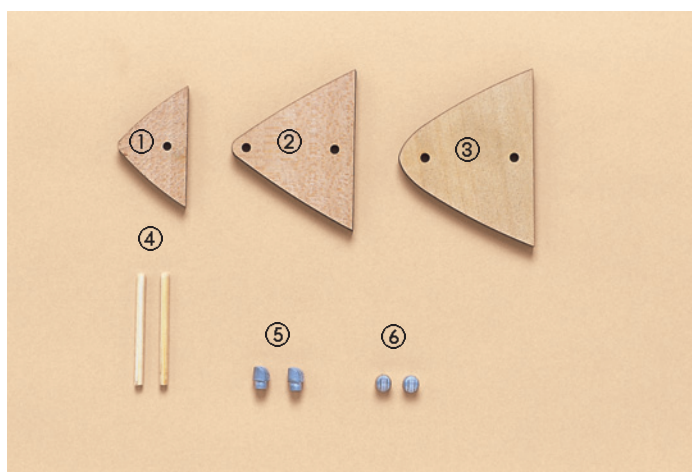
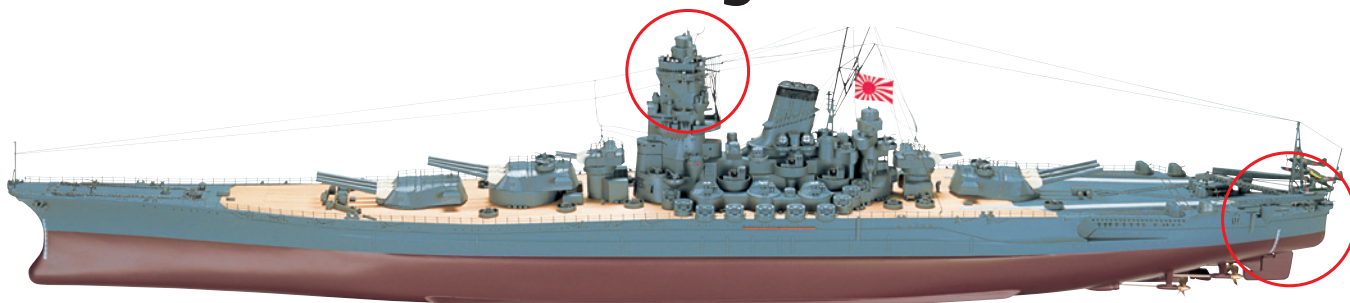




The stern block and searchlight control towers



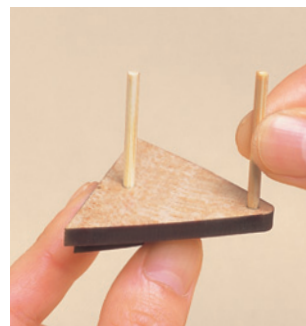
- ① Stern block no. 1
- ② Stern block no. 2
- ③ Stern block no. 3
- ④ Round rod x 2
- ⑤ Searchlight control tower (with base) x 2
- ⑥ Searchlight control tower (without base) x 2

For assembling the pieces 1–3, refer to the 1:1 scale plan on page 39.

Recommended tools and materials

- Wood glue
- Sandpaper (no. 800 grain)
- Metal file
- Putty
- Craft knife
- For metal: Super Glue Gel or Two-part epoxy glue
- Metal primer
- Battleship-grey model-making spray paint
- Model-making watercolours (matt black and battleship grey)
- Fast-drying glue
- Tweezers
- Paint brush

3 Insert the second rod no. 4 in the other hole in block no. 2 and fix firmly with fast-drying glue.

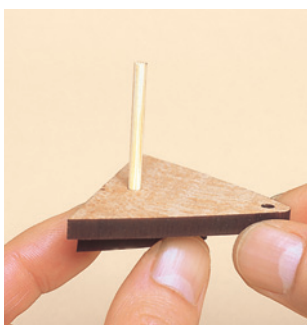


THE STERN BLOCK

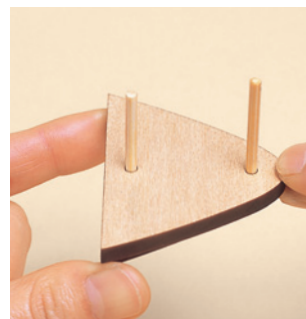
1 Place block no. 1, as shown in the photo. Insert rod no. 4 in the hole and fix firmly with fast-drying glue.



2 Take what was assembled in the previous step, as shown in the photo. After applying wood glue to piece no. 2, set it on block no. 1. Align the two pieces along the base.



4 Place what was assembled in the previous step, as shown in the photo, and, after applying wood glue, set block no. 3 on the assembly. Thread it on the rods and align it with the other two blocks.

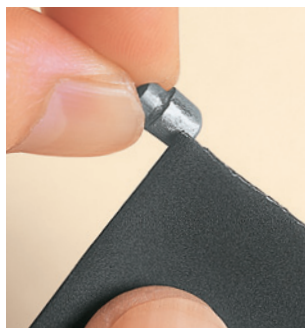


SEARCHLIGHT CONTROL TOWERS

5 Smooth the searchlight control towers (5) with the metal file, eliminating irregularities; the bottom of the piece must be flat. Remember that too much pressure can leave marks, which may be difficult to erase.



6 Smooth pieces no. 5 with grain no. 800 sandpaper, taking care not to scratch the original reliefs.



11 Where it is difficult to reach with sandpaper, use the craft knife, which can also be used for modelling the edges. Take extra care not to cut your fingers.



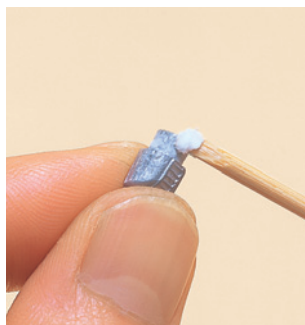
7 Where it is difficult to reach with sandpaper, use the craft knife, which can also be used for modelling the edges. **When using the craft knife, be extra careful not to cut your hand or your fingers.**



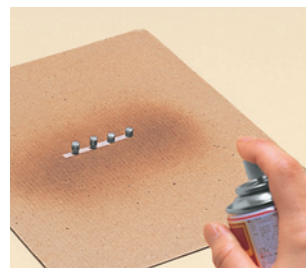
12 If piece no. 6 shows any irregularities, apply a thin layer of putty over the entire surface. As it dries, the putty may shrink and leave hollows: in this case, repeat the operation. When the putty is completely dry, smooth with grain no. 800 sandpaper to eliminate excess putty and obtain the required surface.



