FINISHING THE PANEL

Flattening the panel

I used a little pannini/flat bread toaster as a heat press to flatten my horn panels. I lined the toaster with a cooking foil as I want to use my toaster for flatbreads again! The horn would only take 10-25 seconds to heat depending on the thickness and anything longer would cook the horn. The horn would begin "popping" in the toaster if it was starting to cook. If the horn is very curved its better to soak, heat, flatten, soak again, heat again and flatten again, than try and keep it in the heat press to long.



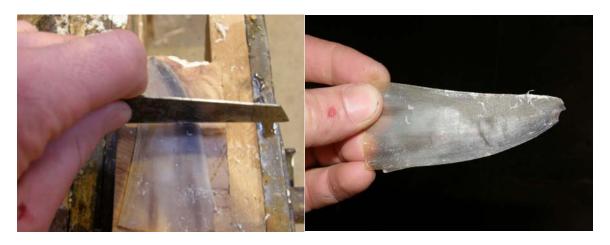
After pressing it I kept it flat under a piece of wood until it set flat.

Pay attention when heat pressing, you've just spent a long time splitting these nice thin, translucent horn panels and you don't want them to look like this...



Scraping the Panel

I choose to scrape the panels smooth rather than sand then smooth. The splitting process leaves little flakes that come of easily when scrapping, but don't with sanding.



This is the panel held up with the workshop's ceiling light in the background



Some other images

The process from finish to start;

1 Scraped panel 2 Post heat press 3 Post splitting 4 Horn Blank



Another panel



The thinnest piece - sadly not quite by design!

