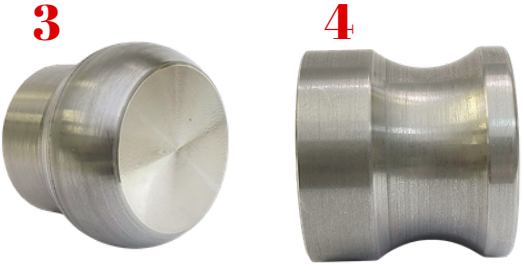
Quick-Form Press Instructions

For Video Instructions,
visit PotterUSA.com.

Kit Includes:

1. Press Body with base and vertical Tool Mounting Plate
2. Removable Handle for left- or right-handed use
3. Large Synclastic Former
4. Large Anticlastic Former
5. Urethane Holder with Urethane
6. 4 Washers/Spacers for use with Urethane Holder and Delrin Ring Pushers
7. 2 Shoulder Bolts for mounting tooling onto the Tool Mounting Plate
8. Small Tooling Adapter with Small Former Mounting Bolt
9. Small Synclastic Former
10. Small Anticlastic Former
11. Flat Ring Formers: 1/2" – 7/8" (1.3-2.2cm) diameter; 7 sizes in 1/16" (1.9mm) increments
12. Matching Flat Delrin Ring Pushers
13. ¼" Allen Wrench (not pictured)
14. Tooling Storage Stand (not pictured)
15. 3/8" or 1/4" drill bit and 4 bolts, nuts, and washers for mounting the press (not included)
16. Grease for maintenance (not pictured)

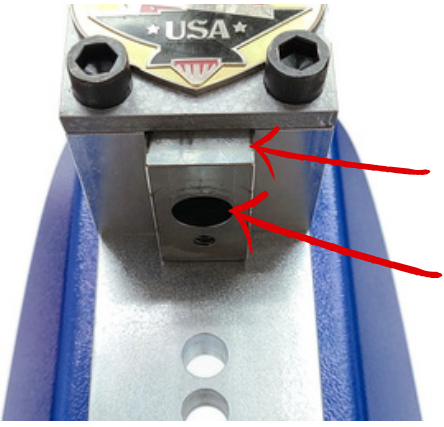
Height: 14-9/16" (37 cm)
Width: 11-3/4" (29.8 cm)
Footprint: 11-3/4" x 9"
(28.9 x 22.9 cm)



Quick-Form Press Safety

- You **MUST** properly mount the press before use. The press should be properly mounted through its feet to a heavy and stable work surface. The worktable should be solid, strong enough to support the press, and not on wheels. For added security, secure the table to a wall.
- **Do NOT use any of the Quick-Form Press accessories or tooling in a hydraulic press**. It is an entirely different tool and the parts are NOT interchangeable.
- Don't place anything in press that is not approved or recommended by Potter USA.
- Keep children and pets away from the press. Children and pets can easily be injured by heavy falling tools, moving parts, ingesting hazardous materials, etc.
- Keep fingers away from moving parts. Fingers can become pinched or crushed in moving parts if care is not taken.
- Tie back long hair. Hair can get caught and pulled in moving parts.
- Wear ANSI approved safety eye and face protection when operating the press. When properly operating the press, nothing should become airborne, but accidents happen. Eye and face protection should be worn to protect against injury.
- **Only use replacement parts obtained from Potter USA.** In order to ensure safety and proper care of your investment in the Quick-Form Press, only use Potter USA replacement parts. Always consult with Potter USA prior to performing any repairs or alterations.
- Never operate the press when you're tired, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Keep your work area clean. Having a cluttered work area can result in trips or falls, heavy items falling on feet, and other accidents.
- Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. These items can become caught in moving parts and cause harm.

