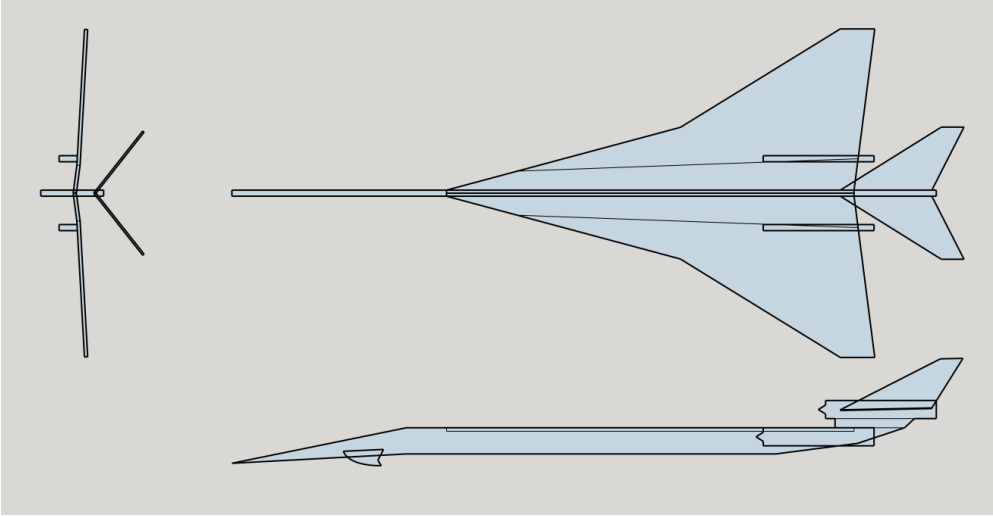
NASA N+2 Jet Catapult Glider

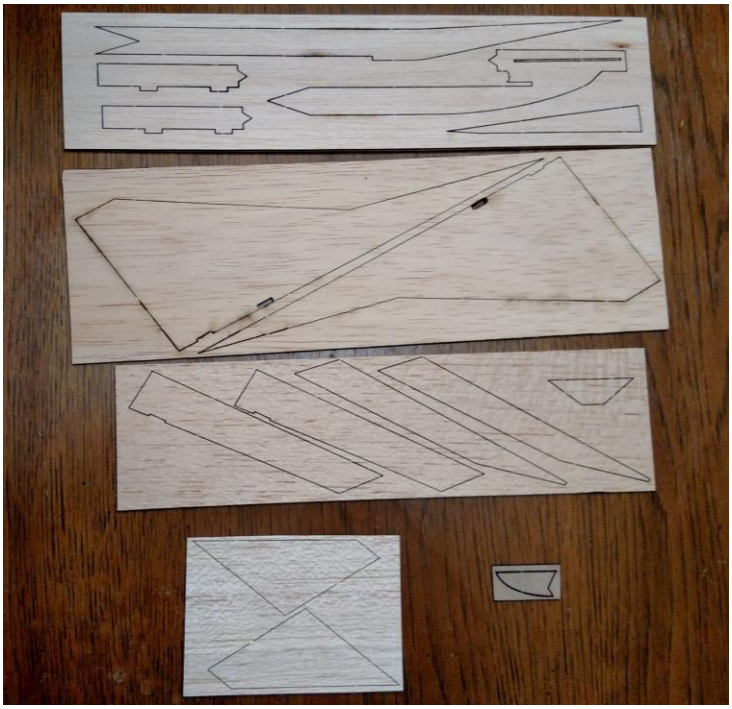
By *J&H Aerospace*

www.jhaerospace.com



A Fantasy Scale Catapult Glider

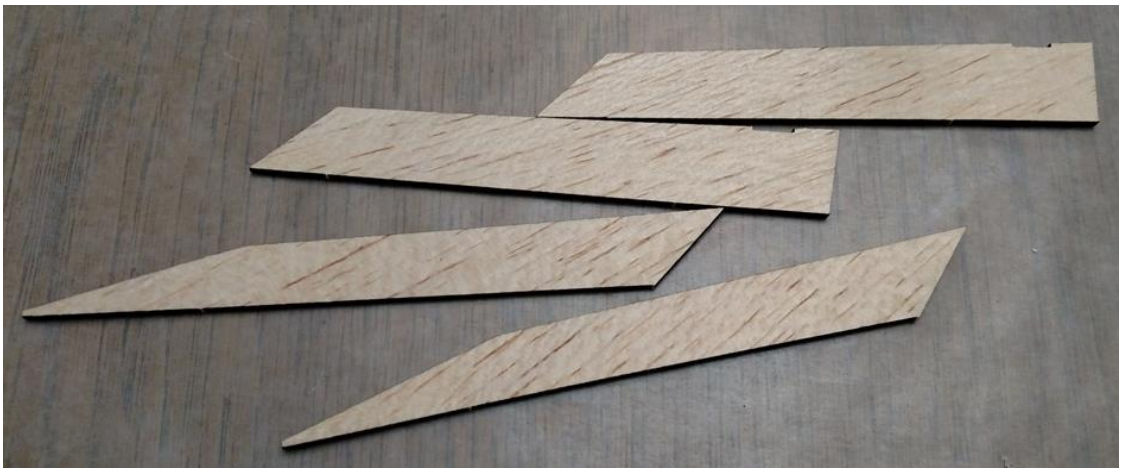
Congratulations on the purchase of your NASA N+2 catapult glider! Your kit contains the components shown below plus a catapult handle, catapult rubber strip, and clay balancing weight.



