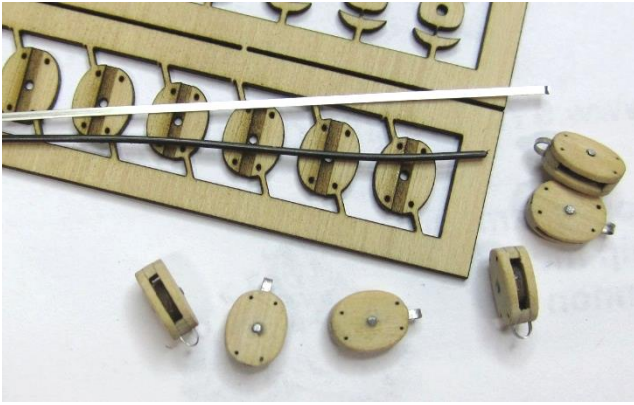
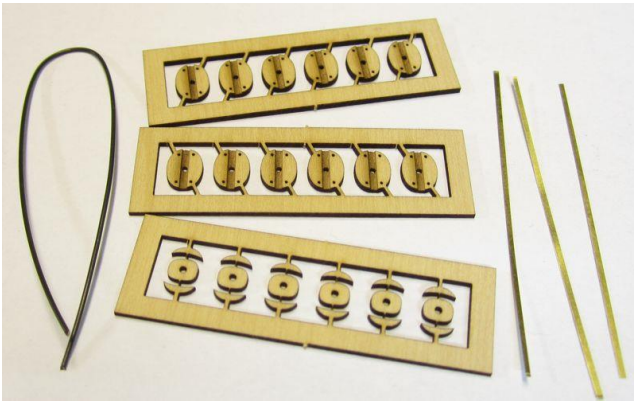


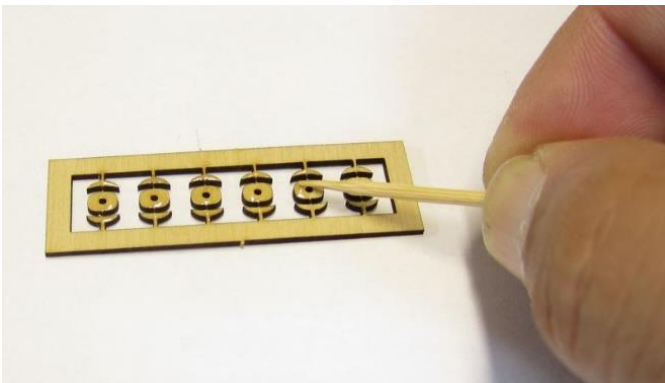
Assembling your Internally Strapped Blocks



STEP 1 – Separate the three layers of frets and arrange them so they are close by so you can glue them together. Set the wire and brass strips aside for now. See below

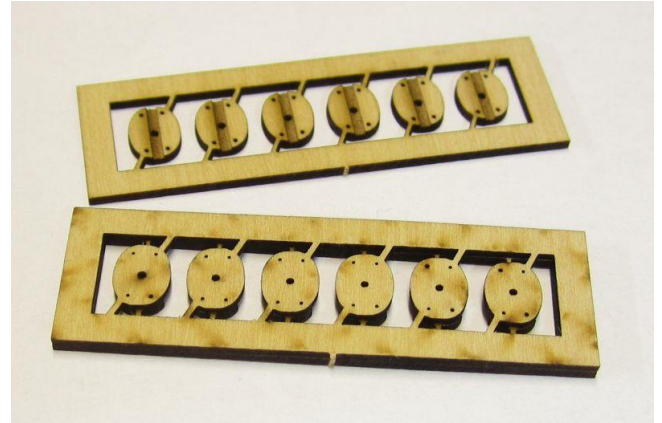


STEP 2 – Use a toothpick to place a drop of glue on each part of the center layer. Make sure you get ample glue (medium CA) in the sheave and the top and bottom areas.