Parts of the
Quick-Form Press



Ram

Urethane Holder and Delrin Ring Pusher Mounting Hole

Back View

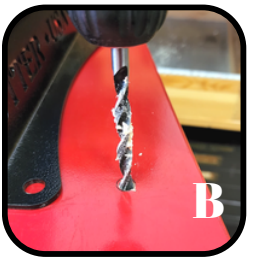
Tool Mounting Plate

Shoulder Bolts

How to Mount the Quick-Form Press

The Quick-Form Press absolutely MUST be mounted to a sturdy work surface!

1. There are four Mounting Holes in the base of the press. Trace the mounting holes onto your work surface where you want to mount the press **[A]**.
2. Use a 3/8" or ¼" drill bit (not included in kit) to drill a hole at one mark **[B]**. Insert a bolt to register the press in place **[C]**, then drill a hole at a second mark. Repeat to drill all four mounting holes.
3. From below, add a washer and nut (not included in kit) to each bolt. Hand-tighten the nuts **[D]**.
4. Then, use two wrenches to tighten each bolt and secure each corner of the base **[E,F]**.



Mounting Height Recommendations

Seated: When the Handle is raised vertically, the end of it should be at approx. upper-chest level.

Standing: When Handle is raised vertically, the end of it should be at approx. mid-upper arm level.

PLEASE NOTE: These are only recommendations. You should try out different mounting heights to see what works best for you and allows for the easiest use of raising and lowering the Handle.

Press Handle

The Quick-Form Press handle is what you use to raise and lower the ram in order to form metal using all of the different forming tools.

- The handle is designed for right-hand use. If you need left-handed, please contact us.
- The handle does not have a stop to prevent it from swinging forward or backward if raised past its apex. Carefully lower handle or remove it after each operation.
- Remove the handle from the press before adding, removing, or changing formers. This will keep vertical pressure off the former and make the tools easier to change.

- The handle does NOT automatically raise. Lift the handle after each pressing.
- If you're having trouble getting enough leverage, remove the handle from the square crank, adjust the handle 90°, and try again. Each former will require a different handle position based on personal preference.

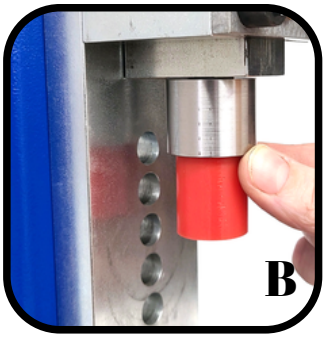
How to Mount the Urethane Holder

The Urethane Holder is mounted into the hole in the center of the Ram and is used with the Small and Large Anticlastic and Synclastic formers.

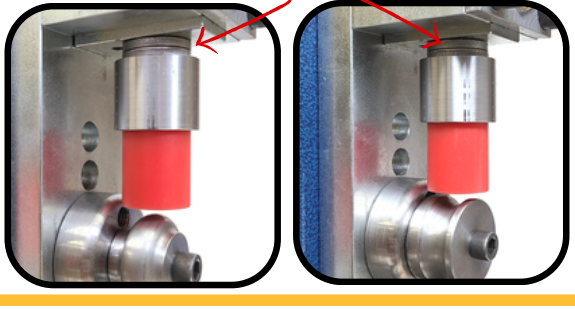
Mounting the Urethane Holder

Always insert the Urethane Holder into the Ram before mounting any formers to the Tool Mounting Plate!

1. Push the Urethane Holder by hand up into the Ram until it doesn't fall out **[A,B]**. It will stay in place but will not be tight. A little movement up and down is normal. A rubber O-ring gives the Holder enough tension to hold it in place.
2. When using the **Small Synclastic or Small Anticlastic Former, add two spacers to the Urethane Holder** before inserting it into the Ram.
3. When using the **Large Anticlastic Former, add one spacer to the Urethane Holder** before inserting it into the Ram.



