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**Wild Hare R/C  
28% Sukhoi SU-26 Fast Build  
Assembly Manual**

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## Warranty Information

Wild Hare Hobbies, Inc. guarantees this kit to be free of defects in both material and workmanship at the time of purchase . This warranty does not cover any components damaged by use or modification. **In no case shall Wild Hare Hobbies, Inc. liability exceed the original cost of the purchased kit.** Further Wild Hare Hobbies Inc, reserves the right to change or modify this warranty without notice. **This warranty extends only to the original purchaser.**

In that Wild Hare has no control over final assembly or materials used in final assembly, no liability shall be assumed or accepted for any damage resulting from the use by user of the final user assembled product. By the act of using the user assembled product, the user accepts all resulting liability.

**If the buyer is not prepared to accept the liability associated with the use of this product, the buyer is advised to return this kit immediately in new and unused condition to the place of purchase.**

While this kit has been flight tested to exceed normal use, if the plane will be used for extremely high stress flying such as racing or extreme aerobatics the modeler is responsible for taking steps to reinforce the high stress points.

**Read through this manual before starting construction. It contains important warnings and instructions concerning the assembly and use of this model.**

**Warning.** This is not a toy. If not properly controlled it can cause injury or death and property damage.

## Specifications

Wingspan	87 inches
Length	80 inches tail to cowl face
Wing Area	1425 sq. inches
Weight	16.5-17 lbs.
Recommended engine	DA-50, 3MM TOC-53, DL-50
Scale	Approximately 28%

### Additional equipment required

Computer Radio with at least 8 channels strongly suggested.  
2 Elevator servos minimum 150 oz/in. of torque each e.g. Hitec 7985  
2 aileron servos, total torque required not less than 150 oz./in. per wing.  
Rudder servo(s) at least 180 oz./in. Such as Hitec 7985  
Throttle/choke servo standard BB servo such as Hitec 425 or better  
Radio operated engine kill switch or servo operated choke strongly suggested  
Radio battery pack(s) at least 1500 mah capable of delivering 10 amps for short periods.  
Switches for receiver and ignition.  
Miscellaneous servo extensions.

The kit may include axles. These are light duty metric size and may not last more than a few flights, stronger axles are supplied in our optional hardware kit. **If a wheel or axles fails it is very likely that the aircraft will be damaged.** The ARF kit also includes a tailwheel assembly, aluminum wing tube (1.250") and miscellaneous small hardware for mounting the cowl, wings, stabs, and landing gear.

Please remember, this is a big airplane with high stresses on the controls. You must use high performance servos, pushrods, linkages, horns, etc. **Flexing in linkage or loose hinges can and will cause flutter of the control surfaces which will destroy the airplane in just a few seconds. *Metal gear servos are required, titanium gears are preferred. Metal servo arms are strongly recommended.***

## Special Information About This Aircraft

This Sukhoi is a high performance aircraft. If you are considering purchasing the plane, keep in mind that to fly safely and properly it will require a significant expenditure on servos, batteries, and other equipment for the control system.

**This a large airplane with high stresses. The control systems for it will require large amounts of current for the plane to fly properly. You will need heavy duty servos, extensions, and power supply.**

**If you do not already have a familiarity with how to equip a large aircraft, it may not be the right plane for you at this time. Call Wild Hare for advice if you have specific questions, but you should be 100% confident in your setup before flying this plane.**

**This manual will be kept brief because it is assumed that the reader has extensive experience with large radio controlled aircraft.**

**Things can go wrong on any remote controlled aircraft, always fly safely and away from people.**

## Optional Accessories

Wild Hare R/C makes available accessories that can enhance this kit's usefulness.

**Hardware kit.** Your kit has only basic fasteners included, but our hardware kit includes all the things you need to assemble the Sukhoi except for engine, muffler, spinner, glue, prop, and electronics. The hardware has been tested to be completely compatible with our kits. it contains;

Heavy duty ball links and control horns.

Composite pushrod materials to make pushrods as explained in this manual.

Wild Hare pull-pull kit for rudder.

3.5" Dubro or Sullivan wheels and 3/16" axles and 4 wheel collars..

20 or 24 oz. gas tank plus tygon line, tee, and fuel dot

2-56 throttle and choke pushrods with nylon clevises plus EZ connectors

Many miscellaneous small parts such as nuts, washers, horns, springs, etc.

