

Notes from Mr. Anthony G. Sanchez on Detailing the Wright Flyer I

My intention in building this model was to use common everyday items that can be found around most homes. I did not want to get hung up in having custom made pieces for this model. This approach required that I keep my eyes open for any little do-dad or piece of "junk" that crossed my path.

I raided my wife's sewing box and found needles, pins, thread, buttons, pieces of stuff that she didn't even know what it was. I have a box of "things I will fix someday" and found all sorts of usable stuff. I took apart an old record player that wasn't working, an old telephone, a couple of older watches, an older clock, an old small electric motor for the wiring. Mostly items that people were tossing out. You have to learn how to look at the world thru a different set of eyes when you build like this.

I did stop by a doll house store and found some interesting items that were supposed to be used for a doll house diorama. The pulley wheels for the horizontal stabilizer were from something that was supposed to be a farm tool for a miniature farm house.

If you look closely at the pictures of the engine you'll see pin heads, glass beads, pieces of copper wire, insulated wire, part of an ink cartridge from an old pen, a piece of spring from an old pen. All kinds of stuff that was headed for and sometimes already in the trash can! There really is no one right way to build a model like this. If it looks good, I use it.

I know that there are some things that are not accurate and true to scale. In some cases I just couldn't find the right reference material and had to guess. Since I built this model nearly 12 years ago I have found answers to some of the unknowns. When I build my next Wright Flyer, I'll get it a little closer.

I hope you all enjoy building your own Wright Flyer. – *Anthony Sanchez*