Small Anticlastic and Synclastic Formers: 2 spacers

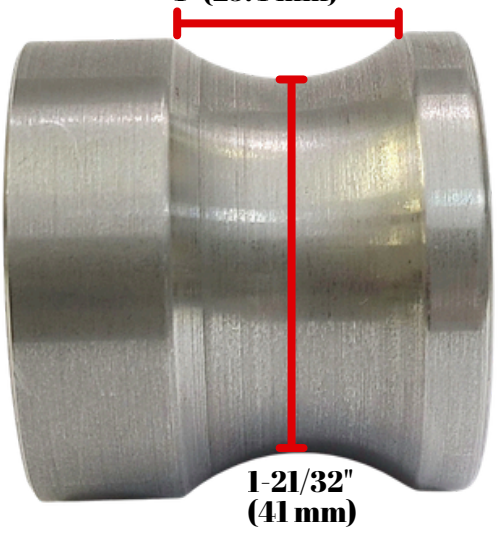


Large Synclastic Former: 0 spacers

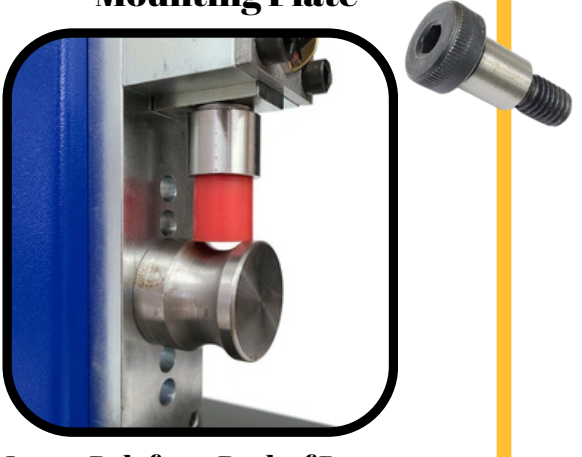
Large Anticlastic Former: 1 spacer

Large Anticlastic Former

Use this former with the Urethane Holder
to create anticlastic cuff bracelets.



Use 1 Shoulder Bolt to attach the Large Anticlastic Former to the 4th Hole in the Tool Mounting Plate



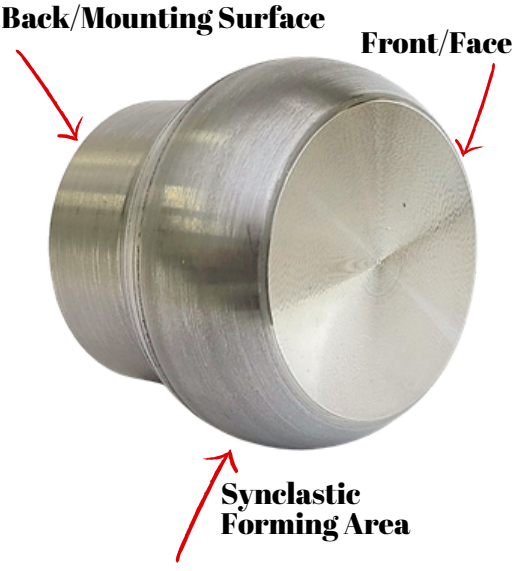
Insert Bolt from Back of Press

Use With:

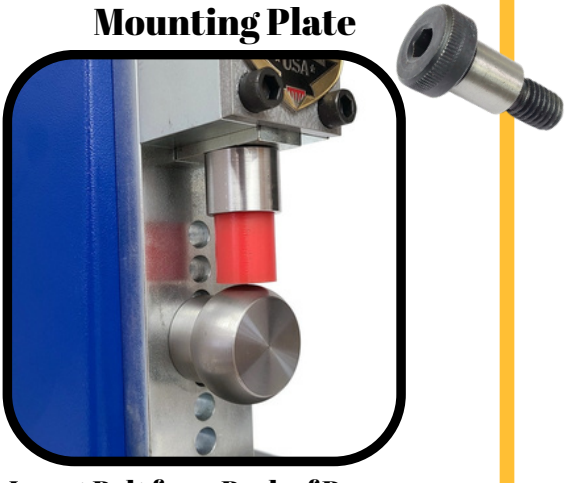
- **Urethane Holder and 1 washer**

Large Synclastic Former

Use this former with the Urethane Holder
to create synclastic cuff bracelets.



