

MADE IN ENGLAND

SolarFilm®

LIGHT, TOUGH, SHRINK-ON COVERING MATERIAL FOR FLYING MODELS

LOW HEAT SENSITIVITY MAKES IT EASY AND SAFE TO APPLY

Made from an ultra thin, super light film of extra tough polymer coated with fade-free pigments and a special heat-sensitive adhesive.

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| QUICK | — no time needed for sealing, doping, polishing, masking |
| CLEAN | — no odours, spills or mess. |
| DURABLE | — will not slacken, crack or become brittle for the life of your plane |
| TOUGH | — resists punctures and scratching. |
| FLEXIBLE | — does not show stress-cracks like conventional finishes. |

USING SOLARFILM. Covering is done using separate pieces of Solarfilm for each surface of the model. Do not try to cover the whole wing or fuselage by wrapping round a single piece of Solarfilm. **WINGS** – cover each panel separately, with one piece of Solarfilm for the panel bottom surface, and a separate piece for the panel top surface – see diagram 1. Diagram 2 shows the sequence for a two-panel wing, using four pieces to cover *a*) right hand under surface *b*) left hand under surface, overlapping at centre, *c*) right hand upper surface, *d*) left hand upper surface, overlapping at centre onto *c*). **FUSELAGE** – four pieces to cover in order – bottom, sides, and top. Cut the Solarfilm larger than the surface to be covered, remove the clear plastic liner that protects the adhesive side of the Solarfilm. Lay the Solarfilm (*adhesive side down*) on the surface and iron in place.

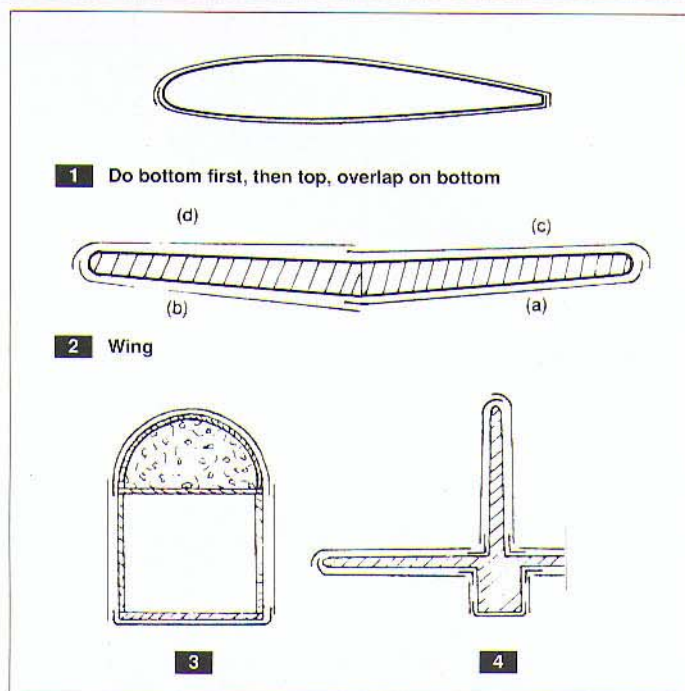
FUSELAGES are covered using four pieces, top and bottom first, finishing with the sides – see diagram 3.

CORNERS e.g. where a tailplane joins the fuselage or a fin joins the fuselage. The corner is covered using a narrow strip of Solarfilm (1" wide). Then the larger pieces of covering for tailplane and fin are applied, overlapping onto the strips – see diagram 4.

PREPARATION FOR COVERING. A little extra time spent in preparation will pay off in the final appearance of your model. The aim is to have smooth, even surface all over the model. Fill all holes and cracks with filler and sand smooth. Any lumps or unevenness in the surface will show through the covering. Surfaces other than wood (epoxy, fibreglass, plastic etc.) should be sanded smooth. Hard non-porous wood surfaces (plywood, veneer) can be treated with a very thin coat of Balsaloc and allowed to dry.

Finally brush off any sanding residues and wipe with a tissue dampened with thinners or alcohol.

FUELPROOFING. Solarfilm is proof against glowfuel. (Diesel fuel and its residues will make Solarfilm wrinkle slightly if left on the surface. Petrol/gasoline will make Solarfilm wrinkle quickly. For models powered with diesel or petrol we recommend our polyester film Solarkote which resists those fuels). **BEFORE** covering with Solarfilm apply a coat of **CLEARCOAT** in and around the engine bay, fuel tank bay and the nose back to the wing position. Any other areas that will be subject to fuel or exhaust will benefit from being Clearcoated e.g. leading edge of tailplane and fin, and the wing seat. Allow the Clearcoat to dry for at least 24 hours before applying the Solarfilm. When the Solarfilm is



ironed on it makes a completely fueltight seal with the dry Clearcoat. Even if fuel gets under the edge of the Solarfilm or between an overlap joint between two pieces of the Solarfilm, the Clearcoat prevents the fuel from penetrating into the wood. If fuel does get into wood it will saturate the wood, and eventually loosen the covering. Clearcoat is the only satisfactory method of protecting your model from attack by fuel. Traditional fuelproofers (either varnish or two pack types) do not work as well because Solarfilm does not stick to them and they do not stick to Solarfilm well enough to keep fuel out. **WARNING!** Clearcoat will destroy plastic foams – so on foam wings seal any gaps in the veneer with epoxy before applying Clearcoat. On plastic parts test for bad effects by applying Clearcoat on a small area first.

SOLARLAC paint matches the Solarfilm colours listed below:

White (S)	Red (S)	Dark Blue (H24)
Yellow (S)	Dark Red (S)	Silver (S)
Dark Yellow (H49)	Dark Green (H33)	Black (S)
Orange (S)	Tropic Blue (S)	Heather (S)
Ocean Blue (S)	Lux Blue (S)	Violet (S)

Other Solarfilm colours can be matched by mixing the recipes below:

Light Orange (F)	=	2 Orange (S), 1 Yellow (S)
Light Green (F)	=	2 Dark Green (H33), 1 White (S)
Blackberry	=	5 Violet, 1 Red (S)
Medium Blue (R)	=	3 Dark Blue (H24), 1 White (S)

Note – all the colours are available in SOLARTRIM – a self adhesive film which can be applied on top of Solarfilm for decoration. Paints do not adhere very well to Solarfilm so decoration is best with Solartrim.