HOLVERSON DESIGNS INC. COLORS COLORS

SWING WING ROCKET GLIDER

LASER-CUT BALSA

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requires assembly

skill level 5

difficult or exacting

A STAND-OUT AT ANY LAUNCH!

PELIABLE PISTON ACTUATION

EASY PREPPING IN SECONDS

> efficient elliptical wing design

easy-to-follow instructions are designed to be filed and collected

diameter: 19mm (J4"), height 56Jan (73J5"), span 533am (21J5"), net weight: 70g (25 oz.), heinch weight 96g (3,4 oz.)

> recommended engines 84-2 (first flight), C6-3

> > predicted altitudes; 84-2; 56m (1851), (6-3 119m (590)

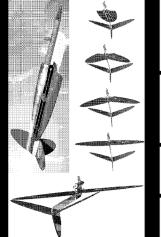
> > > made in the USA





BEAUTIFUL FLIGHTS!

HOLVERSON DESIGNS, INC 25075 CO-HWY L20 Soldier, Iowa 51572



SWINGER"

Skill Level 5

HDI2004

HOLVERSON **DESIGNS, INC.**

diameter: 19mm (.74") ● length: 56.7cm (23.75") ● span 53.3cm (21.75") ● net weight: 70g (2.5 oz.) ● launch weight 96g (3.4 oz.) recommended engines: B4-2 (first flight), C6-3

predicted altitudes: B4-2: 56m (185'), C6-3 119m (590')



Thank you! We would like to thank you for purchasing this Holverson Designs flying model rocket. We hope that you enjoy building and flying this model as much as we have. Please let us know if you like your kit, or if you have any questions or need technical advise. Contact us at: Holverson Designs, Inc. 25075 CO HWY L20, Soldier, Iowa 51572 or http://www.pionet.net/~holvrson

This instruction sheet is laid out to allow you to start a rocket plans reference file. Save your entire set of instructions for future reference.

Why is the Swinger™ unique?

The Swinger™ is unique because it's a performance rocket glider (abbreviated "RG"), with swing wing variable geometry, utilizing a piston actuation. (For more about the piston mechanism

see technical insight on next page).

A rocket glider is one of the more challenging areas of model rocketry since it combines the art and sciences of both rocketry and aerodynamics in one design. Ascending like a rocket and returning via lifting wings poses several challenging tasks for you as a rocket modeler, especially since the aerodynamic and balance concerns of free flight rockets and gliders are different. This gets even more challenging because a RG must remain complete and not drop a portion of itself to make the transition into glide configuration. A boost glider simply drops a pop-pod (like the Silver Hawk™) or engine casing (like the Zoomie™).

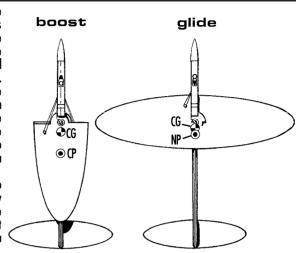
A regular model rocket remains stable in flight because its aerodynamic center (in rocketry, called "center of pressure" or simply "CP") must be at least one caliber or 10% of the rocket's length behind the center of gravity (abbreviated "G"). The rearward CP will tend to rotate the rocket around its CG, like a wind vane, pointing its nose into the direction of flight. However, this much distance (called the "static margin") between the CG and the aerodynamic center (called the "neutral point" or "NP" in aircraft) would make a glider far too nose heavy and would rapidly nose dive into the ground. Most aircraft prefer very small static margins. In most rocket aliders, the static margin must be wide in the boost and coast phases of flight and then drastically narrowed for gliding flight. This is usually done by shifting the CG, CP,

In the Swinger's™ case, the CP shifts by

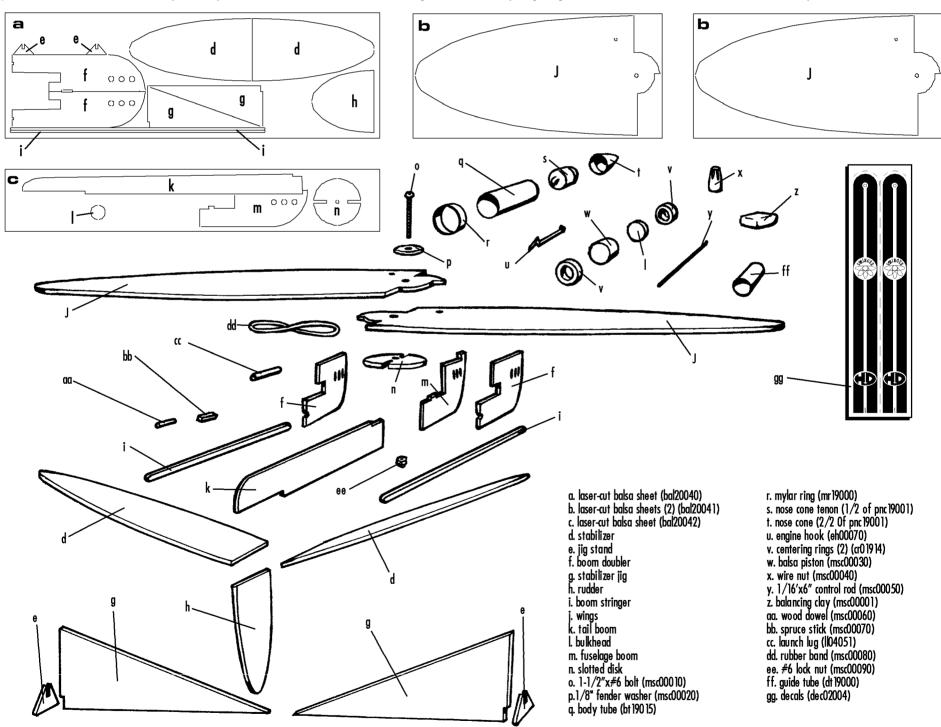
changing the geometry, in what is called a variable geometry configuration. In boost and coast the wings are locked back with the CP rearward. When the ejection charge triggers the release mechanism the wings swing forward taking the NP with it, and transitioning the SwingerTM for a stable glide.