Use 1 Shoulder Bolt to attach the Large Synclastic Former to the 4th Hole in the Tool Mounting Plate



Insert Bolt from Back of Press

Use With:

- **Urethane Holder and Urethane**

How to Use the Large Synclastic and Anticlastic Bracelet Formers

Both large formers are mounted to the press and used the same way (with the exception of a single washer when mounting the Urethane Holder) to produce different results. We've split the instructions to show the same steps for each type of former.

Large Synclastic

Large Anticlastic

Metal Recommendations

- Gauge: 16-24
- Temper: Annealed or hard, depending on personal preference
- Non-ferrous
- Width: 1"

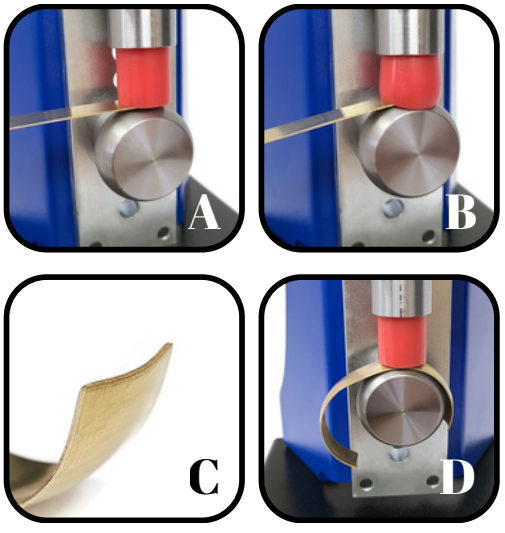
Mount the Large Synclastic and Anticlastic Formers

1. Insert the Urethane Holder into the Ram (see pg. 8). If using the Large Anticlastic Former, add 1 Washer to the Urethane Holder before inserting it.
2. Mount the Large Synclastic or Large Anticlastic Former to the 4th hole in the Tool Mounting Plate [A,B].

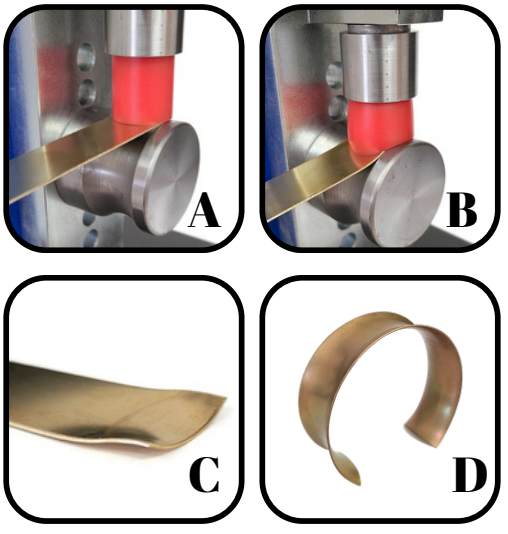
Using the Large Formers

1. From either the left or right, insert the end of a strip of metal between the urethane and the former [A]. Make sure the end of the strip is located where it will be formed on the first pressing. Keep the metal strip straight and parallel to the former.
2. Pull the handle down to compress the urethane and form the metal [B]. If you're not getting enough leverage, remove the handle from the crank, adjust the handle 90 degrees, and try again. Each former requires a different handle position based on personal preference.
3. Lift the handle to raise the urethane holder. The end of the strip should be curved [C].
4. Move the strip in toward the former approx. 1/8" and press it again. The smaller "steps" you take, the smoother the forming will be.
5. Keep the strip centered on the former as you feed it from one side to the other. Repeat to form the length of the strip [D].

