

Invercargill Plastic Modellers Society Newsletter

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New from



HOW TO MAKE SCRATCH BUILT SEAT BELTS.

By Anthony Lorton

Here's how I do it ...

Ingredients for simple homemade seatbelts ...

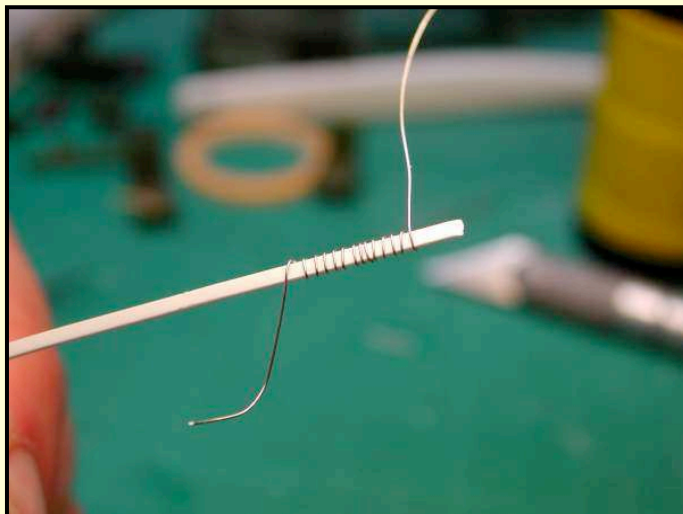
Materials ...

AIZU 1.0mm micron masking tape (or similar)
CA glue
CA kicker
Scrap piece of 1.0mm x 0.75mm Evergreen stripstyrene
5 amp fuse wire (or similar)

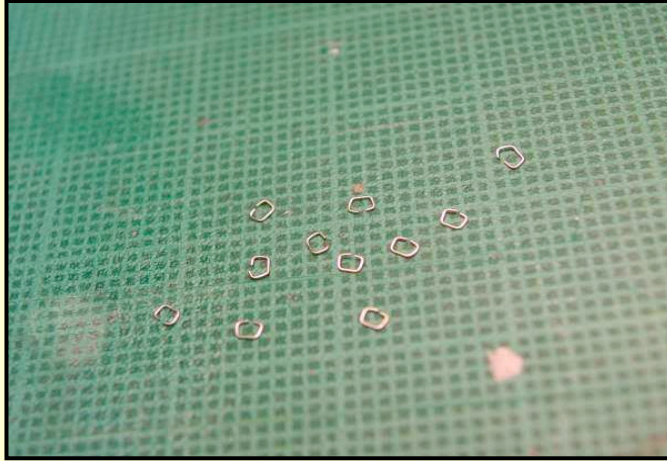
Tools ...

Side cutters
Model knife
Pin vice with needle (optional)
Cocktail stick (or similar for applying CA glue)
Tweezers
Locking tweezers

First you need to make your buckles out of the fuse wire. Simply cut off a length and wrap it around the scrap styrene in a spiral. You need to do it tightly enough so that the wire will take on the shape of the styrene i.e. a small rectangle.



Next, using your model knife, cut along the styrene, cutting through the wire. This will spread the links slightly which is what you want. It's easiest doing this with a curved blade. Then gently slide off your wire links. They will be a bit 'wonky'. Straighten them using the handle of your model knife as a rolling pin. You want the links to remain open slightly, as they're easier to handle that way. Once you put the links in place you can gently close them with tweezers and the join with either be hidden or barely visible.



Next you need to prepare the tape straps. You need two lengths of tape. The shorter one should be the length you want the finished item to be. The longer one should overlap about 4mm each end. Here I've used my prototype as a length guide.



Then stick the two bits of tape together so that you have sticky over laps at either end.



