Double Closed End Concept Pen

By

Martin Osborn

A.K.A "MartinPens"

The Association of International Penturners

Double Closed-end Pen- Recessed Parts

The goal: No black plastic ring! Using Churchill tubes and Gentlemen's Pen Parts

This is an ongoing quest to make a closed-end pen without a center band that is relatively thin and lightweight.

I used parts from a Gentleman's pen kit. I used Churchill tubes and a piece of a Gentleman's body tube as you will see in the tutorial.

I hope I can communicate this somewhat well.

From the kit I use the center band coupler, the rollerball nib and nib coupler (without band), the ink and either the kit spring (can be cut in half) or a Churchill spring.

I also use the body tube from the original kit, but as you will see later on, only a small piece.

As I went along I decided to get rid of the nib coupler ring (see directly above) even though it is used in some of the initial photos, I chose a thinner body and so did without it. It could still be used. If used, the body will need to be turned to match the dimensions of the nib coupler and the cap will need to take into consideration the recessing of the ring.

1. The very first step I did was to trim down the nib coupler so that it would fit inside of a Churchill tube. I turned down the larger portion of the nib coupler to the dimensions of the inside of a Churchill tube.

I use a body tube from the original kit. The nib coupler slips on the body tube perfectly. I use the bushings to trap the nib coupler with the help of some blue tape. Turn it down slowly and use calipers to measure as you go.

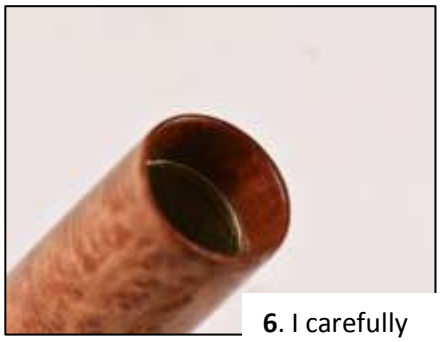
I do not turn down this area. This area is flush with a Churchill tubes outside dimensions and will be recessed inside the cap.

2. I drill the cap end the depth of the Churchill cap tube plus the area of the nib coupler that will be recessed. (see where the arrow is pointing to) more photos later on this.

3. Square the cap end remembering to leave enough depth for recessing the nib coupler later on.

4. I mount the cap blank on a closed-end Churchill mandrel for turning.

5. I turn the cap. I turned the end too close and blew out the end – so I improvised and incorporated an African blackwood piece to save the cap.



6. I carefully clean the inside and gently sand the edges of the wood. I then put a little thin CA on a Q-tip and finish the inside.

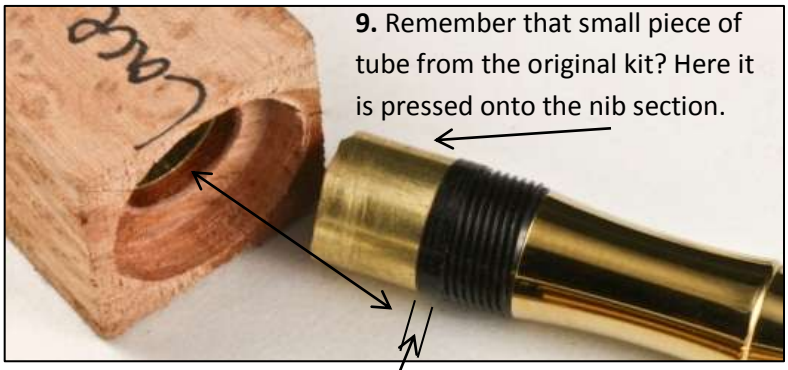
7. Now I insert and press the nib coupler into the cap. It should recess just enough to allow for the nib assembly to thread.

Say goodbye to the ugly black band! This was the goal!!

8. Time for the body. Drill a hole deep enough for the tube plus the recess depth needed to hide part of the nib section.

Square the blank removing the needed depth. (see **9**.)

I also drilled a small hole about 7/8 inch deep with a smaller bit for the spring. Total depth is tube depth, plus small recess, plus 7/8 inch to accommodate ink and spring.



9. Remember that small piece of tube from the original kit? Here it is pressed onto the nib section.

I'm trying to show the black ring area on the nib section that I intend to recess. This whole nib assembly will press perfectly into the Churchill body tube inside the blank shown.

10. Body blank is mounted on the closed-end mandrel. Turn and finish. I treated the recess of the body just like I treated the recess of the cap – carefully sanding, scraping and then finishing with thin CA on a Q-tip.

The nib assembly can now be pressed into the body – but first screw it into the cap and align your grain so that when the cap is on the body the grains will match along a horizontal line.

The nib assembly is pressed, recessing all but the threads. It is a thing of beauty.

Now I have to pontificate here a little bit. I have accomplished the goal of recessing most parts and eliminating the black band by using a Gentleman's kit nib coupler and assembly in combination with Churchill tubes for the cap and body – thereby accomplishing a thinner pen. HOWEVER – after all of that, I don't think I like this nib assembly as much as the Churchill nib assembly. And I think I will try the next version WITH the gold nib assembly ring, making sure it is recesses well into the cap. A work in progress.

What is funny is that since I messed up and added a black piece to the cap to save it, I would probably not mind the black plastic ring on this particular pen!!

But I have to imagine it without the black piece. Also this nib assembly is pretty heavy. It feels nice in the hands. I think the balance is good. It's just a little too long though for my taste. It may grow on me. The cap can and should be shorter.

This is a first attempt and I will need to keep working on it.