Large Synclastic Former



Large Anticlastic Former



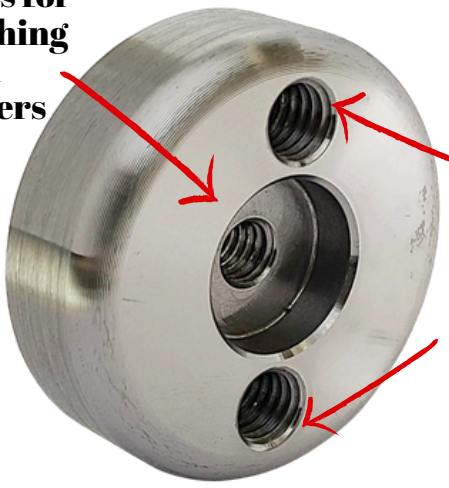
Forming the Ends of a Cuff

A cuff bracelet sits on the wrist better if it is more oval-shaped than a perfect circle. There are a couple ways to achieve this.

- Use your hands to slightly open the cuff, and use your fingers to squeeze the ends of the cuff toward the center. This will take the bracelet out of round and give it more of a wrist shape.
- Use the small anticlastic or synclastic former (page 14) to tighten the radius at each end of the cuff. For best results, start approx. 1/2" in from each end, and form approx. 1-2" toward the center of the cuff.

Small Tooling Adapter

Use this adapter to mount all small formers, including ring formers, to the press.

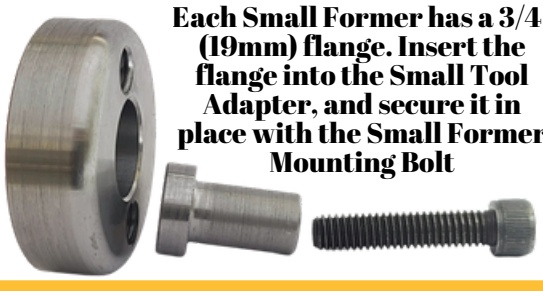


Use With:

- **Small Anticlastic Former**
- **Small Synclastic Former**
- **Ring Formers**

Use 2 Shoulder Bolts to attach the Small Tool Adapter to the appropriate holes in the Tool Mounting Plate for each small Former

Insert Bolts from Back of Press



Each Small Former has a 3/4" (19mm) flange. Insert the flange into the Small Tool Adapter, and secure it in place with the Small Former Mounting Bolt

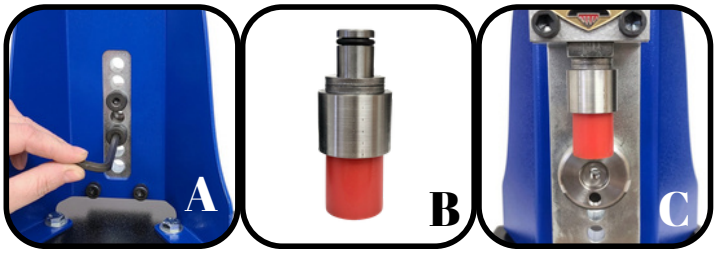
How to Use the Small Synclastic and Anticlastic Formers

Both formers are mounted to the press and used the same way to produce different results. We've split the instructions to show the same steps for each type of former.

Mount the Small Formers

1. Mount the Small Tooling Adapter to the 3rd and 5th holes on the Tool Mounting Plate (page 13) [A].
2. Place 2 Spacers onto the Urethane Holder [B]. Insert the Urethane Holder into the Ram (page 8) [C].
3. Place the 3/4" (19mm) flange/end of a Small Synclastic or Anticlastic Former into the Small Tooling Adapter [D].
4. Insert the Small Former Mounting Bolt through the former from the front [E], and use the Allen Wrench to secure the former [F].

