

*Review by Kurt Hertzog, Woodturning Design Magazine, June 2012*

The sanding block is pretty straightforward to use. Insert the proper-sized punch or dowel under the screw with sufficient extension to support the brass tube, but not be contacted by the sanding media. Clamp the sanding block to the cross slide of your disk or belt sander after you've ensured that it is square to the sanding face. Check to make sure the platen is perpendicular to the sanding media as well. The glued-up block is slid on the punch and the face of the block is sanded to the brass. Aligned properly, a sanded face that is perpendicular to the ID of the brass tube will be achieved. I've found that the sanding fixture also makes a great cutoff jig. You can use the pilot punch to support pen blanks when using the bandsaw to trim the excess stock away. The punch supports the blank nicely, and the cut is with respect to the ID of the tube, rather than the flat edge of the blank. Obviously, the flat edge of the blank may not be parallel to the ID of the tube. If the blank is already rounded, cutting this way can be done safely without searching for a V-block to support the blank during the cut. Though there are many drilling vises in my shop, having purchased some for myself as well as reviewing others as they became available, I can vouch for this sanding fixture. It does what it promises and is available at a very reasonable price. I've mounted it to a wooden base for convenience.