

# **COWL BUMPS MADE SIMPLE**

By John Pakiz

There are few tasks that are more challenging and tedious than making cowl bumps for those old radial engines. Here's an idea and this is how I make them.

Make one bump out of balsa as accurately as possible and then glue it to square cut tooth pick or a small dowel, depending on the size of the bump.

Step two is to lay out some Play Dough in a small flat sheet. The cowl bump is now a male mold. Depress the male mold in to the Play Dough for as many cowl bumps that are required. Make the depressions the same depth.

Step three is to fill the depressions with epoxy up to the top, then level off the epoxy with a stick. I suppose modeling clay would work as well as the Play Dough but I've never tried it.

Once the epoxy has thoroughly cured, peel away the Play Dough. Trim off the epoxy flash at the base, and there will be some, and presto, a cowl bump ready for painting. Do the same for the rest.

It's really cool to have a number of bumps all identical. Once the male mold is made, the rest goes quickly.