Separate the 1/8” balsa fuselage parts from their carrier sheet as shown below.

Use CA glue to join the fuselage halves together over wax paper. Do this on a flat surface to ensure the fuselage is straight.

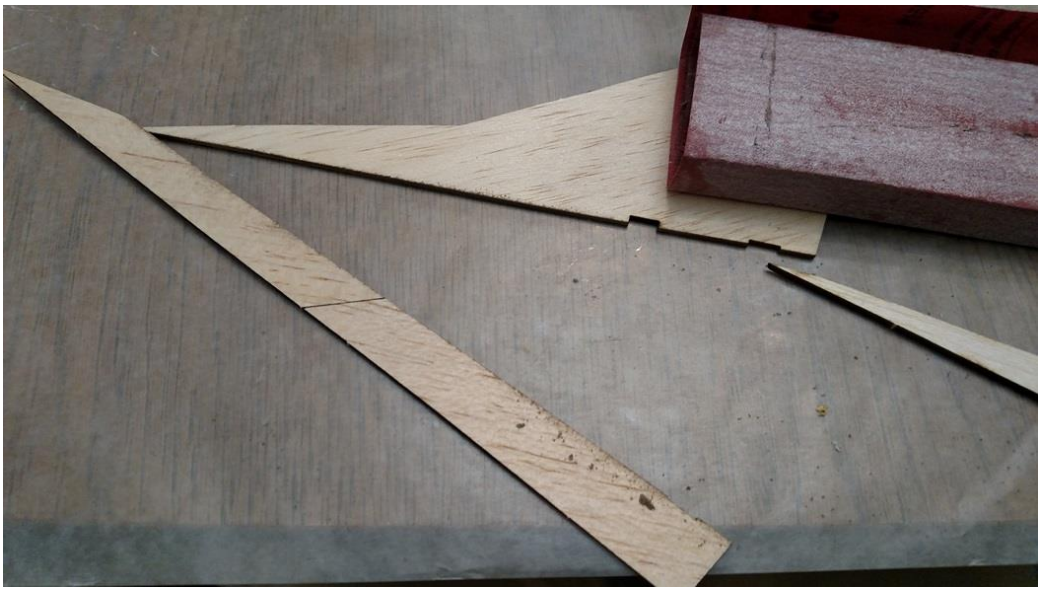
Separate out the 3/32” balsa wing inner panel pieces as shown below.