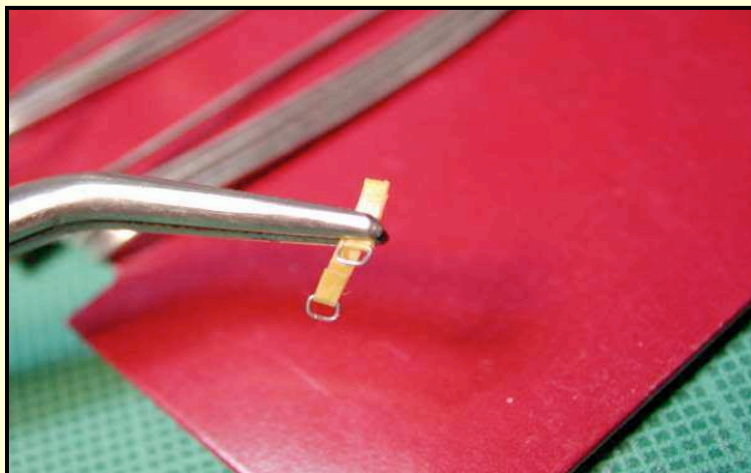
Next, take one of your wire links, feed it over the small sticky section of tape and fold the tape back onto itself, trapping the wire link so the join in the wire is hidden in the tape fold. At this point you could add some CA glue to the back of the tape to secure the end link.



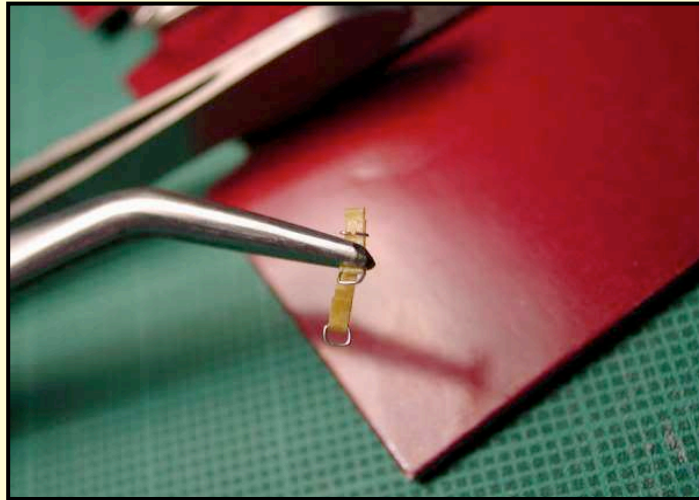
Then do the same at the other end.



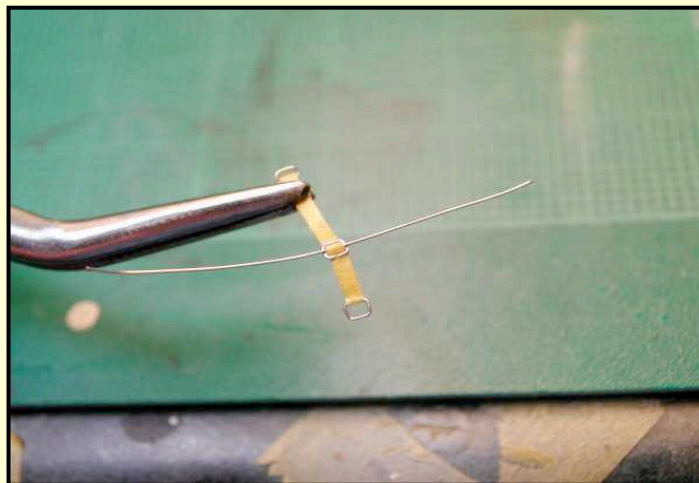
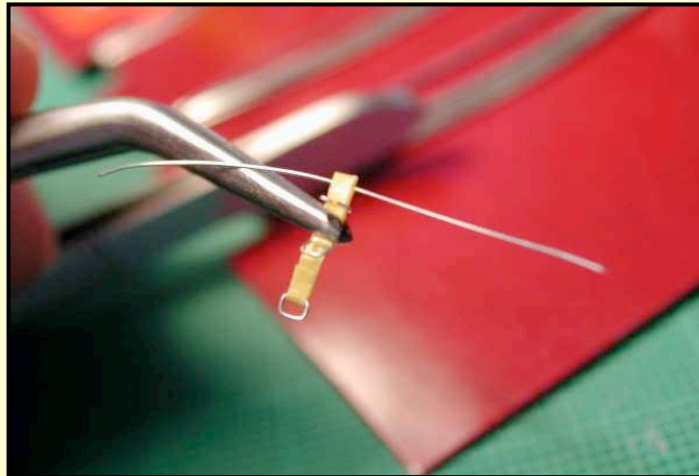
To make the 'adjuster' buckle, make a fold in the tape, where you want the adjusting buckle to be.



