# Make the "Parlor Fly"

## By Alan Orthof

Here you are, modelers—a small cabin job that you stick job fans can build and fly within a few hours! To date, my original model has made over one hundred flights without repairs.

And due to her small size, she will fly in practically any room in your house or apartment with a consistent time of twenty to thirty seconds.

But enough of just "talk"—let's get busy and build her!

The fuselage is of simple, square construction, made entirely from lengths of 1/16" square balsa. First tack the plan down on your bench or on a smooth, wooden board. Then lay a sheet of wax paper over it before starting construction, to prevent the framework from sticking to the plan.

Pin the 1/16" square balsa strip onto the side view of the fuselage, following the outline carefully. Now cut the upright braces, and cement them in place. Allow sufficient time to dry thoroughly.

Remove the first framework from the drawing, then construct another side exactly the same.

Now join the sides to each other, by first cementing the tail-end together. Allow plenty of time for the cement to dry. In the meantime, you can be cutting the cross braces to the size, as shown on the plan, ready to cement them in place. When ready, attach them—one on top and one on the bottom—letting each set dry before going on to another.

Having completed this operation, insert the rear hook, which is bent from .016 wire. Cement it firmly to a small former, as shown on the plan.

The next step is the nose block. Carve this piece to shape from a small block of medium hard balsa. Cement a small piece of scrap balsa to the back of the block to correspond with the front opening of the fuselage. This will prevent the nose block from slipping.

Your fuselage, except for its covering, is now completed.

WING AND TAIL

Pin two 1/16" square spars over half of the wing outline on the plan. Cut three ribs from 1/32" sheet balsa, and cement them in place, as shown.

When dry, remove from plan; and build the right half exactly as you did the left.

Bend the bamboo tips over a hot flame and cement, them in place, as shown. Give the adhesive ample time to dry. Now cement the two halves together, allowing one-inch dihedral under each tip. Let dry thoroughly.

The tail surfaces are very simple. Pin the 1/16" square balsa strips to the stabilizer and rudder outline. Cement the indicated braces in place, and let the whole thing dry.

This text accompanied the plan on the opposite page from the October 1937 Flying Aces magazine.

#### "WILL YOU WALK INTO MY PARLOR?"

—said the spider to the fly. Of course, only a spider would show that much interest in a fly. But here's a fly-like wingster that'll rate an invitation from all of you, and you needn't fear that anyone will take a swat at her. For Alan Orthof's dandy "Parlor Fly" is a trim and tiny ship that you could launch in a china shop—and it wouldn't hurt a thing.

The landing gear is bent from .016 wire, to the size and shape shown on the plans, making sure also that it conforms to the fuselage shape.

Wheels can be made from any light material, such as balsa or cork. Apply a drop of cement to the end of the axle to prevent the wheels from sliding off.

#### COVERING AND ASSEMBLY

This ship is covered with light Japanese tissue, the fuselage with four strips—top, bottom, and the two sides. Here's how you put it on:

Attach the tissue with banana oil. Trim, and spray lightly with water. When dry, give a light coat of banana oil.

Cut away a small section of tissue in the back of the fuselage, so that the rubber can- be easily attached to the small hook.

Wings are covered on top only, and are not sprayed or doped. Follow the same procedure on tail. Now glue the tail surfaces and landing gear in place.

When cementing the wing in place, glue a small piece of balsa 1/20" by 1/8" by 1" under the leading edge of the wing. Make a V-cut to conform with the dihedral angle. This also serves as an incidence block.

Push the wire shaft through the center of the nose block, slide on two light washers and attach the propeller, as shown. Insert a 7%" loop of 5/64" rubber.

The model is now ready to fly. FLYING

To adjust the model, give the motor about one hundred turns. Set the model on the floor, let go of the prop and give the ship a very slight shove.

Under proper adjustments, she should take off and circle gracefully toward the left. When proper adjustments are reached; the maximum power—up to five hundred turns—may be stored in your motor.

 $\label{eq:Adjustments} \mbox{ and be made by warping the surfaces slightly.}$ 

### PARLOR FLY

The model must be built as shown in the October 1937 Flying Aces magazine with the exception of the rear rubber mount and the bamboo wing tips which may be laminated from 2x 1/32 x1/16 balsa or formed form 1/16 th balsa or reed. Single covering on the flying surfaces is allowed. Structure, such as gussets, may be added. Regular Jap tissue must be used. For our purposes a plastic prop may be used. We will have events for this model at the NBM and Cole Field house.