

About the Sopwith

Developed from the successful Sopwith Pup, the Sopwith Camel is considered by many to be the single most famous aircraft type of World War I. Camels destroyed no less than 1,294 enemy aircraft—a kill total greater than that of any other single aircraft type of the war.

Flown by various Allied combatants throughout the last two years of the war, the Camel was the favored mount of some of the war's most famous aces.

Worth noting is the fact a Camel also is claimed by some historians to have been the downfall of Germany's most famous World War I ace, Manfred von Richthofen (The Red Baron).

Directions

1. Insert the long fiberglass spars into the body of the plane and pass each through one side of the black Dacron loops that are sewn to the bottom center portion of the body. The spars should cross each other once forming an elongated "x" shape. (fig. 1)
2. Insert the ends of the spars into the pockets at the rear tail section and then into the molded fittings at the nose.
3. Find the four shorted fiberglass rods that are used to brace the wings. Of the four, two are approximately 3.5 inches longer than the others. Start by inserting the longer brace into the molded fitting on the front side of the top wing and then into the rear section of the wing directly beneath. (fig. 2) Use the shorter brace to connect the remaining fittings so you form a slanted 'X'. Repeat this twice.
4. Find the thinnest length of fiberglass and insert one end into unsewn opening on the rudder. (fig. 3) By inserting the rod it will bend and form the curve on the rudder. Place the other end into the molding fitting located at the rear of the body.
5. Locate the short stubby fiberglass spar with the end cap and stopper. (fig. 4) Pull off the end cap and slide on the spinning propeller. Replace end cap. Then insert the opposite end of the spar into the molded fitting attached to the opening of the nose of the plane.
6. Attached the flying line to the tow point (small loop) located on the bridle.

Tips & Tricks!

Kites fly best in wide open spaces. Avoid flying in areas near buildings and trees.

To launch, stand with the wind to your back. Hold the kite with the nose up in one hand while securely holding the winder in the other. When you feel the pressure of the wind against the kite, let go. As the kite rises, slowly release the line. A high altitude launch is an effective method of getting your kite off the ground in light winds. Have someone stand downwind as you let out as much line as possible (>100). As the kite is released into the wind, tug on the line.

