

Learning To Build Model Airplanes

Set up a work area -

- Find a place to set up your work shop, remembering there will be some unavoidable noise, dust and odors.
- A 24, 30 or 36 inch Hollow Core Door can be purchased from any of the local Menard's or Home Depot's for less than \$30. Because the door is hollow they make a great flat work surface.
- Protect the door with a layer of ½ inch Drywall with can also be purchased at the same time as the door for less than \$10. Makes it real easy to hold things down with pins.
- Install a sheet of 1/4 inch white Pegboard on the wall above the work bench. Gives you a place to organize spare parts and commonly used tools.
- Add some florescent lighting over the work bench. It helps to be able to see what you are working on.
- Add some kind of a Electrical Power Strip to your work area. There are times when you will be working with several things at the same time that all require power.

Basic Building Supplies -

Visit Venture Hobbies for the following:

- **CA Glue** - Thin & Thick (Dave Patrick Models)
- Various **Tips** for the **CA Glue Bottles**
- **CA Debonder** (Dave Patrick Models)
- **30 minute Z-Poxy** (Pacer Technologies)
- **Sig Weld** White Glue (Sig Manufacturing)
- **Balsa Filler**
- **Tee Pins** - Small, Medium & Large (Du-Bro)
- **Cutting Mat**
- **Exacto Knife** & Replacement #11 Blades
- **Sanding Blocks & Tee Bars** w/ Replacement Sandpaper
- **Sheets of Sandpaper**. 100, 150, 220 & 400 grits

Basic Tools -

- Combination 6" **Disc/Belt Sander** can be purchased for under \$100 (Harbor Freight)
- Small Bench Top **Drill Press** can also be purchased for under \$100 (Harbor Freight)
- Bench Top Jig Saw can be purchased for about \$125 (Harbor Freight)
- Complete set of Fractional **Drill Bits** (Harbor Freight)
- Small **Screwdrivers, Pliers** (Sears & Roebuck)
- Set of **Ball Drivers**, Std. & Metric (Venture Hobbies)

Pick a Project -

I recommend starting with something simple that is not even R/C. Take a look at the line of kits produced by **Herr Engineering**. These kits are distributed by **Sig Manufacturing**. For about 30 bucks you will get lots of experience putting all those pieces together. Don't be afraid to build two or three of these types of kits before stepping up to a kit like the **Somethin Extra** which is also distributed by Sig Manufacturing. Visit Venture Hobbies and speak to the guys behind the counter to give you an idea of what kits are available. Many have to be ordered these day because the shelves are filled with ARF's

Ask For Help -

Experienced builders constantly **consult fellow model builders** on how they would do something. When you come across a step in the building process that does not make sense, stop and think about it (do the particular task in your mind until it seems right) then give it a try. You can always call **fellow club members for advise** and **Venture Hobbies** has a staff of hands on model builders ready and able to give you good sound advise!