8 If pieces no. 5 show any irregularities, apply a thin layer of putty over the entire surface. As it dries, the putty may shrink and leave hollows: in this case, repeat the operation.



13 Now paint pieces no. 5 and no. 6. After fixing them on cardboard with double-sided adhesive tape, as shown in the photo, spray metal primer evenly from a distance of 30cm.

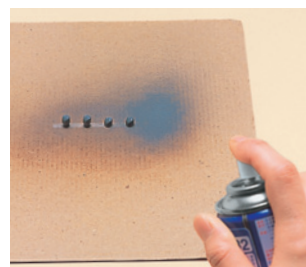


When using metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

9 When the putty is completely dry, smooth with grain no. 800 sandpaper to eliminate excess putty and obtain the required surface.



14 When the metal primer is completely dry, apply a thin and uniform coat of battleship grey model-making spray paint, keeping the canister about 30cm away. Let it dry thoroughly.

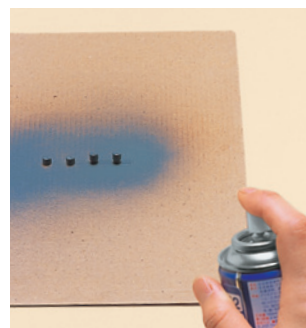


When using model-making spray paint, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

10 Now prepare pieces no. 6. Remove irregularities with the metal file, remembering that the bottom must be flat. Do not use too much force. Then, smooth pieces no. 6 with grain no. 800 sandpaper, taking care not to scratch the original reliefs.



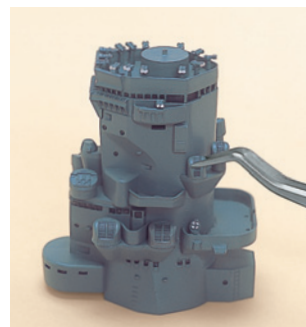
15 Spray again evenly and change direction several times. Be careful that the paint does not fill in the original small reliefs.



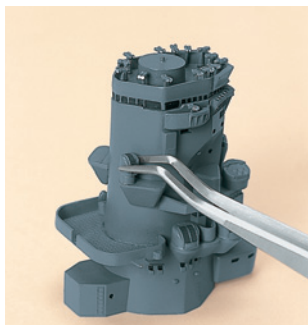
16 After attaching the no. 5 and no. 6 pieces to a strip of wood with double-sided adhesive tape, as shown in the photo, paint the inside of the front cavity. Mix equal parts of battleship grey and matt black model-making watercolours. Apply the paint with the tip of the brush, using a small quantity of paint to prevent smudging.



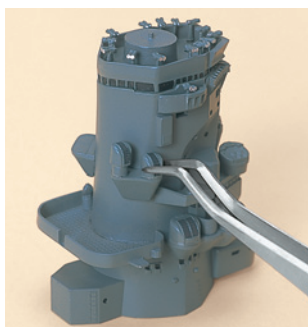
19 Proceed as in Steps 17 and 18 and glue the remaining pieces no. 5 and no. 6 on the opposite side.



17 Place the command bridge as shown in the photo and use metal glue to fix piece no. 5 on the starboard base, towards the stern. The base of the piece must be aligned with the edge of the base of the command bridge; the front must face the side of the ship.



18 Now glue piece no. 6 on the base on the other side of the command bridge, in the direction of the bow. The base of the piece must be aligned with the edge of the base of the command bridge; the front must face the side of the ship.

