

GETTING A SANDPAPER PAINT JOB ON YOUR MODEL

By George White

With each model I build, I inevitably get a reminder that I'm still on the back side of the learning curve. I recently built Bob Isaacks' designed T6B Texan — his was really a T6A, but being a Navy guy, I couldn't bring myself to put an Air Force paint job on it, hence a T6B. Finding day-glow orange paint with which to finish the model was not an easy task. My local friendly hobby shop had only Model Master Fluorescent Red Orange enamel, which was very close, but not exact. I should have left well enough alone and used that, mixing it with nitrate. No — I had to look for day-glow orange. Browsing through the Michael's store, I made what I thought was a real find — a half size rattle can of SCS-050 Glow Orange Krylon paint. Bad news!! No matter how I applied it, the finish felt like a concrete sidewalk. The model now looks great if you don't try to look too close or feel the finish.

Here's the kicker. I mentioned this problem to Rich Adams in Dallas and Andy Whitam, a local guy, and they both said "Oh, yes, I've had the same result with Krylon color paint. That brings to mind the old Pennsylvania Dutch saying — "Too soon old, too late smart."