

How To Do It. Another construction tip from Roger Van DeWalker.

Timberheads on a Solid Hull

Timberheads on a solid hull, when you want to have thin planked bulwarks, have been quite a problem. The best solution I've seen to date has been very time consuming and weak. The solution is quite simple if you plan to plank the entire hull. The width of the slots should be quite loose to allow for adjustment when glueing. The depth, however, should be accurate. I found that a Dremel router set-up gave me the best results.

When glueing, position the timberheads so that the top is a constant (finished) height from the deck. I didn't do this and found it quite difficult to trim to length later. The bottom end doesn't make much difference as some coarse sandpaper makes quick work of these. The frames (timberheads) were normally square to the keel, but photos of vessels show them at different angles adjacent to each other, so this is not a great problem.