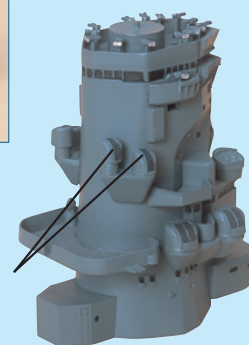


COMPLETED PIECES

STERN BLOCK

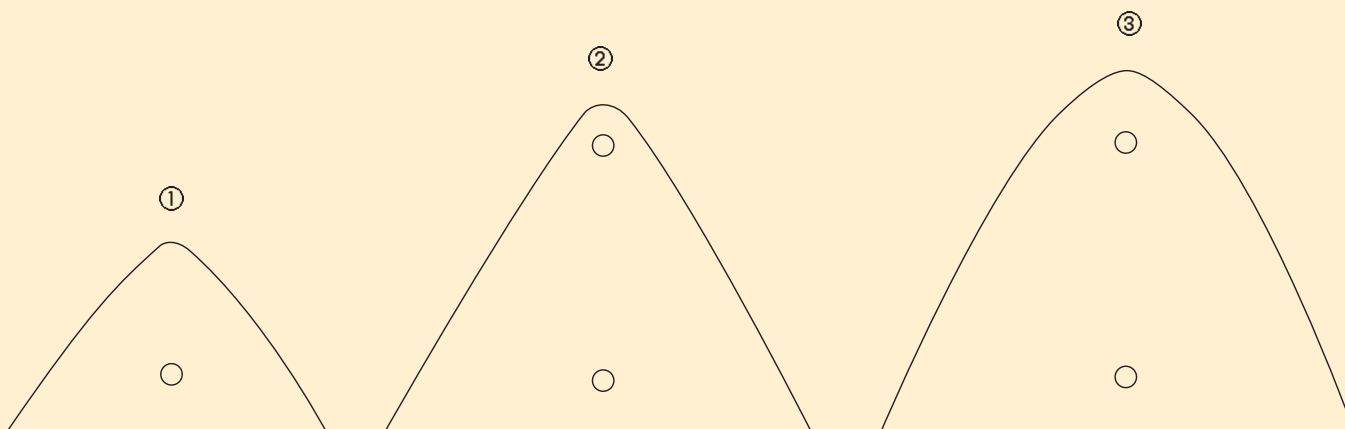


Searchlight control towers



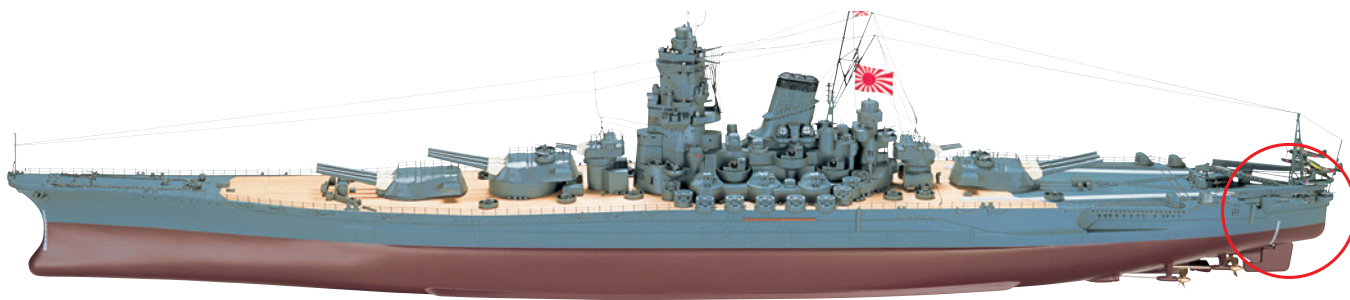
BRIDGE

PIECES OF THE STERN BLOCK IN 1:1 SCALE





The stern block



- ① Stern block no. 4
- ② Stern block no. 5
- ③ Stern block no. 6
- ④ Stern block no. 7
- ⑤ Stern block no. 8

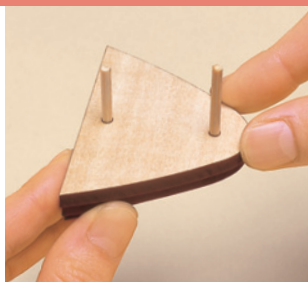
Recommended tools and materials

- Wood glue
- Sandpaper (no. 400 grain)
- Craft knife

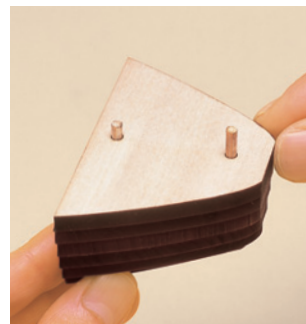
For assembling the pieces 1–5, refer to the 1:1 scale plan on page 42.

THE STERN BLOCK

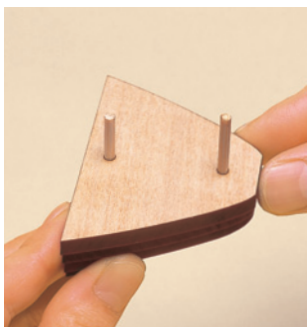
20 Take the already built stern block as shown in the photo. Apply wood glue to block no. 4 (1) and set it on block no. 3. Align the pieces and press down firmly so that the join is tight.



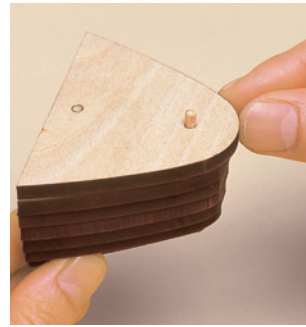
23 Now glue block no. 7 (4) onto block no. 6 (3).



21 In the same way, glue block no. 5 (2) onto block no. 4 (1), aligning it with the blocks below.



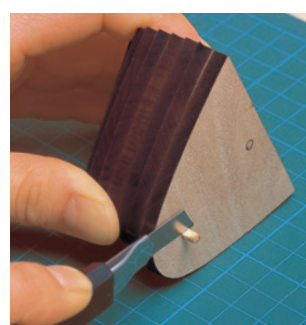
24 Finally, glue block no. 8 (5) onto block no. 7 (4).



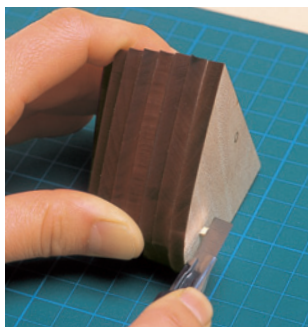
22 In the same way, glue block no. 6 (3) onto block no. 5 (2), aligning it with the blocks placed previously.



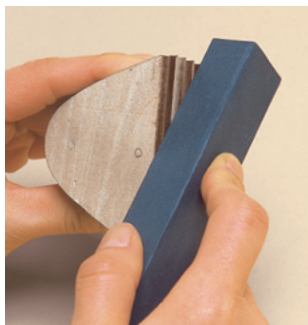
25 With the craft knife, trim off the protruding part of the rods in stages. Rest the blade on the flat surface of the last block and cut lightly.



26 Now cut the rod downwards from above to reach the previous cut and removed the loose piece. Repeat the operation several times, removing the rod one piece at a time.



27 Smooth the flat surface of the stern block with the sandpaper. It may be easier if you wrap the paper around a block of wood.



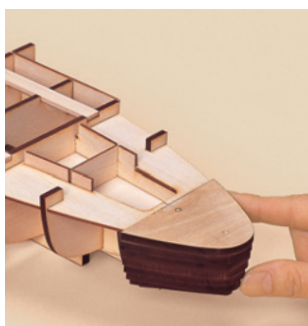
30 Begin work on the ends of the stern block. With the blade of the craft knife held at an angle, trim lightly, avoiding deep cuts. **When using the craft knife, be extra careful not to cut your hand or your fingers.**



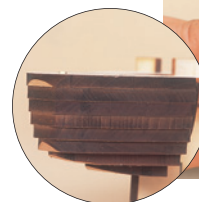
31 Work on the bottom side of the stern block, trimming it to obtain a gradual curve. Smooth the stern block around the wooden rods.



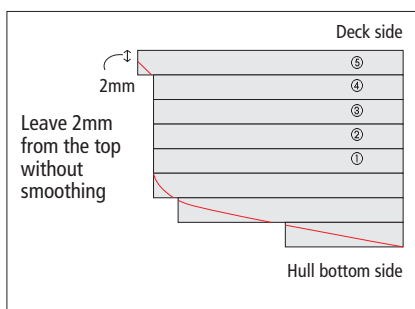
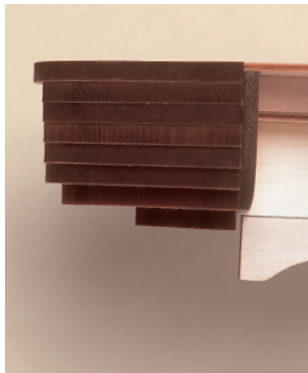
28 Take the hull and place the stern block against frame no. 18. You must get the faces of the two pieces to stick firmly, so that the upper profile of both match one another. After checking that the stern block is centred in relation to the sides of the hull, apply glue and fix.



32 Once the correct contour is achieved, remove the protruding part of the rods, following the procedure in Steps 25 and 26.



