

In reading through an old issue of the Clodbusters Newsletter, I came across an idea which is very much worth sharing. If you can't find a blast tube of the size you want to use, wrap some heavy plastic sheet around a dowel. Before you wrap the plastic around the dowel, you'll need to drill some holes in several blocks, of either hard wood or hard balsa, which are the outside dimensions of the blast tube you want. As soon as you get the plastic wrapped around the dowel, slip the blocks with the holes in them along the length of the blast tube, spacing them close enough to give a reasonably smooth result, and let the plastic unroll to fill those holes. Then, apply glue to the edge of the plastic to hold it in that shape. Once the glue dries, slip the dowel out and remove the blocks. One type of glue that I've found works well with plastic is called E-6000, which is available at Michaels and many hobby shops. When using this blast tube, it would probably be prudent to ensure that the tube is oriented in a manner that the inside flap of plastic is running the same direction as your motor is when you're winding it to avoid it catching on the motor. If the motor blows, the glue will retain the action of the motor.