

HULL PLANKING HINTS
by Don Dressel

Henry Bridenbecker, when planking his model ships, goes from the keel up and the wale down, eventually winding up in a position where he has one plank left to complete the hull - right in the midships section of the model. This is shown in Figure No. 1. The problem comes when you try to fit this last plank - how to get the right shape to fit snugly without patching.

The solution to this problem is to follow the procedure outlined here. Obtain some heavy artist paper such as charcole paper or water-color paper. Wet the paper. Place the wet paper over the area to be planked (the shadowed area in the figure) and press and stroke the paper so that you obtain a clear impression of the required plank on the paper. This also gives you the compound curve form of the plank when laid out to dry. When the paper has dried, cut out the plank shape with scissors and then scribe the shape onto the piece of wood planking material. This is then simply cut out to the line drawn from the paper plank to the line scribed on the wood. Then you simply fit the plank carefully. A little filing may be required. You can also use this technique to get a good fit against the rabbet on the keel, the sternpost and bow, and other difficult areas to be planked.

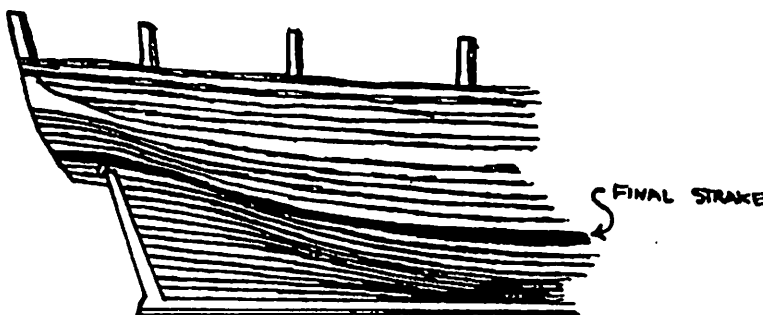


FIGURE NO. 1

SHADOW AREA ON HULL SHOWS
FINAL STRAKE TO BE PLANKED
