

AEROBEE 300 29MM

FINISHING/PAINTING INSTRUCTIONS

This is a more detailed list of steps for finishing and painting your 29mm Aerobee 300 model than is given in the regular instruction sheet included in the kit.

The following will be needed to finish and paint your model:

Sandpapers (Medium - 180 or 220, Fine 320 or 400, & [optionally] Extra-Fine - 500 or 600); Sanding Sealer (or other balsa filler coat); Thinner (appropriate for the type of sanding sealer used); Small Paint Brush (to apply sealer); Spray Paint (such as Rust-Oleum, Krylon, or Testors is recommended. Be sure **not** to mix different types or brands of paint without testing.) - primer (optional), white, black, and clear (optional); dowel or newspaper (see below).

Recommended, but not required: Tack Cloth.

Optional: Material to fill body tube seams and/or any imperfections in wood parts, such as Elmer's Carpenters Wood Filler, Interior Spackling Paste, etc.

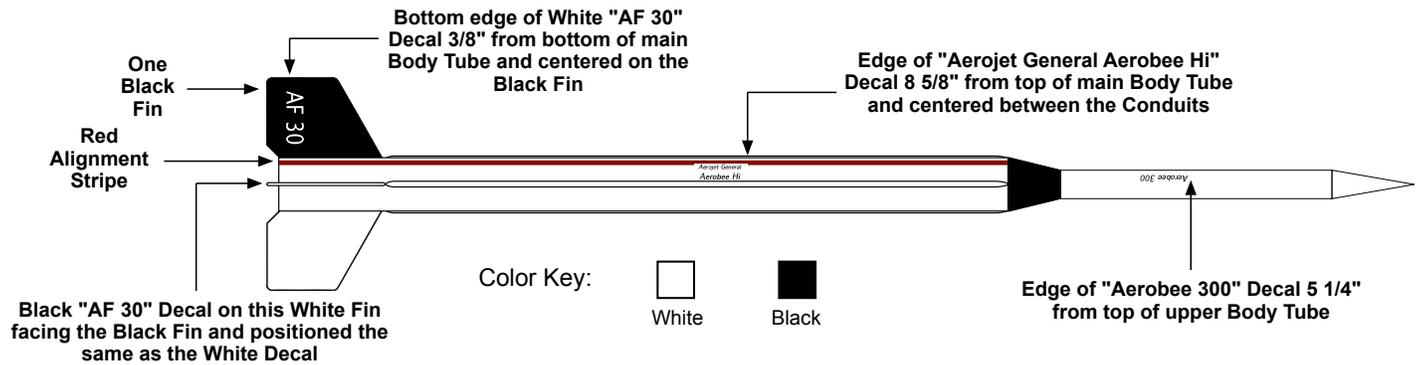
Look to see if there are any dents or dings in any of the wood parts, and apply one of the optional filler materials to these areas as needed. If you wish to fill the spiral seam in the body tube, you may do so now by applying a small amount of the filler along the seam. After all the filler is dry, sand the material with medium or fine sandpaper. Sand until the paste is flush with the surface. If needed, reapply the filler and sand again.

Be sure to read any instructions on the brand of sanding sealer you are using. Follow the manufacturers directions if they vary from those below. Be sure to use the thinner recommended by the manufacturer to clean your brush. Using fine sandpaper (then extra fine, if desired) go over all the wood parts to ensure they are smooth. Wrap a layer of cellophane or masking tape around the shoulder of the coupler (the part that goes into the main body tube) to prevent getting paint on the coupler. Insert the nose cone shoulder into the top of the short body tube (tape if needed for a snug fit). Next apply a coat of sanding sealer to all wood parts (it is not necessary to seal the nose cone shoulder). Allow the sealer to dry then apply a second coat. After the second coat is dry, sand with medium or fine sandpaper until the surfaces are smooth. Continue with single coats of sealer, sanding in between each coat, until the wood grain is completely filled and the surface is smooth.

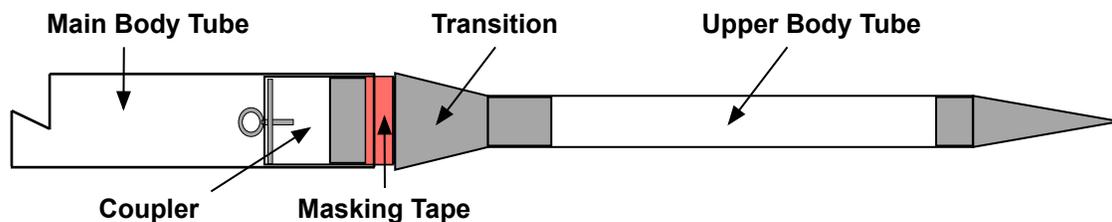
Before painting, wrap a strip or two of masking tape around the outside of the exposed engine tube to prevent getting paint on it (this will make it easier later to apply an external engine retention system if you are going to use one).

You will need to use something such as a dowel or a section of newspaper rolled into a tight cone inserted into the base of your model to hold it while painting. If desired, lightly go over the model with a tack cloth to remove any excess dust or other particles which could mar the finish. It is a good idea to do this before applying each coat of primer and paint. Be sure to read the instructions on the brand of paint you are using and follow the manufacturers directions carefully. Be sure **not** to mix different types or brands of paint without testing. It is recommended (but not absolutely necessary) that you apply one or more coats of primer before the color coats of paint. This will give a much smoother surface to your model and allow the paint to adhere better. If using primer, sand with fine and/or extra fine sandpaper after each coat is completely dry. Use as many coats as needed to get a smooth finish before proceeding to the color coats.

Refer to the diagram below as needed for painting scheme. First give a base coat of white to the entire model. Several light coats are preferable to one or two heavy coats (this will be true for *all* the colors you will be using). Apply as many coats as needed to get a nice even color. Allow to dry thoroughly.



Remove the upper section of the model and wrap a layer or two of masking tape around the top end of the coupler that is attached to the transition. Insert back into the top of the body tube down to the masking tape as shown below (this will make it easier to mask the transition section).



Mask off the entire model except for one fin to be painted black and the transition section. The remainder of the body and two of the fins should be totally covered. Paint the exposed fin and transition black and let dry.

When dry remove all the masking as well as the tape from the coupler.

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