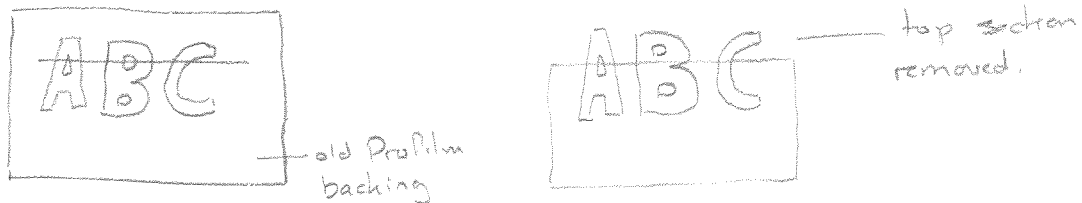
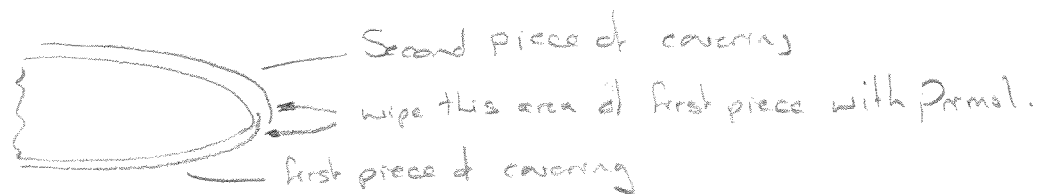


Notes from Dave Belcher's talk on covering

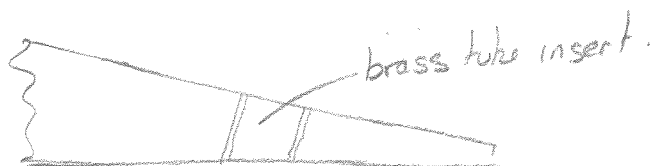
- To add lettering, windows etc to a model. Save the old backing from your Profilm. Cut a slit in the Profilm backing and lay out the windows, letters etc 25% above the cut and 75% below. The Profilm backing allows you to re-position the trim several times until you're completely happy with the position. Remove the top 25% of the backing leaving the rest of the trim aligned by the remaining 75% and transfer to your model.



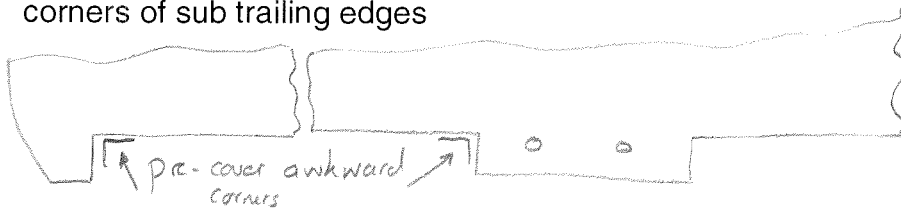
- To achieve a smooth finish on a glass wing join bandage, before covering, rather than trying to sand and fill it, cover it with masking tape, butted edge to edge
- Use Pollyfilla 'fine surface filler' to fill small dents and cracks in an airframe. It's a pre-mixed filler available from most DIY stores, its cheaper than proprietary model filler and sands about the same as balsa.
- To prepare a model for covering, sand with progressively finer grades of abrasive up to about 400 grit. The airframe must be free from dust or the covering will stick to the dust not the wood. Vacuum over with a brush attachment on your vacuum. Wipe over the airframe with Solafilm 'Primol', this improves adhesion and seals / wipes off any remaining dust.
- When covering wipe over the edges of one covering piece with Primol before applying the next to improve covering-to-covering adhesion.



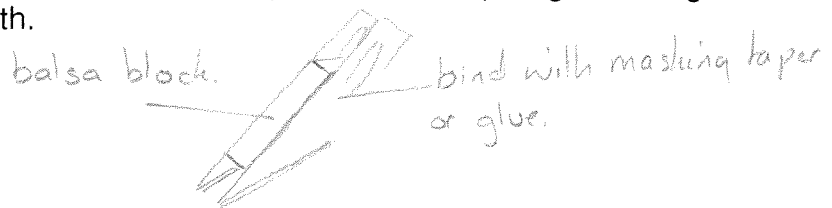
- Before covering wing tips, to avoid any surprises, stretch cling film over them to see how the profile will look when covered.
- Reinforce wing bolt holes with small pieces or brass tube



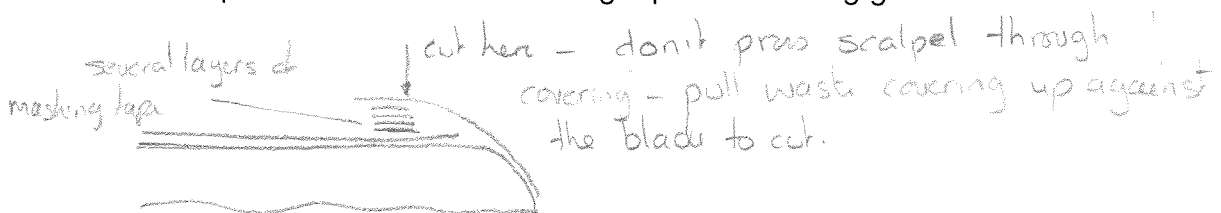
- Pre-cover awkward corners with off cuts of covering before you start e.g. corners of sub trailing edges



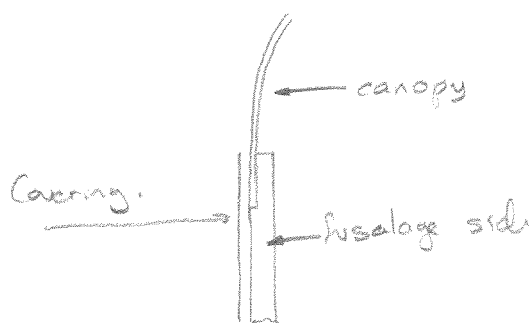
- To cleanly cut covering, a very sharp scalpel blade is necessary. Dave will use up to 10 blades to cover a model as the covering will quickly dull the edge. These blades are still fine for general use, so save them for other tasks
- To produce any width trim you require, tape two scalpel blades to the appropriate thick ness piece of wood, to produce a two-pronged cutting tool of the correct width.



- To achieve a clean line between changes of covering colour, apply several layers of masking tape on top of each other to increase thickness, cut out the required shape and apply to the base covering. Apply the second layer over the top and then use the masking tape as a cutting guide.



- For perfect canopies, inset the canopy into the side of the airframe, fill any gaps then overlay the covering for a perfect finish.



- To cover outside corners: see diagram below

