

EXOTIC SKIN BLANK INSTRUCTIONS

“Always use a dust mask and eye protection”

NOTE: These blanks are more difficult to turn than wood, but with patience, you will enjoy success.

Sharp tools and light cuts are absolutely necessary. We recommend that you have some experience in turning Acrylic Blanks. We suggest you learn on less expensive Acrylic Blanks before turning Skin Blanks.

Our “Skin Blanks” are different from others on the market because they are already round, and do not require trimming off square edges or barrel trimming to square the ends. They are already squared and cut to length for your specific pen kit style.

We do recommend that you chamfer the brass tubes to avoid possibly cracking the acrylic when pressing in the pen parts.

There are many ways to finish “Acrylic Blanks” and we mention this now because we have no idea what method you will use. If you **“WET SAND”** be sure to seal the cut ends of the brass tubes around the area of the skin. Water could possibly wick up the blank between the acrylic and the skin and ruin your pen. Seal with candle wax or CA Glue. (super glue). If you don't wet sand, skip this step.

Mount the pen blanks on your pen mandrel with the bushings for your kit, but **“Do Not”** *turn all the way to the bushings*. Leave a small amount above the bushings for finishing. If you turn all the way to the bushings, you could possibly expose the skin during the finishing process. Until you are sure that turning down to the bushings will not expose the skin, then err on the side of caution.

If the finished acrylic is larger than the Nib, Center Band, Finial, etc. just round off or taper the sharp edge to blend in with the metal parts.

Finish these blanks as you would any acrylic blank. If an air bubble is exposed while turning, use a drop of CA glue to fill it **“BEFORE”** you begin the sanding / polishing process.

We recommend sanding to 600 grit with regular sandpaper, then use Micro-Mesh to 12,000, then buff using White Diamond buffing compound and a buffing wheel, or use a Liquid Plastic Polish that eliminates the Micro-Mesh step.

Remember these are only suggestions and not hard and fast rules. Use what works for you.