Flight Stand Project

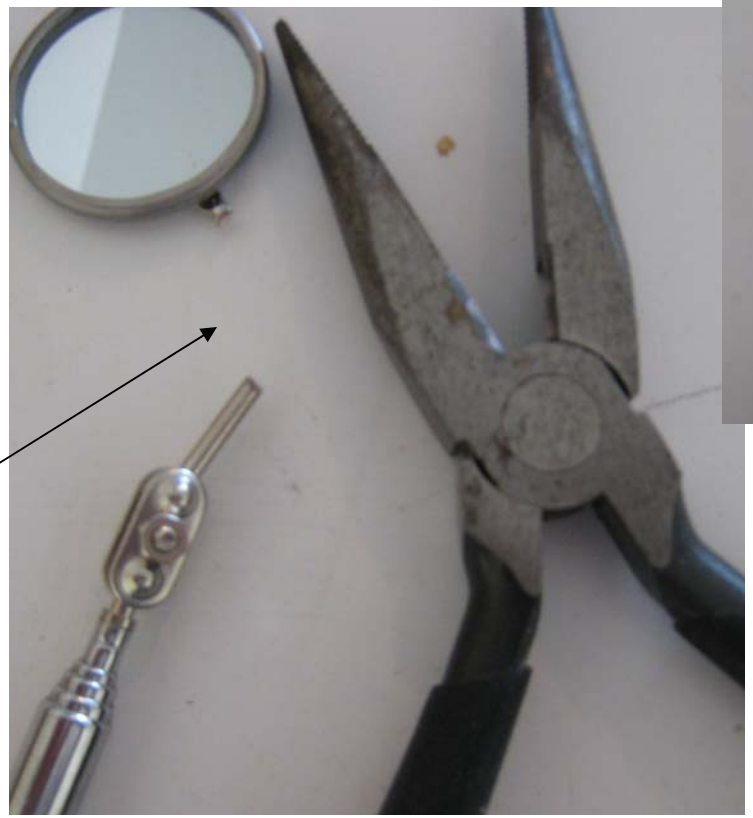
3D flight stands for around $3.00 each suitable for the 1/144th aircraft.

Flight Stand Project

Requirements

- 3” inch hex bases
- Hold securely WOW 1/144th aircraft (without modifying the models)
- Extendable for various altitudes
- Articulated to represent diving, climbing, inverted etc…

The first thing to find was a low cost "telescoping" mirror. These are available at Harbor Freight for $1.99.



Clip the wire holding the mirror, but leave it long for mounting the airplane.

Grind or sand off any sharp edges - recommended

Cut a 3” strip of ¾” particle board.

Then set the radial arm saw to a 30 degree angle. Make sure it is accurately, or you will not get a good hexagon!

Drill a 5/16” hole in the center.

Flip the hex over and drill four ¾” holes (Forstner bit works best for this).