The change in geometry is activated by the positive action of the model rocket motor's ejection charge forcing a balsa piston mechanism to release the wings (see technical insight, next page) . The piston mechanism is much easier and quicker to prep for flight than the burn string release used on most swing wing RGs.

The balancing of lifting and gravity forces to allow a conventional boost to altitude, followed by the proper functioning of the piston activated release mechanism, and finally a transition to gliding flight and smooth aircraft-like landing require that you build your Swinger™ as well as you can.







required building materials carpenter's (preferred) or white glue

- pencil •sandpaper: 120, 200, and 400 arit
- hobby knife •half meter (18") ruler or straight edge
- cotton swabs
- "slow" cyanoacrylate (CA) glue
- scissors
- screw driver pliers
- hobby saw plastic model glue (tube type or liquid)

- optional building materials
- ●1.5mm (1/16') drill bit espent engine casing
- sanding block •nail file
- masking tape
- •paint brush
- sanding sealer or aerogloss espray paint
- food coloring or marker pens •japanese tissue
- •razor plane



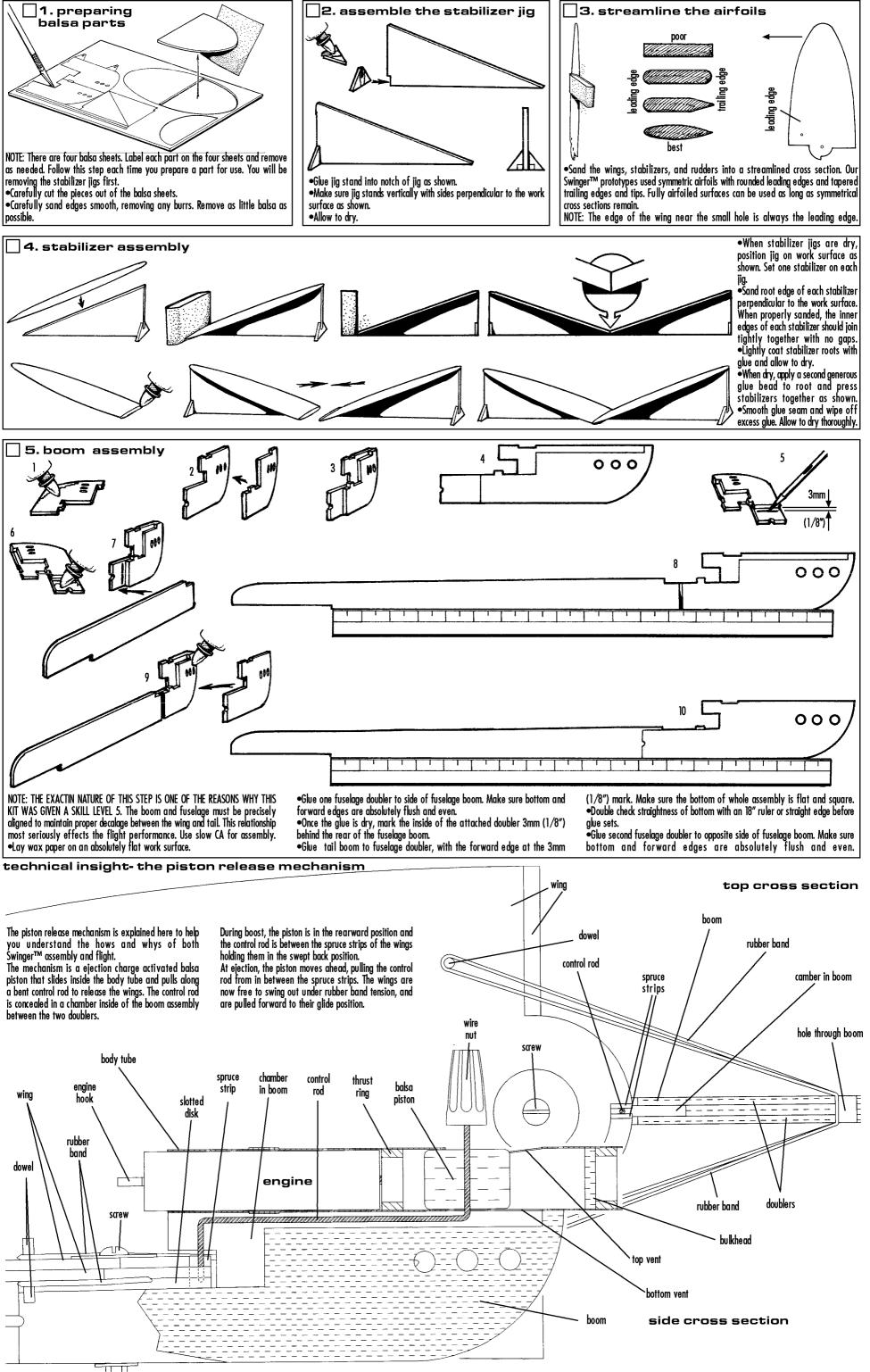
getting started

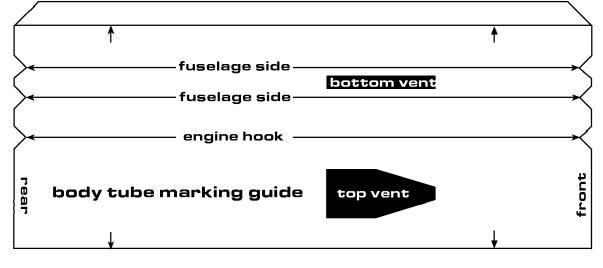
