

# Native Pens

## Worthless Wood Pen Blank Casting

### Items Required.

	<p>Native Pens Worthless Wood Casting Mould. Made from non-stick highly durable silicone rubber. Suitable for most types of resin.</p>
	<p>Pressure Pot capable of up to 60psi. In this case I am using a modified 10L paint spraying pressure pot.</p>
<p>Suitable Resin.</p>	<p>Many resins are available for casting pen blanks, most commonly in NZ are epoxy, polyurethane, also Alumilite is available from some hobby stores.</p>
<p>Pigments and Powders</p>	<p>There are many pigments available in a wide range of colours. Just check that they are compatible your chosen resin.</p>

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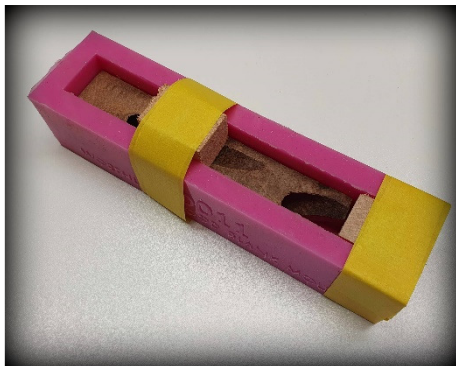
## Worthless Wood Pen Blank Casting

### Basic Method.



Select a suitable piece of otherwise un-usable piece of wood, in other words a Worthless Wood blank. In this case I am using a piece of Puriri with some bug holes in it.

Please note that the timber used needs to be dry to avoid any issues with the resin.



Place the blank part into the mould and hole in place with a bit of waste timber taped around the mould. This will stop the blank floating up in the resin.

For a blank that is shorter than the mould, we may also place a piece of waste timber in the end of the mould to reduce the resin quantity needed.



Select the resin and mix to the resin manufacturers specifications. I tend to use epoxy casting resin. Add in your chosen pigment until the resin is fully mixed.

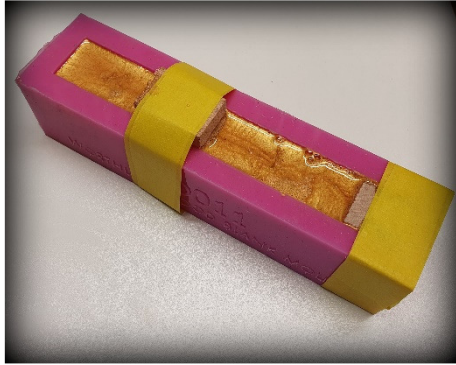
You may wish to estimate the volume of resin you will need to avoid wastage.



Pour the resin into the mould, starting from the area of most casting depth to try and get resin into the bottom of the mould from the start of the pour.

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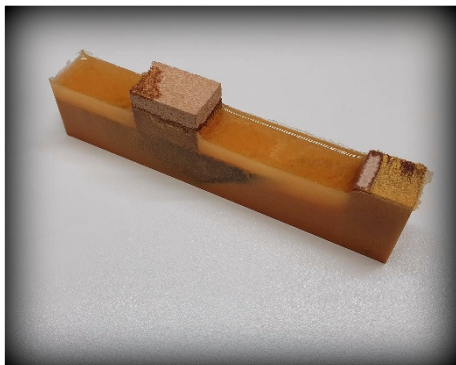


Fill the mould until near the top, this allows a little extra resin. This extra resin allows for the pressure pushing the resin into the holes and cracks etc in the timber blank.



Next carefully place the mould in your pressure pot, secure the lid and pressurise the pot. I work to 50psi which is typical for this type of pressure pot.

The blank should stay in the pressure pot until the resin has fully set. See resin manufacturers data for setting time.



Once the resin is cured, the blank can be removed from the mould. They can be turned as they are, however I prefer to give them a trim so the timber blank is visible. This allows you to see what you have to work with and how to best position the blank on the pen.



Completed blank, ready to cut, drilled and turn just like any other blank.



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## Worthless Wood Pen Blank Casting Completed Pen Examples.



Cigar pen kit, Rewarewa with Sky Blue casting.



Graduate pen kit, Pohutukawa with Antiaue Silver casting.