

WoodTurningz CA Glue Finish

You will need:

Thin CA Glue (GSTHIN2)

Medium CA Glue (GMED2)

Glue Accelerator (GAERACT7 or GAERACT12)

Micro-Mesh cloth-backed sandpaper (MMESH)

1. Turn pen blanks to finished size and shape according to pen kit manufacturer's instructions and sand with a 320-grit finish. Stop the lathe and sand with the grain until smooth.

2. Wipe all sanding dust from the blanks with a soft, lint-free cloth.

3. Slow the lathe to about 800 rpm and apply a coat of thin CA glue with a folded paper towel to pen blank parts. Apply the CA glue to the top of the blanks while holding the folded paper towel at the bottom of the turning wood. Quickly and in two or three fast strokes, spread the CA glue across the blanks smoothing it as much as possible. Get off of it quickly or you will ruin the finish. Apply a *small amount* of accelerator to dry the CA glue.

Caution: *CA glue generates a lot of heat while curing and may cause the paper towel to smoke. It can cause a fire if not handled properly. Also, be careful in the disposal of the used paper towels. The curing action of the CA glue can cause enough heat to burst into flames under the right conditions.*

4. Using a fresh area of the paper towel, apply a second coat of the thin CA glue and accelerator as before.

5. Turn off the lathe. Apply medium CA glue to a fresh area of the paper towel and apply plenty of medium CA glue to the pen blank—enough to cause it to run down the sides of the blanks. Spread the CA glue while turning the lathe *by hand*. Stand to one side so the glue isn't thrown in your face, turn the lathe on, and quickly spread the CA glue on the blanks. Apply accelerator and allow 1 or 2 minutes for this coat to dry before proceeding.

(ALTERNATIVE) Apply the medium CA glue to the top of the blanks while holding the folded paper towel at the bottom of the turning wood. Quickly and with two or three fast strokes, spread the CA glue across the blanks smoothing it as much as possible. Get off of it quickly, or you will ruin the finish. Apply at least three coats when using this alternative method. This will result in a less than thick finish but will be easier to sand out with the Micro-mesh. On harder woods, the difference will not be noticeable.

6. Repeat the above step two more times, thus building a significant layer of "plastic" on the pen barrels. You will have applied a total of five coats at this point.

7. Sand the coated finish with 320-grit paper until any and all imperfections are gone. Look for raised stripes due to the build-up of CA glue. These must all be removed, or they will show up in the finished pen. Turn the lathe off, inspect, and *sand with the grain of the wood*; wipe with the clean cloth to remove sanding dust.

8. Apply two more coats of thin CA glue as was done in steps 3 and 4. You have now applied a total of seven coats of CA glue. Very soft, porous material, such as corncob, will take a few more coats to achieve the thickness needed.

9. The final step is to sand with Micro-mesh abrasive paper going through all grits. Do not apply heavy pressure; it will only ruin the Micro-mesh. Begin with 1500-grit and finish with 12,000-grit. After using the 1500-grit, stop the lathe, inspect, and *sand with the grain* to remove all shiny spots. The finish should last a very long time if applied correctly. If, after final sanding with the 12,000-grit, you find imperfections, you can re-sand with the 1500 to remove them, then re-apply the thin CA glue and work through all of the Micro-mesh grades again.

Note: This CA glue finish can be applied to any other small turned items such as, but not limited to, bottle stoppers, perfume atomizers, key chains, letter openers, tops, yo-yos, etc. Breathing protection is highly recommended due to the fumes from the sanding dust, CA glue, and accelerator.