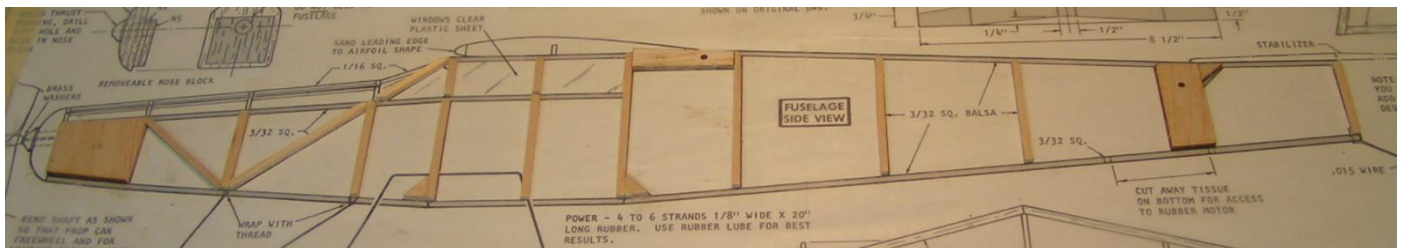


'Magnetic' Construction (without the magnets!)- ala Orv Olm, of Gizmo Geezer fame

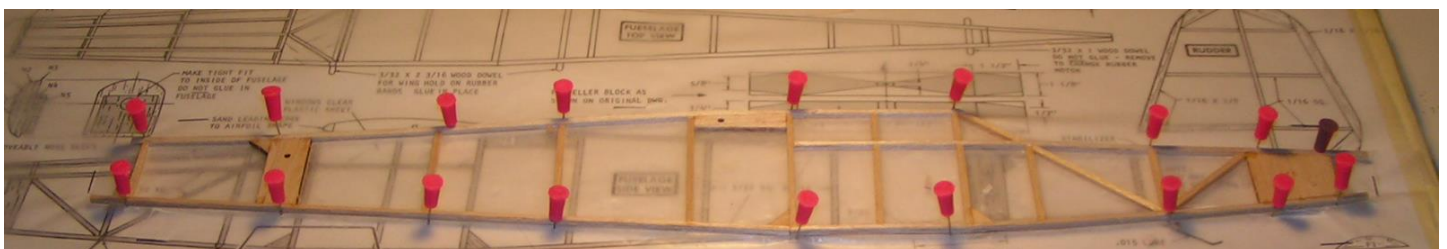
Imagine how neat it would be if all your balsa sticks were magnets and your building board was a sheet of steel underneath your model's plan. Orv Olm's building method feels just about like that.

Here's how to apply his quick and accurate technique to making box fuselage sides; (see photos below)

1. Fix your plan down flat on a 'pinnable' building board, using glue stick, staples or pins
2. Apply glue stick on the plan over the fuse side view along all the longerons and uprights
3. Lay wax paper flat over the plan, affixing it by pressing it down to the glue stick lines
4. Repeat step 2, running glue stick on the wax paper over the longeron and upright outlines.
5. Press balsa stick stock over each upright outline and cut to length with a very sharp knife. My 'knife' is a fragment of a double edge razor blade CA'd to a popsicle stick. For more precision, you can cut the uprights oversize and block sand them to the lengths on the plan. Now all of your uprights are accurately fixed to the plan by the glue you laid down, just as if they were magnets!
6. Now lay down the longerons on their pre-glue-sticked outlines. Here just a few pins might be needed to hold tightly bent longerons to the uprights. Note: if you dampen the bent longeron sections and allow them to dry before proceeding, they will "stress relieve" and hold their pinned down shapes.
7. Prepare a puddle of 50/50 thin/thick CA in a discarded plastic bottle cap or some such. I use a dished out piece of Teflon sheet because dried CA won't stick to it. Then dipping a square ended .050-.065" dia wire in the CA solution, touch a dab at each joint. (Orv really likes the 50/50 mix because it doesn't wick away from the joints, yet still sets quickly). This step goes fast because there are so few pins in the way!
8. Now the cool part; slide a steel rule or thin palette knife under the wax paper, separating it from the plan. Turn it over, with the first fuse side still attached, and tape or pin it back to the building board. Now simply repeat steps 5 through 7, being careful to match locations of the uprights and longerons to those of your completed first side. You might need to reapply a bit of glue stick here and there.
9. Razor blade the two sides from the wax paper. Now 'cross-member' them together over the plan's top view. Using wax paper and glue stick over the plan for the straight sections of the longerons makes this task easier as well. Let's hear it for UHU! (even though I still tissue with thinned Elmers)



Look Ma! No pins!



Well, almost no pins.