This is a complicated model. Get the big picture first by studying the exploded view diagram before beginning assembly. This view will show you where parts are to be used and what names they have.

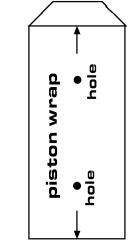
 You will need a flat surface to work on. A piece of flat cardboard works great to protect your table top and allow you to pin parts or glue and sand. When the cardboard gets too rough, replace it with a new sheet.

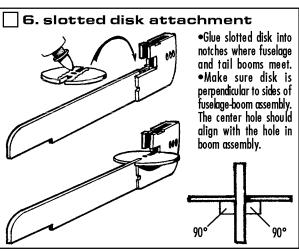
•After reading the instructions and visualizing the assembly steps, work slowly and carefully and most of all, have fun! •The more care you use in building your Swinger™, the better it will perform and the more

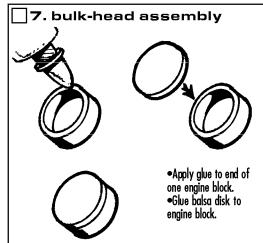
fun you will have flying it! •Also read Holverson Designs Technical Report #1 if you are interested in building a performance competition Swinger™. The supplement has information on streamlining the wings and fins.

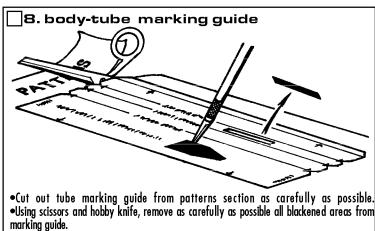


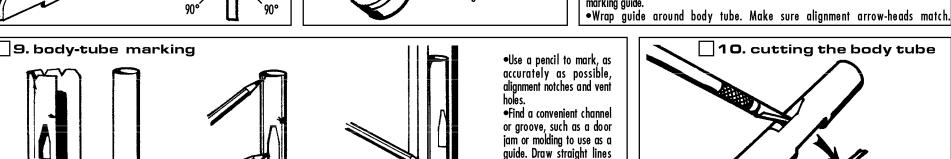


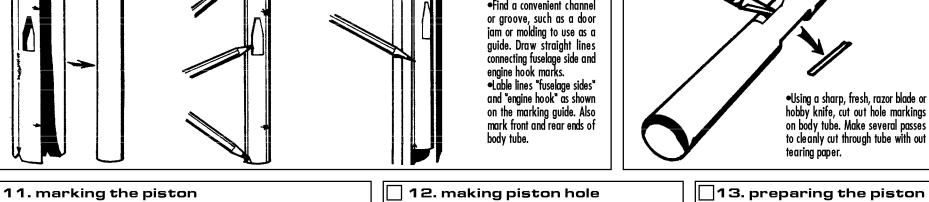


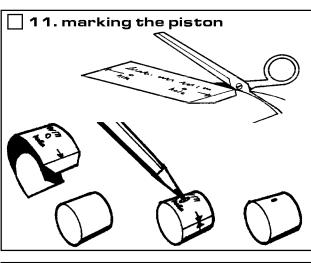






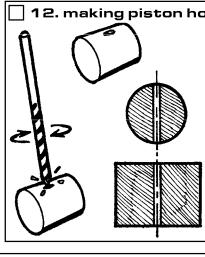






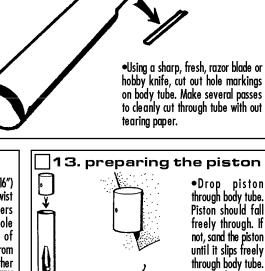
•Cut out the piston marking guide from patterns section. Make holes in guide as indicated by black dots.

