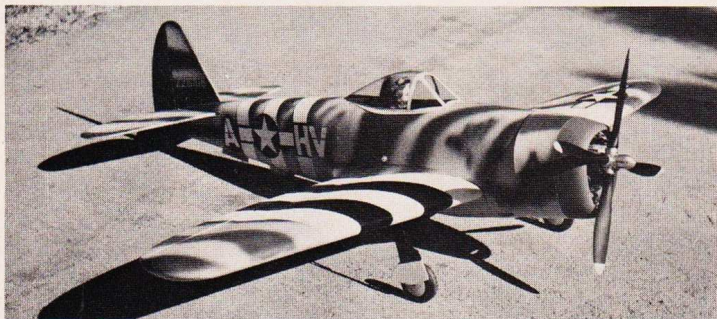
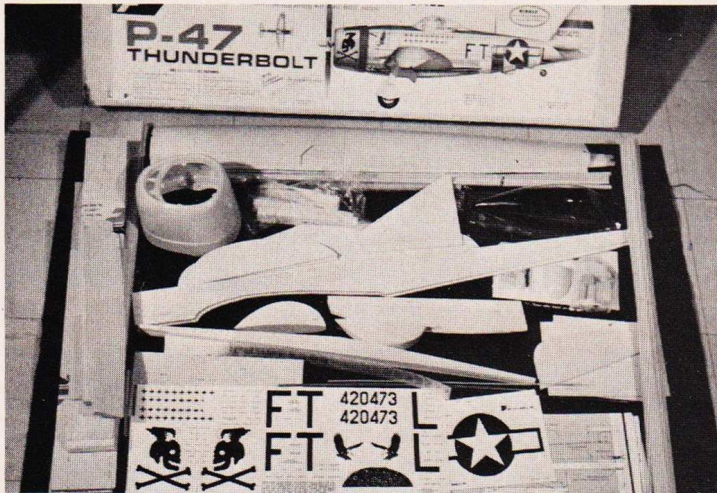


RCM PRODUCT TEST

TOP FLITE MODELS P-47 THUNDERBOLT



● Top Flite's P-47 Thunderbolt represents a welcome addition to the variety and number of Sport or Stand-Off Scale models now on the market. The popularity of this aspect of the hobby has increased rapidly in recent years perhaps in large part because of the superb flight performance of these models. Thunderbolt, or "Jug", is no exception. Its large elliptical wing and hefty cross-section makes this model capable of most pattern maneuvers. In addition to its fine flight characteristics, the Thunderbolt (unlike many scale models) has more than ample airflow for engine cooling. One can even get a Du-Bro, or similar, muffler inside the cowling by removing a half inch or less of the muffler body. The kit itself represents Top Flite's best efforts to date. The fuselage has a simple crutch construction which is nearly impossible to misalign. Once the crutch is completed, four pre-molded balsa skins are attached to complete the fuselage. Most noteworthy is the excellent two-piece heavy duty plastic cowl. Once assembled, it is attached internally to the firewall with four screws. Other construction is standard and will present no problems to the builder. Plans are clear and there is a comprehensive construction manual provided. Although the model pictured is finished in the camouflage pattern of Col. Francis Gobreski, Top Flite provides 3-views and mylar markings of Major G.T. Eagleston's aircraft. Here is our only criticism — the markings are complete and of excellent quality, however, no information is provided regarding placement of all those little "goodies" like *tie down*, *batt. location*, etc. Additionally, if you plan to use the stars and bars over dark (or camouflage), you should provide a white background as your colors will show through these markings. While no modifications are essential, there are a couple which might help: (1) Trim engine mounts to fit before completing step #2 in the construction manual. Most .60's will need considerably more width than provided. (2) Attach four 1/8" ply doublers (approximately 3/8" square) behind firewall at cowl attachment points, otherwise time and vibration are likely to

IMPRESSIONS	E	G	A	F	P	IMPRESSIONS	E	G	A	F	P
Packaging	●					Pre-Shaped Parts	●				
Plans	●					Parts Match to Plans		●			
Written Instructions		●				Overall Parts Fit		●			
Quality of Hardwood			NA			Ease of Assembly			●		
Quality of Fiberglass			NA			Fidelity to Scale			●		
Other Materials		●				Flight Performance		●			
Accessories	●					Overall Appeal		●			
Die-Cutting		●									

