

Recessing the clip for a closed end Perfect Fit Convertible kit

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For some time I had been admiring the work Russ Fairfield had been doing in recessing the clips of some kits. This method had been mostly limited to Euro and Flat-top kits, as on these kits the part of the clip that transitions into the round disk is wider or nearly as wide as the hole used to secure the clip. I thought it might be possible to widen the method's utility to other kits by creating a hooked end to the clip that could both fit into a small recess and secure the clip in place once there, (with a little help from epoxy.) Although this method can be used on other kits/styles, this tutorial deals with the Perfect Fit Convertible kit



Above: A comparison of a modified clip for a Perfect fit kit with a stock clip.



Above: Perfect fit transmission coupler/clip holder turned/sanded down to a "slip fit" so it can be pushed (not pressed) up through the tube to hold the clip in place.



My current tools for recessing clips. Top to bottom: mini diamond file (HF), Mini hacksaw blade (ground away fore and aft, leaving one tooth to cut with), coping saw blade (ground away on ends for a small profile)



Close-up of single tooth on hacksaw blade. I started out with two teeth but took it down to just one and it seems to work better.



Close-up of coping saw tip



Length of upper tube is critical to ensure that the transmission will engage in the coupler/clip holder. I have had to shorten the overall length of the upper barrel to ensure the coupler fully engages the top of the transmission. Clip slot has been cut just at the top of the brass tube.



Interior view of tube with the clip inserted.



Transmission coupler/clip holder with hex key set screw in place. A hex key set screw can be used to help positively secure the clip in place once the coupler is pushed and epoxied in place to hold it.



This is how the coupler will hold the clip in the cap.



Above: correct size set screw, found at H.D. (assuming the same could be found in nearly any hardware store), in their specialty drawers \$.38 for pkg of 2.

Size is 4mm x 6mm



Above/Below: a couple views of the clip epoxied in place.



The completed pen.