THE BUCHANAN BUSTER

This rocket, designed by Delbert Buchanan, Shop Foreman at Estes Industries, is the classical Odd Ball design. A well constructed Buchanan Buster is a very impressive model in flight. When assembled correctly, it can give many highly enjoyable flights, and is always good for a few laughs, some conversation, and lots of fun. It is a sport model, designed to lift a maximum of rocket with a minimum of engines.

To build the Buchanan Buster, first trace out six fins on the fin stock by placing carbon paper between the pattern and the balsa, then tracing along the pattern. Cut out the fins and sand them to a smooth finish. Cut the three body tubes to length, two of them 6" long and one 6 3/4" long. Cut two 1 13/16" lengths from the left-over pieces of body tube, and cut them so that they will fit against the main body tubes as at C. Glue these cross pieces to the longer body tube as shown in the plans. Be sure that the joints are straight. When this glue has dried, glue the remaining body tubes on the other ends of the cross pieces.

Glue the fins in place, and after the glue has dried, reinforce the body tube/cross piece joints with gauze. Glue
the engine block in place in the center body tube by applying a small amount of glue to the end of your <u>little</u> finger
and spreading it around the inside of the tube as far up as
you can reach. Put the engine block into the tube, and using
an expended engine casing, quickly push the block forward
into position. Do not pause during this operation, or the
glue may set with the block in the wrong position.

Glue the nose blocks into the rear of the two outside tubes, and glue the nose cones on the outside tubes in place. Cut two slits in the center tube approximately 3/4" from the front end of the tube, pass a shock cord through the two slits, and glue the end of the shock cord in place. Assemble a square parachute (PM-1), insert the screw eye into the center tube nose cone, and tie the remaining ends of the shock cord and the shroud lines to the screw eye. Glue a launching lug on the center tube. After the rocket has been painted, it is ready for flight.

In flying the Buchanan Buster, only one engine is used. <u>Do not</u> attempt to fly this design with engines in the two outer tubes, as it will not be stable. The only engines recommended for use with this rocket are the A8-3, the B4-4, and the B4-2. Never use an upper stage engine in the Buster. Launchings should be carried out on fairly calm days, using the standard electrical ignition and countdown. If the Buster ever busts, it can be glued back together, with no loss in performance.