**Spinner.** The Sukhoi looks best with a 3.5" spinner. Wild Hare normally keeps Dave Brown Vortec spinners in stock, they are cut to fit a large prop such as a 22-8 Bunny, and are normally available drilled for a DA-50 and a 6 bolt pattern as is used on the TOC-53.

**Servos.** Wild Hare sells servos from Hitec and other manufacturers. We have flown this plane with servos such as the Hitec 7985. It is absolutely essential that you use good servos.

**Pilot and instrument panel** dresses the plane up and is required to avoid penalty in in upper IMAC classes.

## **Assembly sequence**

The fast-build nature of this plane has changed the natural order of what should be done when. It used to be that the first thing to do was mount the engine, now the landing gear comes first. Below is the approximate sequence for assembling this plane.

1. Open and inspect everything, add any updates or corrections noted.
2. Mount the landing gear and tailwheel.
3. Mount the horizontal stabs and rudder
4. Mount the engine to the firewall.
5. Install control horn studs in all surfaces.
6. Install the canopy/hatch
7. Install the servos
8. Install the pull-pull cables (where needed)
9. Install linkages
10. Set CG and control throws
11. Recheck and fine tune balance and throws, range check, test run engine.

It is extremely important that the engine runs properly and is reliable. More crashes are caused by engine failure than by all other reasons combined.

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## Step 1. Open and inspect everything

This section should be fairly self explanatory.

In the large box you should have a fuselage with hatch and attached canopy, wing tube and stab tube, the elevator/stab assemblies, the rudder, cowl, wheel pants, landing gear and packages with the tail wheel assembly plus miscellaneous nuts and bolts. The hinges are installed in the elevators and ailerons. The rudder is also hinged but not attached.

Check everything for shipping damage and/or manufacturing defects. **If there is a problem, report it to us NOW**, not after you start building the plane. **SAVE ALL PACKAGING UNTIL YOU ARE SURE THERE IS NO DAMAGE. THE ORIGINAL PACKAGING IS REQUIRED FOR ANY DAMAGE CLAIM.**

## Known issues and improvements

There are a few areas where, at this unassembled stage, you can improve the final results of your assembly project. There are many items that cannot be addressed on the assembly line due to cost and possibly because not every improvement would be welcomed by every builder. Here are a few items that have come up over time.

**Firewall reinforcement** — First, be sure the firewall is properly glued, this is one weak spot of assembly line construction. Set the fuselage on its side on an angle with the nose down. Put something under it, glue may drip. Drip thin CA into the joint between the firewall and the motorbox side. Let it dry, then repeat until the wood will no longer absorb any Ca. Turn the fuselage over and repeat. It's also a good idea to install triangle stock in the corners where the firewall meets the sides, also with epoxy. After doing this we have never had a firewall fail in normal use.

**Re-glue servo trays** — One of the areas that the factory can do better is gluing the servo trays. After you have cut away the covering over each servo tray you should use some thin or medium CA to securely glue these into the wings and stabs.

**Please see engine alignment note on the next page.**

## Builder's Tips

Gas planes tend to vibrate more than one might expect. **Fasteners come loose** if not properly retained. Always use washers/lock washers. When possible use nylock nuts. You can put a little RTV silicone in the threads of screws to help keep them from coming loose. Do not use loctite on small screws, you may never get them out. An exception is engine mounting screws which should have blue loctite in their threads. Never use red loctite.

To open the large holes in the covering use a sharp Xacto knife. Cutting covering dulls the blade quickly so have spare sharp blades available.

To open small holes neatly use a hot soldering iron, this creates a much neater opening.

Do yourself a favor and order a bag of socket head/washer head servo mounting screws from microfasteners.com, part # STW0207 (7/16") or STW0209 (9/16"). You will use them everywhere. \$5 well spent.

On wheel collars I replace the small allen head set screw with a conventional 6-32 socket head screw SCA0604 also from Micro Fasteners. This allows you to get the screw very tight and prevents lost wheels, works with the Dubro wheel collars in the WH hardware kits.

It's a good idea to install the control horn studs in the hard points before you mount the h-stabs and rudder. Once installed on the plane handling the surfaces is not as easy.

When making adjustments to controls and balance, make small changes and try to make only 1 change at a time. This seems tedious but it can prevent a lot of troubles.

### Making the rudder removable

If you want to be able to remove the rudder to make the plane fit in a smaller vehicle it's possible but you need to plan it before hinging is done.

