

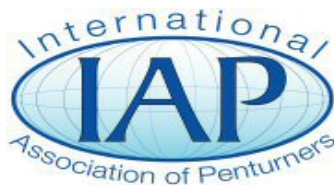
# Making a Leather Cigar Pen

**A Tutorial by:**

**William O. Young  
A.K.A “William O Young”**

**This tutorial was downloaded from.**

**The International Association of Penturners**



**<http://www.penturners.org>**

With a little luck this is going to be a two barrel leather Cigar pen.  
The leather for this one is a little thicker than what I used in the single barrel Sierra that I made previous to this one. There will approx be 18 layers of leather in each barrel.  
The leather used is some more scraps that my friend gave me and this time he loaned me a punch because this time I am doing it with the stacked on tube method instead of gluing leather together and drilling out the hole for the tube later like I did on my last one.  
Here are the scraps of leather and the punch and I have cut some of the leather into 3/4" x 3/4" squares and started punching holes in the center.



There was a small piece of Grey leather painted white on top so I am going to space a couple of them into each barrel.  
Unfortunately the diameter of the punch was too small for the size of those brass tubes. So plan B was to use my Dremel tool and enlarge every hole so the pieces would slide snugly over the tube.



Here is the start of the gluing process.





Just another three or four layers to go. I wipe off the excess before clamping. The glue goes on white but dries crystal clear. ..



Here is one glued and clamped.



And here are both top and bottom barrel. Notice the glue has almost gone clear on the first one already.



Now I will give the glue a minimum of 24 hours to cure and will follow up some time after that with the steps I will take when turning these two blanks into a pen.

The glue seemed like it was well cured by 6 PM today. I was going to make it into a pen tomorrow but I decided to go out after supper and give it a go. First I soaked thin CA into all sides and the ends and hit it with aerosol accelerator. Then squared the ends of the blanks down to the ends of the brass tubes. Put the blanks on the lathe and started with square like this and used a roughing gouge to make them round. Pardon the poor pictures. I did not have my camera set to match my shop lighting.





Here it is rounded and turned half way down to the bushings with a very sharp skew. I applied thin CA again and accelerator at this point because I was getting past where the first application had soaked in to. Then I proceeded to turn it down just proud of the bushings and apply yet another application of thin CA.



It was now ready for sanding and I sanded progressively from 120 grit to 600. I used to sand a lot higher up to 12000 MM but don't find that necessary anymore with the way I apply a BLO/CA finish and follow up with One Step Polish.  
Here it is after applying six applications of BLO/MS at 20 second intervals. . (Horrible out of focus picture but too late to correct that now lol )  
And followed wit One Step Polish





It started looking good enough for the girls I go with so took it off the lathe and dressed it up with some hardware and applied some wax and buffed a little by hand. . . Should have taken the time to use my three stage Beal buffing system for a little better shine.

The finish is extremely smooth and there are no ridges between the layers of leather. Some prefer the ridges and stop at that point. I prefer my pens smooth and shiny so I continue on to make them that way. Guess it's all a matter of preference.

The CA darkens the leather a lot from its original state but I personally think that adds some richness to it. .

Gosh . . . it takes a lot longer to take pictures and make up a tutorial for something like this than it does to actually make it.

Comments welcome.

