

Salt and Pepper Shaker Kit

This pair of tapered acrylic inserts fits into custom-made bases (carved, turned, etc.) with a $15/16$ " diameter opening. Each insert will hold approximately 2 tsp./10 ml of salt or pepper (not included).

The instructions that follow are for turning a base. Steel bushings are not required for this project.

Your wood blanks can be any width and length desired, but should be no less than $13/4$ " square and 3" long. Depending on your preference and working style, you may drill the hole either before or after your piece is turned. The hole should be $15/16$ " diameter and 2" deep. Use a Forstner drill bit to ensure a flat-bottomed hole.

***Note:** Since the inserts are tapered, the hole for the insert may be slightly undersize at the uppermost perimeter. If this is the case with your base, simply sand the inner rim until the insert fits in snugly.*

Mount the project wood in the lathe chuck. Advance the live center up to the end of the blank to stabilize the blank during turning. Turn the project wood to a diameter and shape of your choosing with any tool and at any speed you are comfortable with. Sand and finish the wood on the lathe. Part off the finished piece with a parting tool or a skew chisel.

Secure the acrylic insert to the turned piece with cyanoacrylate or silicone adhesive. Let the adhesive cure for approximately 7 days before filling the inserts with salt or pepper. The cap with one large hole is usually used for salt, while the cap with four smaller holes is usually used for pepper.

***Note:** Epoxy is not recommended, as it would react with the acrylic.*

Repeat procedure for a matched pair.