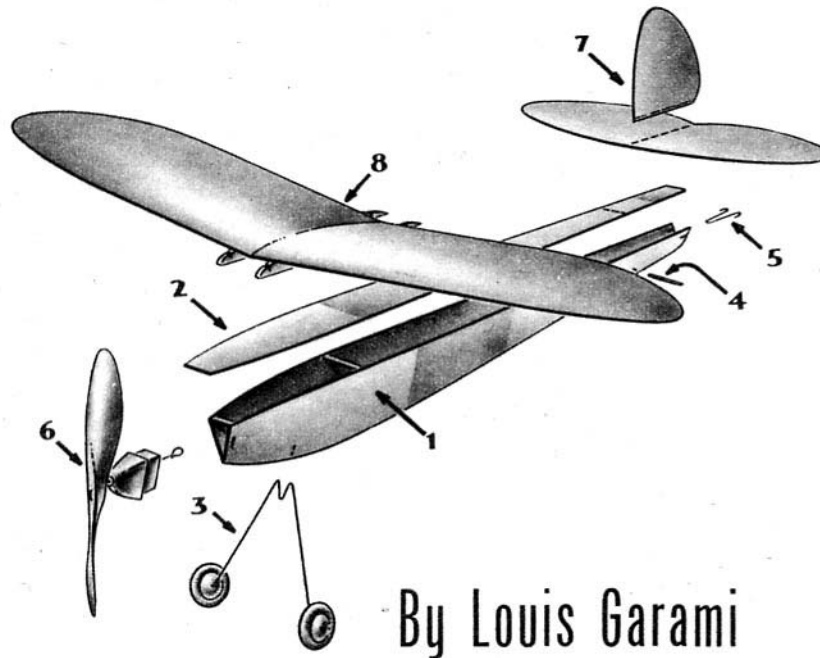


# The Falcon



THE modeler usually feels that he is out of the beginner's class upon completion of his first "fuselage" model. And rightly so for he can expect improved performance and more realism in return for his efforts. Here is the ideal first fuselage model for beginners and one that will also please advanced builders too. Even weight distribution is important to carefully select sheet balsa of the same even, light texture. Avoid the use of hard balsa for this model. Using three-inch-width sheet, cut wing halves, tail group, and fuselage sides and top from the full-size patterns included in the plans. Lightly sand the edges, smoothing the curves. Fuselage sides and wing halves may be sanded in pairs.

Make a sanding block of medium sandpaper and, by placing the wing halves and tail-group parts on a flat surface, taper the 1/16" sheet to 1/32" thickness toward the tips. Cement 1/16" square strips to the rudder base for additional support when it is cemented to the stabilizer.

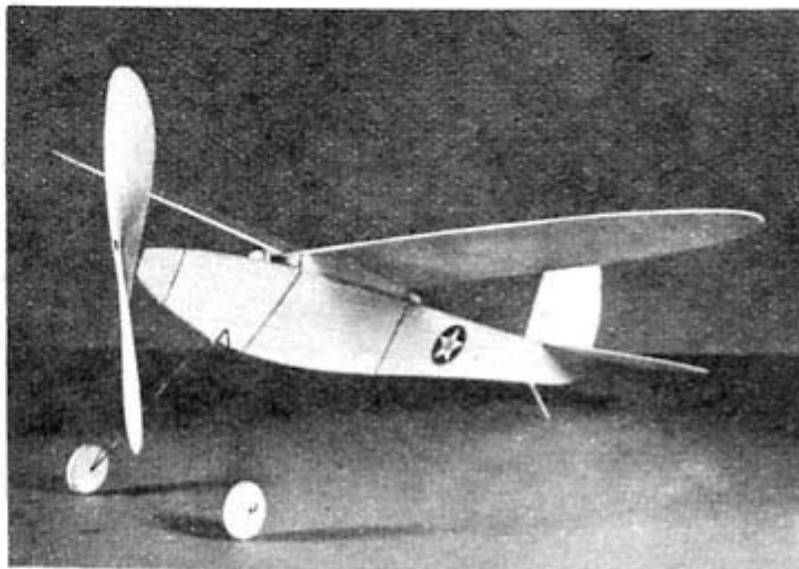
Carve the nose block of soft balsa to exact dimensions shown on the plans. Sandpaper it lightly and smear cement around the front for reinforcement.

Cut two wing formers from 1/8" sheet. Bend landing gear, propeller shaft and rear hook. Obtain a ready-carved seven-inch propeller from your model dealer or whittle your own from the

block shown on the plans. Strip a small splint of cane or bamboo for a tail skid.

Now that all parts are prepared, the model may be easily completed by referring to the assembly sketch.

Equip the model with four strands of 1/8" flat rubber with little or no slack so that the nose plug and rear hook will stay snugly in place. Loop small rubber bands around the fuselage and over the wing former notches. Shift the wing along the fuselage until the model hangs level when held by the wing tips. Test-glide the model over a grassy spot, shifting the wing until the model glides smoothly. The best procedure is to limit first flights to a few turns; any final adjustments are made before winding to capacity. Let us know how she flies!



P.S.

*Please remember that the following plans are presented at a reduced size. The original Air Trails magazine was presented in large (ie Life Magazine) format. The Falcon should have a 18 3/4" wingspan.*

*Kenny*

