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Subject: Pen bushing storage tip-A Less irksome Simple Inexpensive System
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Hi Tips:



For pen turners one of the most irritating tasks is to label and keep track of the bushing sets that are used to turn a pen barrel to the correct dimensions . The bushing sets vary from two to four pieces per set. The individual bushing pieces are small, and there is essentially no space on the bushings themselves for an identifying label.

The necessary supplies are six inch snap ties and any form of standard key tags, either the plastic tags, or the metal ringed paper tags. All of this is available from Amazon or a local office supply store for about \$20.00 total

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The actual use is simple:

- Write on a key tag whatever information is necessary to identify the bushing set, name or number of the associated pen kit, bushing catalog number, or whatever more useful information that is needed
- String the bushings on the snap tie along with the key tag and secure the snap tie.
- When you need to use the bushing set simply cut the snap -tie and save the key tag with bushing information.
- After use take a new snap tie and and the key tag and secure the bushing set again until necessary for the next use.

This system has these advantages:

- A 1000 six inch snap ties cost about \$6-7. The cost for the individual snap-tie is inconsequential .
- The writing space on either type of key tag is more than enough to contain sufficient information about the bushing set and the associated pen kit.
- Since the same tag is reusable you only need to write the identifiers once.
- The snap tie securely holds the bushing set.
- The plastic key tags come in assorted colors, so for instance, you could use a specific color to quickly identify a kit vendor.
- The same system can be used to securely store and label the carbide inserts that are used with pen turning lathe tools.

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