E=Excellent / G=Good / A=Average / F=Fair / P=Poor

SPECIFICATIONS

Name	P-47 Thunderbolt
Aircraft Type	Sport Scale
Manufactured By	Top Flite Models 2635-47 Wabash Ave. Chicago, Illinois 60616
Mfg. Suggested Retail Price	\$79.95
Available From	Both Mfg. & Retail Outlets
Mfg. Recommended Usage	Sport, Stand-Off Scale
Wing Span	60 Inches
Wing Chord	12" (Avg.)
Total Wing Area	720 Square Inches
Fuselage Length	45 Inches
Radio Compartment Dimensions	(L) 14" x (W) 4.75" x (H) 2.50"
Wing Location	Low Wing
Airfoil	Symmetrical
Wing Planform	Elliptical
Dihedral	2.25 Inches
Stabilizer Span	23 Inches
Stabilizer Chord (incl. elev.)	6" (Avg.)
Total Stab Area	138 Square Inches
Stab Airfoil Section	Flat
Stabilizer Location	Top of Fuselage
Vertical Fin Height	7.75 Inches
Vertical Fin Width (incl. rud.)	6.5" (Avg.)
Mfg. Rec. Engine Range	.45-.60
Mfg. Rec. Fuel Tank Size	12 Oz.
Landing Gear	Conventional
Recommended No. Of Channels	4-6
Recommended Control Functions	Rud., Elev., Throt., Ail. Flaps & Retracts

Basic Materials Used In Construction:

Fuselage	Balsa
Wing	Balsa
Tail Surfaces	Balsa
Hardware Included In Kit	Very Complete
Plan Size	35" x 45" (2 sheets)
Building Instructions on Plan Sheets	Yes
Instruction Manual	Yes (14 pages)
Construction Photos	Drawings
Kit Includes	Die Cut Parts
Mfg. Rec. Flying Weight	88-112 Oz.
Wing loading based on rec. flying wt.	17.6-22.4 oz./sq. ft.

RCM PROTOTYPE

Weight, Ready To Fly	134 Ounces
Wing Loading	27 oz./sq. ft.
Covering & finishing materials used	Superpoxy
Engine Make & Disp.	Ross .61
Muffler Used	Du-Bro
Radio Used	Pro-Line
Tank Size Used	12 Oz.

Sterling
MODELS
INC.
PHILA PA 19134 U.S.A.

R/C Air Boat/Amphibian

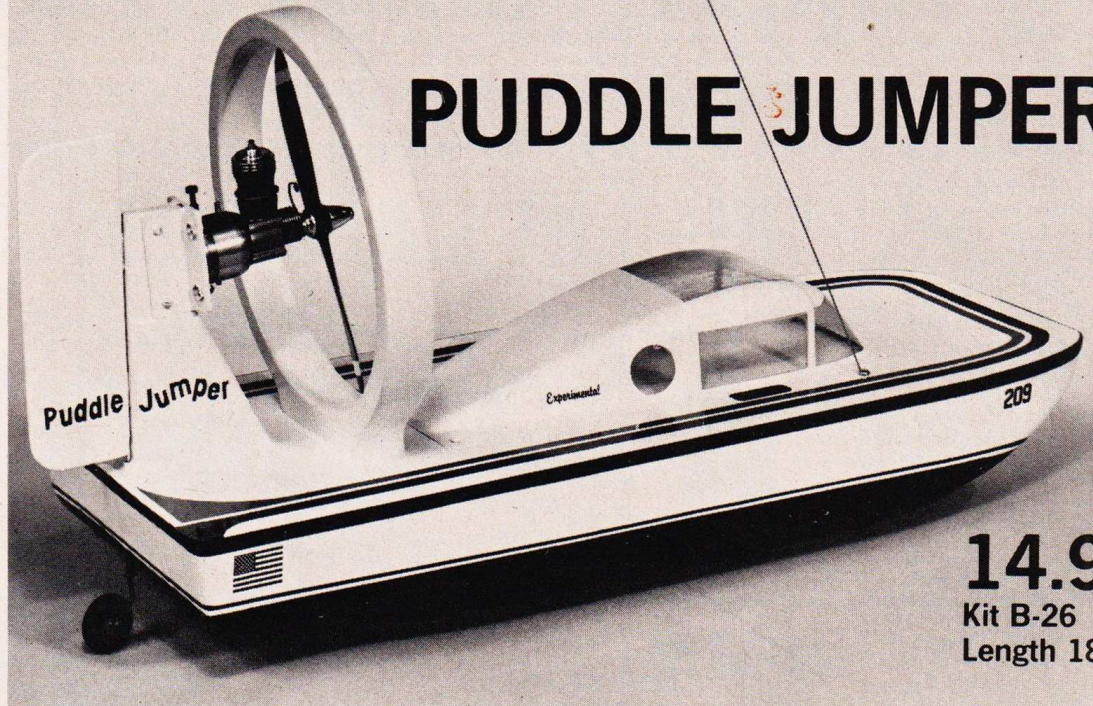
PUDDLE JUMPER



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Kit B-26
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P-47 THUNDERBOLT

... strip threads from the firewall. In conclusion, in spite of its size, the Thunderbolt will weigh about 8½ pounds with retracts and flaps. With 720 square inches of wing area you can expect a fine flying machine. □



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