There are several notes I need to provide to aid you with the enclosed package. The original kits used 1/16" balsa. Since I wanted to print these directly on balsa sheet I developed the parts for 1/32" balsa sheet. My printer will handle up to 1/20" sheet, but I find 1/32" is a little easier to handle in the printer. As a result, some of the parts have been drawn to allow for cross grain laminations. The fuselage formers are a good example. The fin as also been drawn with a mirror image to allow for markings on both sides. This works fine as long as you are using 1/32" sheet stock.

I like to use a removable nose for winding. The parts have been drawn with this in mind. The nose former has been drawn so a removable nose plug can be used. A colored nose plug has also been drawn. For the P-51, you need a thick nose plug to get the thrust bearing in the proper location for the prop and spinner. Back the colored nose piece with cross grained laminations provided in the drawings. Use enough laminations to allow the prop to clear the fuselage. This assembly will then plug into the opening formed by the fuselage structure. I like to use a Peck thrust bearing for 1/32" prop shafts in the removable nose plug.

When using 1/32" sheet for the fuselage sides, I was concerned about the load of a fully wound motor on the rear motor peg. I like to use a piece of 3/32" aluminum tubing for the rear peg. Makes holding the model in a winding stooge very easy. To create a bit more strength at the rear peg, I apply a 3/8" diameter disk of 1/64" plywood to the inside of each fuselage side at the peg location. This has proven to be plenty strong for a fully wound motor of 1/8" Tan II rubber. A piece of 3/32" OD aluminum tubing is used for the rear motor peg.

The landing gear parts for the P-51 have been drawn per the original kit. Mirrored parts have also been drawn to allow sandwiching the landing gear legs between the 1/32" balsa parts. This makes a nicer looking installation and is quite strong. The location of the gear legs has been printed on each wing panel. You will see a line with a circle on one end. Push the landing gear wire through the printed circle. The bent wire will line up with the printed line.

The original kits came with a vacuum canopy and an injection molded spinner. A drawing has been provided that will allow you to develop forms for making your own vacuum formed parts. The original kit spinner came in red plastic.

I do hope you build and enjoy a model from this plan package.

Paul Bradley

















**Canopy Form** 



Spinner

P-51

## Modification to the nose to allow for a removable noise piece for stretch winding.



## Modification to the landing gear covers



Trim the covers here and sandwich them around the landing gear legs. This will give a cleaner looking landing gear assembly.









