
Subject: Re: Fordite & Flame Blued Steel (Custom Dial Project in Process)

Posted by [dpm](#) on Mon, 09 Nov 2020 20:45:43 GMT

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Thanks guys!

Yeah, I'm still trying to find my favorite hand combinations.

For the chapter rings:

- 1) I have the laser cut carbon steel chapter rings. (Yay!)
- 2) I've learned how to get a really nice polish on them using my bench grinder supplemented by some diamond polishing Dremel attachments. (Yay!)
- 3) Unfortunately, I'm having a devil of a time getting an even, consistent blue using my current equipment. Right now, I'm using a camp stove and 4" x 4" x 1" aluminum block for the heating. It takes forever, and doesn't heat evenly. I'll be buying either a precision digitally-controlled lab hot plate (\$400) or will be crafting a brass heating platform that will slip over the end of a precision digitally-controlled soldering iron. (Glashuette-Original uses a soldering iron to blue hands and screws, but I worry that I won't be able to get even heat over the larger surface area a chapter ring requires.) It is pretty cool to realize that I can consistently heat-blue hands now, though! I've also thought about crafting a PID-controlled lab hot plate, but I just don't have the energy to take that on right now.
- 4) In order to upgrade my bluing equipment, I've got to finish selling my first run of fordite dials.
- 5) I also have a box of 200 half-height (0.2mm) ETA 6498-compatible blank brass dials. Because this movement has small seconds, and because it absolutely needs a chapter ring, my ETA 6498-compatible fordite dials are on the back burner. If y'all want a couple of these dials, please let me know and I'll e-mail them to you for free.
- 6) I also have a box of 200 half-height (0.2mm) NH35/NH36-compatible Seiko dials. These are the basis for my fordite dials, and I'll also be selling them individually. If y'all want a couple, please let me know and I'll mail them to you for free.

So ... stay tuned. I'm a little embarrassed to share my "best" blued steel chapter ring to date, but here it is:

It does look better in real life than in this photo, but it's not nearly good enough for me to sell.
