



We Think Differently about Pen Kits

For pen makers that aren't familiar with Prokraft kits what follows is a little insight into our thoughts and designs that go into making a Prokraft pen a little different.

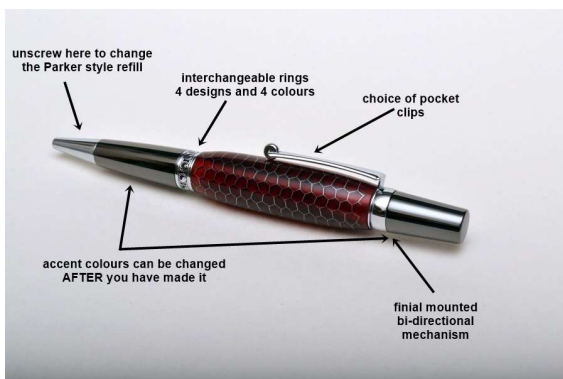
Experienced pen makers will already be aware of numerous suppliers of pen kits all making claims of "original" design and all manner of other claims – most of which can never be proven. What makes an original design? In many instances it is taking an established design and simply adding a tweak or a bump in a component and giving it a new name. So lots of marketing speak to make a fairly standard product appear to be unique.

At Prokraft we approach design from a different angle and look at the functionality, construction and comfort. Our mindset is just because someone else does it that way does not mean it is the only way to do it. There are undoubtedly some beautiful pen kits – one or two completely let down at the point of picking them up because they are simply uncomfortable to hold.

The difference with our kits is that we have designed something hopefully quite unique into the kits often with considerable thought and quite a lot of engineering. Our approach to design is not purely on shape but characteristics that affect the comfort and use of the item.

The nib section of the Prokraft Ayres kit is made up of 5 sections with quality threads cut into the components to make both the refill easily changeable and also the decorative rings interchangeable too. Instead of a list of different platings our approach is slightly different by offering 7 different patterned / coloured accent rings that can be chosen to compliment your finished pen. This is designed to give you the ultimate choice in not only the design of the blank section but the ability to adapt it to your (but even more importantly your customers) preference. You can even choose from 3 different pocket clips.

This can seem to make it quite challenging when ordering on the website at times but if you invest in a quality pen and a few parts you can soon see the potential and experiment with the interchangeable parts. The mechanism is bi-directional and mounted in the finial – does this matter? Well yes if you are left-handed models that twist at the nib can often work themselves closed during writing as well as potentially damaging your blank.

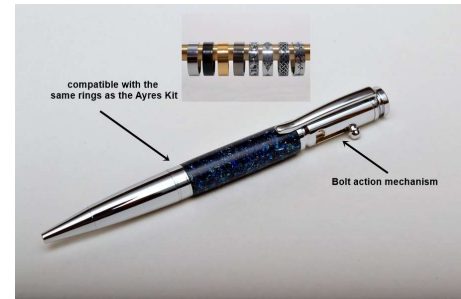


We are not sure quite how many variants can be made but it is a lot, we think around 72 different combinations – that's before you have added your blank into the equation!

Now you can offer your customers a choice even if you are at a craft fair discussing their preferences – that is a service like no other. Get them involved in the design process too – the parts can be changed right in front of them – even the accent colours.

The design of the Ayres is also carried over in the Saturn and experienced pen makers will clearly see the similarity to a rifle pen kit – we simply don't like guns – so we adapted this kit to also accept the decorative rings from the Ayres.

It retains the very tactile mechanism of the bolt action with a design tweak to make the bolt button similar to the Apollo Saturn landing capsule. We hope it looks more like a space rocket than an implement for killing!



For a truly original design look no further than the Hexa – a kit designed for simple writing comfort, it's primary design is to offer an uncapped pen that is light, versatile and with the supreme comfort of not having any steps, threads or other “bits” that simply get in the way of holding a pen. The section (the bit that holds the nib) is built with a gentle curve to guide the fingers to an ideal point. The cap is heavy – so you know it is in your pocket, remove the cap and you have a light comfortable pen that writes superbly in either fountain pen or rollerball variant.

It looks slightly unusual – but the hexagonal cap means that if you want you can make a hexagonal body to match. But that is not turning we hear you cry – you have to turn the pen before shaping the 6 sides of course. Who else offers a pen kit like this? It is the opportunity to be truly original. Who wants a pen that looks like lots of others?



Putting you firmly back in control of the design is the Rossetti pen kit with 4 detail rings that can be positioned anywhere you choose on the pen body (or omitted completely if you are not brave enough). The rings can be positioned individually, in pairs or all together – wherever you want. This puts YOU in control of the design and we have hopefully just provided some of the tools to assist you in the process.



The construction of the Rossetti is very different from other pen kits as it is assembled onto the tube after turning and uses an interstitial bushing to achieve the correct spacing

We hope you can see from the parts and the engineering in some of these kits that they are not like others on the market claiming to be better than the rest – we can show you the parts and the designs that construct our pens differently.

At Prokraft we try to offer you the choice of design and not dictate only our choice of style and colours.

We have some kits that are similar to others in appearance but we hope through development we make continual improvement to existing designs.

The Byron as an example we believe to be the only kit on the market of it's type with pattern-matching threads – on EVERY cap closing. A small thing but it is attention to detail that counts and it has the ever popular rotating-wheel pocket clip too as standard.



These are only a few of the kits we have to offer, there is the ever-popular **Atom** – long single bodied click pen designed to show off your work not ours! Another from-scratch design.

The giant **Director** pen kit, one of the largest kits on the market and again with a bi-directional twist mechanism.

The **Keats** – the closest we could get to a slimline pen – using a Parker style refill so your customers can buy a refill on the high street when they need to. A pen after all should offer convenience not inconvenience.

We are not here to tell you we are better than anyone else but just a bit different - if you haven't tried one of our kits yet we hope you will soon.

As a final thought it is not just pen kits that we design we also design woodturners box hinges and many other woodturners kits such as our contemporary salt & pepper shakers, modular honey dipper & hammers and our latest stainless steel bottle stoppers – just in case you fancy a change from making pens.

We hope it is what makes Prokraft unique.