Brass Rods and Tubes

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Materials & Stock

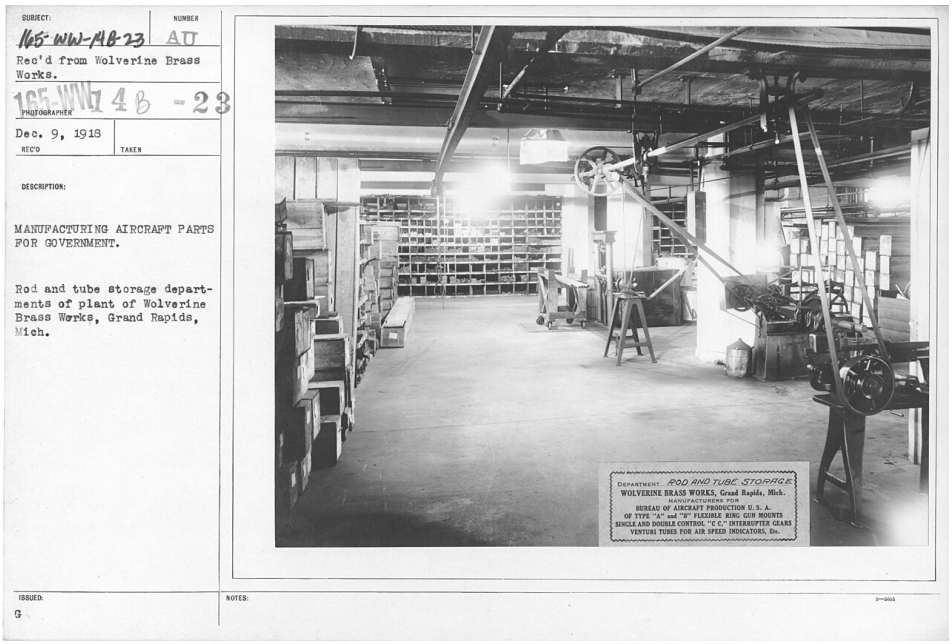

Photo: Unknown authorUnknown author or not provided — Public domain — via Wikimedia Commons (Airplanes_-_Manufacturing_Plants_-_Manufacturing_Aircraft_Parts_for_Government._Rod_and_tube_storage_departments_of_plant_of_Wolverine_Brass_Works,_Grand_Rapids,_Mich_

Brass rod and tube is a free-machining, corrosion-resistant alloy with a warm gold finish, used for turned parts, fittings, model details, jewellery and decorative hardware. It turns, drills, taps and polishes beautifully.

Key Features

- Rods from 3 to 50 mm diameter
- Tubes with wall thicknesses 0.5-3 mm
- Free-cutting CZ121 grades
- Corrosion and tarnish resistant
- Polishes to a bright finish

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Turn knobs, bushes and fittings
- Make model details and jewellery
- Fabricate plated and decorative parts
- Machine small mechanical components

Safe Operation

1. Select the grade for machining quality
2. Cut with a fine saw or hacksaw
3. Machine at moderate speeds with sharp tools
4. Use cutting fluid and clear chips
5. Polish with fine paper and metal polish

SAFETY NOTES

- Brass dust and swarf are toxic - extract and wash hands
- Do not machine with guards removed
- Wear eye protection
- Handle sharp tube ends with gloves
- Store away from acids

Maintenance & Consumables

- Store rods upright in a rack
- Keep the stock dry and polished
- Check for tarnishing and clean
- Keep offcuts labelled
- Sort by diameter and finish

Specification & Buying Notes

Stock brass rod in the diameters the lathe and model work use. Free-machining grades cut clean; decorative grades polish brighter. Buy small diameters for model detail.