

Craft Knife Conversion Instructions For Multi-Purpose Hand Drilling

Most people do not know that craft knife handles, in addition to arts and crafts cutting projects, can also function as a hand drill. Fields of use are limitless: such as electronics (appliance, auto, computer repairs); watch, jewelry, toy repairs; household projects (curtains, wall hangings). Handy for hikers, travelers, survivalists, etc..

Pen style “exactos” use the same 4-prong gripping technology as industrial drilling machines; they exert extraordinary force for their light, small size.

“Exacto” models have three components: collet, collar, and handle:



There are two types of collets, those with center holes and those without. **Only those with holes accept drill bits.**

Note: collet depths range from 2.5 to 11 mm. Amazingly, even shallow collets exert strong gripping force.

Ideally, collet holes should be at least 4 mm: i.e. half the handle's diameter (or radius).

Maximum drill-bit anchoring requires supplemental mechanical force

Stabilize the collar with one set of pliers, while twisting the main handle with another.

General craft handle tightening

While holding the collet firmly with fingers, be pulling back on the handle at the same time while you are turning the handle clockwise.

This pushes the handle against the collar forcing the collet prongs against the drill stem.

Note! At times, the handle will spin but does not tighten the drill; when that happens, push and pull the collar and handle against each other a few times.