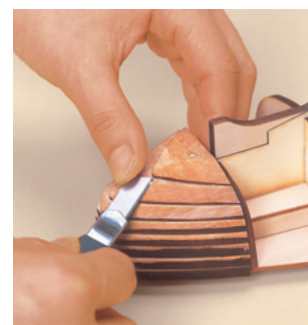
29 Reduce the stern block by trimming down the outline. As the profile of the sides will be finished after fixing the outer plating on the hull, excessive reduction at this point would make retouching necessary. It is better to smooth the block leaving a margin of safety. The final finishing of the sides also includes reduction of the step between one layer and another of the stern block, as shown in the diagram (right). We therefore recommend leaving on part of the original darker colour (also see the photo with Step 36).



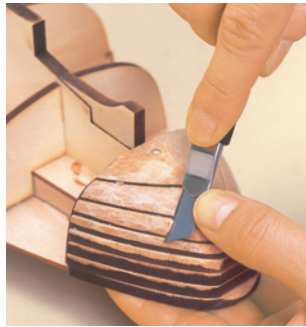
33 Trim the sides of the stern block. Be careful not to use too much force as it is easy to cut too deeply along the grain.



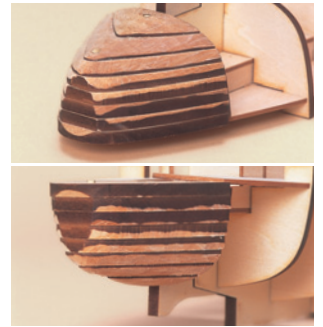
34 The bottom side of the stern block is easier to smooth with the blade of the craft knife held as shown in the photo. Trim so that the joint of the surfaces of the base make a natural curve with the side edges.



35 Repeat the process in Steps 33 and 34 on the opposite side, so that the shape is symmetrical. Begin with an initial rough trim, then go on to a finer finish, trying to keep a uniform outline on both sides of the hull.



36 Continue until you obtain the approximate shape shown in the photo. Further refinement will be made after applying the outer plating of the hull. Over-trimming can be corrected by applying putty.

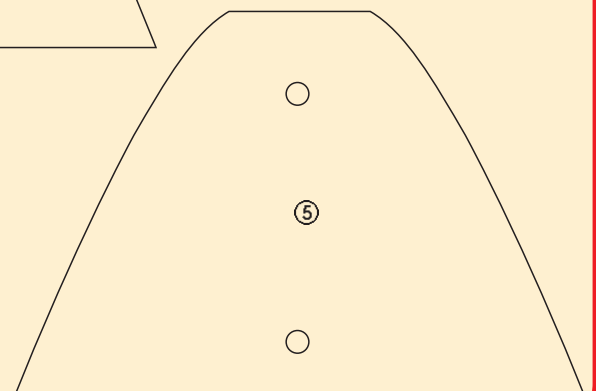
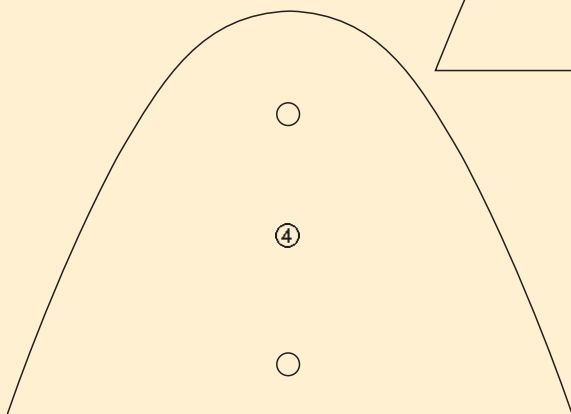
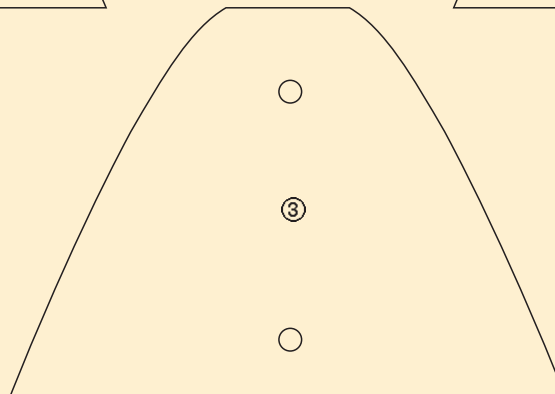
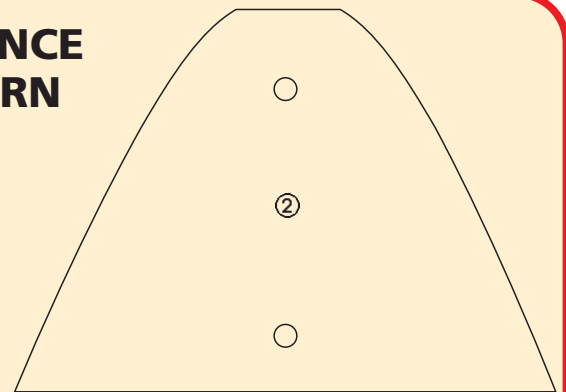
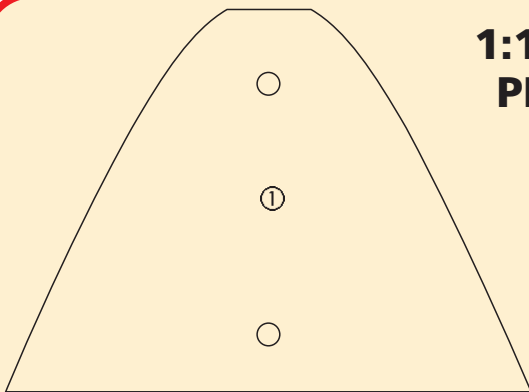


COMPLETED PIECE

STERN BLOCK

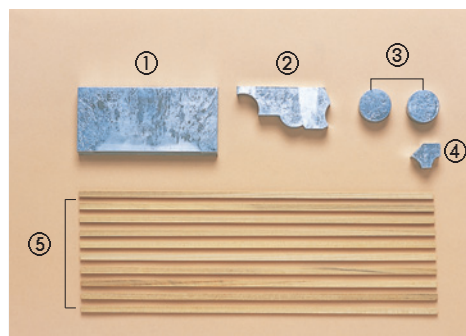
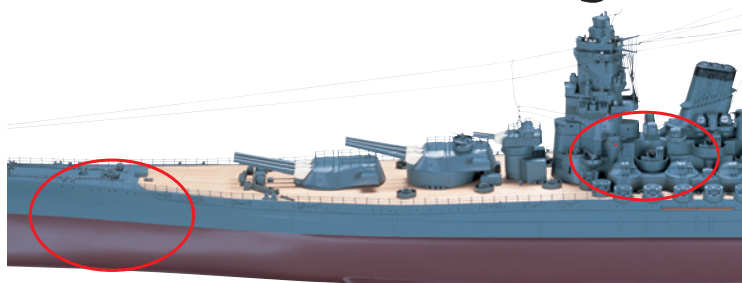