•Wrap guide around piston. Make sure alignment arrow heads match. •Use a pencil to mark the two hole positions on piston.



•Using a 1.5mm (1/16") drill bit, carefully twist bit with your fingers into indicated hole marks on one side of piston and exiting from indicated hole on other side of piston. ENTRY AND EXIT HOLES SHOULD BE 180° APART.

 The control rod can be twirled to nibble through the piston if the drill bit is not avai lable



 Since the piston will be subjected to the heat of ejection

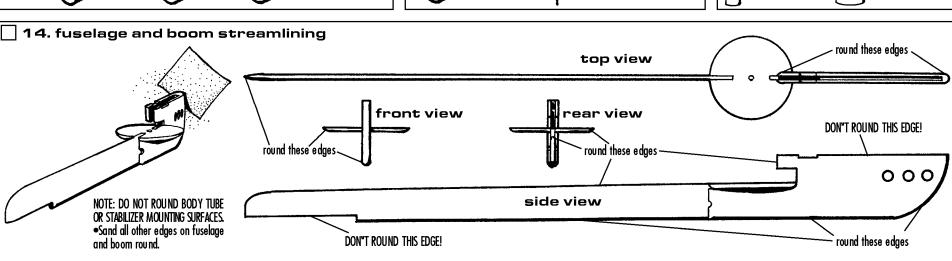
charges, apply CA

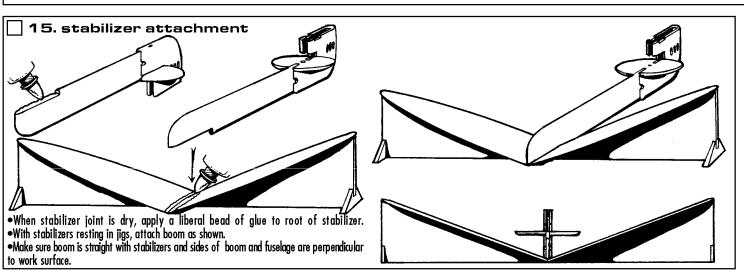
or epoxy to one

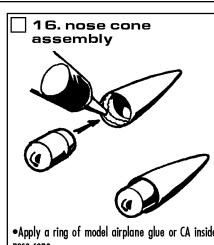
end of piston to

make it more flame

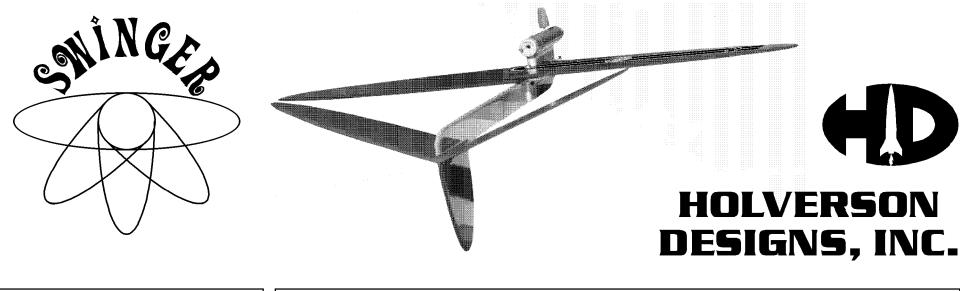
resistant.

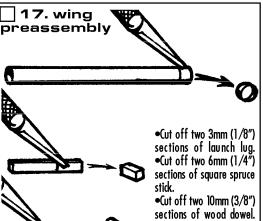


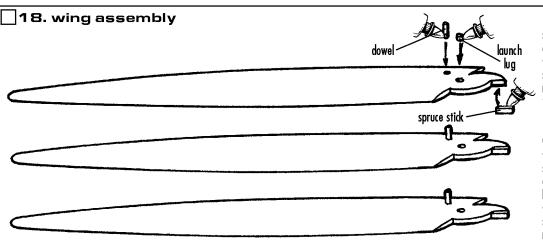




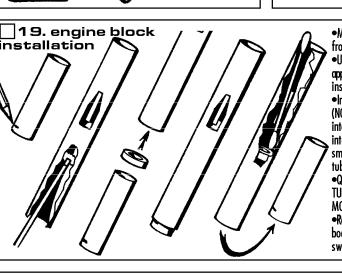
- Apply a ring of model airplane glue or CA inside
- Attach tenon as shown.