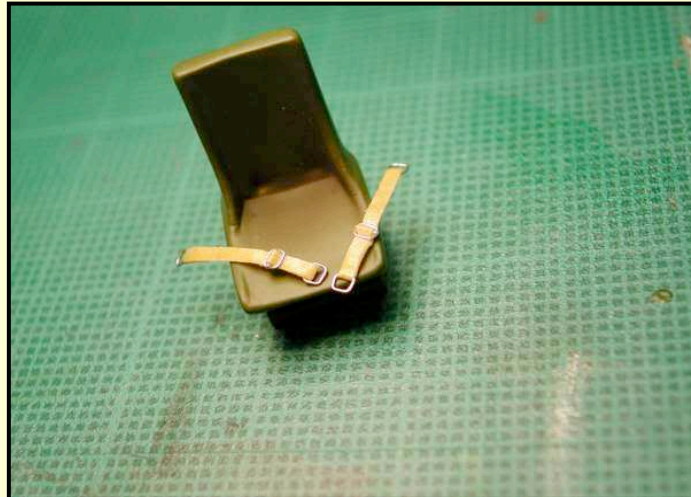
Take another wire link and thread the folded tape through it.



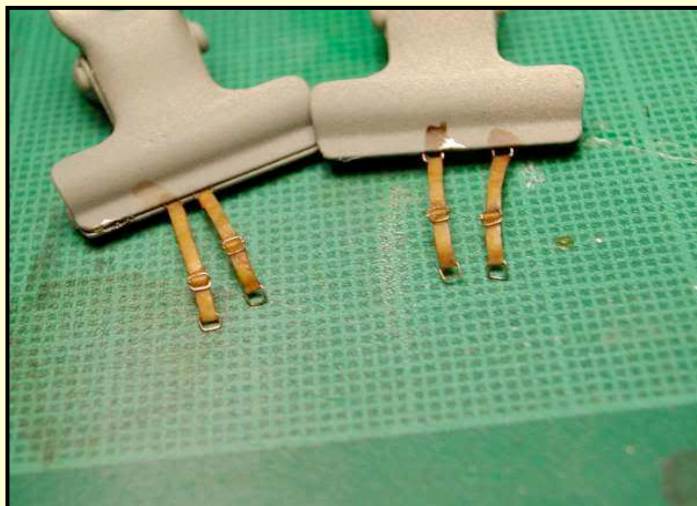
Poke a piece of the fuse wire through the fold and flatten the tape down again. You have to do this very gently or you'll distort the wire link.



Apply some CA glue to the back of the belt and use some kicker to cure it. Finally, cut off the excess fuse wire either side of the buckle and you're done.



If you want, you can use the needle in the pin vice to punch tiny holes in the belt to look like buckle holes. Rather than painting the belt and picking out the metal buckle, I prefer to use brown washes to stain the belt the colour I want. This way you retain the natural metal look of the links.



Stuck on the seats.



Club Trophy Competition

On Sunday the 5th of December 2010 IPMS Southland had their annual in house club trophy competition. A good afternoon was had by all with plenty of food and drink being consumed. The few models that were entered were of a high standard with the overall winner being Lester Kidd for his Junkers 87.

The 1st runner up was Rob Mills with his Staghound, 2nd runner up was Barry MacAskill with his Yamaha motorcycle.

Lester

Rob

Barry











Up & Coming

Work shops for the following two months

February 2011, the 14th & 28th.

March the 14th cancelled due to venue being used by a church group.

March the 28th workshop includes the photo studio being setup for those of you who would like photos taken of their most recent models. This will allow them to be used for up an coming issues of the magazine and the IPMS Southland web site.



