

Instructions for the PSI #PK-TOP Self-Winding Spinning Top Kit

Contents of Kit:

Brass Ring • Brass Post • 13" length of string

Recommended Equipment:

Lathe • PSI #PK-TOP-M screw chuck

1. Choose a block of wood to make the top approximately 1-1/2" to 2" square x 1-1/2" high. Cut the top surface square per Figure #1. Mark the center of the top surface and drill a 3/16" hole about 3/4" deep.
2. Mount the screw chuck #PK-TOP-M onto the lathe's headstock (See Figure #1.) Screw the turning blank onto the chuck flush up to the face of the chuck.
3. Bring up the tailstock to engage and support the turning block. Turn the wood and reduce the front surface to about 3/4" round before removing the tail stock. Finish turning the top's round surface and pointed bottom to the desired profile.
4. Sand and finish the wood. When done, unscrew the finished wood from the chuck.
5. Assemble the post into the ring with small end thru the larger hole then thru the small hole of the ring. (See Figure #2). Using a vise, press the narrow end of the post into the drilled 3/16" hole in the top.

CAUTION!!! The ring must spin freely. Do not press the post into the wood too far!! Allow about 1/32" for movement of the ring between the top's surface and the wider section of the post. (Note if the string gets stuck at the bottom of the post when winding/unwinding, then reduce the size of this gap by carefully pressing in the post a bit farther.)

6. Thread the string through the center hole. Tie a knot on both ends of the string. Trim away any extra string past the knot on the end that attaches to the post (note the knot will set in the recessed part of the hole in the post).
7. Place a spot of oil at the top and bottom holes of the ring - this is very beneficial to helping the string wind & unwind efficiently around the post. The top is now ready to go!
8. Wind the top so the string coils around the post. Hold the ring with two fingers and with a quick motion pull the string with the other hand. Let go when the string is fully extended. The top will spin as you hold the ring and the string will rewind onto the post. Now let go of the ring. The top will spin on any hard flat surface.
8. **Practice, Practice, Practice!!!** A well made top will spin for several minutes.

Figure #1
Turning the Blank

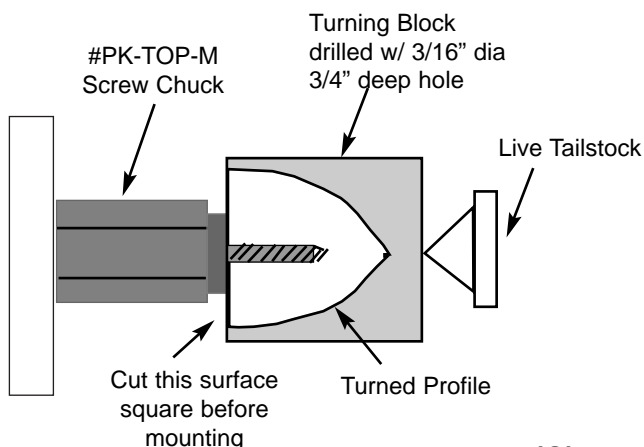


Figure #2
Assembly