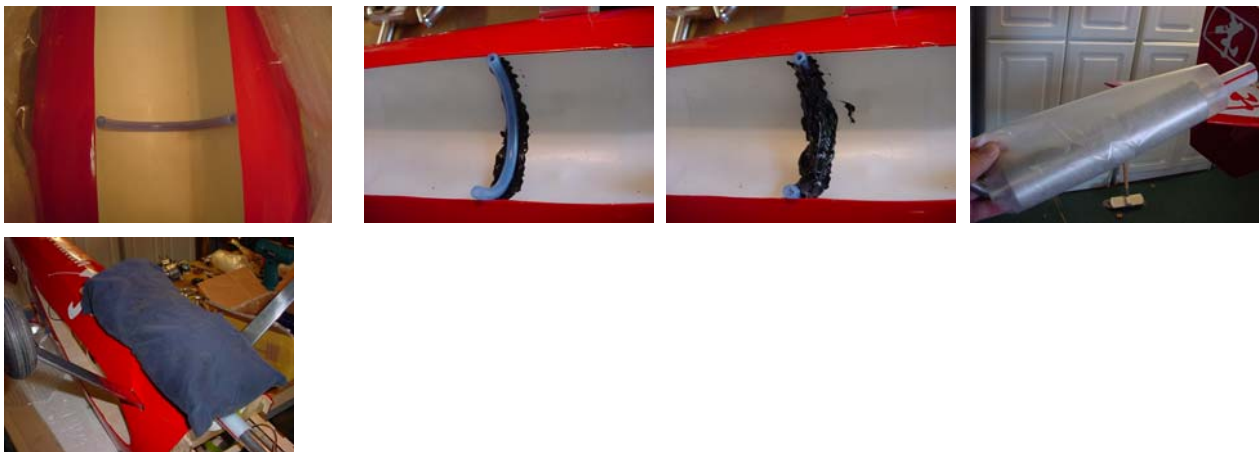
You can grind the heads off of the aluminum pins that hold the two parts of the hinge together and replace the 4 hinge pins with a wire of the same size. You will need to find a way to retain the wire in the plane during flight. Insert the wire in all 4 hinges during the hinge gluing process to be sure the 4 hinges are properly aligned.

## Canister Installation

A canister header with a 25mm drop (DA-50) or 50mm drop (TOC-53) will be needed in order to properly position the canister muffler in the provided tunnel. A complete canister muffler kit is available for the DA-50 and TOC-53 engines.

To mount a canister in the recessed tunnel we used the following procedure with excellent results. Test fit the canister and header to find the approximate center point of the muffler and mark the tunnel face at that point. Remove the canister and clean the surface at that point with some acetone. You will want to mount the muffler at this centerline point. You will need a length of silicone tubing, some black RTV silicone, and a long tie wrap/zip tie. You will be working on the fuselage upside down.

Cut a length of the silicone tubing long enough to lay inside the tunnel and reach from side to side. Coat the surface of the tunnel at the mounting point with a layer of black RTV silicone. Lay that piece of silicone tubing across the tunnel on the RTV so the silicone tubing will be glued to the tunnel surface. Hold it in place by laying the canister muffler on top of the silicone so that it is forced against the RTV, and tape it in place until the RTV sets.



Once set, pull the canister away, and re-coat the silicone tube surface with more black RTV so the top coating reaches from side to side across the silicone tube, creating a sort of RTV “strap” to hold the tubing to the tunnel. Install the header to the engine. Wrap the canister at the midpoint in waxed paper to prevent its being glued in, and install the canister into the position where it will be mounted. This should make an impression into the soft RTV covering the tube. Tape the canister in place and allow the RTV to dry thoroughly. When finished you should have a silicone “tunnel” which wraps around the top half of the canister and which provides a cushioned surface for the muffler to rest on.

Now cut another length of silicone tubing long enough to reach across the muffler. Thread your long tie wrap through the silicone tunnel on the plane and around the muffler with the second piece of silicone tube on top of the muffler insulating the tie wrap from the muffler’s heat.

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## Step 2. Attach the landing gear.

This step is first because it is easier to mount the engine with the plane sitting on its gear.