1:1 SCALE REFERENCE PLAN OF THE STERN BLOCK PIECES





The base of the bridge and strakes



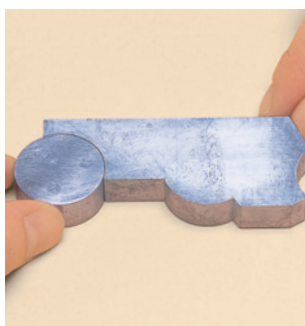
- ① Base of the bridge
- ② Base of the bridge
- ③ Base of the bridge x 2
- ④ Base of the bridge
- ⑤ Strakes x 10

THE BASE OF THE BRIDGE

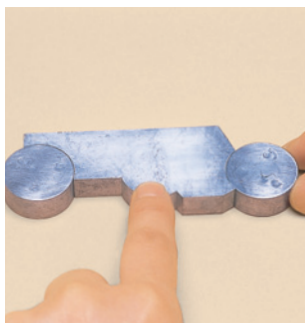
37 Smooth the pieces nos. 1 to 4, first with the metal file and then sandpaper (grain no. 240) to eliminate irregularities. To work the flat parts it may be easier to fix the sandpaper with double-sided adhesive tape around a block of wood, as shown in the photo.



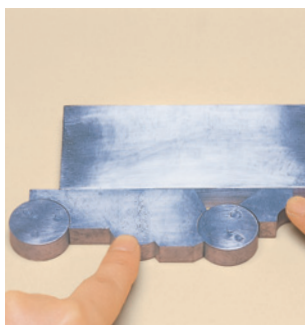
38 Place piece no. 2 as shown in the photo and insert one of the no. 3 pieces into the round cut-out on the left. Fix it firmly with metal glue.



39 Place the other piece no. 3 in the round cut-out on the right of piece no. 2 and fix it with metal glue.



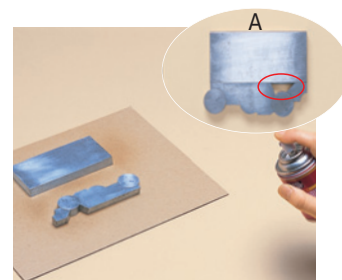
40 Now glue piece no. 4 to the right of piece no. 3. The upper side of pieces no. 2 and no. 4 must be in line. To find the correct alignment, use piece no. 1 as shown in the photo, but without gluing it.



Recommended tools and materials

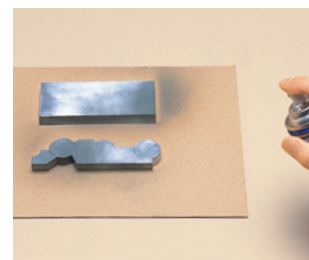
- Fast-drying wood glue
- Metal file
- Sandpaper (no. 800 and no. 240 grain)
- Craft knife
- Pencil
- Putty
- Metal primer
- Model-making spray paint (battleship grey)
- Wooden rods
- For metal: Super Glue Gel or Two-part epoxy glue

41 At this point, paint the area highlighted by the red circle in Figure A. First, spray metal primer evenly within the indicated area from a distance of 30cm. Then spray the surfaces of both pieces.



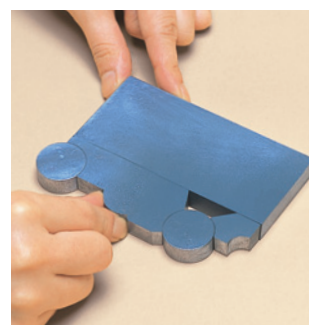
⚠ When using metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

42 When the metal primer is completely dry, apply a light and uniform layer of battleship grey model-making spray paint, keeping the canister about 30cm away. Give the pieces several coats, spraying from different directions.

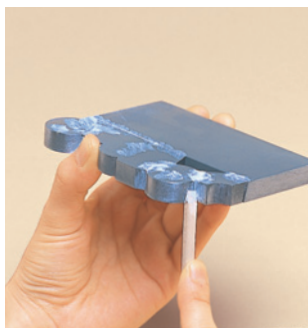


⚠ When using model-making spray paint, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

43 When the paint is completely dry, use metal glue to stick piece no. 1 to the base of the bridge assembled in Step 39, as shown in the photo. If the base is shorter than piece no. 1, leave the same space to the right and the left.



44 Fill in the joints between pieces no. 1 to 4 with putty, using a wooden rod as a spatula. Prepare the sides and the top of the pieces no. 1 to 4 by applying a thin layer of putty over the entire surface to cover any small imperfections.



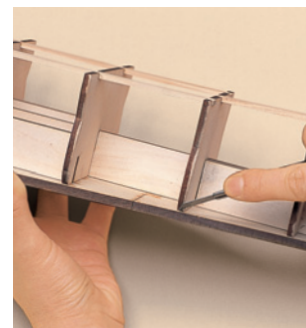
45 When the putty is completely dry, smooth with grain no. 240 sandpaper to remove the excess until you obtain the desired surface. If the surfaces are not perfectly smooth, repeat Step 44. By rubbing the joints with the tips of your fingers, you will be able to feel the slightest irregularity.



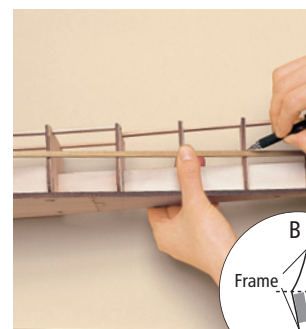
46 Paint the parts where the paint is damaged or covered by putty with battleship grey model-making spray paint.



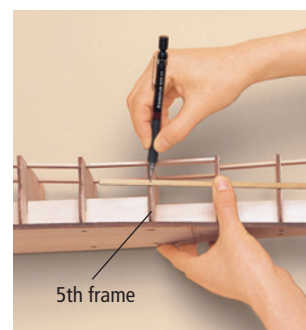
49 In places difficult to reach with the sandpaper, gently use the craft knife, being careful not to distort the overall shape.



