

Little Augie



Semi Scale Jetex Fighter by Frank Ehling. American Telasco's Jetex 150 with its augmenter tube provides the perfect power for realistic jet fighter models.

With the Jetex 150 and the augmenter tube, true to life jet models are now possible. Any weight that the tube adds is overcome with the extra thrust it gives. And here we can utilize a type of construction where the tube forms the backbone of the fuselage. We use a generous amount of wing area so the model will fly slowly and look quite realistic.

The weight of the original was nine ounces, yet the duration was around 30 seconds if the weight is lowered even longer flights will result. The weight came in the form of white-pigmented dope which added three ounces, plus the fact that we used heavy wood in the construction.

To start, cut out the required, bulkheads, marking them with a pen where the stringers are located. Slip bulkheads #6 through #13 on the tube in their respective places. Next take the four stringers on the top and sides and cement them in place starting at the rear and working to the front. Add the rest of the bulkheads. The remaining stringers are then positioned. Make the nose tube of balsa and cement in place. Add the nose block, carving and sanding it to shape. Cut out the stringers between bulkheads four and six where the hatch will fit. Cut the plywood bulkead and mount the jet holder be sure that this is located properly if it is off the jet will have a rifling



effect, causing the model to rock in flight. Bend the wire bridge to shape and cement in place. A second coat of cement will be needed here.

Cut out the wing lower sheets. If 6" wide balsa can not be obtained cement two sheets together to make up the size. Cut the required ribs. When cementing the ribs to the lower sheet be sure that they are cemented to produced one right and a left wing panel. Cement in sub spar. Top sheeting is cemented in place but be sure to cement it to all the ribs. Trim the wing tips and cement 'em in place they should be soft balsa. Fill in between the stringers where the wing is located and cement the wing in place. Check to see that all the stringers at the wing junction are cemented well. The rudder is cut out and cemented in place. The wire reinforcement is glued in place with several coats of cement. Cut out the stabilizer and cement it in place. The balsa streamline fairing will help to hold the rudder and stabilizer in alignment. After the tail section is finished sand the edges round.

Cover the fuselage in sections to get a good job. Water the covering and when dry dope the entire model with a dope that has been "cut" 50% with thinner. If you choose to color dope the model go easy with the brush since any weight that you will add will detract from the flying.

Glide the model over a grassy area. If it stalls add weight to the nose. The glide should be straight and ten to fifteen feet ahead of you. After the model glides well (and all the gliding should be done with an

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empty jet) the jet can be loaded. When lighting the jet DO NOT LOOK IN THE TAIL PIPE! When you can hear that the jet is burning launch the model by running and letting it lift out of your hand. This way the model will not settle back to the ground due to insufficient initial thrust. To have the model circle, bend up one elevator at a time to produce a flat turn.