

GETTING STARTED

Develop an appropriate advertising media program for the course within your local community using flyers, newspaper ads, Chapter web sites, etc. Determine and purchase all necessary common items to complete the model.

To properly present this course you must choose a classroom that will allow you to present 6 consecutive classes on the same day and time to keep continuity, this is critical. Other factors to consider include sufficient lighting; cleanup requirements and the willingness of the facility to allow airbrushing. Your choice of model must be the same for all students from the same manufacturer allowing you to write a step-by-step instruction manual to direct your students during each class. All the students must be at the same place in construction during each class according to your course outline. The course was primarily designed around the Tamiya 1/48 A6M2 Zero. You do not have to use this model, but bear in mind the model you do choose must be of decent quality. Do not subject the beginner to an ill-fitting model, or one that is too complex, as this will re-enforce the perception that building is not that easy and certainly not fun.

Prior to starting the course the instructors must first construct the model and record the steps needed for the club's instruction manual. Take special care in noting the time constraints needed in drying time for glue, seam fillers, painting, decals, etc. and take into account you are teaching inexperienced builders. You will almost certainly deviate from the manufacturer's assembly plans because of the time constraints involved. When you are finished with the sample model and satisfied with the instruction booklet invite a club member to construct another model under the instructor's direction using the instruction booklet. This will allow you to correct any problem areas that may arise. It may seem trivial to experienced builders but testing the local club assembly manual is an important step.

The Chapter should provide examples of "after market" decals, resin conversion parts, photo etched parts, white metal parts, contemporary modeling magazines including the IPMS/USA Journal, and additional reference materials pertaining to the subject model kit. This will allow the student to become exposed to the use of reference materials in completing a highly advanced and detailed model.

The IPMS/Ocala ABC's

The lesson plans and other items contained in this manual were developed after gaining experience in conducting a number of ABC's using the Tamiya 1/48 scale A6m2 Zero kit. The lesson plans for the six class sessions were revised to account for drying time of glues, putty's, and paints, and differ from the kit construction plans. These lesson plans can be adapted to any kit that your Chapter may choose.

NOTE

At no time shall any assistant instructor use different construction materials (Glue, filler etc.) or techniques during the course other than those specified by the lead instructor. After the course is completed you may demonstrate your personal techniques with the student using your preferred materials so they may find what they are most comfortable using. This is critical. Too much thrown at the beginners in so short a time can be detrimental. "Graduate" classes can be planned to expand and broaden the graduate's abilities once the basic course has been successfully completed.