

The OSA class missile boats were one of the most successful classes of naval craft ever designed, with well over 500 built and service in 25 or more navies. They were a further development of the KOMAR class boat (60 tons), which ushered in a new age of naval warfare when two examples of that class sank a destroyer (1700 tons) at a range of 13.6 miles using their missiles. The OSA was a bigger boat, at around 200 tons, with limited blue-water capability, and continued the successful use of anti-ship missiles during Operation Trident/python in the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war, sinking 6 ships and destroying an oil terminal with no losses.

The class has been widely exported to Warsaw Pact and other third-world nations usually with limited defensive capabilities which lays them open to attack with sophisticated modern missiles. But during the 1960s and 1970s these boats posed a huge threat to Western navy forces, with their ability to engage at great distances, far beyond the reach of conventional weaponry.

This model is one of a range of simple 'starter' kits, continuing the tradition of the Keil Kraft 'EeZeBilt' range, which were pocket-money kits intended to introduce youngsters to the hobby of model boat building. They are of simple construction, made of balsa, an easy and forgiving material to work in, and can be made with few tools in a small space such as a bedroom. The interlocking construction used enables youngsters to build things themsleves and not to need the services of an adult – this builds confidence and gives pride in the finished item. This will be a realistic boat which will look as good displayed on a shelf as in the water.



EezeBilt OSA Missile Boat - Page 1 of 19





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	OSA Missile Boat - Page 4	of 19	Ζ	\setminus
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EezeBilt OSA Missile Boat - Page 6 of 19





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	Bottom Skin B	Make 2	
Join 10	align on this line		Join 11

This hull requires 2 30" strips of 1/4" x 1/8" balsa for deck supports, and optionally 4 20" similar strips for side skin support if the material used seems weak. They are not illustrated. Cut these from sheet. The side skin support strips can be omitted if, for instance, bass wood is used for the skinning...

All skins shown here are drawn oversize, to allow for trimming. Once attached, they should be cut and sanded to match the hull framework.



All material 1/16 hard balsa except where indicated

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First, a word about scale. The OSA is modeled at the popular 1:48 scale(Railway 'O' gauge) so a lot of fittings and figures of this size can be bought commercially. Incidentally, the boat is quite close to scale - the major amendment is that the superstructure is somewhat bigger to enable easier access to the inside. A number of detail items are also lacking, such as life-rafts. There are many varients of these boats- the most common Warsaw Pact ones will have a more complex mast with extensive electronic countermeasures while the Chinese boats will have portholes at the bow and manual AA guns - therefore no rear AA radar. The model here is based on the INS NIPAT - an export version which had limited electronics, making the mast simpler!

If you want to make your own fittings, this section provides some examples of how things were done on the prototype. They are 1:1 scale so measurements can be taken from them.

	1 inch
Anchor - the model uses a Byers-type anchor about 1" long. I made one out of soldered tinsheet from the following shapes	
Winches - these are easily made from wood or metal rod, turned with a dip in the middle	
Chain Guide - this was made from a bent edge of plastic sprue glued onto a base	
Aerials - make from telescopic brass to be removable. Solder washers on as shown	Socket Aerial
Windows are made from squares of acetate, with the edges painted, stuck on the outside of the frame	Side windows - make 4 Front windows - make 3
Make a winscreen out of thin acetate, and glue on top of the bridge parapet.	



EezeBilt OSA Missile Boat - Page 18 of 19

1 inch

The prototype rudder was about 1.5" x 1", and shaped like the full-size version as illustrated. The actual full-size uses three props with three very small rudders of this odd shape - in practice any shape will be fine...

The model uses a long prop-shaft - 14". I used a 9.5" tube with a 14" shaft and supported the prop end with a skeg

Bollards should be about 1/2" long and 1/4" high. I make mine out of suitable-sized nails with a brass tube around them, soldered into a brass strip, as shown.



Make the rear radar dome from a cut-down Kinder Egg or turned from solid balsa to the size shown.

The Kinder Egg can be mounted with a bolt and two thick washers as indicated.



Mushroom vents are about 0.3" round, and 0.15" high. I made mine by cutting off the dimples from a sheet of pills, and gluing these domes onto a short length of dowel

Hatches are simply1/2" squares of balsa with a 0.7mm wire handle. Wire is also used for ladder rungs, and railings The full-size boat has 2-ball railings all around the deck edge - use 20mm height commercial ones for the model.





hatch Ladder Rung





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