Make tail wheel doors from 1/16"x1/8" balsa strip stock

1/16" Square balsa strip stock for all fuselage longerons and stringers

Balsa filler block made from 1/16" laminations

1/16" Square balsa strip stock

Note: This balsa piece fits here to support the lower stringers

Make tail wheel doors from 1/16"x1/8" balsa strip stock

Balsa filler block made from 1/16" laminations

1/16" Square stringer on each side

Wingspan - 18"

Build belly pan on this pattern.

The rear block is shaped from 1/16" balsa laminations

Sand 1/8" square and attach to pit legs
Spinner is made from 9 laminations of 1/8" balsa, 1 layer of 1/32" plywood, and one layer of 1/16" balsa.

Sand 1/8" square balsa stock round, split and attach to piano wire for landing gear legs.

**Comet Curtiss P-40C**
Wingspan - 18"

CAD Drawing by Paul Bradley Sheet 2 of 8
1/16"x1/8" Balsa strip stock

1 1/8" Dihedral under each wing tip

Note: Spar is full depth 1/16" balsa

1/16"x1/8" balsa

Flap separation line is only on the bottom

Comet Curtiss P-40C
Wingspan - 18"

CAD Drawing by Paul Bradley Sheet 3 of 8
Make landing gear legs from .025 piano wire

Drill hole in the 1/16" x 18" strip to accept the landing gear leg. Slide the leg through the hole and then push the rear bend through rib B. Apply glue along the leg that rests against the rib and strip stock.

Comet Curtiss P-40C
Wingspan - 18"

CAD Drawing by Paul Bradley
Comet Curtiss P-40C
Wingspan - 18"

CAD Drawing by Paul Bradley
The nose plug is made from a lamination of 1/64" plywood, and 1/16" balsa disks along with a key block made from 1/16" balsa laminations and a Peck thrust bearing.

Install the rear and front sections of the canopy before installing the center section. Remove the 1/16" square support in front of 9T before installing the windshield. Remove the portion of the top stringer between formers 9T and 10T before installing the center canopy section.

Note: Balsa piece has been added to support the bottom stringers

Wing saddle and cockpit combing are 1/32" balsa sheet rather than paper as called out on the original plan.

Belly pan is built as a separate unit. Cover before installing. The belly pan and rear block are installed after the wing is installed. The use of a shaped block at the rear of the belly plan is a change from the original plan.

Step 1 - Cut 9 1/8" balsa disks to 1/8" more than the spinner base diameter. Cut a 3/4" diameter hole in three of the disks. Cut a 3/16" hole in three of the remaining disks. Glue the three disks with the 3/16" holes to a length of 3/16" dowel and to each other. Glue the solid disks to the front of the assembly. Glue the three disks with the 3/4" holes to each other and then to the assembly.

Step 2 - After the glue has dried on the assembly place the dowel in an electric drill. Run the drill and with a sanding block reduce the assembly diameter to be equal to the spinner base diameter.

Step 3 - Make a template from the spinner profile. Using a sanding block and the template shape the spinner while the assembly is being turned with the electric drill.

Step 4 - Using a dremel tool or something similar, trim off the 3/16" dowel where it exits the opening formed by the bottom three disks.

Step 5 - Make up the 1/16" and 1/32" plywood disks. Glue them together. Confirm the fit with the main spinner assembly. Do not glue yet. Glue your prop to the plywood/balsa disk assembly. Mark the location of the prop blades on the main spinner assembly. Cut the main spinner assembly to clear the prop blades. When satisfied with the fit the main spinner assembly can be glued to the rear disk after installing the prop shaft.

Comet Curtiss P-40C
Wingspan - 18"