### Landing Gear

The landing gear mounts to angle brackets at the top. The landing gear is threaded for 10-32 screws which are supplied with the plane. Simply open the slots on each side of the fuselage by cutting away the covering, slide the gear leg in and attach with screws through the aluminum bracket and into the threaded gear leg. In actual testing we found that the screws are threaded in a difficult position and it may require some patience on your part to get the screws installed without stripping or galling the threads. Please be patient working with these. I have also found that it makes the job much easier if you open the outside rear mounting hole on each side to 1/4", being careful not to drill through the fuselage bottom. Then mount the leg with the inner screw (keep this at 1/2" length or it will go through the belly pan) first, then the rear screw with a flat washer, leaving both loose until you get the third and final screw started. It's also a good idea to run the screw through the threaded holes first to be sure the threads are clear. Sometimes the threaded hole is not square to the surface, take note of any angle to allow you to aim the screw properly when installing it.

When landing and taxiing try to avoid high speed turns, side loading the landing gear is an easy way to overstress any landing gear and this one in particular.

The tailwheel is inserted into a pre-drilled hole in the rear support plate, then two saddle clamps are attached with small wood screws to hold it in place.

After the rudder has been installed is the time to hook up the tailwheel steering linkage. The wheel is steered from the tiller by means of springs which protect the rudder servo(s) from damage from severe shock on takeoff/landing.

**Note: These photos are from a different plane but the layout is identical.**



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## Step 3. **Attach the elevators/horizontal stabilizers and rudder.**

The H-stabs mount on an aluminum tube/spar and are retained to the fuselage by 2 4-40 screws on each side which go through a tab on the bottom of the stab into pre-drilled holes in the fuse.

The rudder has hinges glued into it. You will need to glue these hinges into the pre-drilled holes in the fin using a good hinge glue like Gorilla glue. Cut the covering away from the holes in the fin to expose the wood, swab some glue around in the holes to fully coat the sides and push the rudder hinges into the holes as far as possible, secure it with tape until the glue has dried.

If you want to make the rudder removable see the note in step 1.

Elevator servos mount in holes in the side of the fuselage as shown. There are also holes to mount rudder servos, do not get these two holes confused.

## Step 4. **Engine mounting**

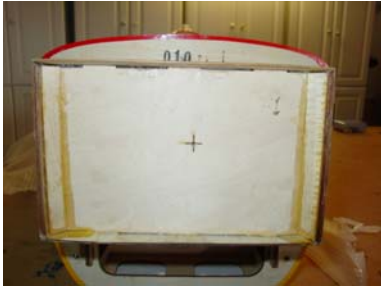
The first thing to do, before anything else goes in the fuselage, is to get the engine mounted and aligned with the cowl. Here's how it is done on this fast build plane.

There is a "+" cross on the firewall. There is also a template for a TOC-53 (or DA-50) included with the plane. It has a center mark also. If you are not using a TOC-53 or DA-50 or equivalent you will need to supply your own template with a mark indicating the centerline of the crankshaft. Drill through the two center marks and mount the template to the firewall aligning the two center marks.

Drill the engine mounting holes with a 3/16" drill, then remove the template. Enlarge the holes to 1/4" and install 4 10-32 blind nuts (supplied with our optional engine mounting kit). It is helpful to mount the blind nuts into 1" aircraft ply squares and use CA to glue these squares to the rear of the firewall as you pull the blind nuts in from the front. This makes them easier to install and prevents the nuts from sinking into the lite ply firewall.

Mount the engine on spacers sized to put the spinner backplate in front of the cowl face. Minimum clearance fore the prop is about 1/4". If your plane is tail heavy after checking the balance spacing the engine farther forward is a good way to shift the balance forward without adding weight.

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**Mounting the Cowl** — The cowl mounts via a ring that is glued into the fiberglass shell.

The ring mounts to the F1 former via 8-32 screws which are inserted from the rear of F1. There are 3 screws at the top and 2 at the bottom which go through two tabs which protrude into the canister tunnel.

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## Step 5. Install control horns

Control horns are the stud type. An 8-32 steel screw is threaded into the pre-drilled hard point from one side of the surface (the bottom on aileron and elevators) and then the head is cut off leaving an 8-32 stud which provides a mount for the plastic control horn. The Wild Hare hardware kit includes control horns designed specifically for this plane or they can be purchased separately.

On ailerons and elevators for each horn mark a 8-32 x 2" screw 3/4 inch from its end. Thread the screw into the pre-drilled hole in the hard point until the mark is even with the surface. Then cut the head off the screw using a dremel with cutoff wheel or similar tool. Smooth away any burrs.

