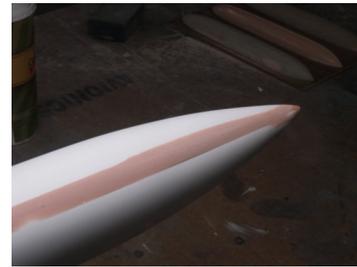


Start your tank project by trimming the flange from the two tank halves. This can be done with scissors or more accurately by laying a razor blade on a 1/8 shim (plywood surface). Bend the plastic away from the score line to complete the cut. Block sand the edge if there are jagged edges.



The remaining half is used as a doubler, cut it in half to form two strips and bond it to the inside of one of the tank halves.

Use tape to pre-assemble the tank looking for proper alignment as you go. Once remove the tape from one side and start the bond step in the center working toward the ends, allow the bond to dry. Remove the tape from the other side and repeat the bonding step. Note: Its very hard to get the seam perfect at the tank tips and will be filled during the next step.



Sand the tank seam with 80 grit sand paper, just enough to rough up the surface so the filler will adhere well. Use masking tape to tape off a strip $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide along the seam. Apply automotive plastic filler to the seam and remove the tape before it hardens. Pulling the tape at a 90 degree angle to the tank will produce a clean line. Note: bending a playing card to match the curve of the tank will produce a tool that will spread the filler evenly along the seam. Make the last "filler spreading pass" in one long stroke to reduce the sanding step if you can. The tank is now sealed and should have a pinhole drilled in it to balance air pressure in the tank. Use filler to repair any gaps in the tips and wet sand the tank seam with 100 grit avoiding sanding the plastic as much as possible. Reduce the sanding grit as you get the filler closer to the finished product. Spray the tank with primer and fix the imperfections you find with automotive spot putty. Note: fuel proof paint is not recommended but most of the others do very well.

IMPORTANT: The fins are mated in pairs on the parts sheet, number them for matching later. Use a narrow straight edge butted against the fin edge as a cutting guide and cut the scrap away. Use the same method for all the fin edges. Cut the curved edge without the use of the guide but at the base of the fin. Apply cement to the remaining flange and bond



the fins together using the edges for alignment. Allow the fins to dry overnight. Rough cut the flange with scissors and then block sand the flange to 1/32 inch from the fin edge. Apply a small amount of filler to the edges to hide the bonding flange then block sand the fin edges to shape.

To bond the fin to the tank two methods are possible. Plastic to plastic bonds are done with model cement after the primer has been sanded off the tank. All four fins can be bonded this way however if you wish to hide a tank seam at the tip; automotive filler can be pushed into the base of the fin and be bonded directly to the tank seam.

Making a tank to fin fillet completes the assembly. Prime the fins then paint the tank to suit your model. Attaching the tank to the model should be done with clear silicone sealant. This type of bond is flexible and not necessarily permanent. Allowing removal at a later date without damaging the tank.

