

# Treating Japanese Tissue on Power Models

*By Tim Johnson*

*From the Nov. -Dec. issue of the Minneapolis Modeler, the newsletter of the Minneapolis Model Aero Club, Jack O'Leary, editor.*

...Over time, with the help of John Watkins, I have developed a method of finishing my models covered with Japanese tissue that makes them fuel proof, water resistant, rather tough like Monocote and yet light. My 1/2A free flights weigh less than 7oz.....Follow these steps:

1. Coat the structure with two coats of nitrate dope thinned 50/50.
2. Lightly sand the structure.
3. Cover the structure with good Japanese tissue, block the structure and shrink the tissue with distilled water.
4. Brush on two coats of nitrate dope, thinned 50/50. Block the structure a panel at a time while the dope is still wet.
5. It's now time to put on tissue AMA numbers.
6. Brush on one coat of Minwax Polycrylic, thinned 25% with water. Use a foam brush to apply it and let it dry for several hours.
7. Spray, brush or use a foam brush to apply a thinned coat of epoxy finish. I thin it about 50% with appropriate thinner for the system, and use a foam brush. I believe the Polycrylic acts as a filler and plasticizer. The result is a light tissue covering that is tougher and not so brittle. The wing and stabilizer hold their shape even when damp.