

# WARPS AS SEEN FROM THE ASYLUM

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There are many theories put forth by the experts regarding how to cover with tissue and not get warps, especially on flat tail surfaces. One point all seem to agree on is that use of water should be kept to a minimum.

The method that has consistently given good results in this area for 70-some of my 85 misspent years flies in the face of this concept, and might possibly be of interest to other builders even though they may think I'm out of my mind.

The procedure is as follows: (1) Spray the covered surface very heavily. — heavily enough to wet the wood through the tissue. (2) Shake off the excess water and pin the surface to a building-board using full-length strips of scrap wood under leading and trailing edges and tips to act as spacers to prevent tile wet, sagging tissue from contacting the board. (3) Let dry thoroughly — like overnight. (4) Apply one coat of thin clear dope with an application heavy enough to wet the wood under the tissue. (5) Pin down as in #2 and allow to dry very thoroughly. (Let the bottom side dry tack-free before pinning down.) The dope may possibly stiffen the wood slightly, making it a little more resistant to warping, but I won't swear while sitting on the roof of a Bible factory that this is a proven scientific fact. All I know is that it, plus the soaking, works.

This system also works very well for correcting warps already present in existing models rather than sticking on unsightly trim tabs or other tacky-looking external add-ons. (It will be necessary to carefully cut wing struts loose in order to let wings adapt to the new twist, even though it's very slight.)

The procedure in general will naturally require that a fair degree of judgment be exercised in the case of light-weight, super-fragile models.