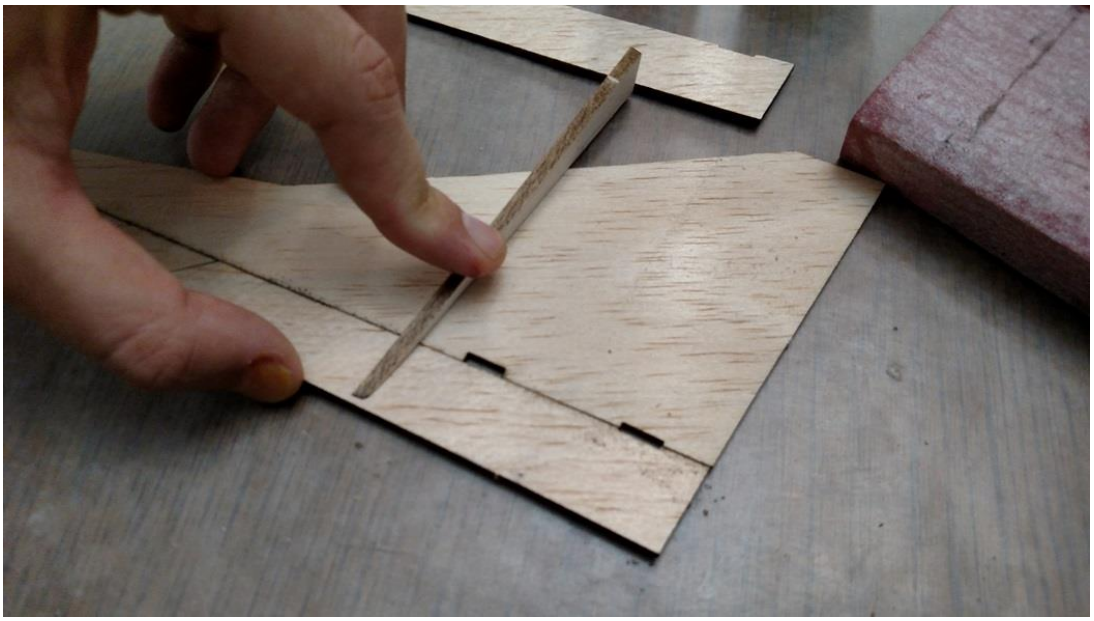
Join these pieces using CA glue to form the inner panels.

Separate the 3/32” balsa wing outer panels and the dihedral gage.

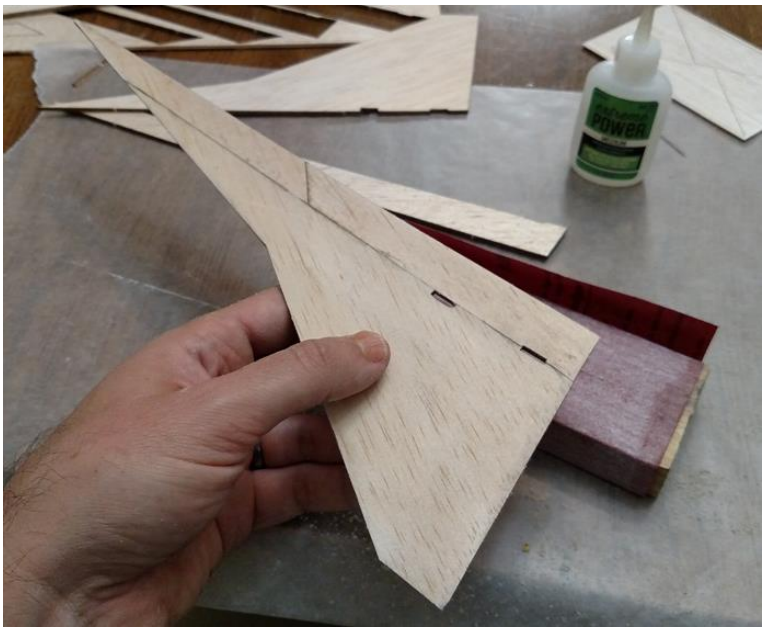
Bevel the wing inner and outer panels slightly for the gull dihedral.



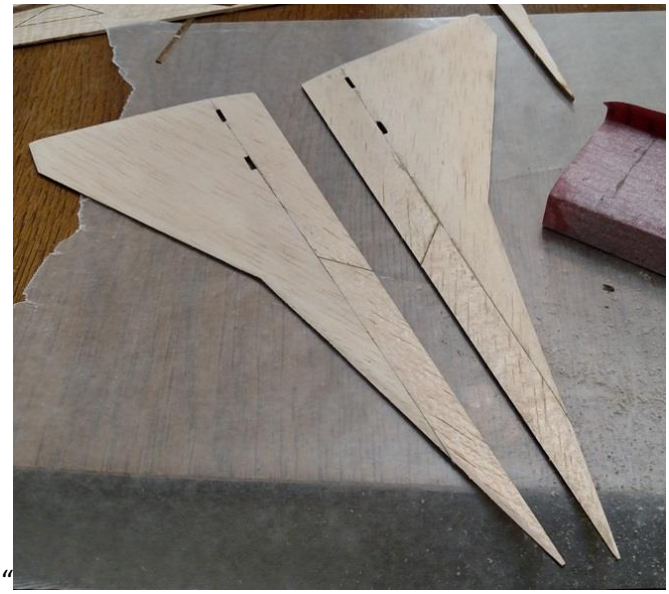
There is a slight angle on the dihedral gage at the pointed end. Use this to set the gull dihedral of the inner panels as you join them to the outer panels. Make sure that you mirror the wings so that you do not end up with two left or two right wings!



