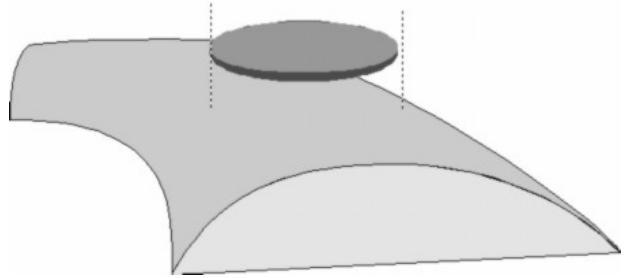




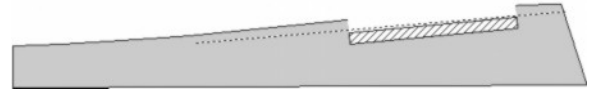
Mounting Medallions in Gun Grips

Some grip surfaces are only slightly curved in one plane, such as the grips for a 1911 Colt. These grips have a wide enough area that is flat enough so that even a large diameter medallion can be mounded nearly flush with the grip surface both from side to side, and from top to bottom. It will be deeper at top and bottom, in order to make the sides flush with the surface, but not by much.



Other grips, such as the typical single action revolver uses, have compound curves in more than one direction. Mounting a relatively flat disk-shaped medallion into the curved surface means that there is no possible way to make the medallion flush with the surface all the way around. Making the top flush means the sides of the medallion will project above the grip. Making the sides flush means the top and bottom will be below the surface, by the amount of difference in the curves.

The smaller the medallion, the less it will drop below or project above the curved surfaces at any given point. A half-inch diameter medallion will look slightly better on a highly curved grip surface than a 5/8-inch diameter medallion, which in turn will look much nicer when mounted on the same surface than a 3/4-inch or 7/8-inch.



Many of Tombstone's special medallions are made with a slightly domed surface so they will blend more naturally with the grip curves. But in some cases, a grip will have so much surface curvature that a given size of medallion simply cannot be mounted without sticking out too far in one plane or another. The higher edges can be "feathered" by sanding to round them a bit.

Use 5-minute epoxy glue to secure the medallion. Even screw-mount medallions can be mounted this way by making a smaller hole for the mounting post. For a good permanent attachment, be sure to mix the two-part epoxy well, and apply only to clean surfaces. Acetone can be used to clean and prime Tombstone grips but be careful about getting it on the front of colored medallions, such as military emblems. Acetone does not harm Tombstone's tough polymer but it may soften the enamel used on some colored medallions.

A very thin grip may not have enough thickness to secure a medallion properly without being cut almost completely through. A very small grip such may simply not have enough surface area to allow mounting any but the smallest medallions, such as the tiny daisy (3/8 inch).

If you select a grip that is not appropriate for medallions, usually there will be none listed with it or only the smaller ones will be shown in the option list. It is always a good idea to make a tracing of your grips or gun frame, and send that to show the exact size and shape. You can also indicate where you wish to medallion to be mounded. If it is a location that may not look good, you will be contacted to see if you want to proceed anyway, or to change medallion size or location. Without any other instructions, all medallions mounted by Tombstone will be placed where experience has shown them to look best on the particular grip ordered.

