

Simple Cigar Center Band Mod.

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A.K.A "soligen"



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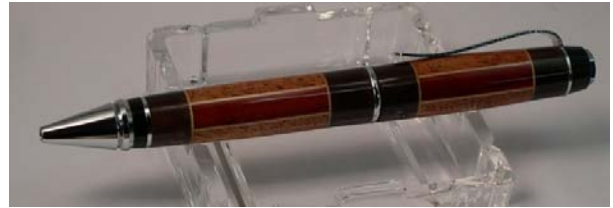
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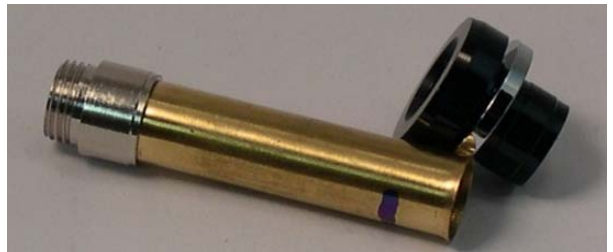
Simple Cigar Center Band Modification by soligen with tips by ldb2000 and Buzzzz4

This is a simple cigar modification that I like. I'm sure it's been done before, but I thought I'd post it for people who haven't tried it. It really changes the lines on the pen (I like it better). It shortens the pen a little, but I find the length to still be good. If you wanted to retain the original pen length, you could get a longer upper tube.

First picture is the pen. I simply left off the center band, so the coupler ring showing is all there is for a center band.



To do this you need to shorten the activator tube by the length of the center band. Next picture shows an activator marked for cutting. I used the band saw.



To keep the upper tube from feeling loose, I pressed a portion of the center band into the tube, I mounted the center band between centers and turned the thick part down to the tube inner diameter (sorry, no picture).

I then pressed what was left of the center band all the way into the upper tube. The picture on the right shows the tube with modified center band pressed inside. I used a countersink bit to chamber the brass, which improved the fit against the coupler.



I turned the center smaller than the coupler ring. The ring is rounded over, so I intentionally made it so the rounded ring sits proud of the barrels by about 1/64".

Give it a try. It will give you a second style for your cigars.

Another option is to turn the ring off the coupler and making a custom center band. Adds a bit more work, but opens up even more customization.

You can also make a cigar with 2 tubes the same length. That modification is actually easier. If both tubes are long tubes the extra length is about the same as the center band so then the activator doesn't need to be shortened.

I bought some 10mm tubes from my local woodcraft that are for the cigar letter opener, they are actually a bit longer than needed, so I cut to length.

My pith pen, on the right, used both long tubes.



Tip from Idb2000, Butch the Kitless Fanatic:

Another way to handle the looseness of the upper barrel without the center band is, instead of cutting down the center band; drill the upper blank from both sides. Use the drill you would use for the tubes but only drill 3/4 of the way through the blank and cut the tube to fit and glue it in, then drill the center band side with a smaller bit, same size as the hole from the center band. Now the blank will fit correctly over the transmission and you can still press the finial/activator tube into the tube in the finial side and if you cut the blank a little longer to make up for the length of the center band, you don't have to cut the activator tube. I really do love cigar kits, they are even more versatile then Slimlines.

Tip from Buzzzz4:

I had ruined a Hybrid Cigar a while ago and decided it would be a great opportunity to try some new things as well as try some modifications.

This is a hybrid cigar component set with the following modifications.

- 1. New nib turned on my midi lathe using the pen material and epoxied to the tip.*
- 2. Upper barrel eliminated most of the center band as well as resized to the same size as the lower barrel.*
- 3. Finial replaced with pen body material.*
- 4. Guts shortened just a bit to accommodate the modifications.*



The center comes apart to allow for the ink refill to be changed. The rest of it has been glued together. With cigar pens, there is a tube attached to the clip holder. I took that apart with a punch and sanded it shorter as well as shortening the metal part that holds on the clip. This will shorten the top of the pen to allow for less center band material. I then used red Locktite and pressed the tube back onto the clip holder. I hope I'm making sense. Here is a photo of the parts.

