/8". Grain should run lengthwise.

Step 2 - Drill the wood blank

Bore a centered hole lengthwise through the blank. Drill carefully since excessive pressure may cause the drill bit to wander and/or split the blank. Slow the feed rate and back the bit out repeatedly for chip removal. For best results - use a 7mm HSS drill bit.

Step 3 - Glue the tube into the blank

Apply epoxy or a gap filling cyanoacrylate (super glue), to the tube and insert into the blank with a twisting motion. This will spread the glue evenly. Center the tube within the blank and allow to dry.

Step 4 - Square the ends

With a disc sander or other sanding device, square the ends of the blank 90 degrees to the length of the brass tubes as needed. A 7mm barrel trimmer will also do an excellent job to square the ends by hand.

Step 5 - Turn the wood blank

Install the blank on a turning mandrel with the appropriate bushing on each side. Tighten the nut snugly and bring the tailstock center firmly against the end of the mandrel. Turn or file the diameter down to any shape that your creativity dictates. For best results, turn the ends of the tubes down to be the same as the diameter of the bushings.

Step 6 - Sand

As with any sanding, progress through a range of grits. The type of wood used and the quality of the beginning surface will dictate your selection:

- 80-100 grits if rough surface or additional shaping is needed (overly thick)
- 120-150 grits if fairly smooth and straight
- 220-240 for final finish with most domestic woods
- 320-400 especially on dense or oily exotic woods

Scotch Brite® is helpful as it doesn't tend to scratch. Sand with blank spinning. For initial shaping, stick a piece of sandpaper on a board 1-1/4" wide to remove any hills or valleys. Final sanding with the grain (lathe off). To obtain a flush fit with the pen hardware, sand to the exact diameter of the bushings (21/64" or .330"). A little heavier look is possible by leaving more material.

Step 7 - Finish

Try a finish of your choice but be careful if brushing on a poly, etc. you can stick the tube, bushings, and mandrel together. The following friction polish works well on most woods:

- 1/3 wood alcohol (methanol)
- 1/3 white or clear shellac
- 1/3 boiled linseed oil.

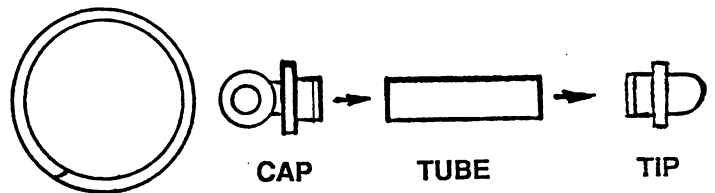
Mix equal parts of the three ingredients in a bottle and shake before using. Apply with a rag to the spinning tube. Keep the rag in contact with the wood to build up heat, thus sealing the finish. Apply two coats.

General Assembly hint:

- Use a clamp or vise with wood jaws to press parts together, squeeze slowly.

Step 8 - Key Chain Assembly

KEY RING



- Align key chain parts according to the diagram above
- Press tip into one end of the tube and cap into the other.
- Thread the key ring through the hole in the cap.