Thread the control horn onto the protruding stud. You may need to hold the shaft of the stud with a pliers to prevent it from rotating deeper into the hole. Screw the horn on to the stud until the top of the stud exits the horn. Final adjustment of horn height will come later as you adjust the servo linkage.

On the rudder thread a 3" 8-32 screw in from one side until there is an equal amount of thread showing on each side, then cut the head off.

*Here's a tip. When you cut the head off with your Dremel, it will be hot. Don't let it fall on your legs or on the covering or it will burn through the covering (or your skin or pants).*

*Here's another hint. Instead of using 8-32 screws, I cut sections from an 8-32 threaded rod. To screw them into the hard point I chucked the threaded rod section into my cordless drill, this worked well and was fast.*

## Step 6. Mounting the hatch and canopy

The hatch mounts to the fuselage by tabs on each side. The holes for mounting the hatch are pre-drilled and 4-40 blind nuts are already installed, you only need to find the hole under the covering and open it up with a knife or a hot soldering iron.

The canopy is pre-attached at the factory. No additional work should be required, but you may want to add a panel and pilot to dress the plane up.

When you attach the hatch to the fuselage use lock washers and/or some type of thread locker such as RTV silicone in the threads to avoid losing these two screws.

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## Step 7. Installing the servos, adjusting the linkages

In attempting to write this chapter, I realized that this operation is something that each person will want to do their own way. I will merely offer information that I know to be accurate and of help.

Use heavy duty (22ga if possible) extensions with good gold plated connectors. Current flow with these powerful servos is very important and connectors introduce resistance which can negatively affect servo operation.

Set the plane up so it's easy to attach and detach the wings, and the h-stabs also if you see that they will be on and off the plane frequently.

The installed rudder tray can be used to mount a single servo in a pull-pull configuration. A Hitec 7985 is very good, a 7955 is excellent.

the top half of the canister and which provides a cushioned surface for the muffler to rest on.

Now cut another length of silicone tubing long enough to reach across the muffler. Thread your long tie wrap through the silicone tunnel on the plane and around the muffler with the second piece of silicone tube on top of the muffler insulating the tie wrap from the muffler's heat.

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## Step 8. Install the pull-pull rudder controls

Using a pull-pull rudder linkage has many advantages. It is simple and light and easy to make, here's how to do it using the Wild Hare pull-pull kit.

Start with your control horns installed on the rudder tiller equidistant from the center of the rudder and the servo that will drive the rudder installed. Trim the covering away from the slots in the fuselage.

Screw 4-40 eye bolts into the two ball-links on the rudder horns and into two other ball links. Attach those two ball links to your rudder servo arm, one on each side. Screw the eye-bolts into the ball link about 1/4". This will leave room for adjustment later.

Cut the supplied cable in half, and attach one segment through the eye bolt in each end of the rudder servo arm, and use the supplied crimp sleeve to secure the wire. You should now have an assembly consisting of the double servo arm, 2 ball links, 2 eye bolts and 2 cables..

Install the servo arm on the servo. Fish a long wire from the rear of the fuse through the slot in one side and up through the fuse. Tape the cable end from that side of the arm to the wire and pull it back through the slot. Repeat for the other side.

You now have both cables hanging out of the slots. At this point you will need to have power to the receiver and center the rudder servo. Use subtrim to get the arm exactly square to the fuse centerline. With the fuse sitting on one side slip a crimp collar over the cable and thread the cable through the eye bolt on the top side of the rudder, then back through the crimp sleeve. Holding the rudder centered, pull the loose end of the cable as tight as you can get it and crimp the sleeve down on the cable to secure it. Cut off the excess cable. Repeat this procedure on the opposite side of the fuse.

At this point the cables will be a little loose. If you followed the instructions you will have about 1/2" of adjustment at each eye-bolt/ball link. Tighten the eyebolts into the ball links to take up the slack. You want the wires pulled tight, but not so tight that they place a strain on the servo mount. They are not guitar strings!

When you actuate the rudder the non-pulling cable may become slightly slack, this doesn't hurt anything. There should not be any slack when the rudder is centered.

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## Steps 9. Installation of fuel system, radio and control linkages

These 3 subjects are combined on one page because this is the part where you get to do things your way. We have only done a few things to get you started.

