

Gluing your bat

Equipment Required

- Cutting Board
- Stanley knife *
- Rolling pin
- Glue
- Blade
- Forehand and Backhand Rubbers

* It is important that you use a sharp (new) blade to ensure a clean cut around the new rubbers



Before you start

Which side is red and which is Black? It is a general rule of thumb to place the forehand side (Red) on the same side as the logo on the blade

Caution

Whenever using a toxic substance such as glue it is essential to make sure you have a well ventilated area. In addition, adult supervision is required when using sharp implements and solvent based glues.

Varnishing your blade:

Some people advocate varnishing the blade prior to gluing, this is to protect the blade surface when switching rubbers. However, this could slightly alter the playing characteristic of the blade.

Task 1



Glue the Blade: Shake the glue and apply evenly over one side of the blade above the handle line.

Points to note: if you are reusing a blade make sure the surface is smooth and clear of any glue residue from the previous rubber. If this is the case rub over lightly with some fine sandpaper and wipe clean. The surface must be dry prior to application of your selected glue.

Task 2



Glue the Rubber: Keep the packaging card on the rubber surface to protect the face of your rubber and spread the glue evenly over the whole of the sponge.

Points to note: Keep the rubber preserved in its original packaging until you are ready to glue, this allows it to retain its elasticity and remain clean.

Task 3



Attaching the rubber to the blade: With the blade resting on the cutting board and with the glued side facing upwards, place the logo edge of the rubber onto the blade up against and square to the handle top. Then gently smooth over the rubber with your hand from the handle upwards ensuring that there are no air bubbles/uneven patches.

Points to note: always keep the protective film over the rubber.

Task 4



Firming up: Next use a rolling pin to press the rubber to the blade. Start from the handle and work your way up holding on to the handle of the blade and applying a light and even pressure as you roll the rolling pin over the rubber.

Points to note: Make sure the logo and information about the rubber is close to the handle, this is a requirement of the ITTF as all rubbers need to be certified for competitive play.

Task 5



Getting rid of the excess: With caution use a sharp stanley knife and work your way around the blade using the edge of the blade as a guide.

Points to note: It is important that you cut right through to ensure you have a crisp edge, it is best to start with a new knife blade to ensure you create a clean cut.

Repeat the process for the reverse side, remove card and there you have it.