

THE SKYRANGER

HERE'S YOUR LAST CHANCE TO
BUILD AN ALL-BALSA REARWIN.
SCALED EVEN TO SLOTS.

By Gregory Kohn



THE latest Rearwin introduction into the light-plane field is the Skyranger. Side seating, anti-stall slots and a 75 h. p. horizontally opposed motor mark its difference from the other Rearwin planes. As a flying scale model, its performance is remarkable. With all its tail surfaces true to scale, it is a very stable flier which, adjusted properly, will turn in excellent flights.

Lay out the sides of the fuselage, using medium 1/8" square longerons and hard balsa for the uprights. If you prefer, the doors can be made to open, but they must fit snugly. Assemble the sides and add the top and bottom formers. Formers # 1 and #7 are of hard 3/32" sheet balsa; the other formers are of 1/16" soft sheet balsa. Notch and glue the base ribs A to the

top of the cabin. Insert ribs B and the center-section spars. Add the trailing-edge fillets..

Select a medium block of balsa and, using the templates for the engine block, carve and sand it to shape. Refer constantly to templates for accuracy. Cut off the nose block, as shown in the perspective view, and cut the engine block through the center. Hollow each half and then glue them together. Glue a large-face bushing to the nose block. Great care must now be taken. Center the engine block on formers # 1 and #7; glue it to them. Cut some very soft 1/8" x 3/16" strips and plank the nose flush from the rear of the engine block for former #2 on the top, to the rear of the doors on the sides, and to #9 on the bottom. Add the stringers and landing-gear legs. The wheel pants

are made in the same manner as the engine block. Shape the fillets and sand the fuselage smooth. Rub in three coats of thin glue, sanding between coats.

The tail surfaces are built up of hard balsa to prevent warping. The spar in the rudder serves as the tail post, and the rudder is built into the fuselage before it is covered.

Lay out the spars for the wing; 1/8" x 3/8" hard balsa is used. Cut enough ribs and fit the spars into them. The aileron spar is of hard balsa. Fit the trailing and leading edges. Now cut the leading edge away and insert the anti-stall slot. Attach the wing tip and cover the leading edge with 1/32" soft sheet. Sand the framework. Cut the wing struts to shape. Carve propeller as shown.

The original model was silk-covered except for the wings and tail surfaces which were covered with superfine tissue. Spray the entire model with water to shrink the covering. Apply three coats of clear dope and sand lightly with 10/0 sandpaper. The number of coats of pigmented dope is optional, depending on the finish one wants. The original model had ten coats of berry red on the fuselage and

rudder, and five coats of colored dope on the wings and tail. Rub the entire model with auto rubbing compound and polish with a soft cloth. Now put on the windshield and windows, which are made of .005 celluloid. Add all striping and details.

Assemble the entire model. Insert wing-spar stubs in holes in the center section for perfect alignment and glue securely. Attach wing struts and stabilizers. A small opening may be cut in the rear of the fuselage for access to the rear hook. Make up a motor of eight or ten strands of 3/16" well-lubricated brown rubber. Bind the motor to the rear hook and to the prop shaft. A strip of 1/2" Scotch tape may be placed over the fuselage-wing junction. A few coats of colored dope on the tape will bring the finish equal to the ship's. Attach the tail spring and wheel. Completed, the model should weigh about five ounces.

To keep the finish from getting dull, a coat of wax in paste form may be applied with a soft cloth. Test fly the Skyranger in tall grass to prevent any serious crack-ups.

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Air Trails