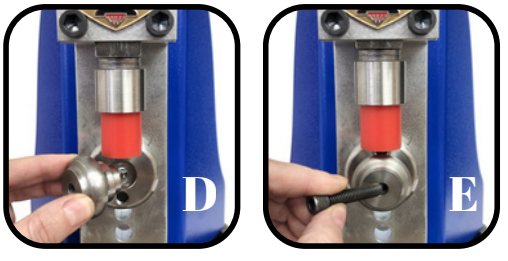
Both Formers



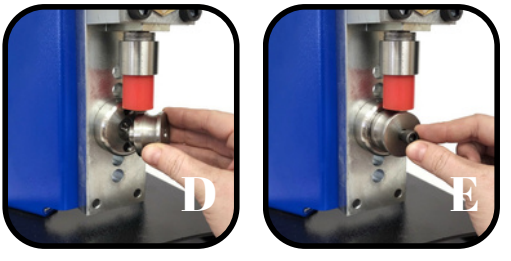
Metal Recommendations

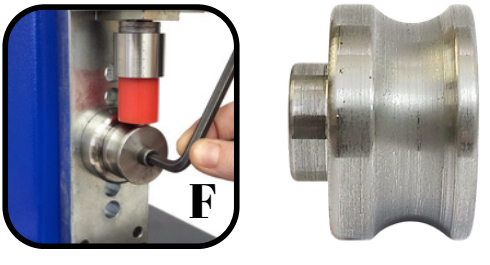
- Gauge: 16-24
- Temper: Annealed or hard, depending on personal preference
- Non-ferrous
- Width: 1/2"

Small Synclastic Former



Small Anticlastic Former

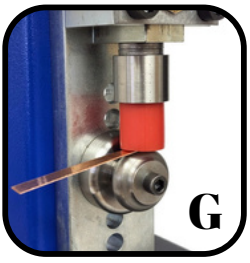




Using the Small Formers

1. From either the left or right, insert the end of a strip of metal between the urethane and the former [G]. Make sure the end of the strip is located where it will be formed on the first pressing. Keep the metal strip straight and parallel to the former.
2. Pull the handle down to compress the urethane and form the metal [H]. If you're having trouble getting enough leverage, remove the handle from the square crank, adjust the handle 90 degrees, and try again. Each former will require a different handle position based on personal preference. The handle can be placed on either side of the crank for left- or right-hand use.
3. Lift the handle to raise the urethane holder. The end of the metal should be formed [I].
4. Move the strip in toward the former approx. 1/8" (3 mm) and press again [J]. The smaller "steps" you take, the smoother the forming of the metal will be.
5. Keep the strip centered on the former as you feed it from one side to the other. Repeat to form the length of the strip [K].

Small Synclastic Former



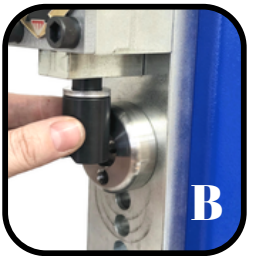
Small Anticlastic Former

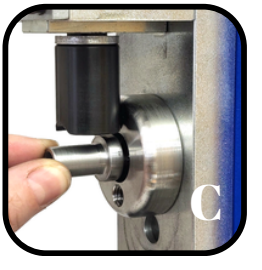
How to Use the Ring Formers

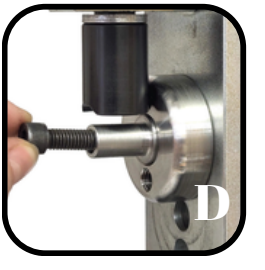
Each ring former and pusher pair is used the same way. Apply these steps to any size ring former, not just the one shown in the photos.