NOTE: Both wings are identical. They should be assembled so that either can be used as a left or right wing. •Glue each 3mm (1/8") launch lug section into hole near center of root. Ends of lug should be flush with both surfaces of wing. NOTE: Use CA to reinforce around lug. Whet CA around lug, but keep CA from getting into center of lug.
•Glue each 10mm (3/8") dowel section into small hole near leading edge. BOTTOM OF DOWEL SHOULD BE FLUSH WITH BOTTOM OF WING. •Glue each 6mm (1/4") spruce square section into notch at the root as shown.

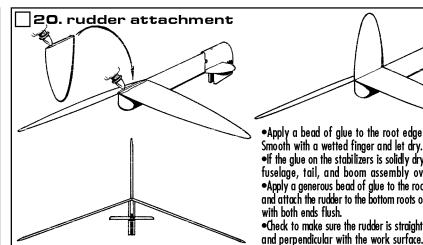


•Mark guide tube 6mm (1/4")

•Use a scrap stick of balsa to apply a bead of glue 57mm (2.25") inside rear end of body tube. Insert the second engine block (NOT engine block from step 7) into rear end of body tube. Press into place with guide tube. Use a smooth even motion until guide tube reaches the mark.

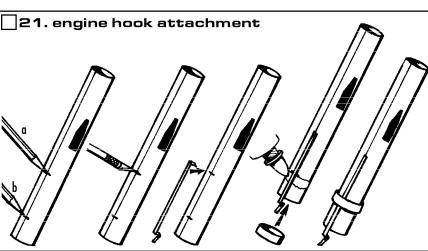
•Quickly remove guide tube. GUIDE TUBE IS NOT PART OF FINISHED MODEL ROCKET.

•Remove excess glue from inside body tube with a wetted cotton



 Apply a bead of glue to the root edge of the rudder. Smooth with a wetted finger and let dry. If the glue on the stabilizers is solidly dry, flip the whole fuselage, tail, and boom assembly over on its top.

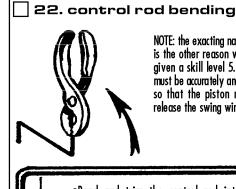
 Apply a generous bead of glue to the root of the rudder and attach the rudder to the bottom roots of the stabilizers with both ends flush. Check to make sure the rudder is straight with the boom



 Mark body tube at "a" at 64mm (2.5") and "b" 19mm (.75") from the rear of the body tube across line marked for engine hook.

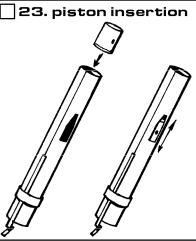
•Cut a slot 5mm (3/16") across mark "a".

Insert the engine hook into slot made above and align it with line along the body tube. Run a bead of glue around the body tube about 6mm (1/4") aft of the second marking. •Slide the mylar ring on the engine tube, over the engine hook, until its forward edge meets mark "b".

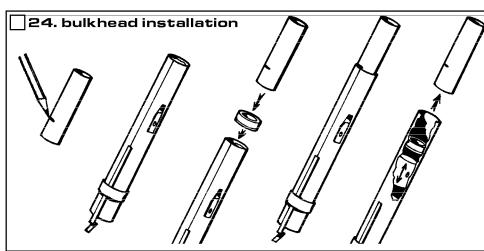


NOTE: the exacting nature of this step is the other reason why this kit was given a skill level 5. The control rod must be accurately and properly made so that the piston mechanism will release the swing wings.

 Bend and trim the control rod into this exact shape. Make sure that the control rod lays flat on both sides. Tweak the bends if necessary.



 Insert piston EPOXIED END FIRST into the nose end of the body tube. Sand the epoxy or CA for a loose fit if necessary. NOTE: Check again for free motion, the piston must move freely!



•Mark guide tube 19mm (3/4") from the end. Apply a bead of glue inside of the nose end of the body tube. NOTE: MAKE SURE THE PISTON IS STILL INSIDE

THE BODY TUBE!

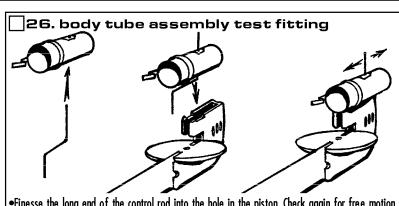
●Insert the bulkhead BALSA DISK FIRST into the nose end of body tube. Press into place with the guide tube in a smooth even motion until the guide tube reaches the new mark. •QUICKLY REMOVE THE GUIDE TUBE. IT IS NOT PART OF THE FINISHED ROCKET.

NOTE: the bulkhead should now be 19mm (.75") inside the body tube.

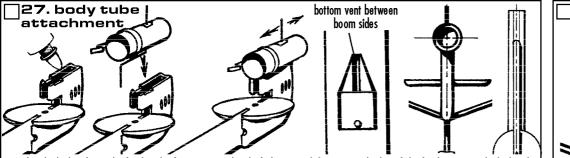
 Clean up any excess glue inside the body tube with a wetted cotton swab.

