

TISSUE INSIGNIA

An article by Mike Myers, Editor of the July 2007 issue of Flight Plug, the newsletter of the Southern California Ignition Flyers

Mark Fineman has a well deserved reputation as an excellent source of techniques on building, covering and decorating scale rubber models. Here's Mark Fineman on a new approach to insignia for tissue covered models:

"Here's a different take on tissue insignia. For many years now, I've been using paper insignia rather than the tissue variety. They are easy to make and look great. I start with artwork printed out on my color inkjet printer. The insignia files come from various sources, but I like vector files that I edit with CorelDraw or Corel Photo Paint. Once the insignia are printed, I have color copies made at Staples and file the original artwork away for future use. This is an important step because inkjet ink is water soluble; the laser color copy toners are not. Place lots of the same insignia on a single page in case you need extras. The back of the insignia sheet is gently sanded with fine grit sandpaper in order to thin the paper. By holding it up to the light, you'll see it getting thinner as you proceed, If you make a mistake, like pitting an insignia, don't worry 'cause there should be many others to work with on the page.

Then carefully cut out individual insignia from the sanded sheet. Spray the back of one with 3M mounting spray adhesive, available at craft and art supply stores. Position the insignia on your model and apply it. Go easy on the adhesive, so that it doesn't ooze out. A small piece of paper towel over the insignia will help you press down on it without making a mess. Because the decorations are made of paper, they look right on tissue, even better than water slide decals, I think."