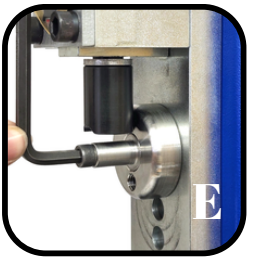
Mount the Ring Formers and Pushers

1. Mount the Small Tooling Adapter to the 1st and 3rd holes on the Tooling Mounting Plate (page 13) [A].
2. Place one Spacer onto the Delrin Ring Pusher that corresponds with the Ring Former you're using [B]. Push the Delrin Ring Pusher that corresponds to your Ring Former up into the Ram until it doesn't fall out. It will stay in place but will not be tight. A little movement up and down is normal. A rubber O-ring gives the Pusher enough tension to hold it in place. The groove in the pusher should be pointing straight back toward the Tool Mounting Plate.
3. Place the 3/4" (19mm) flange/end of the Ring Former into the Small Tooling Adapter [C].
4. Insert the Small Former Mounting Bolt through the former from the front [D], and use the Allen Wrench to secure the Former [E].







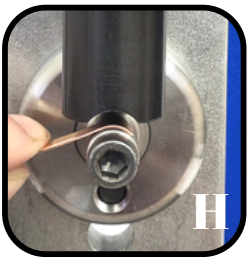


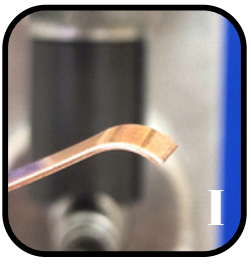
Metal Recommendations

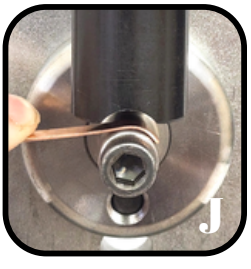
- Gauge: 16-24 sheet; silverware
- Temper: Annealed or hard, depending on personal preference
- Non-ferrous
- Width: 1"

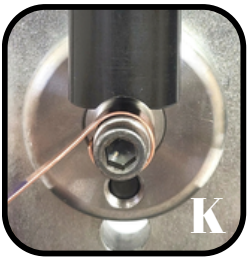
Using the Ring Formers

1. From either the left or right, insert the end of a strip of metal between the ring former and corresponding pusher [F]. Make sure the end of the strip is located where it will be formed on the first pressing. Keep the metal strip straight and parallel to the former.
2. Pull the handle down to form the metal [G]. If you're having trouble getting enough leverage, remove the handle from the square crank, adjust the handle 90 degrees, and try again. Each former will require a different handle position based on personal preference. The handle can be placed on either side of the crank for left- or right-hand use.
3. Lift the handle to raise the pusher [H]. The end of the metal should be formed [I].
4. Move the strip in toward the former approx. 1/8" (3 mm) and press it again [J]. The smaller "steps" you take, the smoother the forming of the metal will be.
5. Keep the strip centered on the former as you feed it from one side to the other [K].
6. Repeat to form the length of the strip [L].









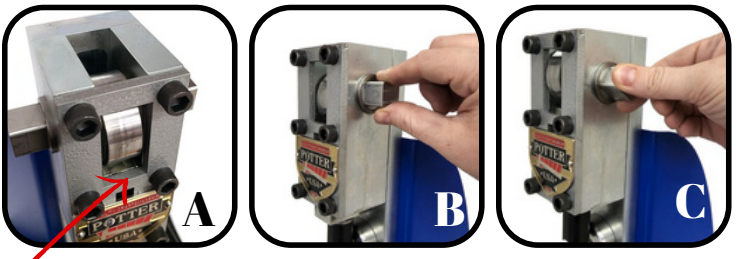
1/2" (1.3 cm) *9/16" (1.4 cm)* *5/8" (1.6 cm)* *11/16" (1.7 cm)* *3/4" (1.9 cm)* *13/16" (2.1 cm)* *7/8" (2.2 cm)*

Press Maintenance

To keep your Quick-Form Press operating smoothly, there are a few things you should do to maintain it.

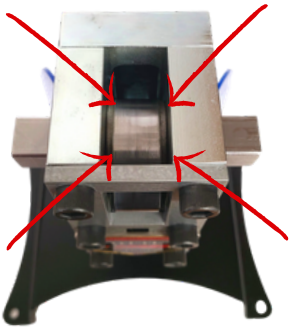
Cam

Add a small amount of machine grease to the center of the cam [A]. Turn the crank by hand a few rotations to evenly spread the grease [B, C].



