

## Hints for building rockets

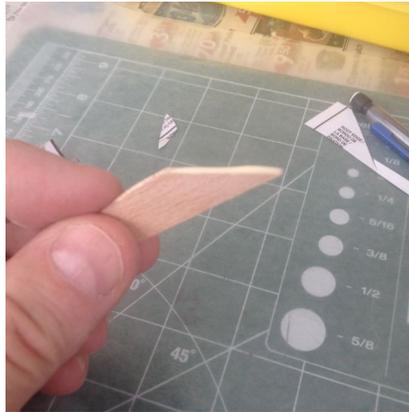
Follow the instructions -- they are clear and the steps are in a reasonable order.

Use white or wood glue for the fins. Use plastic cement for the nose cone. It would make sense for multiple scouts to get together and share a tube of plastic cement to keep from buying a tube that will barely be used. *Wood glue or white glue will not hold the nose cone tightly enough.*

For your rocket to be safe and be allow to fly, it is necessary that the fins, launch lug and nose cone be firmly attached.

For Step "Prepare Fins", use something like 220 or higher sandpaper. Balsa, which is what the fins are made of, sands away very quickly.

For step "Attach Fins", only use a small amount of glue on the *root* of the fin. In the picture to the right there is as much glue as you will ever need. If the rocket doesn't cooperate and stand up, you can use something to hold it up. I used a pencil through the body tube in a coffee cup, as shown in the picture. You can also put all 3 fins on at once with a little luck, but if they are falling off or getting knocked crooked, put one on and let it dry a while before putting the other on.



For step "Assemble Nose Cone and Launch Lug", the glue fillets (a line of glue running along the launch lug and the sides of the fins) is important. This will make the fin attachment much stronger.

For step "Rocket Finishing" paint your rocket a a bright color, or use bright permanent markers. Put your name and unit # somewhere on the rocket. These will go a few hundred feet up, and bright colors and your name will increase the chance that you get your rocket back after flying it.

Enjoy flying your rocket on September 12th! If you have questions send email to Sam Midkiff at [smidkiff@purdue.edu](mailto:smidkiff@purdue.edu). Please put *rocket* in the subject line.