WING AND STAB INCIDENCE ANGLES
Author Unknown

An article published in the September 2005 issue of the FAC Newsletter, Lin Reichel, Editor

One of the great failings of many early model kits and magazine plans was to show both wing and stabilizer at zero degrees incidence. The likelihood of a model being able to fly if built to plan with both wing and stabilizer set at zero degrees (as shown on most old “Dime Scale” plans) is slim to none. As an assist for builders of Dime Scale models built from these old plans, and for scratch-builders drawing up their own plans, here are some rules of thumb for incidence angles that can be used as a starting point.

In almost all cases, there should be a difference in incidence angle between the wing and stabilizer of about three degrees. The three degrees is relative, depending on the location of the wing with respect to the thrust line of the model. Here are three generic sets of incidence angles, depending on whether the model is a high wing, mid-wing, or low-wing model, that can be used as a starting point.