•Check to make sure the piston still moves freely until the glue sets up.

25. boom top contouring •If the rudder is now solidly dry, use your sanding block or a piece of sandpaper wrapped around a spent engine casing, carefully contour the top edges of the fuselage concavely until you have a clean tight joint NOTE: Make sure the centerline of the engine tube is straight with the centerline of the boom.

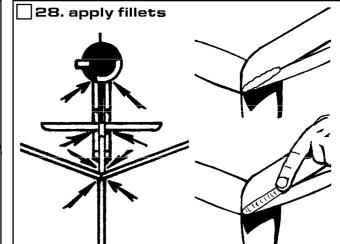


Finesse the long end of the control rod into the hole in the piston. Check again for free motion. •Test fit (no glue!) body tube assembly with the engine end flush with the rear of the contoured edge of the fuselage. Check fit and freedom of movement of mechanism with the control rod in place. Tweak any parts if necessary to insure free movement.



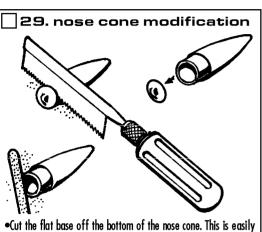
●Pre-glue the body tube to the fuselage by first running a bead of glue around the contoured edge of the fuselage. Press the body tube and the fuselage edge together (positioned like the above step) and then pull apart. Smooth the glue flat with a wetted finger. Allow he glue to dry. Make sure no glue adheres to the control rod.

•When the glue is dry, run another bead around the contoured edge. Press the body tube and fuselage together again. Make sure the body tube is straight and square with the boom. Look down into the top hole in the body tube and check to make sure that the bottom vent is exactly centered between the two fuselage sides. If necessary, turn tube to align this before the glue sets. •As the glue dries, check to make sure the control rod mechanism still moves freely.

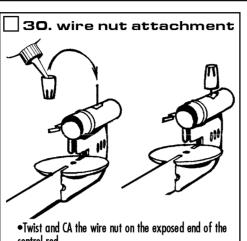


After the body tube assembly is dry, apply glue as fillets, into the areas shown by arrows. •Apply a glue bead along the length of a joint. Then use your finger tip to sculpt a radius to blend the two joining surfaces together. •Now would be a

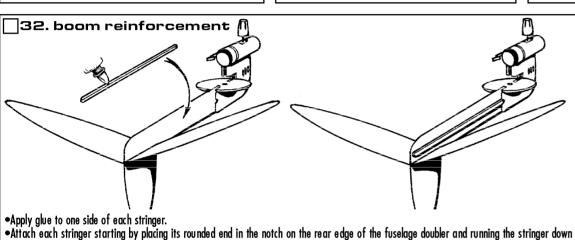
good time to read ahead to trimming and flight instructions as the fillets slowly dry.



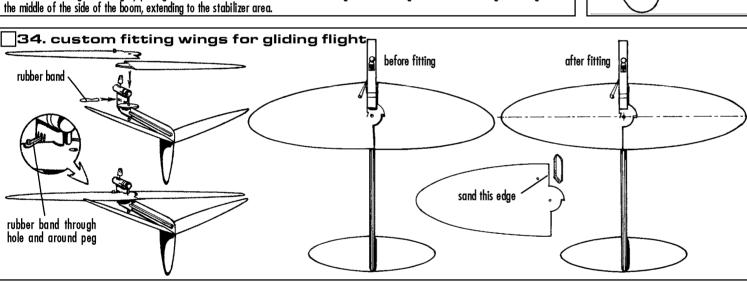
done with a razor saw. Sand smooth if necessary.



31. launch lug attachment After your fillets have dried completely, apply a bead of glue to the launch lug.
Adhere the launch lug to one of the fillets under the slotted disk.



33. preparation for wing fitting ●Sand away any rough glue on the Sand spruce stick flush if it protrudes farther than the balsa. •Insert #6 screw in through the bottom of the hole in the boom until about 5.5mm (7/32") of the screw protrudes from the top of the slotted disk. 5.5mm (7/32")000



Place both wings in their marked places on the

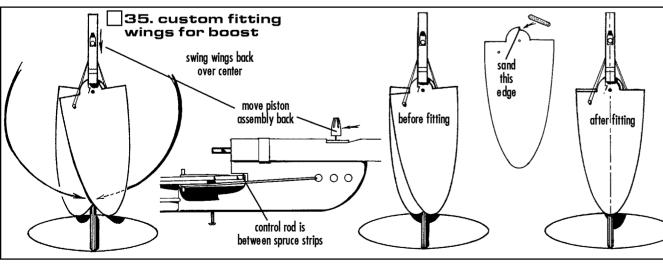
Insert the rubber band through the fuselage hole, that will snap the wings forward with the least tension, and around the two dowels on the wings. Check the wings for fit. The fitted wings will stick out perpendicularly from the fuselage.