Sand any rough spots off of the outer dihedral joints.



You will now have two wing panels which look like photo below. Bevel their inner edge to prepare for the center dihedral joint.



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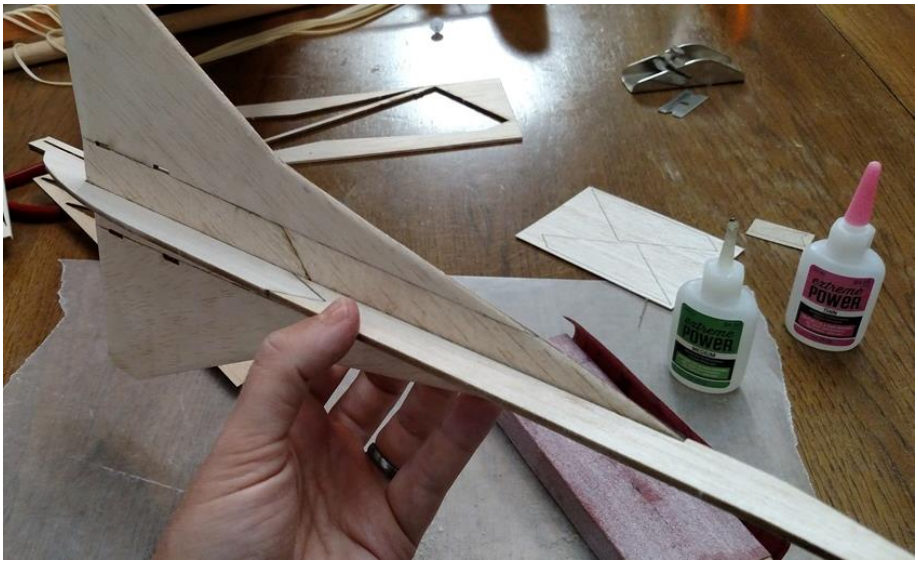
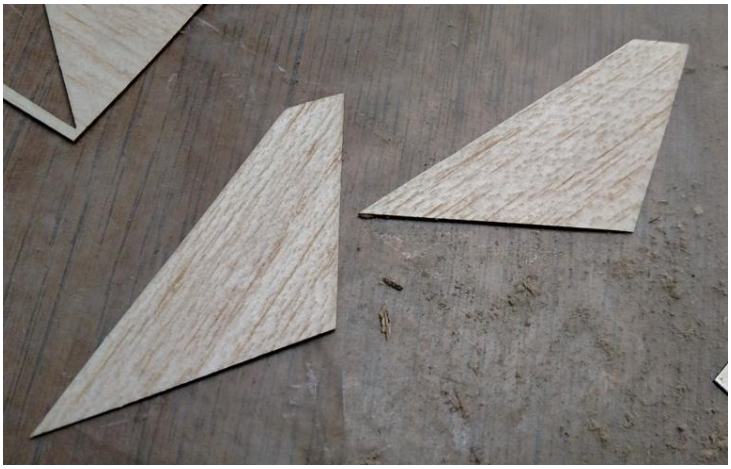
Use the dihedral gage to set the slight dihedral between the two panels as you cement them together with CA glue. The slight bend that is included for the gull dihedral should nest against the outer dihedral

break.

Glue the wing onto the top of the fuselage as shown below.

