



Trevor Boundy &lt;trevor@boundy39.com&gt;

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**74 Second 1/2A Fubar 600 - Sealing the Fuselage**1 message

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**Tandy Walker** <rdb435021@icloud.com>

To: Tandy Walker &lt;rdb435021@icloud.com&gt;

Report No. 74

*Second 1/2A Fubar 600**April 25, 2020*

Since making provisions for adding ballast weight took up most of the morning, I covered the fuselage instead of covering the wing. In order to cover the fuselage and vertical balsa surface must first be sealed. Different modelers use different approaches as using a product called "Sanding Sealer", adding talcum powder to clear dope, or clear dope.

I prefer to seal balsa with 3 coats of Randolph's nitrate clear dope mixed with 50% talcum powder. The first coat dries, a light sanding with 320 grit emery paper will take off what I can see and the surface smooth but yet not fully unsealed. The second coat will almost seal the texture and density of the balsa, but still needs to be lightly sanded. The third coat of dope will seal the balsa sufficiently that silk can be applied.

In the picture below, the first 2 coats of clear nitrate dope have been brushed on the fuselage components this afternoon with light sanding of the first coat. The sanding part is done by the way. I will wait until tomorrow to sand the second coat after it has dried completely. I will sand the third coat.....Tandy

