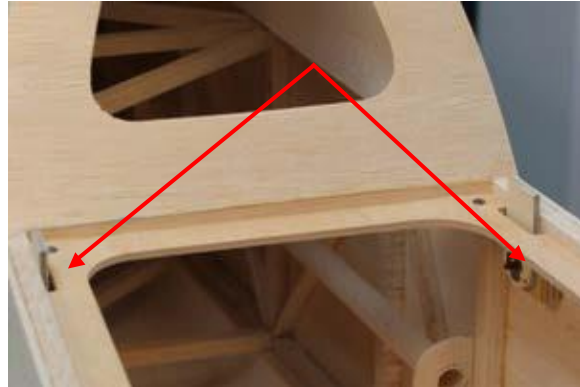
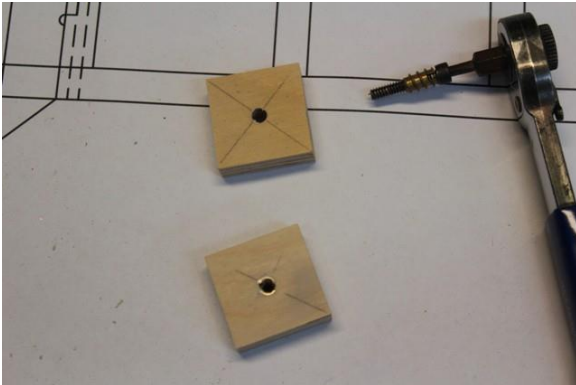


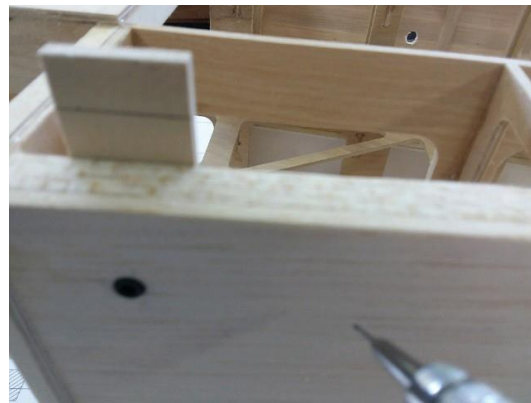
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Aircraft Hatch Assembly:

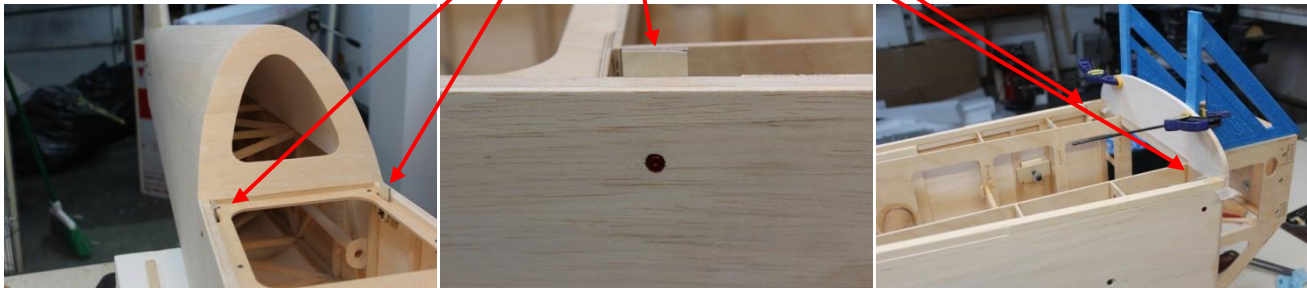
- If not already installed, glue in place the 1 x 1 x 3/8" hatch anchor blocks. The anchor blocks should be drilled for a 6-32 bolt prior to installation. I use 6/32 brass threaded inserts to keep the bolts holes from wearing and becoming sloppy. Once installed, drill the inserts out so that the hatch bolts slide through freely.



- Make 6 hatch hold down tabs from the 1/8" x 1' aircraft ply strip. Place a 3/8" x 1/2" basswood hatch rail on the longeron to mark hatch tabs height. Drill the tabs and install a 6-32 blind nut in each.



- Install a tab at each of the 6 (2 rear, 2 mid, and 2 forward) anchor locations.



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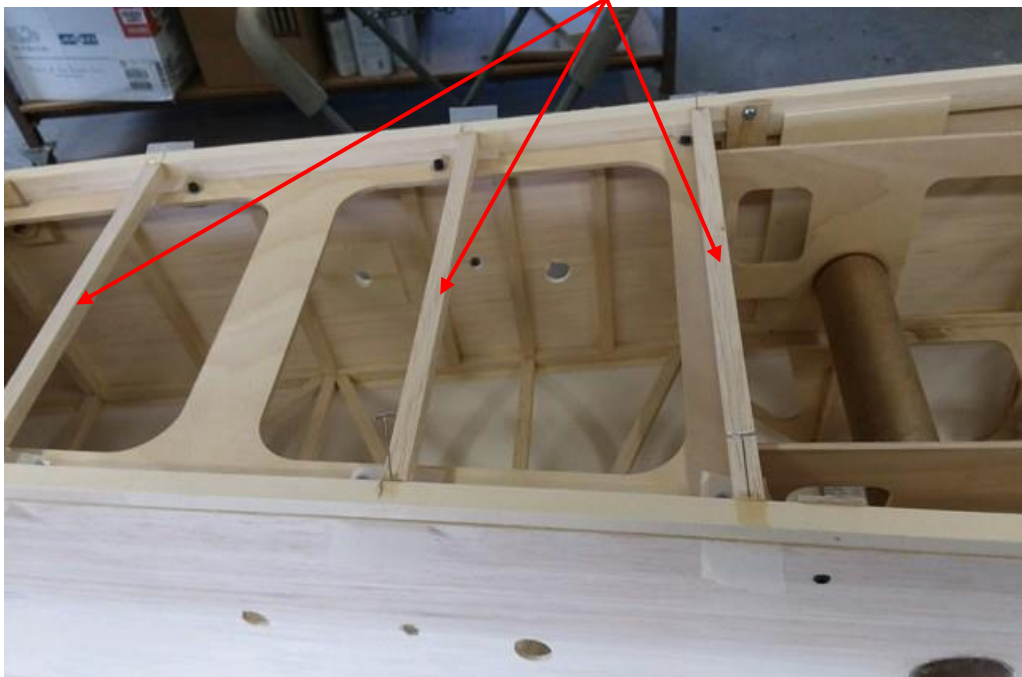
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- Use two 3/8" x 1/2" bass wood sticks to make the hatch base rails. The rails must be fitted with the 1/2" dimension width wise.
- Mark the hatch rails for the area where the canopy will glue to the rail, rip about 1/32" off the rails in this area for a flush canopy fit.
- Rip the outer forward sections of the canopy rail (where the foam deck glues to the rail) down by 1/4" and replace the removed material with balsa stock. This facilitates easy sanding to match the foam deck.
- Install the 6 hatch tabs. Use waxed paper between the rails and longerons; glue the hatch rails to the tabs. Secure the tabs to the rails with 3/8" screws (#6 or #4).



- Use 3/8" x 3/8" balsa sticks; cut and install cross-bracing between the two hatch rails.

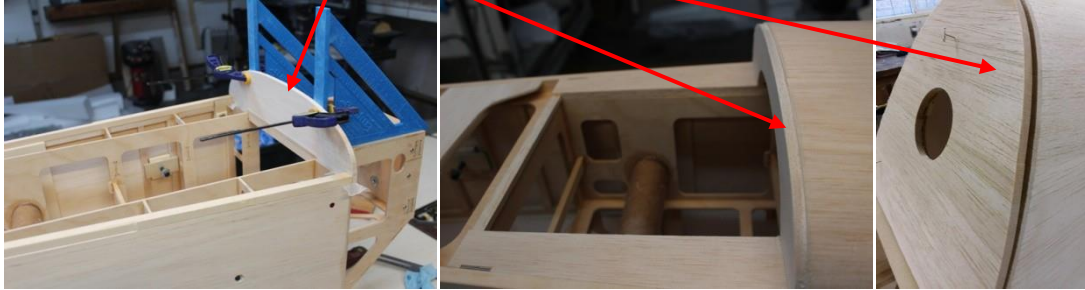


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- Using ¼" balsa, make the front, middle, and rear hatch bulkheads, do not glue in place.



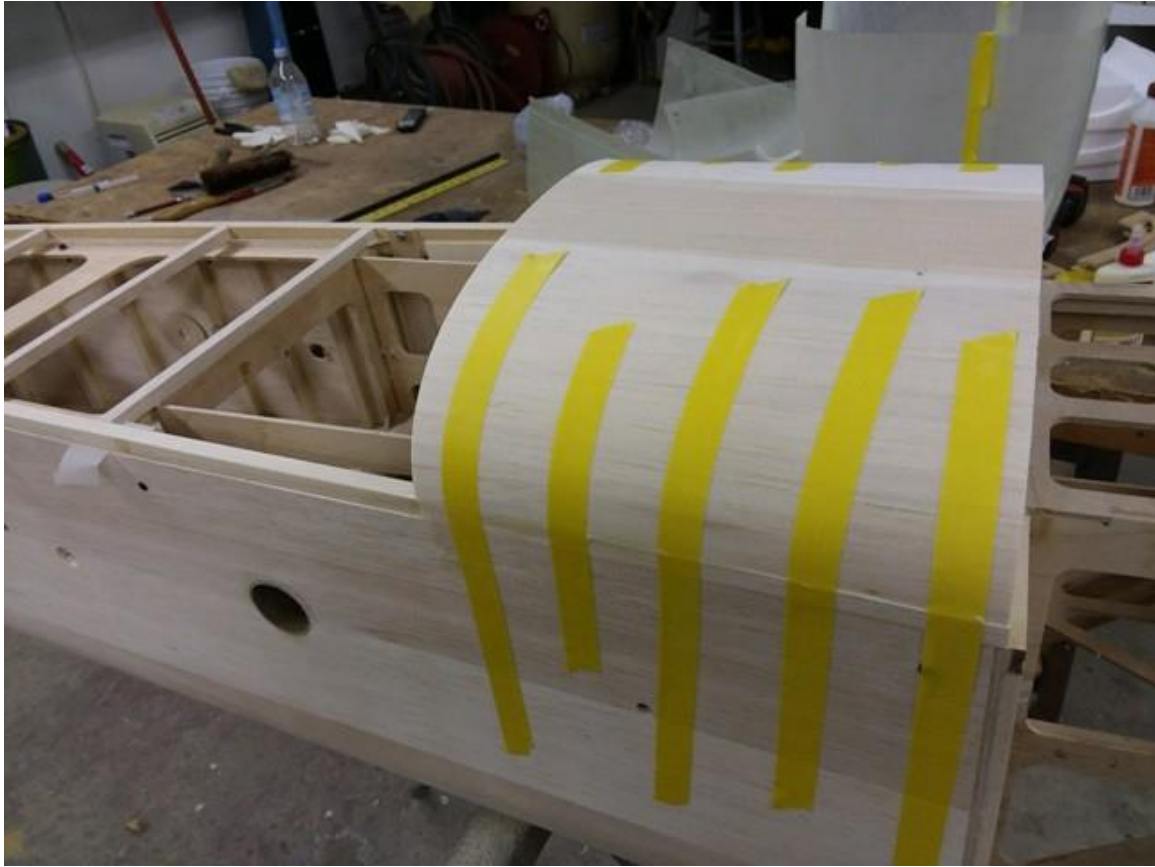
- The forward hatch bulkhead should be cut / notched to fit over the motorbox top-plate.



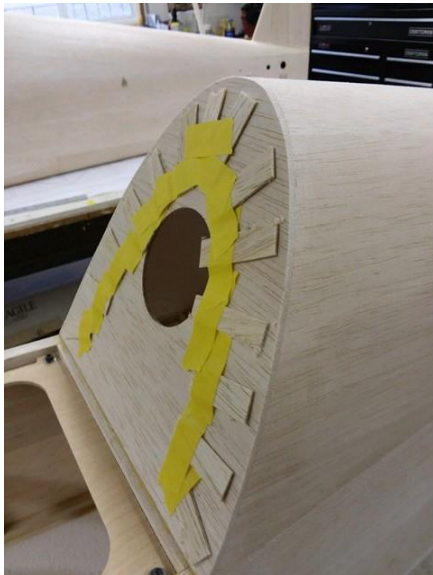
- Cut the middle bulkhead so that the canopy is a flush fit to the forward deck.



- Glue the forward foam deck to the hatch rails.

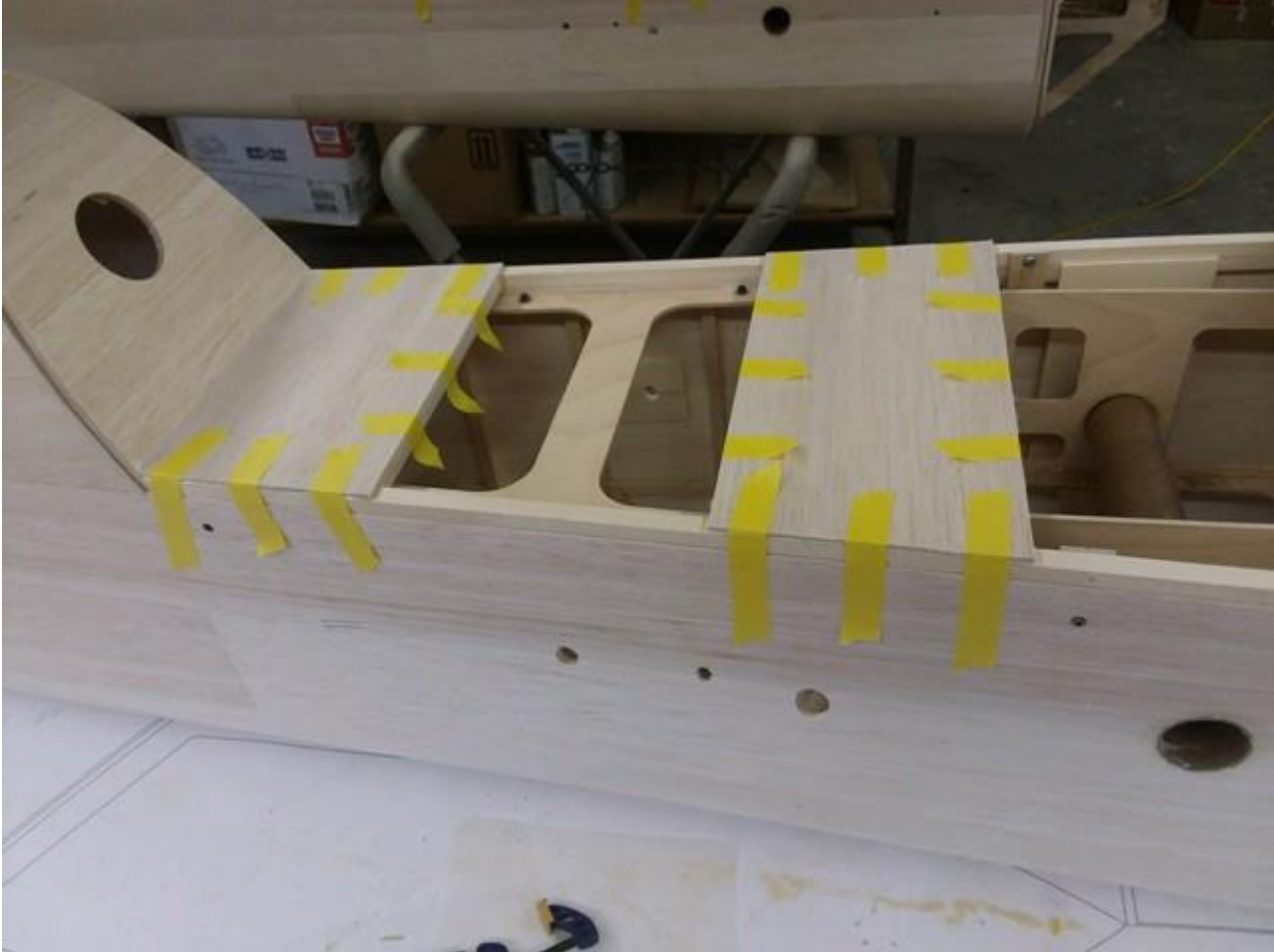


- Glue the front and middle bulkheads to the hatch rails and the forward foam deck.
- Use 1/16" balsa scrap to shim the rear bulkhead out from the turtle deck. Glue the rear bulkhead to the hatch rails.



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- Use 1/8" balsa sheeting to make the hatch floor / pilot and instrument panel pads.



- Install the instrument panel block.

- Trim, fit, and glue the canopy in place. Mount the hatch securely to the fuselage with all six (6) bolts while the canopy glue cures. This prevents the hatch frame from being warped or distorted during the canopy installation.



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