

Vertical Stabilizer

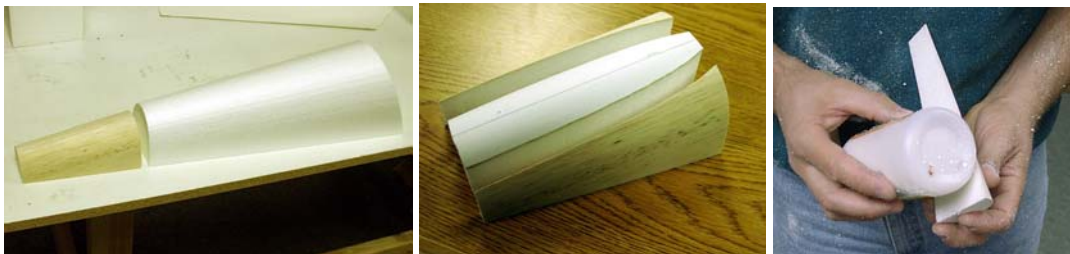
After the hinge locations are marked and drilled, you can fit the rudder and glue it in place. We placed the stabs onto the airplane and aligned the rudder by measuring the top center point of the rudder to the tip of each stabilizer. The distance should be exactly the same.

Note that the rear of the turtledeck does not have an end cap; TD2 shown on the plan is not needed. The rudder hinge line will be beveled after it is glued in place and the fillets are installed.



To make the fillets, use the fin/fuselage template on sheet 1 of the plans. Tape the template to the centerline of the fillet core that you made earlier and cut it out while flat on the bandsaw.

You do not get the required taper that way so it will take a bit of sanding to fit the fillets for a clean appearance. Erik stuck a piece of sandpaper to a plastic bottle for a nice round contour. Epoxy the fillets in place and then you can finish the bevel on the rear of the rudder.





Next Month ...

At this point, you should have a nearly completed airframe ready for fitting your servos and electronics. The photo shows the gear cuffs and wheel pants in place but the canopy has yet to be trimmed.

Next month we'll cover those steps and build and install all of the control hardware, finish the wing and stab fasteners, build our firewall, and mount the engine. The next segment may seem like a process that you've gone through many times in the past but for an airplane of this size, these next steps can be critical.

The processes we'll outline will help to ensure precision flying and enable your airplane to last for many trouble-free years.