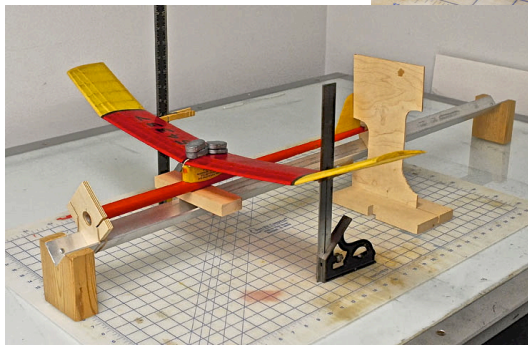
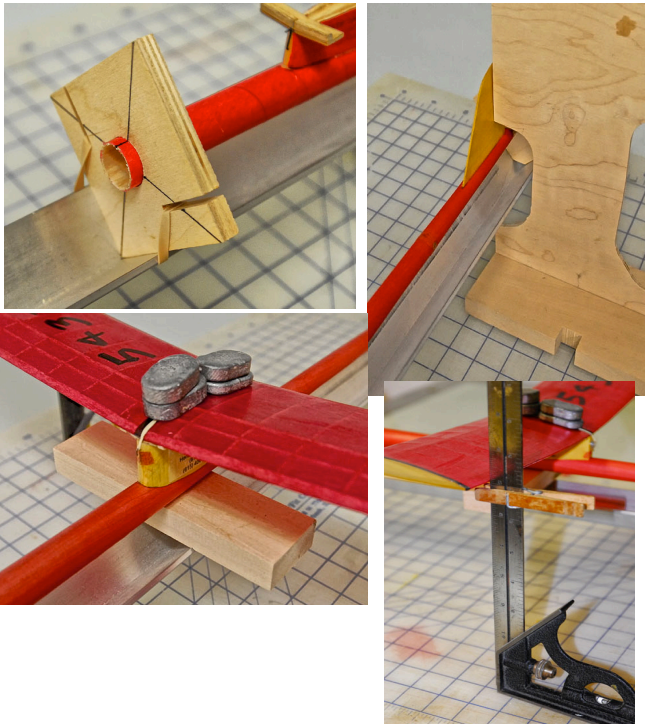
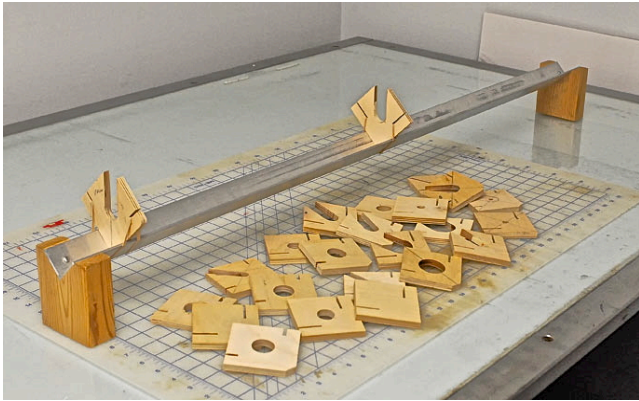


ALIGNING THINGS ON A ROLLED FUSELAGE

By George White

My Tennessee friend Jim Jennings sent me some photos the other day of a set of tools for getting the flying surfaces lined up properly when you're building a rolled fuselage. If you need instructions on how to make a rolled/tube-type fuselage you can find some at our website under "articles index," or perhaps on various chat rooms.



The setup starts with a 3' long piece of angle aluminum stock, which you can find at any of the big box hardware stores, attached to 3" end blocks you see in the top photo. Jim has wooden blocks, made from 3" square X 3/8 ply, drilled to fit just about every possible size fuselage he may encounter. As you can see from the second photo, they are held into the angle stock with rubber bands. Holding the fuselage reasonably firmly can probably be enhanced by gluing a piece of 3/16 Super Sport into the slot where the fuselage rests.

As you can see in the third photo, vertical surfaces are aligned with a plywood jig which is cut out to fit around the entire support structure in order to align the fin. To ensure the pylon is on straight, the wing is attached it and mechanic's squares used to support each end of the wing in the proper position as shown in photos 4 and 5. If you want stab tilt, this is where you build that in. The bottom photo shows the entire process.

You can make this set of jigs yourself relatively easily or, if your "management" will spot you the cash, Rex Henson will build you one. Just send 75 of those hard earned bucks to him at 1141 South Waterview Drive Inverness, FL 34450