REMINDER

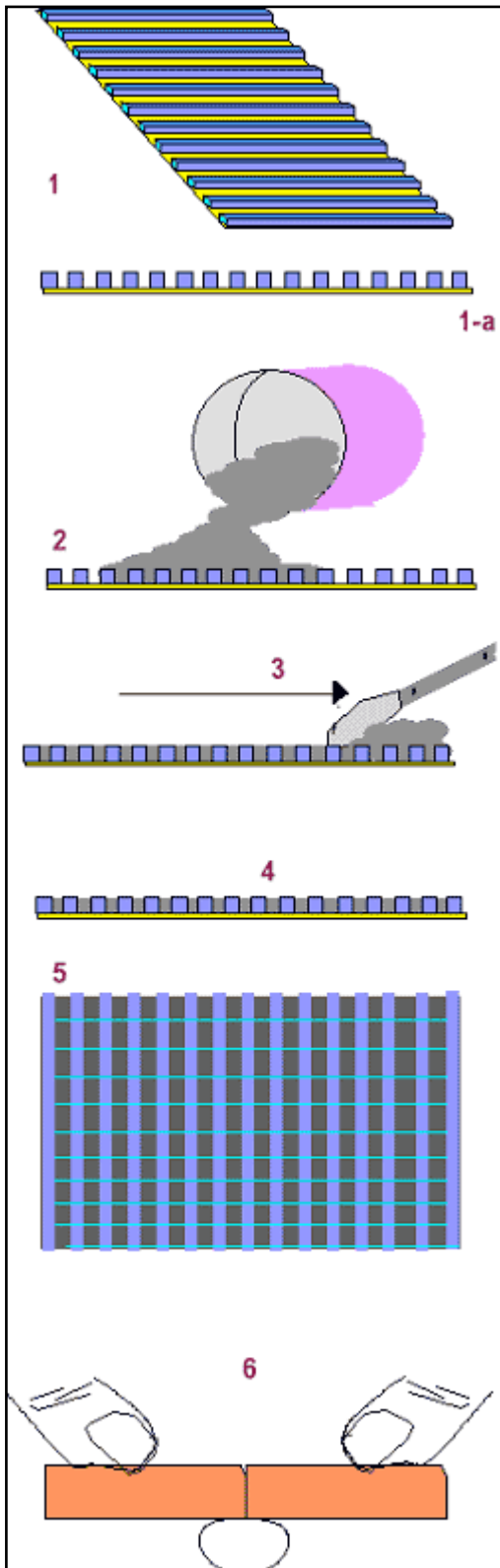
CLUB SUBSCRIPTION FEES FOR 2011 DUE NOW

ALL NEW 25% PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNT ON OFFER NOW. PAY YOUR SUBS BEFORE 28TH FEBRUARY 2011 TO RECEIVE THIS DISCOUNT. NORMAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES APPLY AFTER THIS DATE.

Enquiries or payments to Lester Kidd.

Make your own Bricks.

By Keith Magee



STEP 1: Glue strips of Plastruct or Evergreen styrene strips to a flat sheet of similar flat plastic.: The more rows you create, the more bricks you can cast at once. I prefer to use a strip that is about 1/8th inch high, and 6 inches long.

1a – this is a profile cross-section of what the finished Brick Jig should look like this. (NOTE: Before each use, I spray a little silicone release to the jig to make removal of the finished product a little easier.)

STEP 2: Lay the jig flat, and spoon in white Plaster of Paris (or pre-colored if you prefer), mixed as directed according to the manufacturer's recommended mixture. When in doubt, a little "wet" is better than "too dry" of a mixture. Once the entire surface is covered, tap the jig sharply several times to help trapped air bubbles rise up.

Step 3: Once you have de-bubbled the mixture, use a wet flat blade to smooth the exposed top surface of the mixture. Try to keep your blade clean and wet, as this will help smooth out the bricks, and will also provide the cleanest "brick stick"... the less flash you have to clean up, the better, right?

Step 4: Completely "dressed" surface, ready for indention

Step 5: As the mixture begins to set up a little bit, take a sharp blade, such as a Xacto Knife, and run a deep horizontal line across the length of the plastic form. This should leave a permanent score-line in the mixture. I find keeping a 1:35 figure nearby helps me to keep the desired size of the bricks in mind, although you can also cut in pre-measured lengths of 1/4th inch, if you want to be highly precise. Now let the entire form sit for 24-48 hours to fully cure rock-hard. Once dry, pop out each brick stick.

Step 6: Rather than "paint" my brick sticks, I prefer to use a tinted stain that is soaked into the brick throughout. Then I can simply break apart the bricks by placing the score line over a pencil, and pressing down with my

Coming Next Issue

How to make a snow Diorama



... **AND MUCH**
MORE!