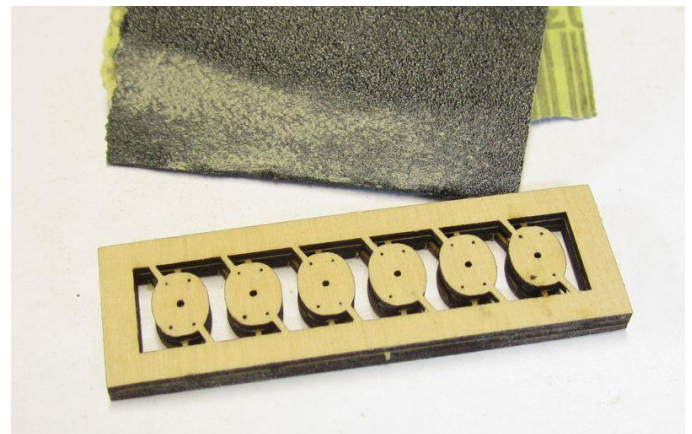
STEP 3 – Add one outer layer before your glue dries. Line it up carefully. Make sure you use the outside of the fret to help you properly align each layer. It is very important.....VERY IMPORTANT...to make sure the laser etched slot for the brass strip faces toward the inside of the block. This is especially true for double blocks. The

etched slot will ALWAYS face the center of the block. See below. In addition, you will notice that the sheave layer has one open end. This is the open area for your

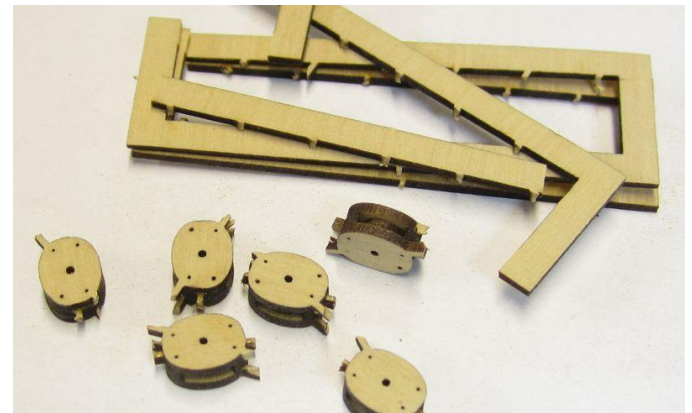


rope to slide through the block. Make sure that the open end is facing the same way on double blocks to avoid having to drill them out afterwards.

STEP 4 – Flip over the assembly and repeat the last step to add the next layer. This will be the final layer for single blocks as pictured below. Then sand each side lightly to clean them up after the glue dries. You can see that all three layers are glued together.

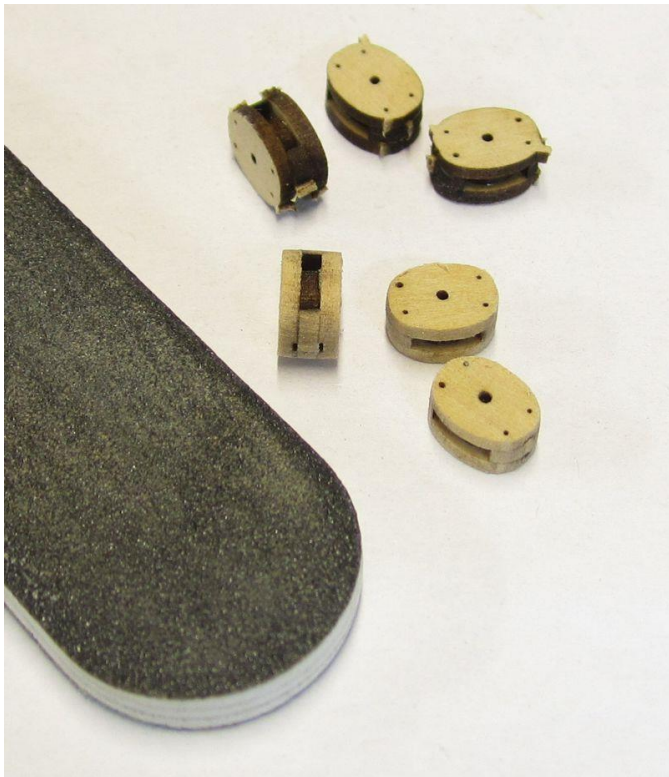


STEP 5 - Carefully remove the six blocks from the fret with a sharp #11 blade or even a pair of flush cutters. Cut each block free close to the frame of the assembly



leaving the tiny spikes of wood for now. Those can be removed more cleanly afterwards or even sand down.

