

SIX REASONS TO BUILD SCALE MODEL WATERCRAFT

Radio Control (RC) watercraft of all kinds are a fun hobby for the young, old, and in between ages alike as well as girls, boys, women, and men are enjoying this hobby of scale modeling with the intent of operating their creations on the water.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

In these uncertain times in the world where we are required to stay at home to help stop the spread of Coronavirus, gives us the unique opportunity by providing time and a need to do something in that time. Scale ship building can be used to calm us, give us something to do and to develop the skill in boat building. The only real method to develop that skill is to **just do it** (where have we heard that before?), there are several very skilled boat builders in our area that we can contact to teach us.

No matter what type or size of ship you choose, there is a series of stages involved in order to complete the project. These include some research to learn the history of the desired boat / ship. Thank goodness there is the Internet to help us readily learn that history. Also, there is learning the look of the ship so that it can be built with the scale in mind. Another step is to obtain the original building plan to have as a guide. The plan will tell you what goes where on your model.

These steps or stages in building are as follows:

1. Researching
2. Planning
3. Cutting
4. Drilling
5. Sculpting
6. Sanding
7. Gluing
8. Resining
9. Painting
10. Detailing
11. Photography



As most builders can attest, there are certain areas of this process that they are stronger at than others, but the joy of scale model making is that you can become multi-skilled the more you build therefore, the more you learn from each project you complete.

STRESS RELEASE

For most of us, stress is an unavoidable aspect of our everyday lives. Our hobbies and interests offer an outlet for relieving that stress. A couple of hours spent piecing together or painting your model can clear your mind of the problems of the world and leave you in a calmer state than when you began.

INSTANT AND ONGOING REWARDS

With part builds, you have the opportunity to break down a potentially large and long-term project into “bite-sized” pieces. The benefits of this is that you can see fast progress over a shorter period of time, without being bogged down or overwhelmed by the larger scope of your build. As you progress to the completion of your model you will feel a strong sense of personal achievement and pride, and with each new scale model, you will see continuous improvement across all areas.



CHANCE TO BE AN ARTIST

Art comes in many shapes and forms and while you may not be a brilliant illustrator, painter, writer or musician, scale models offer you the opportunity to create your own art. Sure, there's an engineered, “paint-by-numbers” element to the whole build process, but there is plenty of room for personal flair every step of the way. Instructions are only ever there as a guide, and once you've mastered how to put a model together, you can add your personal touch in any way you choose.

MAKING YOUR OWN TROPHY COLLECTION

Personal trophies always leave you with a sense of pride and a little something to show off to your peers. A well-built and nicely finished scale model can provide the same level of self-esteem and personal achievement, are the trophies you reward yourself with is only limited by the time, money, and type of scale ship model you choose to commit to building.



MEANINGFUL TIME SPENT WITH LOVED ONES

In a time when technology seems to be taking over, scale modeling offers a hands-on way to spend quality time with family, working together on a shared passion. As already detailed above, multi-skilled development is a big part of model building as is growing self-esteem, patience, concentration and perseverance. By collaborating with your family members throughout the build process, you also instill the importance of teamwork and strengthening your relationship.

