

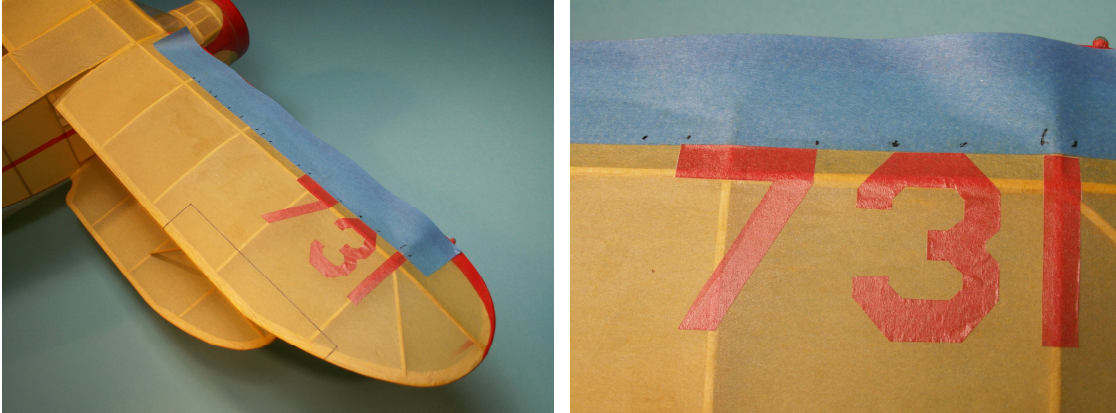
Tissuecal™ Application

The best way I've found for working with them is to wait until the plane is nearly finished to apply them. Get the plane all painted and sealed up then use your UHU glue stick on the back of the Tissuecal™ to stick them on. First, I cut out the image very close and even with the edge of the image. Then place upside down on a waste sheet of paper and apply the glue stick to the back of the Tissuecal™. I only work with one at a time. Then you just position it and when happy smooth it out gently with your finger. Don't apply a lot of pressure until you are sure you have it in the desired position. The final step is to apply several light coatings of Krylon Clear Satin or Matte finish spray paint allowing it to dry between each coat. If you spray it on heavy you risk dissolving the inks and ruining the image. The satin finish gives an even transition to the final finish so it blends into the overall tissue covering. Make sure you mask off the windows or anything else you don't want to be dulled. You can use the instructions on the Tissuecal™ to test out your sealer before proceeding.

Here are a couple of tricks I've picked up along the way.

- A cotton swab on a stick works great for gentle burnishing and smoothing the surface.
- You can lightly spray the back with an enamel to increase its opacity.
- A pin on the end of a dowel will work for applying glue along a troublesome edge or to work a tiny point of tissue.
- If you have a trim iron for applying the r/c plastic film coverings you can use the iron to apply the final pressure. Use a **very low heat** setting or you will smear the image. You can place a tissue over the Tissuecal™ to help insulate the ink from the iron.
- You can use a 50:50 mix of water and rubbing alcohol (follow the manufacturer's instructions) and a brush to float under the Tissuecal™ to make the glue easier to work with or to reactivate it when it dries too soon.
- I frequently spray the back of the Tissuecal™ with the 50:50 mix to both make the glue real soft, smooth and the tissue more willing to layout flat.
- You can increase the transparency or bring out the color of the underlying base tissue by using a liquid glue or careful application of dope (be careful not to make the image run. Brushing with dope will smear the ink however I found I can airbrush light coats without smearing.
- Frequently clean your tools of old glue before proceeding, they dull the edge of your knife causing the Tissuecal™ to be at risk of a tear.
- A rubber backed ruler will help to hold the tissue while making your cuts and reduces the risk of tears.
- Cut away from the image, if you overshoot the end it won't cause problems.

- Make alignment easier by placing low tack painter's tape on the model to mark or guide where the Tissuecal™ is to be positioned. This makes it really easy and neat for proper alignment. First with the tape on the plan, I used a black marker to put tick marks where the numbers are to be placed on this wing, easy, no measuring, no mistakes. Transfer the tape to the actual wing and use it to align your numbers.



If fuel is involved here's a couple tips from the Don "Old Goat" Sebolt .

1) *"Glo fuel WILL eat the ink."*

2) *"Top Flite flat clear fuel proof dope in a spray can. (This stuff's readily available and is used to paint Monocote. It can also be used to paint ABS plastic if built up in light coats. The white plastic that's vacuum formed. A light coat sprayed on during some testing by the "Old Goat" and nothing happened. Sprayed it right on the sheet then hit it with an extremely heavy coat. Same result. OG reports the best part is that Top Flite can be used on plastic like Monocote...and I suspect the same with Ultracoat ...as a PAINT...so one can certainly APPLY THE DECAL...THEN MASK AND SPRAY IT WITH THE TOP FLITE FLAT CLEAR. It is an OG belief that the Top Flite should be allowed 72 hours at least to cure before exposing to glo-fuel."*

We invite you to send us photos of your plane as well as building tips to add to the Easy Built Models web site.

May all your flights be long and enjoyable.

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