

12 MOUNTING THE WING

❑ The wing saddle area aft of F-2 is pretty fragile at this point. Reinforce the wing saddle between F-2 and the crossbrace with 1/32" plywood applied to the interior surface. Mark the plywood material using the wing saddle as a guide, cut it with a knife or scissors, then glue it in place. Reinforce the joint where the saddle meets F-2 with a scrap of 1/2" balsa triangle stock.

❑ Glue the lite-ply cabin rear piece into place. It fits between the balsa sides at the rear edge of the rear side windows. This piece gives the cabin a more finished look and strengthens the hold down area.

❑ To make the wing mounting blocks, cut each of the 3/8" x 3/4" x 12" poplar sticks into three 4"-long pieces. Glue the three pieces together to make two blocks, each 3/4" x 1-1/8" x 4". From these, cut two wing mounting blocks. The shape of the blocks should match the upper portion of the lite-ply wing block supports. The blocks should fit tightly between F-3 and the cabin rear, and the tops of the blocks should be flush with the top of the fuselage. Trim the blocks to fit as necessary, then epoxy them firmly in place.

❑ Add the two lite-ply wing block supports.

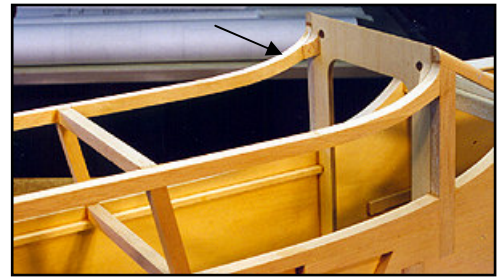
❑ Trial fit the wing center panel to the fuselage and trim the wing saddle area if necessary for a perfect fit. Align the wing carefully, making sure it is centered and square to the fuselage when viewed from above, then tape and pin it firmly in place. Drill the two wing dowel holes through the wing leading edge, the filler blocks, and the shear webs using the holes in F-2 as a guide. You will need an extra-long 3/8" drill bit for this operation.

❑ Remove the wing, then epoxy the 3/8" x 8" wing dowels into their holes, leaving them extended in front of the wing leading edge about 3/4". Use lots of epoxy!

❑ Put the wing back on the fuselage, check for proper alignment, and tape it firmly to the fuselage at the trailing edge. Drill all the way through the wing and the wing blocks with a 13/64" drill bit. Keep the drill perpendicular to the wing so that the heads of the wing bolts will sit flush on the plywood wing bolt plate.

❑ Tap the wing blocks with a 1/4-20 tap, and harden the threads with thin CA. Redrill the holes in the wing with a 1/4" drill bit. Steel 1/4-20 x 2-1/2" screws and large washers are provided in the kit for wing bolts.

-SFK



Wing Saddle reinforced with 1/32" ply, indicated by arrow. Also note the balsa triangle stock at the front, sanded to conform to the shape of the wing saddle.

The hardwood rails inside the cabin area below the windows were added to my model to support false floors which, of course, I've yet to finish....

Cabin Rear



Fuselage Top showing the cabin rear and laminated wing blocks glued in place.

Wing Block Support



Fuselage Top showing the position of the wing block supports. The wing bolt holes have been drilled and tapped. This photo is a little out of sequence because it shows the plywood fuselage top aft of the wing and the 3/32" balsa caps on the rear fuselage (to be installed in the next section).