

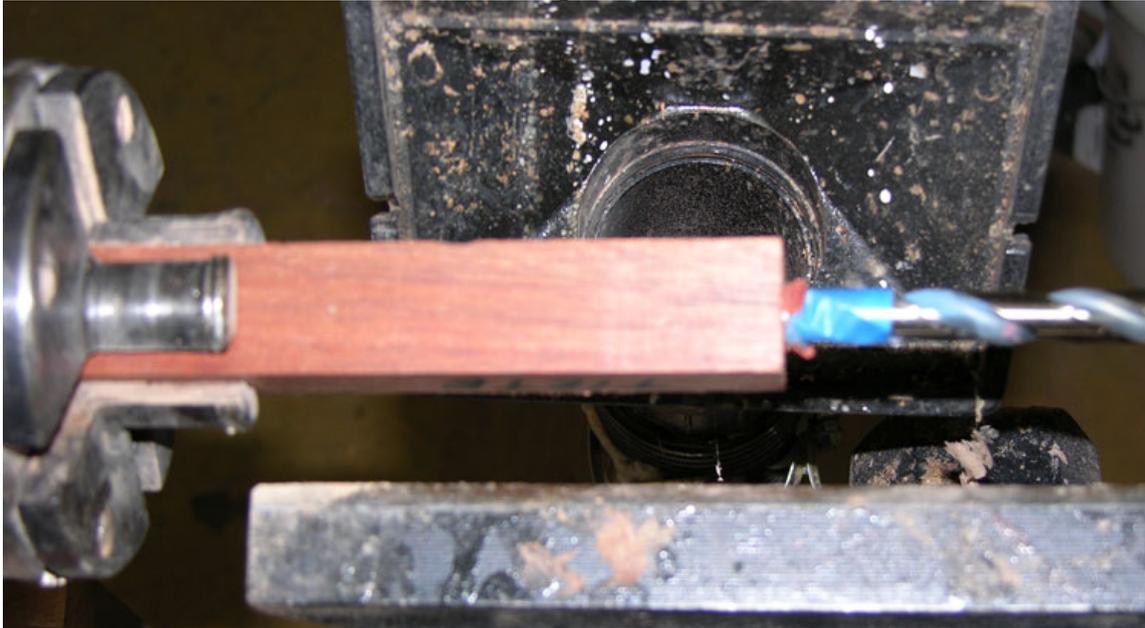
Seam Ripper Tutorial
By
bitshird
Kenneth Ferrell

First step

Begin by selecting a blank, Pen Blanks are fine, longer blanks are also nice since you have more design options, but for this one I used a 7/8 by 5-1/4 piece of Tiete Rosewood, which I cut from a board of the material.



The next step is to drill a 10mm hole on the center of one end, I don't own a drill press so I do mine in a f jaw chuck on a lathe, drill this hole approximately 1/2 inch deep. You can see where I cheat and put a piece of blur painters tape a half inch in back of the flute, not the drill point the flutes



Next drill a 1/4 inch diameter hole 1-5/8 deep in the same location





Now you can either turn your blank between centers, just don't chuck up so tight that you break the blank, or you can use a spur center instead of a 60 degree dead center, since most lathes come with a spur you probably will want to use that, but for this I used a 60 degree dead center.

I'm turning this at about 1800 RPM with a neat little tool some of you will recognize, for those that don't it's an interchangeable Carbide insert tool I manufacture called a Woodchuck Pen Pro, Really using this 16x42 lathe is a bit of over kill, but it's in the best location for taking pictures in my shop and notice it's snowing Tiete Rosewood.

I like to turn a shape that allows the users thumb to have a stop to rest against, at the front of the tool, Most of my customers are quilters and ladies that to some degree have Arthritis, which is the entire reason for making a comfortable larger handle for the tool, as it comes, the clear plastic cap is designed to be a handle, and for sore hands it's not a good thing.



This is the fun part, getting to get fancy with the tool handle



These woodchucks just throw wood all over the place, I wish they would clean up after them selves here I'm taking the very tip down to a point which will be removed with a skew



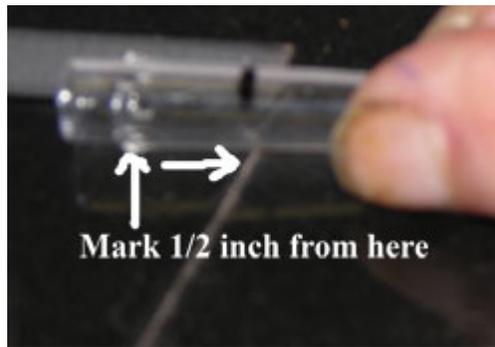
I also like to cut pinnacles and artsy finials on the tool handle as well as some coves with a Round 1 tool or a small spindle gouge and rings with a skew which make for easier grip.

Almost ready to separate the waste end but first lets sand the tool handle nice and smooth,



Final finish was a coat of Boiled Linseed Oil and burnished with an old brown paper bag, then 5 coats of Deft Spray Lacquer.

Next thing is to cut the clear plastic cap 1/2 inch past the ridges toward the tapered point.



This will be glued into the handle, glue in up to the ridges on the cap with the tapered end into the handle



Once the clear plastic is glued into the handle, (tapered end into it) allow it to sit, this of course depends on the type adhesive you choose, I would recommend NOT using Gorilla glue, Epoxy or thick CA will do just fine.



Closed position



blade removed from handle



open and ready for business

Here are a few of the ones I have made, there is no set length, no set size and no established rules, these are fun to make, easy to sell and also make great gifts to the ladies in our lives,



If you have any questions, please send me a PM
I'll try and help any way I can. I hope this has been easy to understand and concise, this
is the first tutorial I've done,
Thank you for reading it and have fun making these things
Ken Ferrell
aka
"bitshird"