

Mini Cat

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preferable. The throttle torque rod also must be loose, since the pulse system doesn't have quite the torque of a propo system. No difficulties with the pulse servos were encountered at any speed range, and the Mini can move out. Both systems weighed about the same, and the Mini Cat came out at two lb., five oz.

Construction

The fuselage is simple, light, and strong, in contrast to many small RC models which, in order to save weight, are structurally fragile. The doublers on the Mini Cat are $\frac{1}{32}$ " ply. Contact cement was used since it is quick to set up and will not warp the balsa as the water soluble glues do. Attach the nose gear before installing the firewall with epoxy. The Mini Cat steers surprisingly well with a fixed nose gear. The nose wheel and gear are offset $\frac{3}{16}$ in. to the right on the firewall. This will counteract the left torque on takeoff.

The wing construction is standard. In place of the $\frac{1}{16}$ " sheet ribs usual on a model of this size, $\frac{3}{32}$ " sheet ribs were used. Cap strips are eliminated. The Mini Cat wing is covered with MonoKote and weighs only five and one half oz. Be sure to use selected hard spars for a true strong wing. The aileron may be installed now or later. The tail assembly is simple and easy to construct. Take care in selecting the wood and in aligning fin and rudder.

Flying the Mini Cat is sheer joy! No problem areas have been found. It is fast and responsive with the Webra 20, but the glide and landing approach are slow and easy — much different from many smaller birds, which seem to fall out of the air when power is pulled back. The Mini Cat uses the same airfoil as the Aristo-Cat, and this accounts for its ease of handling.

For a really fun bird which is easily assembled in a week, almost all out of the scraps box, try the Mini Cat. You will have a ball with it — as I have had.
