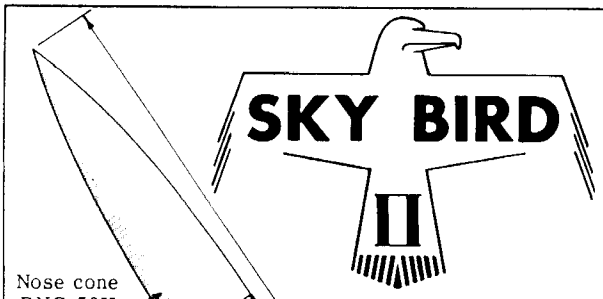
Since a model using break-up recovery lands harder than one using a parachute or streamer, it is especially important to have correct wood grain direction on the fins and to have all joints securely glued. Fin grain is correct when it is possible to follow an uninterrupted grain line from any point on the fin to the "root edge" of the fin (the edge that glues to the body). Generally this can be done if the grain is parallel to the front (or leading) edge of the fin.

SKY BIRD II

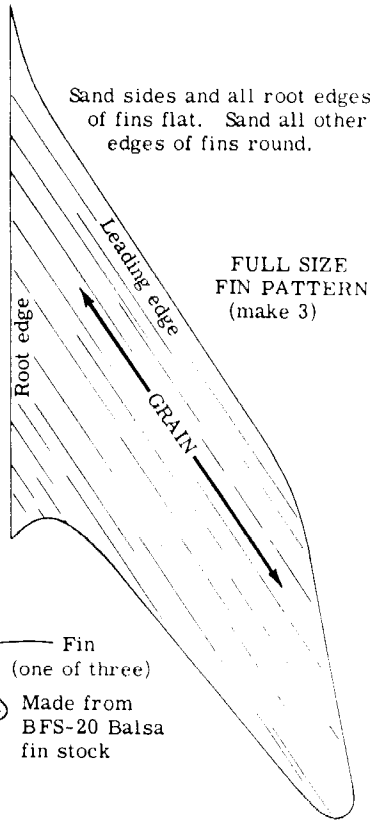


Start assembly of this bird with the engine mount assembly. While the mount is drying, prepare a shock cord anchor for each end of the shock cord as is shown in the Arrow-C plans. Mark the tube coupler 1/4" from one end and apply glue for 1/4" into the front of the 4" body tube. Slide the coupler 1/4" into the tube making sure it is aligned correctly. Apply glue to the inside of one end of the 7-3/4" body tube and insert the nose cone.

While the two assemblies dry, trace the fin pattern and cut out 3 fins. Sand the fins as instructed below. Mark 3 fin guide lines on the 4" tube and glue the fins into place. Set this assembly aside to dry. Glue one shock cord anchor 1" into the open end of the 7-3/4" body tube. Glue the other anchor into the coupler end of the rear body tube. Glue the launching lug into place on the rear body tube locating it between two of the fins. (See the FRONT VIEW.)

Your SKY BIRD II is now ready for a paint finish of your choice. A bright color is recommended if you have a large launch and recovery area and plan to use the "B" type engines.

FRONT VIEW



ENGINE MOUNT ASSEMBLY

Cut a slot in the engine tube 1/4" from one end to admit a hook of the engine holder. Put one hook in the slot with the rest of the part parallel to the tube centerline. Hold the part in place with a layer of masking tape 1/2" from the front hook. Slide a ring adapter into place from the front of the engine tube and glue. Notch the other ring as shown and slide into place 1-5/16" from the rear of the tube and glue. Let the glue set. Insert the unit into one end of the 4" body tube until 1/8" of the mount and rear engine hook is visible. Swab glue into the tube so as to coat both ends of the engine mount unit at the body tube-ring joints. Set the assembly aside to dry thoroughly.

To obtain a good glue joint, the fin root should be sanded square and covered completely with glue before it is pressed in place against the body tube. After this glue has dried, a glue filler (fillet) is applied to the joint as shown. The rocket should be supported on its side while the glue dries.

