

# Easy Street

In all the years I have been modelling I have never had an ARTF model. I enjoy building just as much as I enjoy flying. In fact when the weather is 'orrible, building is far the better option. Also I find it nice to be able to brag and say I built it when asked "where did you get it from." But there is a first for all of us and here I am reviewing such a model, I must admit though that I am a fussy builder, so be ready to be 'fussed'.

## First Impressions

The box arrived with the postman hiding behind it, ARTF models do require large boxes, I must try to find a use for the box. On removing the wrapping paper you do not have to guess what is inside as you see a very large colour picture of the finished model and all the relevant details. The Easy Street is kitted and distributed by Ripmax, it is a sleek looking ARTF 40" (1016 mm) Speed 600 type aerobatic electric sport model for 3 or 4 channels and a 7 or 8 cell Sub C battery pack. The instructions only mention 8 cell packs but do not worry if you only have 7 cells as I do, I found out later that it will do all you can manage on 7 cells.

With the exception of the radio, servos, electric flight gear and motor all the hardware and items needed to complete the model are in the box all for £55, not a bad price at all for this type of model. All the airframe parts come ready covered with the decoration also applied which means that all Easy Streets will look the same. The wings are two-piece and will have to be joined together, more on this later. The covering and finish were 'not bad' but I would only give it 6 or 7 out of 10. Don't forget I said I am fussy. There were a few wrinkles and bubbles and some of the overlaps also needed the iron on them, but considering the price - not bad.

The instruction booklet is quite good and includes a good series of photographs to assist in the building.

## Construction

The wings are centre mounted (which means the finished model is a one-piece unit and these have to be joined in situ as

*A four-function ARTF electric sports aerobatic aeroplane with a 40" span for 600 size motors and 7 or 8 cells.*



the torque rods are already fitted into position and has to be slid out of the way while passing each wing panel through the fuselage side. After carefully removing the covering from the areas to be glued, the dihedral brace is glued into one panel, then glue smeared onto the other half and the root rib faces. Make sure when cutting away the covering that you do not score the wing surface. The wings are then passed through the sides and joined together, I used 24 hour epoxy for this to give me time to manoeuvre things about.

I dry fitted everything in, including the motor and slid the battery pack in until the desired C of G point was reached. To do this I had to chamfer off the edge of the very cockeyed ply bar which holds the removable panel and most of the bottom of the fuselage former at the wing leading edge.

As the model is already covered and provided all the hardware is fitted in place, you can adjust the battery position



### Kit contents.

### TOP TIP

DO NOT do any of this gluing until you have sorted out the space for the battery pack and how it is to be fixed in position, as the pack slides under the wing and once this is fitted in place you cannot turn the clock back.

*'not a bad price at all for this type of model'*



**Motor prop and equipment bay.**



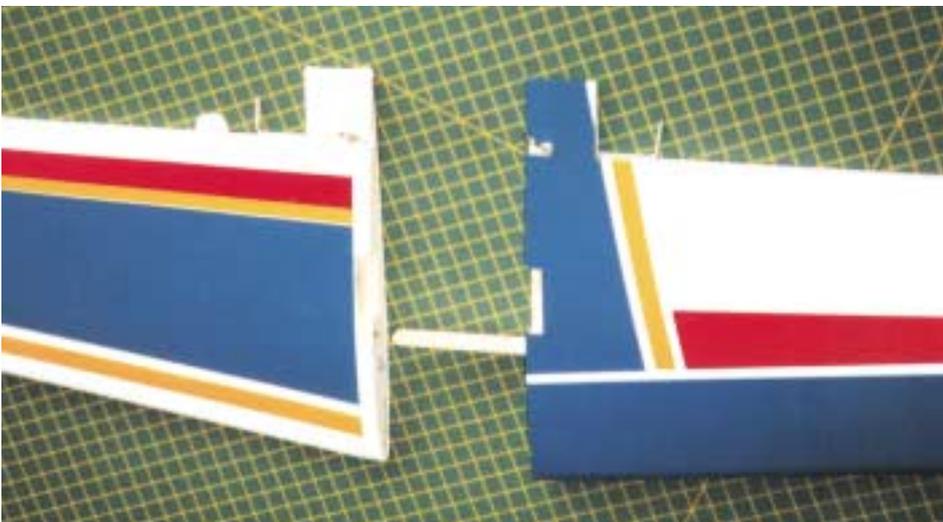
**Faulty construction with gap indicated.**

now as the C of G should still be okay after the model is completed. Extra glue was required around the motor fixing former and glue had to be forced down the side of the triangular longerons as these did not fit up to the side sheeting. You should also check whether your servos will fit into the ready made cut-outs as it is easier to sort this out before the wing is fitted in place.

The Ripmax SD200 Micro servos I used were a good fit. On this model the wings are tapered through the sides of the fuselage the hole has to be the size of the root rib but this then becomes two big for the wing position when fitted in place. The instructions tell you to cyano the wing in place then run a fillet of epoxy all round the join to fix it solid. This works but I don't like filling holes with glue.