 If they are not perpendicular, remove the rubber band and wings

 Use a nail file or other small file to individually sand a little off the forward root edges of the wings. •Replace the wings in their respective places and retest the fit.

 Remove, sand, and replace the wings as many times as needed to get a proper fit.

Note: if the wings sweep forward of perpendicular, glue on a shim made of scrap balsa to the forward root edge and sand down to fit..



Once the wings have been fitted for gliding flight, they can be fitted

for boost.

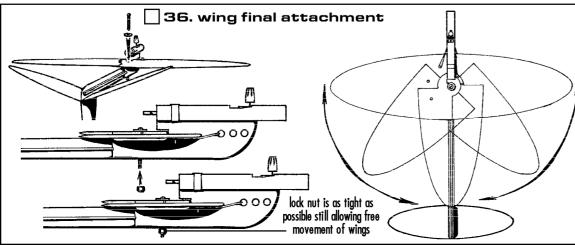
 Place both wings in their marked places on the protruding screw. •Insert the rubber band through the fuselage hole and around the two dowels on the wings. Pull the wings back and over center. Move the control rod mechanism back to latch wings in their boost position (the rear of the control rod should catch on the spruce pieces). Notice the wings for fit. Fitted wings will stick straight back.
 If they are not straight back release the latch and remove the rubber

band and wings. •Use a nail file or other small file to individually sand a little off the

spruce strip. •Mount wings in their respective places, attach the rubber band, latch

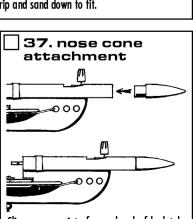
the wings, and retest the fit. •Remove, sand, and replace the wings as many times as needed to get

NOTE: If the wings do not stick straight back, glue on a another piece of spruce to spruce strip and sand down to fit.

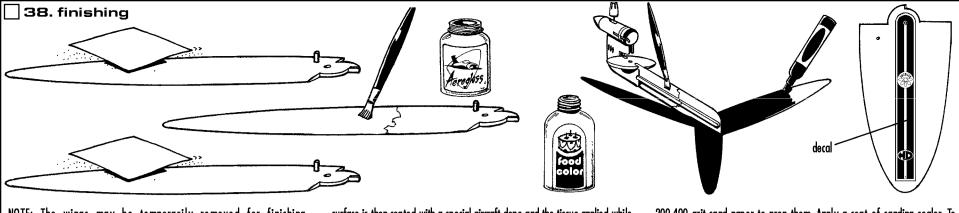


- Once the wings have been custom fitted they can now be properly attached.
 •Place the 9/16x1/8" fender washer on the #6 screw.
 - •Insert the screw and washer through the top of the wings and through the slotted disk and boom.
- •Insert the rubber band through the fuselage hole that will snap the wings forward with the least tension and around the two dowels on the wings.

 Thread the lock nut on the bottom of
- the #6 screw. Use your screw driver and pliers to tighten the nut as much as possible while allowing the wings to be pulled easily ahead by the rubber band.



Slip nose cone into forward end of bodytube. Add tape for snug fit if necessary since you don't want to lose nose cone in flight. Nose cone will probably be removed for trimming.



NOTE: The wings may be temporarily removed for finishing. Rocket gliders fly better when they are as light as possible and have a smooth finish for better airflow. However smooth finishes add weight, so a compromise between a smooth appearance and weight must be found. There are several ways that you can finish your SwingerTM. Some methods add more weight and strength than others.

Because you will have to track your model on both sky and ground , it's best to use very bright, high visibility colors.

Food Coloring does not add strength but it is very light weight and easy to

apply. Simply brush it on the model.

Japanese tissue is a technique borrowed from model aviation. It's relatively light and adds strength. Tissuing requires that the surfaces are sanded lightly with 200-400 grit-sand paper to prep them for covering. The surface is then coated with a special aircraft dope and the tissue applied while the dope is still quite wet. The tissue is trimmed and sanded when the dope dries. A final coat of dope is applied and sanded smooth when dry. Monocote is another technique borrowed from model aviation, using a heat shrinking plastic covering. It is not as lightweight as Japanese tissue and requires a special shrinking iron. Follow the coating manufacturer's instructions when applying.