Ram

From the opening in the top of the press, add a drop of oil on all four corners of the ram, and turn the crank a few times to disperse it.



Cover It

Cover the Quick-Form Press with a cloth or towel when not in use to prevent dust and debris from collecting on the moving parts of the press.

All Potter USA tools are rust-free when they leave our shop in Tucson, AZ, but they may pick up some surface rust during transit to or through more humid environments. Here are some tips and tricks for care and maintenance of any of the steel tools in your shop.

Prevent Rust

To help prevent rust, protect your tools with a light coating of oil. We recommend Boeshield T-9. If you don't have that, any type of oil or grease will work, but avoid food-based oils (olive, avocado, etc.) because they can go rancid. Other options include mineral oil, baby oil, machine oil, hydraulic oil, Vaseline, etc.

Remove Rust

Our favorite rust-removal product? Evap-O-Rust. You can get this at most hardware stores, it's non-toxic, and it's quick and easy to use. Soak the steel in Evap-O-Rust and scrub the surface with a brass brush. We don't rinse after using it, but you can. Be sure to dry the steel thoroughly and add a protective layer of oil to help prevent future rust. Other rust-removal options include steel wool, Naval Jelly, or NEVR-Dull Wadding Polish.

Tips, Tricks, & Troubleshooting

- **Are there video instructions?** Yes! Visit PotterUSA.com or check out our YouTube channel for how-to instructions. A downloadable PDF is also available at our website.
- **Can I use Quick-Form Press tooling in my hydraulic press?** NO! The Quick-Form Press is an entirely separate tool, and the tooling is not inter-changeable. Only use Quick-Form Press tooling in the Quick-Form Press.
- **Can I use pancake dies/silhouette dies/impression dies in the QuickForm Press?** NO! Please see above.
- **Having a hard time getting enough leverage to form your metal?** Take the handle off the crank and place it back on 90° from where you removed it.
- **The former doesn't touch my metal...why?** Double check that you've added the correct number of spacers/washers to either the Urethane Holder or Delrin Ring Pusher, and make sure you've mounted the tool to the correct holes in the Mounting Plate. See the instructions for the specific tool you're using for details.
- **Does your formed metal have an uneven edge?** To even out any bumps/lumps/unevenness, take smaller “steps” as you’re advancing the metal. You can always go back and forth, forming the same section of metal to refine the form.
- **Want to even-out the synclastic or anticlastic forming of your metal?** Keeping the strip parallel to the former, slightly shift the metal front to back and press to refine the shape. By taking smaller steps and moving your metal front-to-back and side-to-side, you can smooth out bumps and lumps in your metal.
- **What metal temper should I use?** You can use annealed or hard metal. Hard metal is better for bracelets because it’s sturdy/more durable, but you’ll achieve more defined curvature with softer metal. Experiment to see what works best for you. See the "How To" instructions for each type of former for gauge, temper, and metal width recommendations.
- **My Quick-Form Press is a different color than the one shown here...what's up with that?** The color of the press varies depending on what type of blue our powder-coater has available at the time. Color doesn't matter!

Stay up-to-date with any modifications to these instructions, new tooling, and more by visiting PotterUSA.com, signing up for our newsletter, and joining our Facebook Group, "Potter People-Jewelry Group."

Quick-Form Press

The Quick-Form Press, invented in 2022 by Kevin Potter, combines the power of a kick-press with the ease of use of a hand-operated arbor press. The key to how this press operates is the cam. Unlike an arbor press, which has a linear force that limits the amount of pressure possible, the Quick-Form Press utilizes a cam that allows you to exert maximum force with minimal effort! Whether you're bending rings, cuff bracelets, napkin holders, or silverware, this all-in-one press provides a wide range of tooling for forming metal without the use of a hydraulic press.

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