50 Place a strake (5) on the sides of the bow frames nos. 1 to 5, making the top edge align with the groove of the 3rd, 4th and 5th frames (Figure B). For the 1st and 2nd frame, the correct height is where the strake lies, the right end of which must reach the bow block.



51 Holding the strake firmly, pencil a mark on each frame at the point at which the top edge of the strake passes. Then draw a mark on the strake, corresponding to half the thickness of the 5th frame. The first strake will be glued from the 1st to 5th frame.

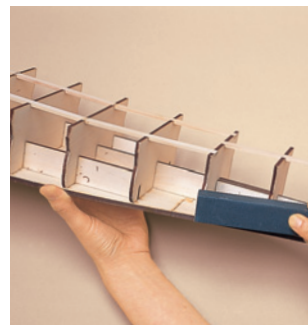


STRAKES

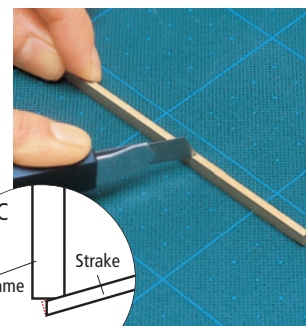
47 Fix the strakes on the frames. First, smooth the sides of the frames by removing the sharp edges and shaping the curved contour, as shown in Steps 48 and 49.



48 With the sanding block made in Step 37, roughly smooth the sides of the frames. Work the curved parts such as the stern and the bow very carefully, ensuring that you do not reduce the size of the frames with excessive pressure.



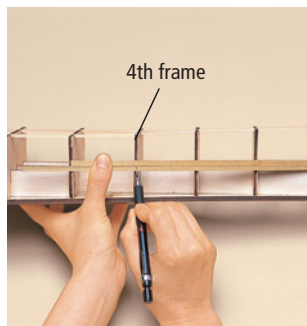
52 Cut the first strake at the mark made in the previous step; cutting all four faces with the craft knife will make the operation easier and more precise. The cut must be slightly slanted, so that the strake, once glued, forms a right angle with the frame (Figure C).



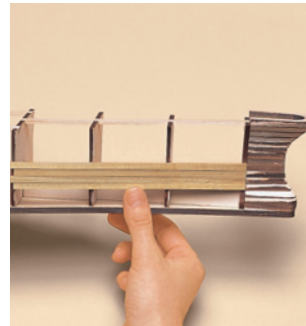
53 Use fast-drying wood glue to fix the strake at the level of the points marked in Step 51.



54 The second strake will be fixed from the 1st to the 4th frame. Holding it on the frame under the strake fixed in the previous step, make a mark corresponding to the middle of the thickness of the 4th frame, as in Step 51.



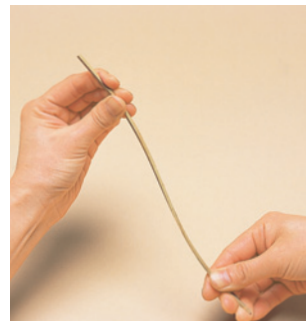
59 Following the instructions in Steps 54 to 57, glue the fourth strake from the 1st to the 4th frame.



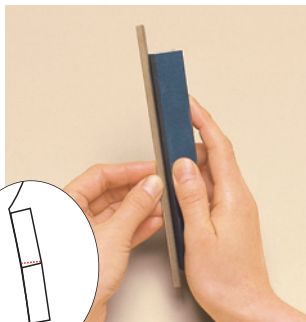
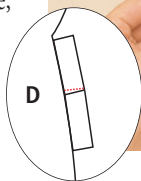
55 Cut the second strake as you did the first strake in Step 52.



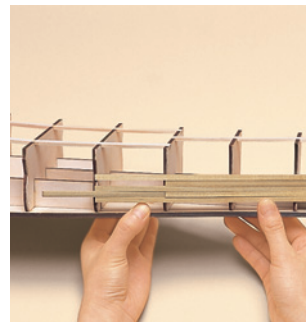
60 As you approach the bottom of the vessel, the curve of the side becomes more pronounced. In this case it is better to wet the strip with water, to make it more flexible, and bend it, as shown in the photo. Glue it after letting it dry completely.



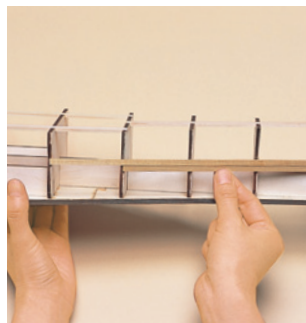
56 Now deal with the face that butts onto the first strake. Using the sanding block, work the piece gently, checking from time to time to make sure it fits perfectly to the first strake, as indicated by the red line in Figure D.



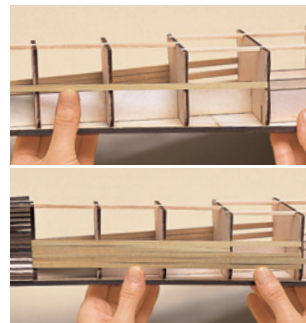
61 Now glue the fifth strake under the fourth strake (fixed in Step 59) from the 1st to the 5th frame.



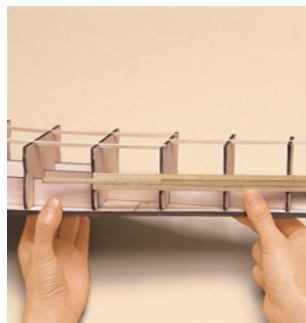
57 After smoothing the second strake, fix it with fast-drying glue, starting from the point indicated in Step 54 on the 4th frame. By applying glue to the sides of the two strakes, as well as the frame, you can fix it easier.



62 Following the instructions in Steps 50 to 61, glue the five remaining strakes on the other side. The first must be fixed as described in steps from 50 to 53, from the 1st to the 5th frame. The other four must be glued between the 4th and 5th frame. The strakes of the two sides must be symmetrical.



58 The third strake should be glued from the 1st to the 5th frame like the first. Following the procedure set out in previous steps, cut, smooth and fix with fast-drying glue.



