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ESTES-COX CORP. 1295 H Street, PO Box 227 Penrose, CO 81240-0227 PRINTED IN CHINA

ASSEMBLY TIP: Read all instructions before beginning work on your model. Make sure you have all parts and supplies.

## FLYING MODEL ROCKET KIT INSTRUCTIONS

## KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

## TEST FIT ALL PARTS TOGETHER

 BEFORE APPLYING ANY GLUE! If any parts don't fit properly, sand as required for precision assembly.

SUPPLIES In addition to the parts included in the kit you will also need:
NOTE ON GLUE: We show the use of epoxy in the construction of this kit because it is a strong adhesive. Epoxy is a 2 part adhesive and needs to be mixed before use. You can use your favorite adhesive(s) to construct this kit, but use only high strength adhesive(s) in the areas where epoxy is being shown.


SCISSORS


PENCIL


RULER


FINE SANDPAPER SANDPAPER
$(220-400$ GRIT)


CARPENTER'S MODELING



CLEAR
SPRAY PAINT



SANDING BLOCK


## 1. ASSEMBLE ENGINE MOUNT

A. Use a pencil to mark the engine mount tube and yellow spacer tube as shown.

B. Using a scrap piece of balsa, smear glue 3-1/4" (83 mm) inside engine mount tube.

E. Make an $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}(3 \mathrm{~mm})$ slit in the engine mount tube at the 3 $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}(86 \mathrm{~mm})$ mark. Insert engine hook into slit.
F. Scuff the inside surface of the lower centering ring with 220 sandpaper. Mix a small amount of 5 minute epoxy and apply around the engine mount tube below the $3^{\prime \prime}(76 \mathrm{~mm})$ mark.
C. Use the yellow spacer tube to push the green engine block into the engine mount tube up to the $5 / 16$ " ( 8 mm ) mark on the spacer tube.


F1. With the notch over the engine hook, slide the lower centering ring onto the engine mount tube to the $3^{\prime \prime}(76 \mathrm{~mm})$ mark as

2. MARK BODY TUBE
A. Cut out the body tube

D. On the two sub fin lines, make a pencil mark on the body tube $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}(3 \mathrm{~mm})$ from the end.
B. Tape guide around slotted body tube aligning the upper fin slots marks on the guide with the upper fin slots cut into the body tube. At each arrow head place a pencil mark on the body tube. For reference, write on the body tube LL at the launch lug arrow head and SF at the sub fin arrow heads. Remove the marking guide.
C. Hold the body tube against a door frame. Align, and connect each pair of pencil marks on the body tube with a straight line the following lengths: Launch Lug line the full length of the tube. Sub Fin lines 5 " ( 127 mm ) from the end of the tube.


## 3.

INSTALL ENGINE MOUNT AND TAIL CONE
A. Make a pencil mark on the tube coupler 2" ( 51 mm ) from either end.

B. Smear carpenters glue inside the forward end of the slotted body tube. In one smooth motion insert the tube coupler into the body tube to the 2 " ( 51 mm ) mark. Let glue dry.
C. Scuff the outer edge of the lower centering ring with 220 sandpaper. Insert the engine mount into the slotted body tube until the front end of the motor mount sticks out approximately $3^{\prime \prime}(76 \mathrm{~mm})$ from the forward end of the tube coupler. Do not glue in place.

D. Scuff the inside and outside flanges of the upper centering ring. Mix a small amount of 5 minute epoxy and apply a ring inside the front end of the engine mount. Push the upper centering ring into the engine mount tube. Let epoxy set.

E. Mix a small amount of 15 minute epoxy and using a scrap balsa stick, apply a ring of epoxy inside the slotted body tube 2-1/4" ( 57 mm ) from the rear end. Then apply a ring of epoxy inside the foward end of the tube coupler. Push the engine mount assembly back into the body tube coupler assembly, twisting it back and forth a little to distribute the epoxy around the rings and align the engine hook with the launch lug line. Let epoxy set.

F. Scuff the outside flange of the tail cone with 220 sandpaper. Mix a small amount of 5 minute epoxy and apply a ring inside the slotted body tube end. Insert the tail cone into the body tube. Let epoxy set.


## 4. ASSEMBLE BODY TUBE

A. Smear carpenters glue inside one end of the upper body tube. Slide the body tube onto the coupler until it contacts the slotted body tube. Let glue dry.

