were binding bits of ply diagonally to treacle tins 'way back' The plastic pipe method means no 'forming' and no hunting for treacle tins!

So, that's it, may your 'whirly - bits' never fly apart! (Please Note that I have spread the diagrams for this fan over pages 6, 7, & 8. - km)

Covering Small Models with Reynolds Colored Plastic Wrap

BY Ken Bassett

from Silence Please, editor Fred Dippel, July 1995

Reynolds Plastic Wrap is a food grade film and is usually found in food supermarkets. It comes in 4 colors, Crystal Red, Crystal Blue, Crystal Green and Crystal Yellow. In my town, only the A & P carries the stuff and they don't always have all the colors. A call to the Reynolds Co. assured me that this is an established product and should be around for the foreseeable future.

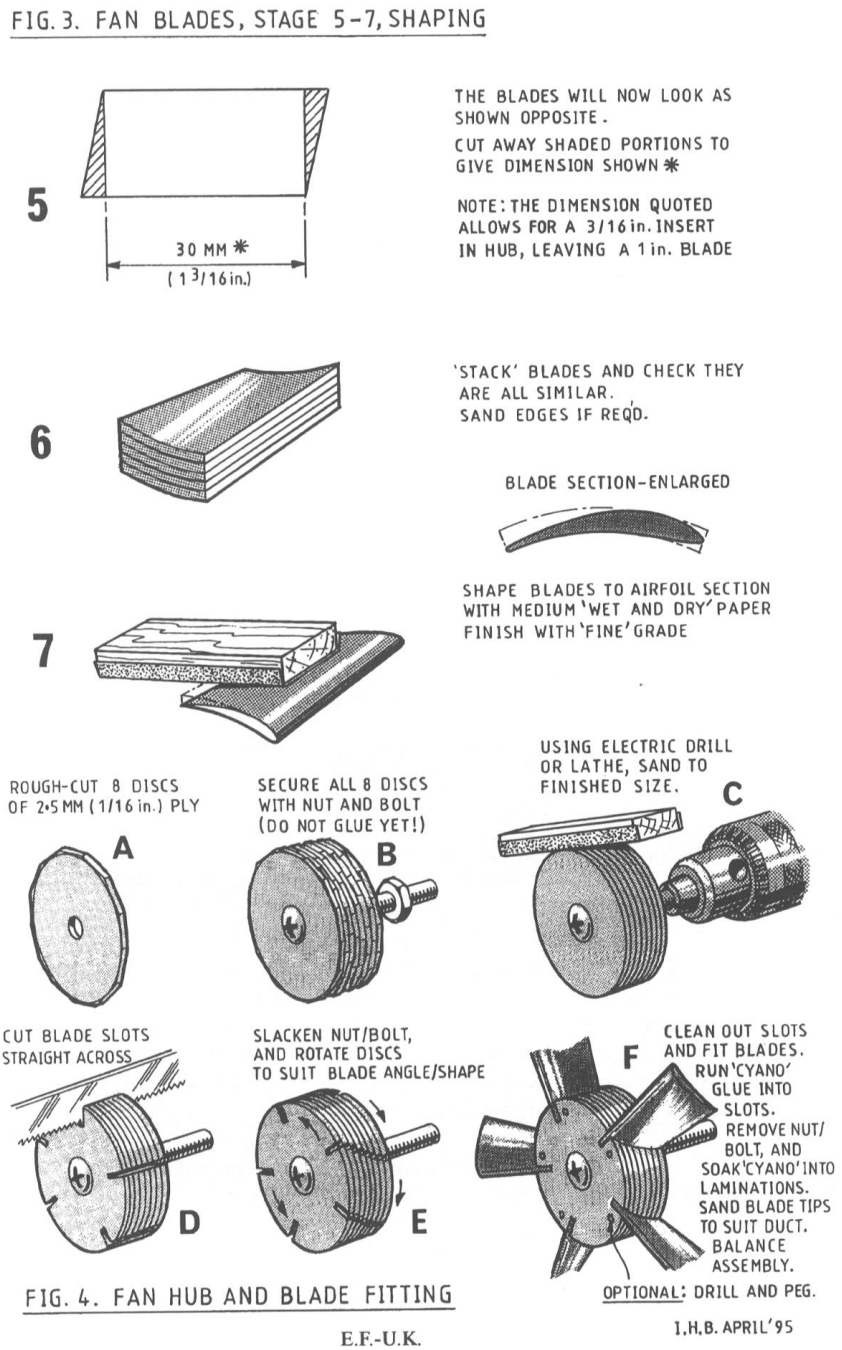
Additionally, they advised that occasionally, other colors are available such as orange for Halloween. The colors are somewhat muted, however, they are intense enough to look good in all but the brightest sunlight.