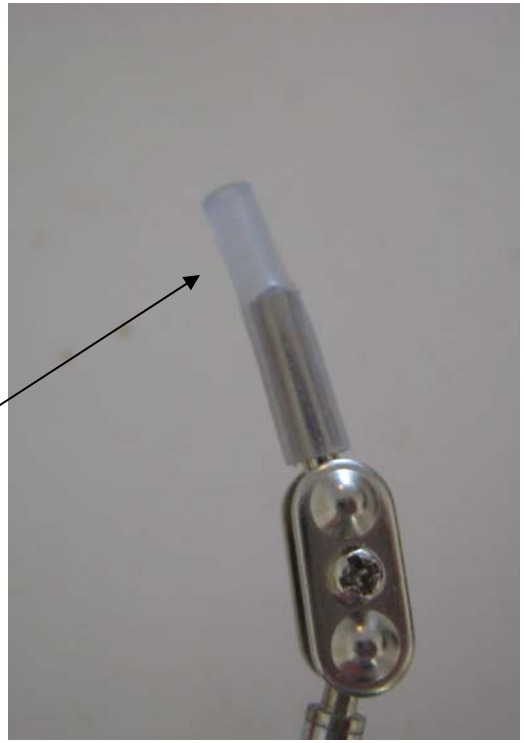
Invented by Benjamin Forstner

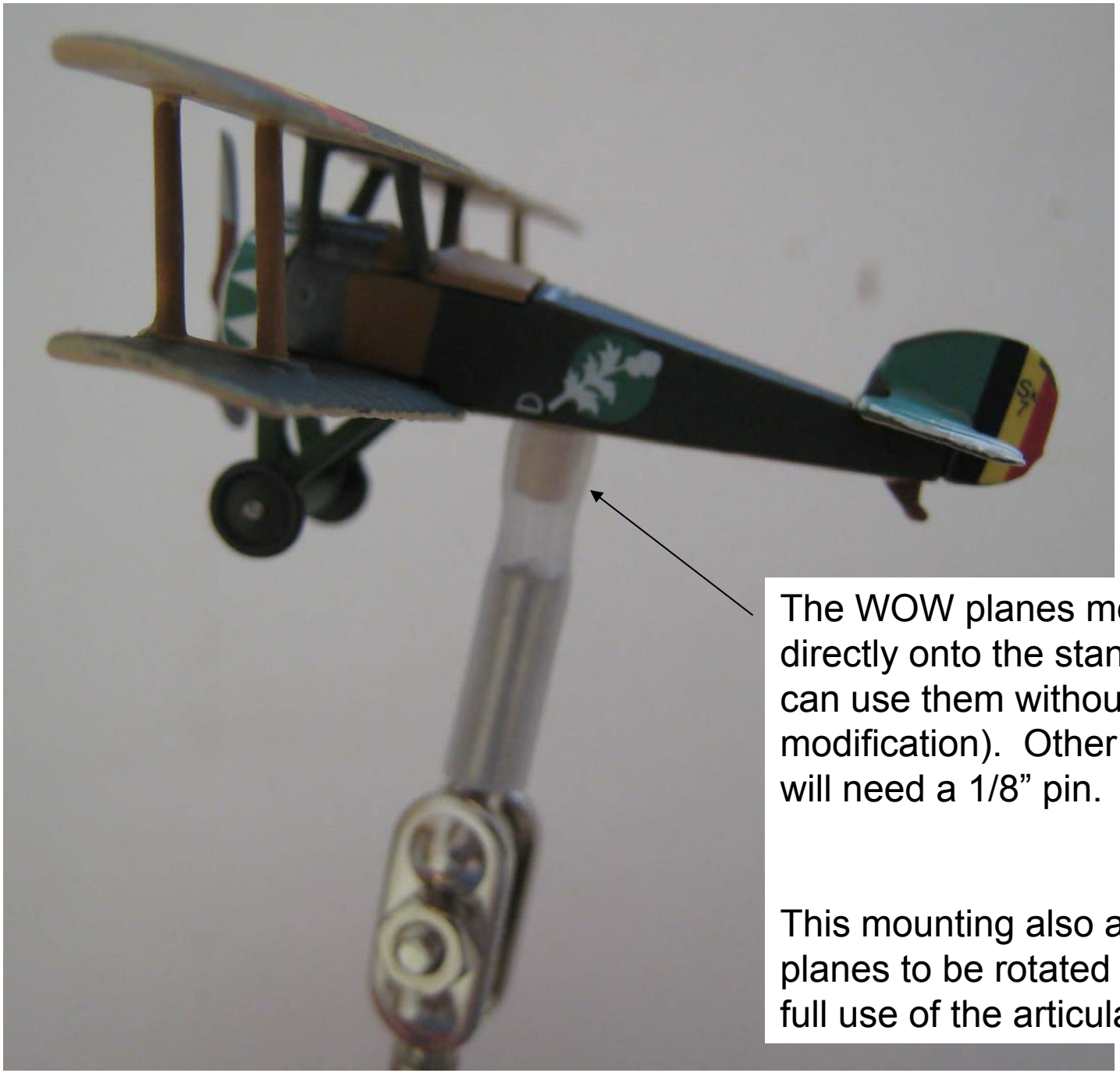
For added mass fill the holes with about 10 pennies each.

Pour wood glue over the top of the pennies.

Now you need some rubber fuel line from the local hobby shop. This cost about $0.80 per foot. Cut about ¾” of tubing.

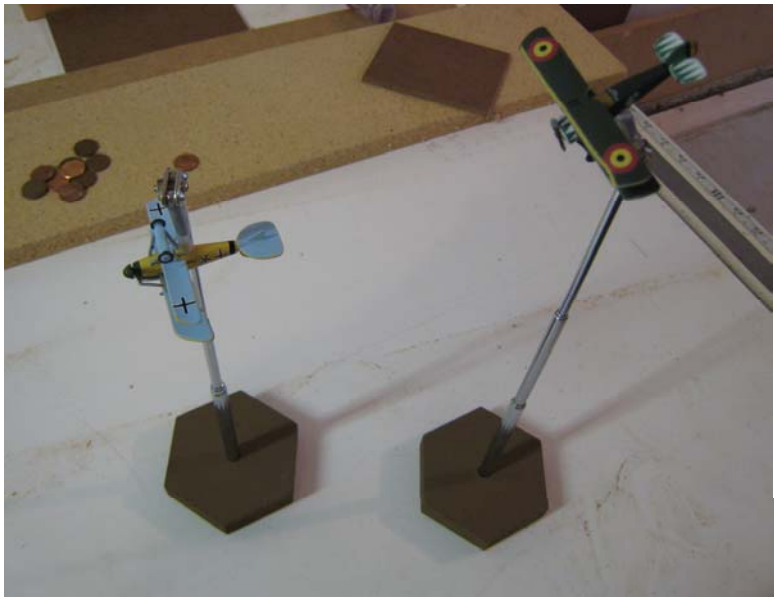
Slide the tubing onto the stub left from removing the mirror. Leaving about ¼” overhanging the end.





The WOW planes mount directly onto the stand (so you can use them without modification). Other kit planes will need a 1/8” pin.

This mounting also allows the planes to be rotated to make full use of the articulated joint.



The mounted planes can be positioned in a dive, climb, bank, and even inverted position.

The base can be decorated or painted to match the playing mat.

The “front” of the hex should be painted in an easily distinguished color.

Estimated project costs per base:

$1.99 for telescoping mirror

$0.05 worth of fuel line

$0.40 in pennies

$0.50 worth of particle board,
but of course if you have to buy it you will end up with a much larger piece than necessary.

$??? whatever you decide to paint, flock or decorate the base with.

To answer a question from TMP. No the mechanical arm is not fully articulated it bends only in 1D (one plane). However because the fuel line tube can be rotated, you can pretty much position the plane in almost any orientation (even while inverted).