17"
B. Extend the launch lug line (LL) the entire length of the upper body tube. Mark the body tube as shown for launch lug placement.

## 5. PREPARE ALL BALSA PARTS

A. Sand all the balsa sheets with fine (220 grit) sandpaper, both sides.
B. Cut balsa parts free with hobby knife.

C. Stack like fins together and sand edges.


## 6. ASSEMBLE AND ATTACH SUB FINS

A. Tape a piece of Wax Paper onto a flat, smooth surface. Position the sub fin pieces as shown. Apply glue to one edge of a fin piece and attach to the other. Use a straight edge (or ruler) to align the two pieces straight across the bottom. Cover with waxpaper and weigh the assembly down flat while the glue dries completely. Repeat for the second sub fin assembly.

B. Using 220 sandpaper, block sand the sub fin assemblies smooth. Sand the edges round as shown.

C. Mix a small amount of 15 minute epoxy and apply along the root edge of the Sub Fin as shown. Align and center the Sub Fin on the 'SF' line $1 / 8$ " ( 3 mm ) from end of slotted body tube. Position Sub Fin perpendicular $\left(90^{\circ}\right)$ to body tube as shown in DIAGRAM A. Smooth any excess epoxy between fin and body tube with your finger. Repeat for the other Sub Fin Before the epoxy sets, check the alignment of the sub fin as per DIAGRAM B. Let epoxy set completely

## 7. ASSEmble the wings



## 8. <br> ATTACH THE WINGS

A. One wing assembly at a time, mix a small amount of 15 minute epoxy and apply it to the root edge of the wing as shown. Align the tab of the wing with a forward slot in the body tube and attach wing perpendicular $\left(90^{\circ}\right)$ to body tube as shown in DIAGRAM A before. Smooth any excess epoxy between wing and body tube with your finger. Repeat for the other wing. Before the epoxy sets, check the alignment of the wings as per DIAGRAM C.

B. Apply 15 minute epoxy fillets to both sides of each wing tube joint. Smooth with your finger. Let epoxy set completely.

## 9. ASSEMBLE UPPER FINS

A. Using a straight edge (or ruler) as a guide, draw a pencil line across the tab even with the root edge of the upper fin as shown.
B. On a piece of wax paper apply glue to the end of the dorsal fin and attach to the upper fin as shown. Cover with wax paper and weigh the assembly down flat while the glue dries completely. Repeat for the second upper fin assembly.

C. Using 220 sandpaper, block sand the upper fin assemblies smooth.

E. Sand the leading edges round and taper the trailing edges as shown.


## 10. ATTACH UPPER FINS

A. One upper fin assembly at a time, mix a small amount of 15 minute epoxy and apply it to the root edge of the upper fin as shown. Align the tab of the upper fin with the slot in the body tube and attach upper fin perpendicular $\left(90^{\circ}\right)$ to body tube as shown in DIAGRAM A before. Smooth any excess epoxy between upper fin and body tube with your finger. Before the epoxy sets, check the alignment of the upper fin as per DIAGRAM D. Repeat for the other upper fin.

B. Apply epoxy fillets to both sides of each upper fin tube joint.


## 11. ATTACH WING PODS AND FIN ANTENNAS

A. Apply plastic cement to one half of the wing pod as shown. Align and attach to other half. Repeat for other wing pod. Let glue dry.

C. Mix a small amount of 15 minute epoxy and apply a fillet around each pod where it joins the wing. Smooth with your

B.Trial fit the pods to the wings. The pods are designed so that their fins align parallel to the vertical center line of the rocket (refer to DIAGRAM E). If the pod fins are not parallel switch the pod to the opposite wing. Mix a small amount of 15 minute epoxy and slide the Wing Pod assembly onto the wing as shown. Tape in place while epoxy sets. Repeat for other pod.

D. Scuff the insides of the slot in each antenna. Mix a small amount of 15 minute epoxy and apply to the top of the upper fins as shown. Attach an antenna to each upper fin. Wipe any excess epoxy from joint. Let epoxy set.

