



Equipment Specifications

How to Make a Lance

1. Select your shaft of (male) bamboo.
2. Start at the head.
3. Cut about 2" from a knot, the base of the head should sit just in front of the knot, this is a strong point in the shaft.
4. Cut a plug of bamboo from the off cut to and trim to be a snug fit in the small hole in the centre of the shaft. Fill hole with 2 part epoxy and plug to depth of hole.
5. Taper shaft from knot to match the profile of the socket on the lance head.
6. Keep offering up the head to the shaft, twist and remove head and then remove bamboo from the high spots, twisting the head leaves a mark where it is tight on the bamboo.
7. Repeat this process using a sharp draw knife or spoke shave removing a little bamboo each time until the head is a good snug fit and in line with the shaft.
8. If the shaft is a little wider than the socket taper the bamboo in gentle, do not leave a sharp shoulder or step as this would create a weak point.
9. Once happy with the fit place a thin layer of 2 part epoxy onto the inside of the socket, and a thick layer on the top end of the shaft.
10. Press the head into place with a twisting motion until firm and check it is on straight.
11. Allow epoxy to set before proceeding.
12. Decide on overall length of lance you want. Remember it is possible to shorten a lance easily if too long, but almost impossible to extend if too short! BTA Minimum is 7'6" and International minimum is 8'2". Max is 8'9".
13. Shaft only needs a stub of around 2" cut to fit into the butt and secured with epoxy.
14. Oil shaft with Danish Oil. Allow to dry.
15. Find point of balance, fit grip (e.g. tennis racket or hockey stick grip tape) about a hand span behind this to allow point to drop easily.

How to Make a Lance Bucket

A lance bucket attaches to your stirrup iron to slot the Lance Shoe (bottom) into whilst holding in the 'carry' position.

One of the problems with our sport is that we can't just nip to the saddlers or equestrian store and pick up brush jumps, gallows sword dummies or lance buckets! The diagram below, when printed to fill an A4 page, will give you an idea of the specifications to make a lance bucket: