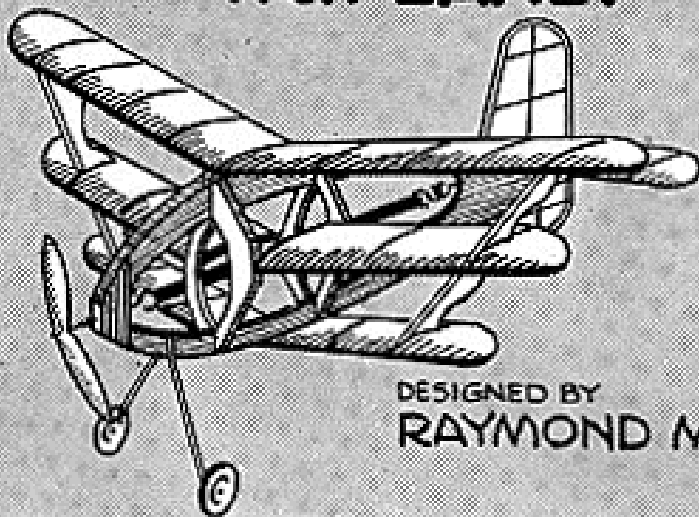


The TOM-TIT TRIPLANE.



DESIGNED BY
RAYMOND MALMSTRÖM.

THE "TOM-TIT" TRIPLANE

By RAYMOND MALMSTRÖM, A.T.D.(Lond.)

Besides being the miniature wing-walkers' nightmare, this tiny triplane can be flown indoors, out of doors and R.T.P. In short, for a very little trouble, and even less expenditure of balsa, the builder can possess a vest-pocket model that absolutely fills the bill for a general purpose model.

The Tom-Tit, on 800-900 turns, will consistently perform around the 40-50 secs. mark, and construction of this absorbingly interesting and unique "kite" is simplicity itself.

The "fuselage" is of medium or hard $\frac{3}{8}$ in. balsa sheet. Reinforce the front portion with m/m ply. Bore the hole for the shaft at a slightly negative angle. Fit the undercart with $\frac{1}{8}$ dia. celluloid or balsa wheels. Line up formers 1 and 2 and cut slots for the top and bottom planes.

The wings are made up from details on the plan. A reverse tracing of the port wing panels is necessary. Fit the top and lower planes into the slots on the fuselage, after imparting the correct dihedral angle by cracking at the centre ribs X and Y and re cementing. The middle wing is built in two halves and cemented to the formers. See that these joints are firmly made. Fit interplane struts. These struts impart a pleasing and necessary rigidity to the whole model.

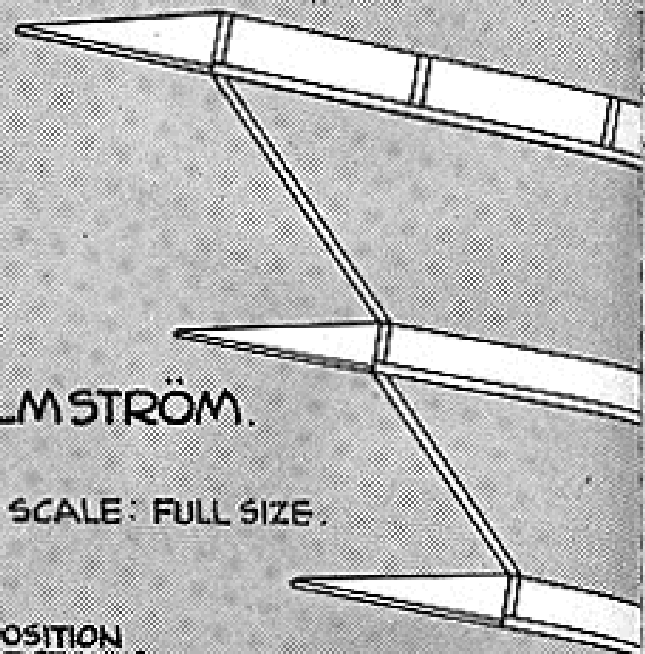
The fin and tailplane need no explanation. Set the tailplane at 0° incidence.

Any propeller (balsa) of $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.—5 in. diameter that may be handy can be used on the Tom-Tit. A slight touch of oil on the shaft considerably helps the smooth running of the "engine." For the more exact builder the dimensions of a balsa propeller are given on the plan. Well lubricated, and stretch round from the rear by the means of the 20 S.W.G. "S" hook, the three strands of $1/16$ in. flat rubber will take 900 turns, but 750 should be used for all but the most important of flips. If the ship stalls, try adding a little weight to the nose. If the Tom-Tit dives, warp the trailing edge of the tailplane up a little.

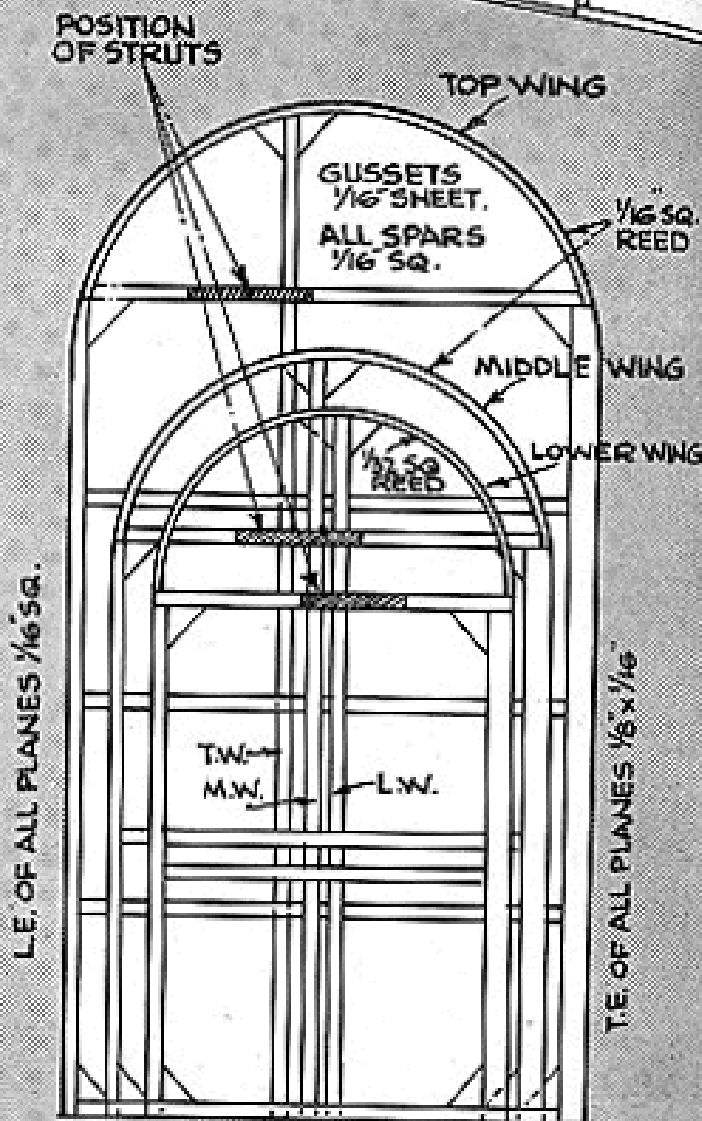
The Tom-Tit Triplane may seem a little peculiar to the eyes of a generation fed almost entirely on the old familiar monoplanes and biplanes, but that certainly does not prevent the "tripe" from turning in a sound performance.

Spend an hour or two on the Tom-Tit and give yourself a treat.

1" DIHEDRAL.



SCALE: FULL SIZE.



INCHES

