MAKE YOUR OWN ELECTRIC D/T LIGHTER

by Paul Grabski

Some people have asked me where I bought my D/T lighter . My answer is I made it. Here is some information if you would like to crank out one to call your own.

The D/T lighter is based on a design from my late friend Jack Saunders. Most of the parts can be had from Radio Shack . If you can't find what you need at your local store try the Radio Shack .com web site. You will also need a kerosene space heater igniter. The Keromate model U1-1A is one of many that will work. Try Wally World or a real hardware store for the igniter. I used a leftover battery holder from a discarded electronic item. If you can't find one of these, you'll have to solder the wires to the battery. You will also need a few inches of light gauge insulated wire (16 guage is big enough) to solder the components together. Two AA batteries power the unit. I've found that they give plenty of juice and easily last an entire flying season.

Once you have gathered all the bits cut a hole for the switch and lamp holder in the plastic box. The lamp holder, which we will use to hold the igniter, comes with two plastic covers one is red and the other is green, pick one. Cut the end off of the cover you will be using, this is where the DT fuse goes into light.

Solder the components following the wiring diagram, it will be a tight fit inside the box to get thing wired together. Install the batteries and give it a test.

The following are the Radio Shack part numbers: Lamp Holder — 272-325 Switch — 275-1549 Box 4"X2"X1" — 270-1802







