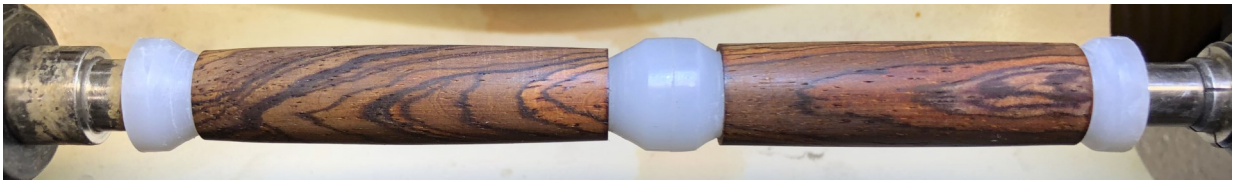
CA Finishing -- Sand, Finish, Wet Sand and Optionally Polish/Buff:

Sand: For CA finishing, Set the lathe speed to about 1000 RPM and dry sand the blanks starting with 400 grit sandpaper. First sand with the lathe on. With the lathe off sand with the grain to remove the concentric scratches produced from sanding with the lathe on. These steps are repeated using 600 grit sandpaper and then finally 800 grit sandpaper.

If the overall shape of the blank is relatively flat, I back the 400 grit sandpaper with a flat, smooth surface when sanding to flatten the blank by removing any high spots. A plastic blank works well as the backer for the sandpaper.

Finish: The turning bushings are removed and are replaced with HDPE Non-Stick finishing bushings. The blanks are cleaned using compressed air followed by wiping them with a paper towel saturated with denatured alcohol or acetone. They are left for 15 to 30 minutes to completely dry before proceeding.



Cut lint free paper towels (Viva Signature Cloth) into strips that will be folded into applicator pads for applying the finish. Plan for 4 applicators for Thin CA and 12 applicators for Medium CA. Use a finger cot or wrap your finger with blue painters tape to insulate it from the pad, just in case the CA soaks through -- it is preferable to glue the pad to a finger cot than to a finger.

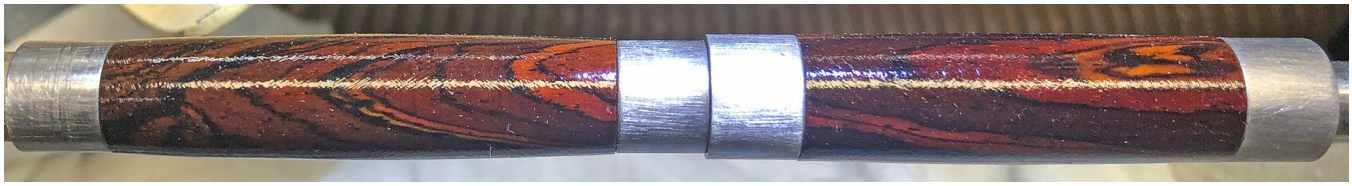
With the lathe set to about 500 RPM, fold a paper towel strip into a pad and apply a small amount (3 or 4 drops) of Thin CA to the pad then wipe it across the blank. Apply another small amount and wipe it across the second blank. Set a timer for 90 seconds to let the Thin CA soak into the blank and air dry. Repeat this process until all 4 coats of Thin CA have been applied.

Following the application of the Thin CA, follow a similar procedure to apply 12 coats of Medium CA; however, instead of waiting 90 seconds between coats give two short bursts of an aerosol activator/accelerator on the blanks from about 1 foot away. After all of the Medium CA coats have been applied allow about 15 to 30 minutes for the CA to cure more thoroughly before proceeding.

Remove the blanks and sand the ends of the blanks lightly to remove any buildup of CA from the face of the blanks. Using a folded paper towel as a blotter, blot the sanded ends in Thin CA to re-seal the end grain. Wait for the ends to dry or use activator.

Pictures of the buildup of CA on the face and after the buildup has been carefully sanded away.

Finally, re-mount the blanks on the lathe using the turning bushings in preparation for wet sanding with MicroMesh.



Wet Sand: Prepare a container of water and a few drops of Dishwasher Rinse Aid or Dish Soap and soak the 9 grits of MicroMesh in the container. Also prepare a few sheets of paper towel to wipe the slurry from the blank after sanding with each grit.

With the lathe running at about 1000 RPM, wet sand the blanks starting with the first MicroMesh grit. Sand for about 5 to 10 seconds on each blank. Then shut the lathe off and sand laterally (with the grain) to remove any concentric scratches from sanding with the lathe on. Use a paper towel to wipe the slurry off of the blanks. If the blank still has shiny spots, repeat the sanding process with the first grit.

Continue to repeat the process with the remaining eight MicroMesh grits. The following shows the blank before sanding and after sanding with the progression after each couple of MicroMesh grits. Note that after the first grit the finish should look uniform, but dull. Any low spots will appear as shiny spots.

Optionally Polish/Buff: If the wet sanding did not result in the desired level of shininess, optionally buff using blue rouge on a tightly sewn cotton wheel followed by polishing on a loosely sewn flannel wheel. Use a wooden stick to help hold the blanks on the buffing wheels if necessary. (Do not use anything metal as the metal will transfer to the buffing wheels).

If a buffer is not available this can be done using various satin and glossy plastic polishes; however, plastic polishes can be problematic if there are any pinholes in the finish as the polish will go in, but will not easily come out. This can result in the appearance of white specs in the finish.