STEP 6 – At this stage the blocks look a bit ugly. There is a good deal of laser char on the edges. Even though we will be placing these blocks in a block tumbler, the best results are obtained if you remove the bulk of the char beforehand. An emery board works best and only use a light touch so you don't alter the nice shape of the blocks at this point. You can see that three blocks have been cleaned up like this in the photo below.



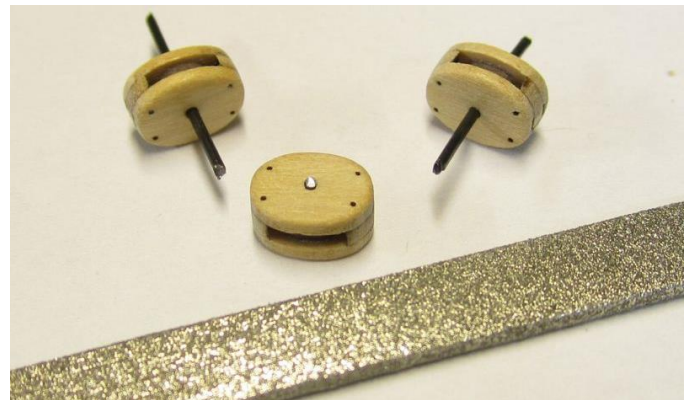
STEP 7 – Place the blocks in your block tumbler and run it for just a 30 seconds on the highest speed. I am using the Model Shipways Blockbuster. It gets plenty of use in the shop as you can see below. The worst thing that you can do is over tumble these. Check them frequently to ensure they are tumbled nicely to just



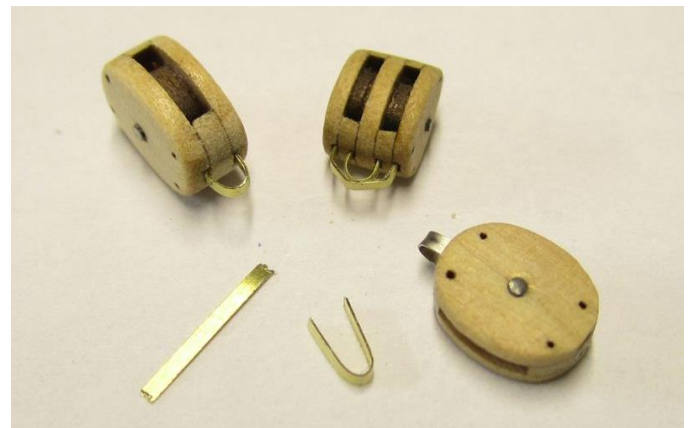
round off the outside edges and clean things up even more. See the photo below for a close look at the blocks after they were tumbled properly.



STEP 8 – Next you will cut tiny lengths of the wire included with your mini-kit. Insert them into the hole to represent the sheave pin. Snip off the ends and file flush with the outside of the blocks.



Step 9 – Cut tiny lengths of the brass strip. For the smaller blocks Nickel strips are used. They blacken up nicely or can be left bright. They don't need to be very long at all. Then bend them into a "U" shape. Insert this into the etched slots which should be still open on the top or bottom of the block. It doesn't matter which end. But look for the side of the block with the open sheave hole first. Then you won't have to drill out the sheave holes for your rope later. One side is already



open. Glue them into position well so the strap doesn't come loose when rigging the block.

Double blocks have two of these straps as shown in the photo. If the slot is filled with glue (unlikely) just try the other end. But you will have to drill the sheave holes carefully afterwards.

