



PROJECT GUIDELINES – Tang-based project kits with Ferrules

Please read fully before starting your project

Every woodturner has their own way of doing things that suits their style and available equipment.

Below are guidelines as to how we turn the vast majority of our “tang-based project kits”. What is a “tang-based project kit”, I hear you ask? Strictly speaking, the tang is the projection on the blade of a tool such as a knife, by which the blade is held firmly in the handle. Whilst some of our project kits have their own project guidelines, this document serves as an overall instruction guideline. In the event that your project kit has a specific document, please use that one.

Of course, there will be other ways and other equipment that you may prefer to use, so consider this a recommended way of building your project kit. For this kit, we tend to favour the “drill and tenon” method.

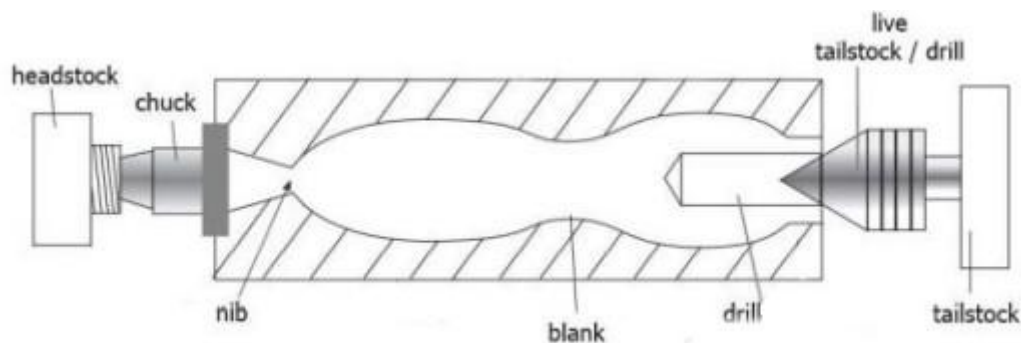
Step 1: Measure the width of the tenon at its thickest point. This will indicate the diameter of the drill you will require. Next, measure the overall length of the tang. This will determine the depth of the hole you will drill. Lastly, measure the inside and the outside of the ferrule (the little metal cap used to stop the wood from splitting once the tang is introduced into the blank).

Step 2: Mount the blank centrally in a chuck and using a Jacobs chuck in the tailstock drill a hole (of the necessary diameter) to at least the depth of the tang on the kit (measured previously). Depending on the length of the tang and of the desired handle, do not worry if you drill a couple of millimeters too far. Choose a drill which is a tiny bit smaller (0.5mm), if your material will allow it without risks of cracking.

Step 3: Using a live tailstock support the blank at tailstock end and turn the tenon for the ferrule. The tailstock can be withdrawn to check the correct fit. The tailstock is only intended for support, so do not put too much pressure onto the wood or it may split.

Step 4: Once you are happy with the tenon size (the thickness of which you measured beforehand), support again with the live tailstock and continue to turn the handle to the desired shape. If you wish the wood to end flush with the ferrule, make sure to turn the wood to the outside thickness of the ferrule.

Step 5: Leave the piece connected to a small section of wood at chuck end (called the nib). See below diagram.



Step 6: The handle can be sanded and finished and then removed from the lathe by cutting the nib and finishing by hand.

Step 7: Place the ferrule over the tang and insert the tang into the drilled hole. Push by hand or with a press, making sure to neither hurt yourself nor damage the newly created finished product. The ferrule now fits snugly over the tenon and stops the wood from splitting.

You have now completed the project kit. Whether it's a cheese knife, a pizza cutter, a spoon or a salad spoon, enjoy this substantial and unique item. Bon appetit!