COMPLETED PIECES



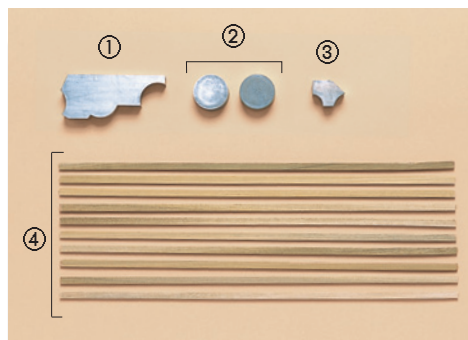
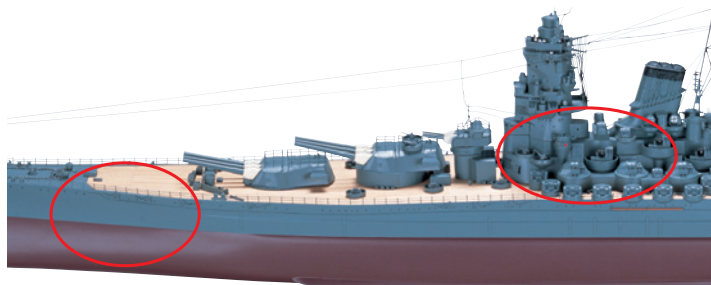
BASE OF THE
BRIDGE



STRAKES



The base of the bridge and strakes (2)



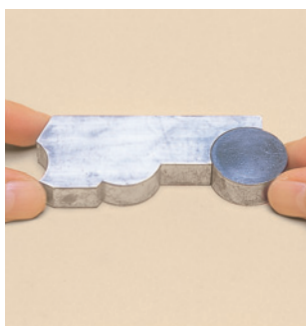
- ① Base of the bridge
- ② Base of the bridge x 2
- ③ Base of the bridge
- ④ Strakes x 10

BASE OF THE BRIDGE

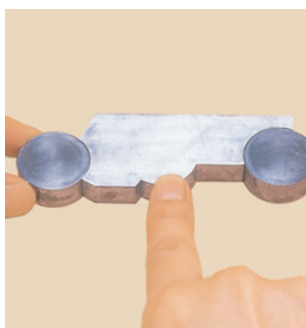
63 Prepare the pieces nos. 1 to 3 by smoothing with the metal file and then with sandpaper (no. 400 grain). When you have eliminated any irregularities on the surface, smooth the flat part as shown in the photo, using a no. 400 grain sanding block.



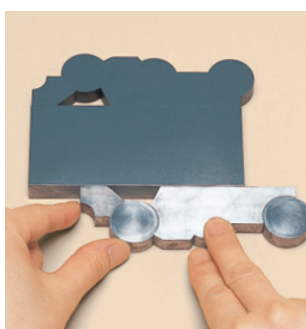
64 Place piece no. 1 as shown in the photo and fix a piece no. 2 to the right end with metal glue.



65 With metal glue, fix the other piece no. 2 in the hollow at the left end.



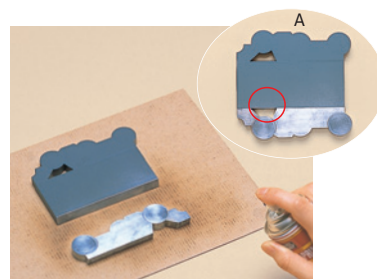
66 Glue piece no. 3 on the left of piece no. 2, taking care to place it as shown in the photo. Put the base of the bridge built previously to the upper edge of pieces no. 1 and no. 3, as shown in the photo, but **without gluing**. This assembly is the starboard side.



Recommended tools and materials

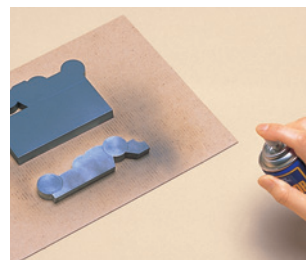
- Fast-drying glue
- Metal file
- Sandpaper (no. 800 and no. 400 grain)
- Craft knife
- Pencil
- Wood glue
- Metal primer
- Model-making spray paint (battleship grey)
- For metal: Super Glue Gel or Two-part epoxy glue
- Putty

67 Now paint the part you assembled in Step 66. From a distance of about 30cm, spray metal primer on the inner edge, as shown in Figure A.



💡 When using the metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

68 When the metal primer is completely dry, lightly spray battleship grey paint from a distance of about 30cm and let it dry well.

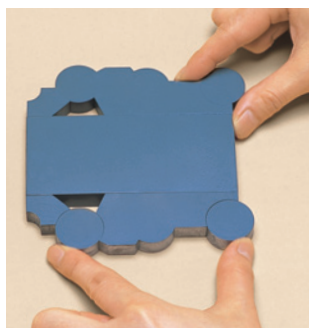


💡 When using model-making spray paint, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

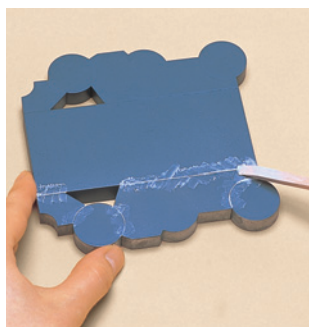
69 Repeat the operation several times, taking care to spray from different directions, until the colour matches the base of the bridge painted earlier.



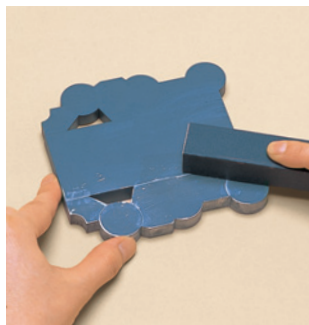
70 When the paint is dry, put the base of the starboard command bridge next to the port one built earlier, aligning and fixing it with metal glue, as shown in the photo. If the piece just mounted is shorter, centre it in relation to the long side of the base of the bridge.



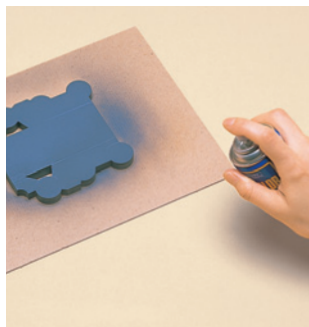
71 Apply putty along the join between the two pieces. Use the tip of a wooden rod as a spatula. Also, apply putty where you think necessary to cover scratches or hollows in the pieces.



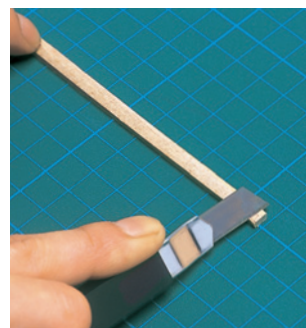
72 When the putty has completely dried, smooth the surface of the piece with no. 400 grain sandpaper. If necessary, apply putty to the piece again. By touching the surface with the tips of your fingers, you can check for imperfections.



