

Wood Grip for Maglite

Contributed by: Rick Herrel

A.K.A "rherrel"



www.penturners.org

This tutorial was downloaded from

<http://www.penturners.org>

The International Association of Penturners - 2013

Wood grip for MAGLITE - Mini Tutorial by [rherrell](#)



I realized there was no "Wood Grip for Maglite kit" so I bought a "MINI-MAG" and set about figuring how I would make one.

As soon as I got it home I realized that the aluminum body needed to be turned down so I could get the wood grip "flush". Like with pen hardware I wanted a seamless fit. I put it on my metal lathe and turned it down to just under 17mm. I was lucky that I had a 17mm brad point bit to drill the blank.

I made my own pin chuck to hold it and I held the pin chuck in a Beall collet chuck. Nothing special after that, I just needed to be careful because the wood is VERY thin around the aluminum body.

Here's the turned down body, a piece of Curly Maple drilled out to 17mm and a pin chuck that I made.

Notice the front, I needed to leave .315" of the body unturned as this fits under the lens piece and I didn't want the finish to get messed up.



I used a 7/8" blank, 3/4" is just .040" bigger than the finished diameter so you'd need to be DEAD ON to pull that off.

You can make your own centers out of just about anything. Try using a hardwood, they won't last forever but after every couple of lights made, you can trim them down and they're again like new.

I turned the blank round leaving it as large as possible and then drill it. Then you glue it on the body and turn it down. I use epoxy to glue the blank on the aluminum. I also leave it a little long and part it off at the end.

Here it's mounted on the pin chuck ready to turn.



Here it's turned down and ready to sand. I use tape to protect the aluminum during sanding and finishing.

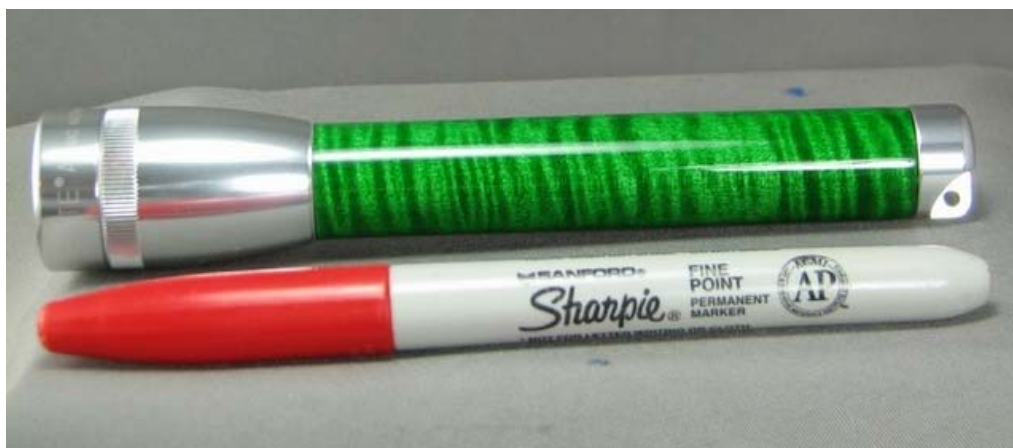


After I sanded it I thought it needed some "pop" so I "popped" it with some green food coloring. If you use food coloring do ALL your sanding BEFORE you put on the color. After it dries use a piece of brown paper bag to "burnish" the surface. This removes all the whiskers and shines it up.



Here's the finished product. I used a Sharpie for reference and as you can see it's not very big. It is just about right for my first one though. I think I'll try the next size larger and maybe try and cover the lens part with some wood. That looks like a MAJOR challenge.....for me anyway.

The finish is CA, sanded with 600 Wet/Dry paper and then buffed out with tripoli and white diamond.



The plastic lamp holder in the end has "DO NOT REMOVE" printed on it. I couldn't see any way to remove it without possibly damaging it but I'm sure one of you will figure it out.

Rick Herrell