

# Re-Gluing a Bobbin



Terry Dwyer

*The Loom Doctor*

**So -----you suddenly find your bobbin in two or three pieces.**

**Nothing is broken!**

**The glue joint simply failed.**

1. Clean wood surfaces of dirt, dust and dried glue. They will just get in the way.
2. Use white or yellow carpenter's glue (e.g. Elmers glue) This glue is flexible, strong and the best choice for the job.

3. Spread glue on the neck of the axle. Don't use dripping quantities because less is better than more. But do be sure to coat the entire surface of the neck.

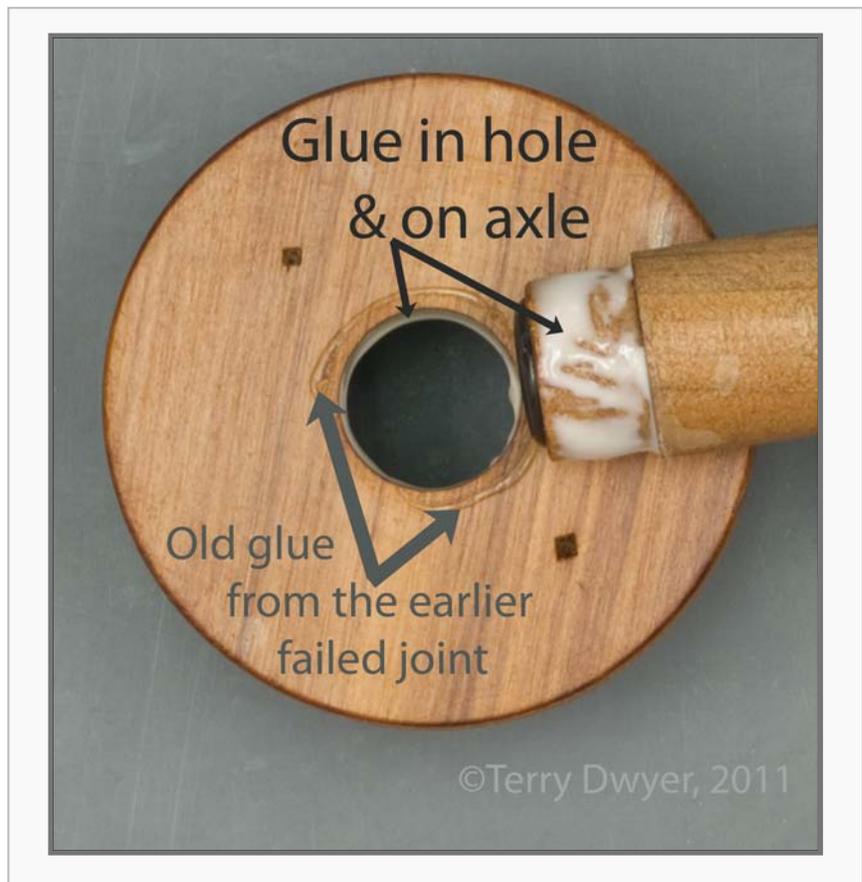
4. Add glue to the inside surface of the disk hole. Again, less is better and less messy.

5. **»»» Patience here! «««**

Rotate the disk slowly as you partially enter

the hole in the disk. Move back and forth because you are distributing the glue evenly.

Remove the axle and repeat from the other side. When you are done, the glue will have wet all the surfaces and soaked into the grain of the wood.

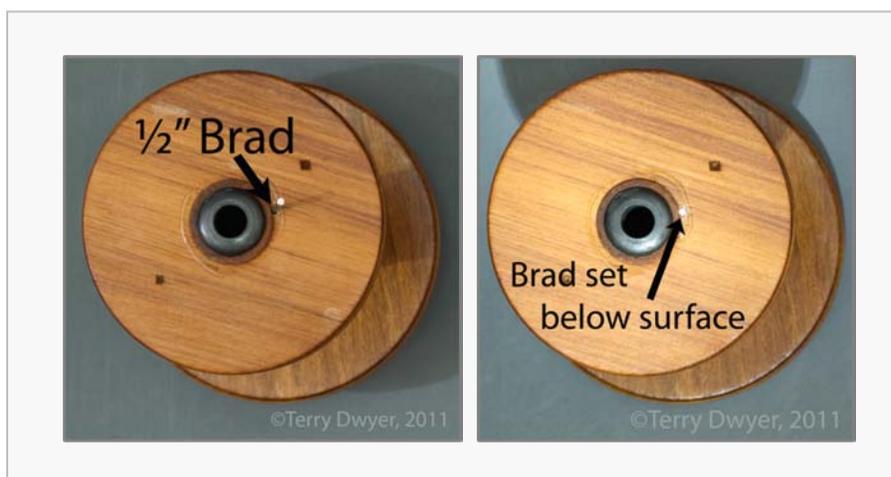


**Hint #1: wet all contact surfaces with glue.**

6. Remove any excess glue from the neck of the axle.
7. Push axle gently all the way into the hole in the disk. There should be no visible glue on the surface of the disk (clean up your mess with a wet rag). A small bead of glue should be all that is visible at the inside edge.



8. **»»» Belt-and-Suspenders Step «««** Here is an optional final step that will improve the repair (but it is not necessary). Tack a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " brad into the joint from the outside to push the axle firmly against the hole in the end piece and also create a key that will resist torque. Do your tacking on a platform that allows room for the axle to stick through.
  - a. Drill a shallow pilot hole at the glue line, where the axle meets the disk. Use a  $\frac{1}{16}$ " drill and only make a *shallow* hole. This will make positioning the brad easier.
  - b. Tack brad into the joint between the axle and disk. This will force the axle against the opposite edge of the disk, insuring a tight approximation of the two pieces.
  - c. Set the brad with a nail set so it is just below the surface. This way, it will not catch your fiber.





### What went wrong in the first place? (The *Loom Doctor's* differential)

1. The wood dried up, contracted and the axle pulled away from the disk, breaking the glue bond. The half inch brad will wedge the axle against the opposite side of the hole in the disk, minimizing this problem in the future.
2. The glue bond was never very good in the first place because both surfaces weren't effectively wet with glue. Your care and patience at spreading the glue evenly and thoroughly will minimize this problem in the future.
3. The forces twisting the disk versus the yarn pulling on the axle proved too much and the glue joint weakened and broke. The half inch brad will act as a key, locking the axle in place and resisting torque in the future.

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