73 Spray battleship grey model-making paint on parts which may be discoloured, and on the points where you have applied glue. Let it dry thoroughly.



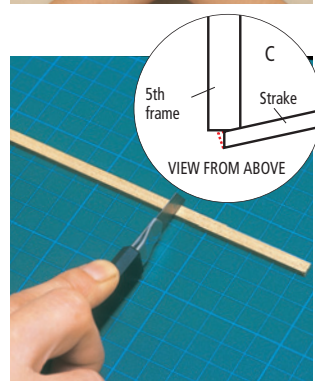
75 Adjust the shape of the strake so it fits as well as possible with the strake placed previously. Thin the right end by tilting the point of the craft knife, as indicated in the photo.



76 Place the newly finished strake no. 4 in the position described in Step 74, without glue. Place it between the 5th and 9th frames and, holding it firmly, make a pencil mark on it at the central point of the thickness of the 9th frame.



77 Take the strake and cut it at the mark. By cutting all four faces with the craft knife, the operation will be easier and more precise. The section should be slightly slanting so, that once glued, the strake forms a right angle with the 5th frame (Figure C).

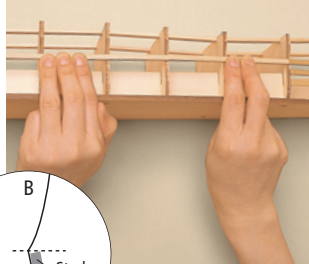
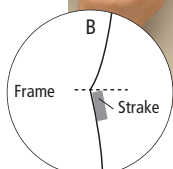


78 Before gluing the strake, check its flexibility. To make it more flexible, it helps to wet it with water and bend it without using excessive force, as shown in the photo. Then let it dry thoroughly.

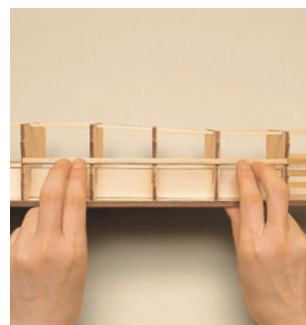


STRAKES

74 After the first strake fixed in Step 53, insert a new one without gluing so that it goes from the 5th starboard bow frame to the 9th frame. Its upper end must be flush with the neck of the frame itself (Figure B).



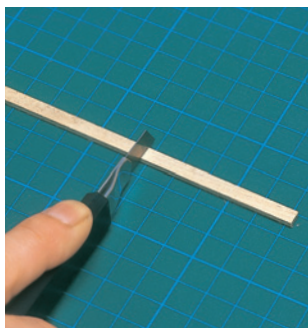
79 Fix the strake with fast-drying wood glue in the position shown in Step 74. Hold the strip in position until the glue dries.



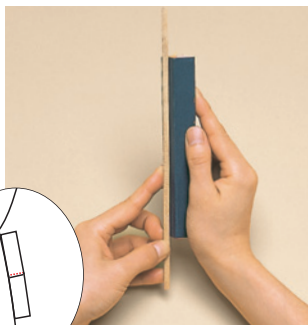
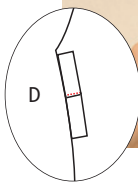
80 Glue a second strake between the 4th and the 8th frame. Place it on the frames just below the one you placed in the previous step. Then make a pencil mark at the point which coincides with half the thickness of the 8th frame, as in Step 51.



81 Cut the strake at the pencil mark, following the same procedure as in Step 52.



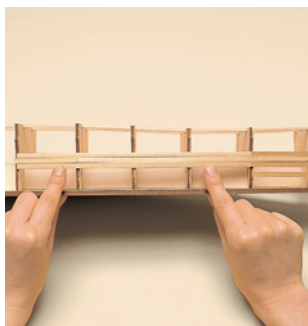
82 Smooth what will be the contact surface of the strake, using sandpaper grain no. 800 (for convenience wrap it round a block of wood). Shape it so that the second and first strakes are tight-fitting, as shown in Figure D.



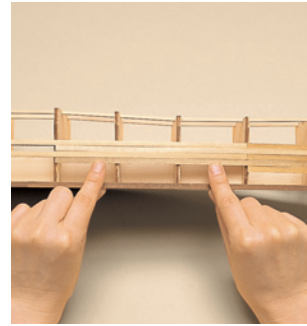
83 Once the strake is finished, fix it with wood glue. To fix it more firmly, also apply glue to the side of contact with the first strake.



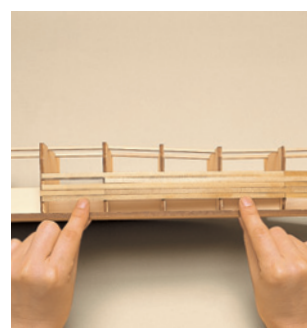
84 Fix the third strake with fast-drying glue under the one glued in the previous step, placing it between the 5th and 9th frame. Cut it to length, as described in Steps 74 to 78.



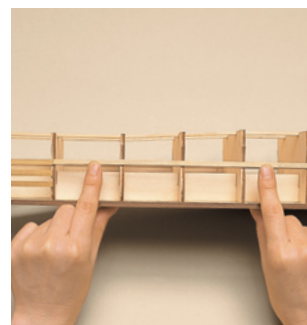
85 Using the same procedure, fix with wood glue the fourth strake between the 4th and 8th frame below the strake fixed in Step 84.



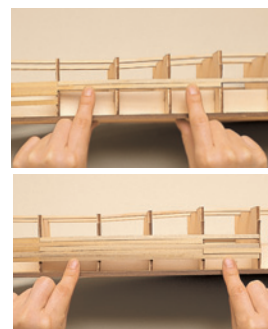
86 Use wood glue to fix the fifth strake between the 5th and 9th frame, below the strake fixed in Step 85.



87 Following the instructions in Steps 74 to 86, glue the remaining five strakes on the other side. The first piece must be fixed as described in Steps 74 to 75, going from the 5th to the 9th frame.



88 Fix a second strip immediately below the one fixed in Step 87, between the 4th and the 8th frames. The last three strakes must be fixed as follows: the first between the 5th and 9th frame, the second between the 4th and the 8th, and the third between the 5th and 9th frame. The strakes must be symmetrical on both sides.



COMPLETED PIECES



STRAKES

BASE OF THE BRIDGE