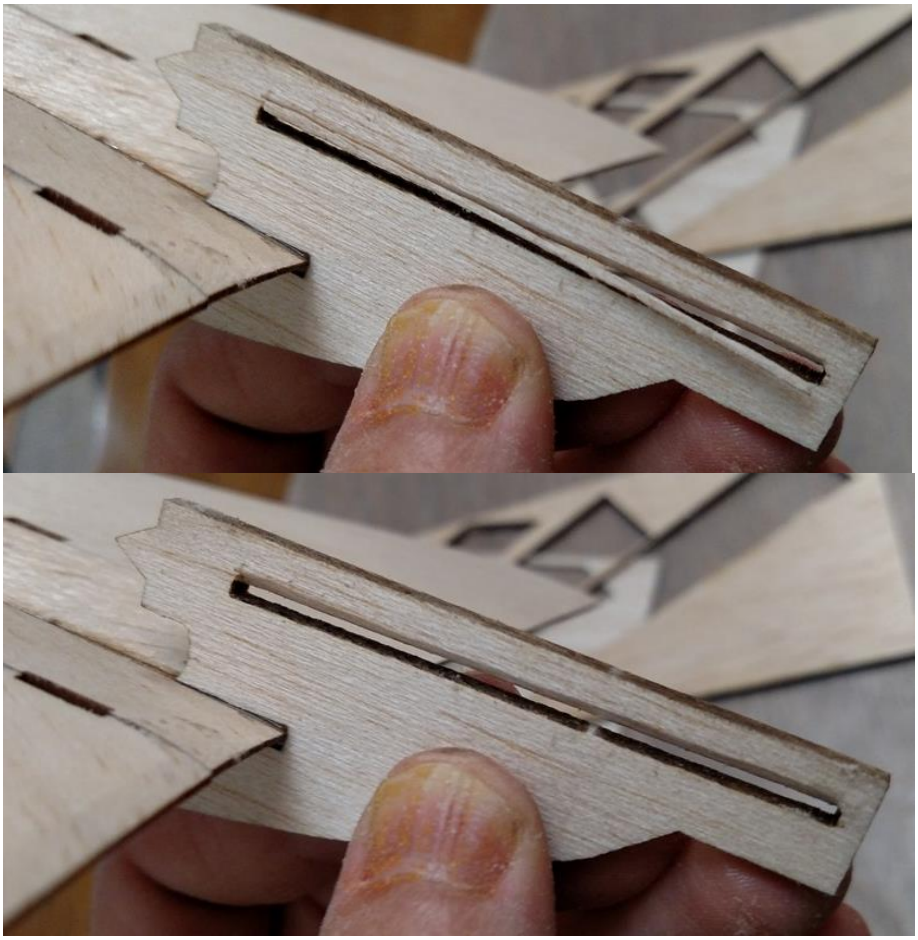


Remove the 1/32” balsa tail fins from their carrier sheet.

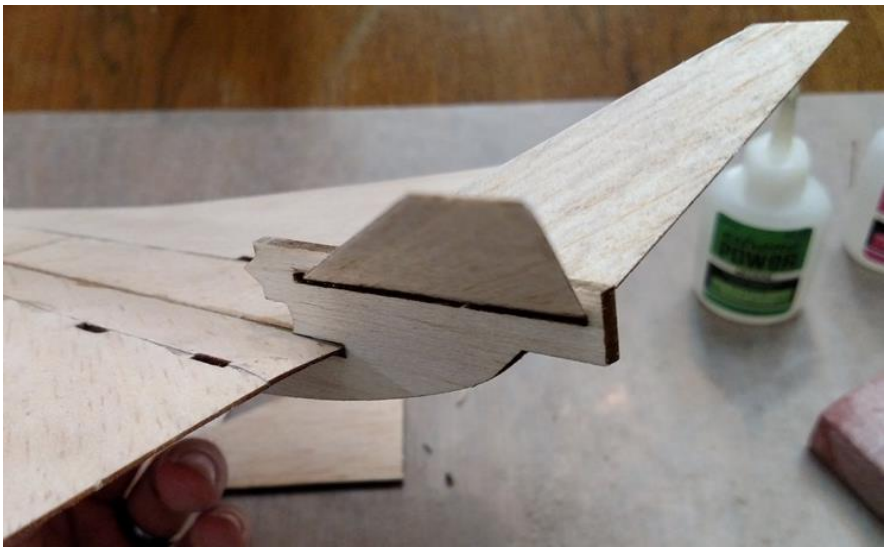


Set the tail dihedral using the supplied gage as shown below.

Use a razor blade to bevel out the slot for the tail fins.



Insert the tail assembly and glue it in place.



Separate the 1/8” balsa engine nacelles and bevel the top keys so that they will fit into the slots in the wings.

Glue the engine nacelles into their slots in bottom of the wings

Use a razor blade to cut a slot into the bottom of the fuselage and separate out the 1/64” plywood catapult hook.

Press the catapult hook at least 1/8” into the slot and glue it firmly in place with thin CA.

Your model is now structurally complete. Use lead glued to the catapult hook to balance it at the wing sweep breaks to get started with trimming.

I found that the model needed a the wingtip trailing edges bent up about 1/32” to achieve a stable glide combined with bending the tail fins up about 1/16”. This is only an estimate; you will have to tweak the model’s incidence and CG settings some to get a glide that meets our flying style.