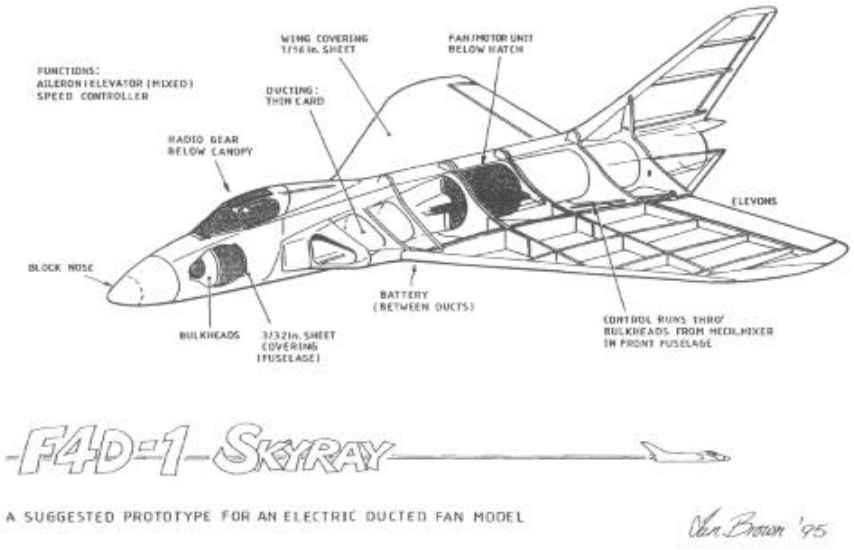
The film has approximately the same weight as colored Japanese tissue and is easily applied with Balsa-Loc. This is the creamy white stuff sold by Peck Polymers and others to apply Lite Span covering. You must thin the Balsa-Loc with water just enough to get it to flow easily off the brush or else you will get a lumpy effect on all attachment sufaces.

Apply the film to framework without heat. The reason for holding off on the heat is to make sure you don't have any tiny wrinkles trapped on the edges. When all looks good, use a very warm, but not hot iron to seal the covering. If the iron "grabs" or rolls the film, it is too hot. If you don't plan to shrink the covering it will hold on well enough using only the heat from your finger tips. Just rub slowly and gently to soften the Balsa Loc thru the film.

Shrinking the material is best done with one or two fast, low passes with a Monokote type blower on high heat. Do not linger or you will soften the Balsa Loc and get edge creep-or worse, you will burn through and have to remove the stuff and start all over. If you have an accident you might try Toulene (available at paint stores)-it melts the stuff in seconds and the residue is easily scraped away, but some color dye will get into the wood. A wrap around, even if only 1/32" will practically eliminate edge creep and is a necessity when working with 1/20 stick.

When fully shrunk, this material only has a gentle pull and will not warp light structures. Medium weight 1/20 sticks will not bow in if supported at least every 2 1/4 inches. Experimentation with other adhesives





may he worthwhile as Balsa Loc is rarely found in hobby shops. Try thinned DUCO or similar cements.

Very deep coloring can be accomplished with Rit Dye (available at suprmarkets, K-mart, etc.). You must put the film on a frame-if you just plop it in the hot dye you will end up with a sloppy tie-dye effect. I use a large disposable party tray and can dye one piece in it that is just big enough for a small peanut size model. Getting 2 or more pieces dyed to the same intensity will require some careful timing and monitoring of dye temperature.

I heat up a quart of dye mixture in the microwave until it starts to steam then dump it into the tray. Slosh the frame around a bit to prevent uneven distribution of color. Be careful, the dye will also stain clothing and other things. After dyeing, rinse thoroughly to remove all residue.

Application of stripes, numbers, etc. hasn't been tried yet; no info available. Try spray painting one side of the material and apply paint side down for a super shiny opaque finish-metal flake might be interesting. GOOD LUCK.

This stuff will not sag or droop in cool evening air like tissue and is 100% waterproof. The major downside is the static cling. If the film comes into contact with itself as on a thin tail plane section, it is difficult to persuade it to separate. Try a blast from the heat gun. This same effect causes dust to gather very quickly. Clean with a damp paper towel-avoid soaps and cleaners as they may mar the surface or leave residue.

If you try this film on a rubber job, you must lubricate lightly and use a rubber tensioning device or else the inside of the film will get slobbered up.

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R/C OnLine MAGAZINE

Reviewed by Paul Tarling - from E.F.U.K. same issue noted earlier.

Over the past few years, the Internet and CompuServe have become widely popular with a variety of people. Now, there are well over a million people hooked onto the Internet and CompuServe, and a number of those people are modellers.

Many different magazines, World Wide Web pages and CompuServe forums have appeared boasting massive coverage of the modelling world. RC Online is a relatively new addition to the Net. It is available through a variety of places but, unfortunately, has to be downloaded. RC Online currently has no World Wide Web page, but it's coming. Until then, we modellers will have to suffer the DOS version.

RC Online is presented as a series of CompuServe .GIF files. These files tend to be large in size, so the magazine comes compressed. The size of the

(continued on the last page)