



International Association of Penturners

Studies in Segmenting VI: Spectraply Cross Blank

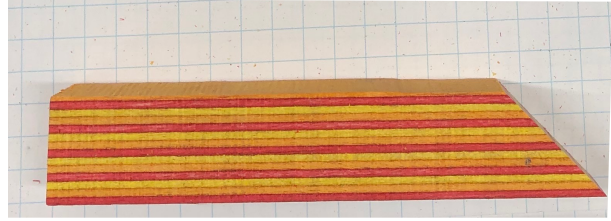
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This is a fun segmenting project that is very deceiving - It is reasonably easy to make and looks very impressive when finished.

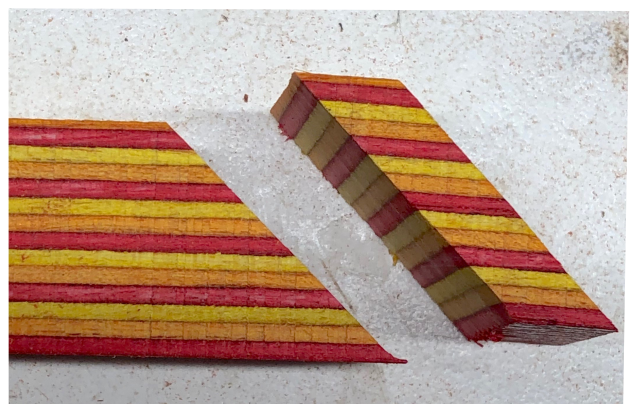
First you need to pick out a spectraply pen blank that has a color combination that conveys the image you want. For this pen I was intending it to be a cross on a stained glass window with bright sun rays in the background. A less vibrant color scheme would also have been nice, conveying a darker church interior. You could also make your own layered pen blank, but for this project I was aiming for "easy," plus I really liked this color combination.



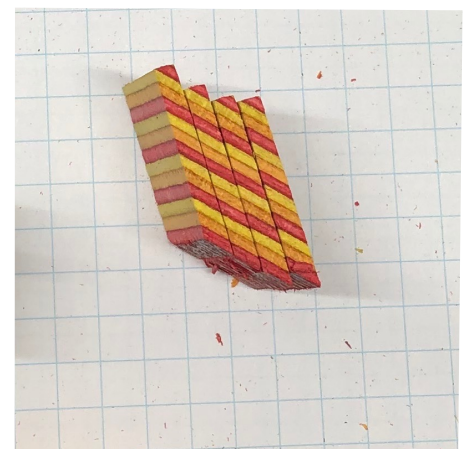
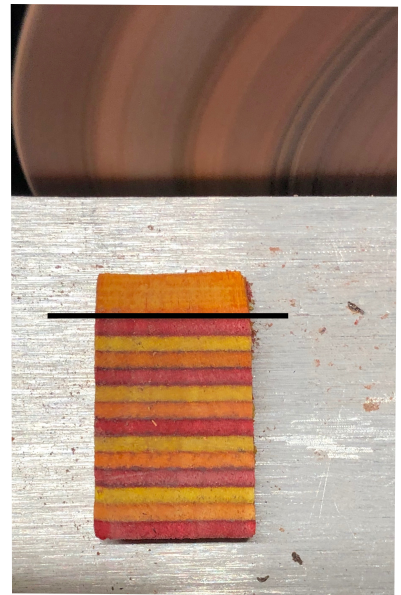
Pick out the material for the cross, and determine their dimensions. I choose walnut. This blank will have the "cross/window" design on two sides, so the width (front to back) of the cross started about 3/4". Height about 3/4" and width about 3/8". These are all arbitrary.



Next, cut the spectraply on a 45 degree angle, you need 4 slices.



Each slice will need to be sanded to the same color stripe on one side for the square end that will fit into the sides of the cross. This is very easy. Here I am aiming for the leading edge of the red stripe. I used a disk sander and miter sled.



A paired set for a different pen.

To construct the cross and window element, there are only seven pieces.



Check to see if all looks aligned before you glue the seven pieces together. If all looks fine, glue these and allow to dry.



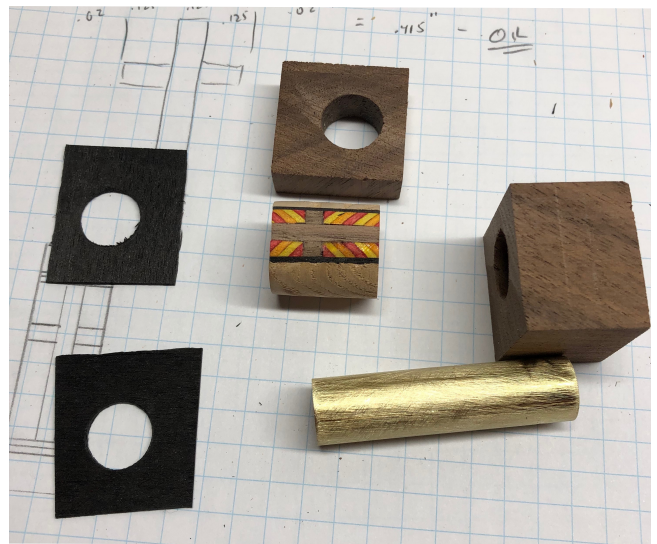
Trim the angled ends off, sand the "window" down to final width, glue on the black side veneers and glue on the side panels (Olivewood).



Accurately mark the centers of the blank between the design. Turn down to a diameter to fit into a collet chuck and drill the tube hole.



Prepare the two black veneers and end caps. Assemble the final upper blank and turn to final dimensions.



Finish the lower blank with a similar color scheme, and turn your pen.

Note: For this pen, I offset the "Cross/Window" approximately 1/3 down from the top of the upper blank.

I also matched the three equal trim rings.



**14 segments, 6 veneers, some
patience, some trial and error
= A Nice Pen!**