There are pre-cut holes in one or both fuse sides that will fit the popular integrated switch/charge jack assemblies. These are available from Maxx Products, Cermark, JR, and probably several other vendors. Some trimming may be required. . **If you do cut into the fuse side for any reason do not cut the balsa longerons at the top and bottom of each side.**

The fuel tank can be mounted on top of the canister tunnel just in front of the wing tube. Putting it there minimizes changes in balance as the engine burns off fuel. There should be plenty of room for a smoke tank also.

The Wild Hare hardware kit supplies the complete fuel system. We anticipate that you will use a two line system. In this arrangement one line is the vent line and simply goes to the outside air. The other line connects to a Tee, one leg of the Tee supplies fuel to the engine and the other leg is used for filling. Drill a 3/8" hole and mount the body of the fuel dot on the fuse side where it will be convenient. The fuel dot glues into the fuse, there is no nut to secure it. Use some thick CA to hold it in place. The line from the Tee goes through the fuel dot and is plugged with the supplied plug.

**Please use good strong pushrods and other linkage parts.** A sample of the assembly that we used is shown in the picture below. We use carbon fiber reinforced steel pushrods and our own brand of control horns similar to the Rocket City parts. The servo connection is done with Wild Hare #4 ball links attached to aluminum servo arms.

Making pushrods that will withstand the forces involved in a large plane of this type is very simple once you see how it is done. If you have your own design, feel free to use it, but make sure it will handle the load.

You will need a length of 3/16" carbon fiber or fiberglass tubing, a length of 4-40 all-thread rod, and some 4-40 nuts. All this hardware is included in our optional hardware kit. We use fiberglass tubing because CF tends to split under compression, if you use CF use a ferrule to hold it together at each end (*you can get a nice ferrule for this at any bicycle shop, they are used on the cables on bikes*).

First, set up your linkage using the ball links and the 4-40 all-thread cut to the proper length. You can make all your pushrods at once, so get all those rods set to the right length. The rod should screw into the ball link far enough to be sure there is sufficient thread engagement. It's a good idea to draw a mark on the threaded rod about 3/8" from the end, then thread the rod into the ball link until the mark disappears.

Measure each pushrod, and cut a piece of fiber tube that is 1 1/2" shorter than the rod. Slip the tube over the rod and tighten down a nut from each end so that you leave an equal amount of thread at each end to mount the ball link. Tighten the nuts slightly so they don't come loose (loctite helps) and so there is a little tension on the rod inside the tube.

You're done. Install the pushrods.



Note: With solid steel the full length the rod cannot pull apart. The fiberglass tube carries the load when the rod is pushing. The only place it can bend is in the region of exposed steel rod, so the less steel rod that is showing the better.

<b>Control</b>	<b>Pushrod length</b>	<b>Servo extension length</b>
<b>Ailerons</b>	5 1/2"	24"
<b>Elevators</b>	3"	12"

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Step 10. Mounting the wings, balancing and control throws.

The wings mount to the fuselage on an aluminum tube spar. Retain the wings with one 1/4"-20 screw on each wing through the fuselage side. Nylon thumb screws are supplied with the kit because they are more resistant to vibration.

The first flight should be done with the plane balanced at the center of the wing tube or slightly in front of the center..

After the first flight adjusting the balance is a matter of personal taste. I prefer a CG which flies the same upright or inverted. Your preference will vary, you can adjust it later but it's important on the first flight that the plane is balanced at or slightly ahead of the wing tube when it is in ready to fly condition.

To check CG in flight adjust the plane for straight and level upright flight hands off. Then at a safe altitude roll the plane inverted and let go of the elevator control to see what the plane does. Most people like to see the plane descend gently. If the plane heads for the ground it's nose heavy, if it climbs it's considered tail heavy. A tail heavy airplane can be very difficult to control, and a very nose heavy plane will have a tendency to snap easily and will want to land at a higher speed.

## Control Throws

We set the control throws as follows on planes in test. Please keep in mind the high rates specified here are for 3d. The elevator in particular at these rates will cause instant stalling, tumbling, and all sorts of other things that can only be done at low speeds. **Do not use the 3d settings until you are thoroughly familiar with the plane on low rates.**

	High rate (3D)	Low rate
Ailerons	23 deg	<b>16 deg</b>
Elevators	40+ deg.	<b>12 deg. is plenty</b>
Rudder	45 deg.	<b>25 deg.</b>

**Fly the plane on low rates at first. At high 3d rates it is very difficult to fly. The 3d rates are intended only for extreme aerobatics. On the first flight you are much more likely to have too much control throw than not enough, so plan accordingly. Adjust to your preferences after you become familiar with**