All the moving surfaces are ready covered and slotted to take the supplied

**Wings ready to join.**



hinge material but some of these slots were off centre and needed re-cutting. The push rods for the ailerons and the tail areas had ready made Z bends at one end for the servo arms and supplied adapters and quick links for the horns on the moving surfaces, these make up and fit very easily.

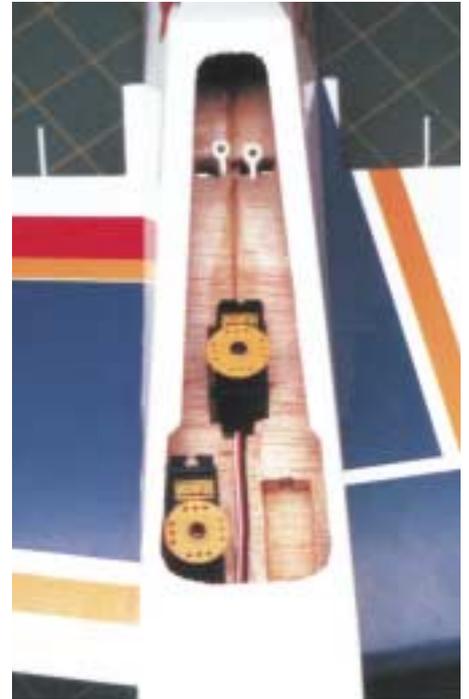
To fit the tail surfaces, cut away the covering which is hiding the slots in the sides and top of the fuselage and cut away the covering on the tail surfaces so the glue has a wood area to get a grip. To get a true point to cut away this top surface, dry fit the tail into the slots and when all is lined up draw on the plastic with a ball point pen and remove the tail, etc., cut away the plastic covering just inside the line. When set in place the elevators and rudder can be fitted and the pushrods made up to length and fitted in place.

Check the movements of all the surfaces and set them to the amount mentioned in the instructions, then fit the motor. I fitted a Mad Science Magnetic Mayhem motor which took (on 7 x 2400 mAh Ni-Cad cells) 32 amps static and revved at 12,200 rpm with the 8" x 4" Slim prop. At 32 amps it was obvious that this model was going to be a little quick so if you are not into these sort of currents I am sure that this model would fly on 25 amps or thereabouts so a smaller prop could be used or the Speed 600 Race series motors would be suitable on 7 or 8 cells.

The canopy is a very simple affair and can be put together in a few minutes. It is a little 'delicate' so handle it with care. Now you are ready to fly.

## Great To Fly

Pick a nice sunny day with a little light wind to slow the landings down, give the model a thorough motor on range test and you are ready to go. In my case I opted for a friend, Mike Proctor, to do



**Wings and servos fitted.**



**Gap around wing root.**



**Finished tail area.**

the honours and fly it. Partly because I had to photograph it in flight but mainly because I have had zero stick time this year and did not trust myself on the sticks.

A good firm throw and it was tracking away like it knew what it was doing, one click of right trim was all it needed for straight and level. After two quick

## TOP TIP

To regain strength here I fitted a 1.5 mm ply plate onto the inside bottom sheeting at this point.



**Canopy and air scoops.**

circuits Mike gave it a few low passes the right way up and upside down so I could take the pictures.

It was quick, smooth and great to fly. The little niggles in the construction were all forgotten when it did its inside loops, outside loops, spin, inverted spin, square loops, loops with a whatsit at the top and any other manoeuvre asked of it. Now we try for the stall. What stall? The model just fell slightly to one side and control was regained straight away. The landings were just as easy, simply slow the model down and flare it onto the grass. This really is a

**Two nice little models.**



very nice flying model and looks very good in the air. We had two flights that morning and went home highly satisfied, now as soon as the weather changes back to how it was then I will be out for some more.

**Conclusion**

This 'kit' has been easy and quick to put together and despite the niggles I have mentioned everything fitted where it should be; it would be nice if the battery fixing and position could be shown in the pictures. I think quality control at the construction end could be improved a little but at the end of the day for only £55 you have a very nice little flying model.

**RCMW**



**A steady flypast for the camera before some really exciting flying.**

*'It was quick, smooth and great to fly.'*

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**INFORMATION**

**Name:** Easy Street (code A-ARTF6410)  
**Manufacturer:** Ripmax  
**Distributor:** Ripmax Models  
**Price:** £54.99

**MODEL INFORMATION**

**Model Type:** Electric sports aerobatic  
**Motor:** 600 size  
**Test Motor:** Mad Science Magnetic Mayhem (540 motor)  
**Construction:** ARTF

**R/C FUNCTIONS**

1. Ailerons
2. Elevator
3. ESC (motor speed)
4. Rudder option

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Wing Span:** 40 in (1.016 m)  
**Weight:** .1075g  
**Skill level:** Intermediate/Expert

**DISLIKES**

Gaps between wood joins.  
 Wrinkles, bubbles and poor overlaps on film covering.

**LIKES**

Inexpensive!  
 Easy to construct.  
 Looks good.  
 Flies fast, or slow, and responds well to all manoeuvres.  
 No stall to speak of.  
 Clean, and fits in the car with ease.

**E.D. Leadley**