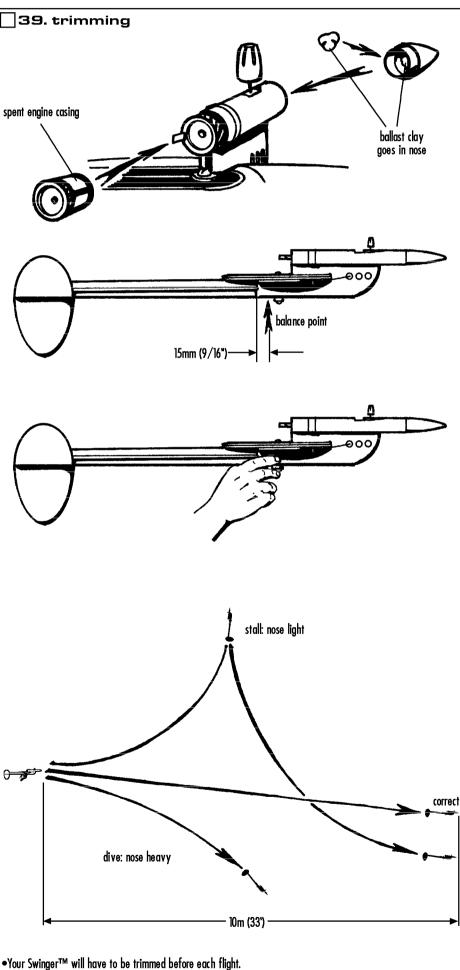
Aerogloss is a type of pigmented sanding sealer. It adds a little strength and is relatively heavy. Sand the balsa surfaces lightly with 200-400 grit-sand paper to prep them. Apply a coat of Aerogloss. Sand the aerogloss smooth when dry. Apply a second and last coat. Sand this smooth when dry. Spray paint is the heaviest and should be used sparingly if used at all. First the balsa surfaces need to be sealed. Sand the balsa surfaces lightly with

40. launching

wiggling carbon loose

200-400 grit-sand paper to prep them. Apply a coat of sanding sealer. To save weight, use one part thinner to two parts sealer. Sand the aerogloss smooth when dry. Apply a second and last coat. Sand this smooth when dry. Use a rag damped in denatured alcohol to wipe away all sanding dust. Let the alcohol evaporate thoroughly and then apply the spray paint. Apply the paint in even strokes parallel to the surface being painted. Use the least amount of paint possible to cover. To aid in painting, make a painting wand. Hold your Swinger™ horizontally with a spent engine on a 1/2" wood dowel.

The Decals can be applied once the chosen finish has dried. Trim it, remove the backing, and place one middle span of the top of the top wing and the other on the middle span of the bottom of the bottom wing. The top decal will keep engine exhaust from scorching the wing. The bottom decal will balance the top one.



•First insert a spent engine into the Swinger™. Your Swinger™ will not trim properly without it! This is a step that

even experienced rocketeers can easy forget and the absence of the engine can really frustrate trimming procedures. •Statically balance the Swinger™ by adding small amounts of clay inside the nose cone until it balances 15mm (9/16") ahead of the rear edge of the slotted disk. Or if it is initially nose heavy, add small amounts of clay to the rear of

Now toss test your Swinger™, preferably in a park or field filled with soft grass. Grip it by the boom under the
slotted disk. Gently toss in a smooth motion. Always toss it into the wind.

olf the Swinger™ seems to be unusually hard to trim, check to make sure that there is a spent engine in the mount.

•A properly trimmed Swinger™ should have a flat glide of about 10 meters (33').

•If it stalls, add nose weight or delete tail weight until a correct glide is achieved.

olf it turns too sharply in one direction, check the tightness of the locknut. ●Trim your Swinger™ using the least clay possible.

elf it dives, remove nose weight or add tail weight until a correct glide is achieved.

the tail.

000 'hair trigger" release by having control rod as far ahead as possible and still safely latched ejection charge transformation glide •Check the piston mechanism for free movement. If the operation coast is sticky, flip the model upside down and wiggle the mechanism until enough ejection residue is knocked loose to permit free piston movement. Check the swing wings for free movement. If necessary, use your screw driver and pliers to adjust the lock nut so it is as tight as possible while allowing the wings to be pulled easily ahead by the rubber band. •Check the trim of your Swinger™ before each flight and retrim ders are temperamental about it if necessary. Bo trim over changes in the climate. Prep the engine according to the manufacturer's suggestions. B4-2 (first flight) and C6-3 are the recommended engines. Insert engine burn-out into the body tube. Latch the wings in boost position. Pull the wings back, over center, and move the piston mechanism back until the control rod latches between the two spruce strips. For reliable deployment, it is recommended that you "hair trigger" the mechanism by positioning the control rod as far forward on the spruce strips as possible while still holding the wings back. Launch your Swinger™ from a pad with an 3mm (1/8") rod and electric launch controller. IF YOU TILT THE ROD, MAKE SURE THAT boost/thrust THE ROCKET GLIDER IS TILTED WITH ITS TOP TOWARDS THE WIND. what to expect
•The Swinger™ will fly in a shallow vertical arc during boost, coast and then level-off around ejection. The wings will snap out like a switch-blade when the ejection charge activates the piston mechanism. The Swinger $^{\text{TM}}$ will orientate itself (sometimes doing sort of a half ignition/lift-off Immelman) and settle into a beautiful circling glide. The Swinger™ can deliver quite spectacular flights! olf the Swinger™ stalls or dives in during glide, you will need to retrim it! Have fun flying your Swinger!