12. INSTALL SHOCK CORD

A. Cut out shock cord mount.

B. Fold.
C. Apply glue.
Fold forward.

D. Apply glue. Fold forward.

E. Squeeze tightly and hold for one minute.


## FINISHING NOTES:

## 13. PAINT \& FINISH THE ROCKET

A. To protect the inside of the rocket from paint overspray, mask the open end of the body tube and the engine mount.
B. Apply white primer to all the balsa surfaces. Let primer dry, then sand smooth using 320 grit sand paper. Repeat until balsa grain has been filled.
C. Apply white paint to the entire rocket. Let paint dry.
D. Mask the wings around the wing pods and paint the wing pods Fluorescent Orange. Let paint dry and remove mask.
E. Mask the rear body tube and paint the tail cone Black. Let paint dry and remove mask.
F. Mask the shoulder of the nose cone. Apply white paint to the nose cone. Let paint dry and remove mask.

1. DO NOT EXCEED 15 oz . $(425 \mathrm{~g})$ TOTAL FINISHED WEIGHT.
2.YOU CAN ADD HIGHLIGHTS TO YOUR ROCKET WITH PAINT DETAILS OF YOUR OWN AS WE DID IN THE IMAGES SHOWN.
2. ALWAYS REMOVE NOSE CONE AND PAINT SEPARATELY. DO NOT PAINT NOSE CONE SHOULDER.
3. IF YOUR FINISHED INTERCEPTOR ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ E MODEL ROCKET WEIGHS MORE THAN 16 oz. ( 454 g ) WITH ENGINE INSERTED YOU MUST NOTIFY AND PERHAPS OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FROM THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) TO LAUNCH. CHECK YOUR TELEPHONE DIRECTORY FOR THE OFFICE NEAREST YOU OR CONTACT ESTES INDUSTRIES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.


## APPLYING THE DECALS:

Because the Interceptor ${ }^{\text {TM }} \mathrm{E}$ decals are applied in large sections, follow these steps (See DIAGRAM F.):

1) Apply the decals to the bottom of the rocket, then the sides, then the top \& nose cone of the rocket for best alignment.
2) Cut out the desired decal from the decal sheet one at a time.
3) Wet the surface of the rocket where tr decal is to be applied with a soft $3 / 4$ " - $1^{\prime \prime}(19 \mathrm{~mm}-25 \mathrm{~mm})$ wide brush.
4) Place decal in water long enough for it to begin sliding from the sheet then remove from water.
5) Slide decal from backing paper onto rocket surface.
6) Position and smooth out bubbles using the wet brush.
7) Blot with a damp cloth or sponge to remove excess water and blow dry.
8) Continue applying rest of the decals.
9) After all decals have been applied and completely dried, clear coat the entire rocket. Let clear coat dry completely.

## 14. ATTACH PARACHUTE AND NOSECONE

B. Tie shock cord to

Clean the eye of the nose cone.

CAUTION:
DO NOT CUT
EYE OF NOSE
CONE OFF!
E. Pass parachute through loop of shroud lines.

D. Pass loop through eye
. of nose cone.


## 15. PREPARE RECOVERY SYSTEM

A. Pull shock cord taut when inserting wadding.
B. Insert 10-12 squares of loosely crumpled recovery wadding into rocket. Push below shock cord attachment


NOTE: Only Estes wadding (302274) recommended.

C. Spike parachute.


IMPORTANT:
Wadding must be in place and slide freely for recovery system to work properly.

E. Roll.

F. Wrap shroud lines loosely. Insert parachute, shock cord and nose cone into body tube.

## 16. PREPARE ENGINE

## A WARNING: FLAMMABLE

To avoid serious injury, read instructions \& NAR Safety Code included with engines. PREPARE ENGINE OXNLY WHEN YOU ARE OUTSIDE AT THE LAUNCH SITE PREPARING TO LAUNCH!
If you do not use your prepared engine, remove the igniter before storing engine.

C. Insert plug.

D. Push down.

E. Gently bend igniters to form leads as shown.


## MODIFIED FIN ALIGNMENT GUIDE:

The kit features a pre-slotted body tube.
As a result its instructions (and alignment guide) lack information on wing placement and slot positions/size.

This modified guide include the wing positions and gives the information needed to place and cut the fin slots. There are no slots for the Sub Fins.

| match lines |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | LAUNCH LUG |
| SUB FIN |  |
| WING: Slots start 4.9" from body <br> tube rear. Slots 3.35" long. Slots <br> should be 1/8" wide. |  |
| UPPER FIN: Slots start <br> 2.65" from body tube rear. <br> Siots $2.2^{\prime \prime}$ long. Sots <br> should be 1/8" wide. <br> UPPER FIN <br> WING <br> SUB FIN <br> match lines |  |










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