INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on the purchase of the HERR ENGINEERING Little Extra ARF kit! The Little Extra is one of the first true high-performance 1/2A fun-fly R/C type models to be available in an Almost Ready to Fly format. Like larger fun-fly type sport models, the Little Extra is loaded with a lot of features and truly exhilarating performance potential. The airframe is very light, beautifully built and engineered to last a long time. The covering has been professionally applied and the trim scheme is just about perfect for this type of model. The assembly process is very quick and further enhanced by the completeness of the kit.

Properly powered and flown, the Little Extra is a very capable fun-fly type model! The airplane itself has been specifically designed around the powerful little Norvel .074 BigMig R/C engine. The kit includes a custom-cut motor mount assembly specifically for this engine and even includes a custom aluminum spinner insert for the spinner, designed to fit the .074 prop shaft. In the air you will find it hard to believe that such a small model can fly so "big". The Little Extra is fully capable of just about any R/C maneuver you care to throw at it - point rolls, snaps, knife-edge, inverted flight, lomcevaks, etc. Who knew flying small gas powered models could be so fun! Herr Engineering, that's who.

To take full advantage of the Little Extra's potential flight envelope, we urge you to carefully review this Assembly Manual, paying particular attention to the radio and battery equipment suggestions. These suggestions are based upon a lot of experience with this design and should be heeded. The success of this model is based upon its light ready-to-fly weight, so you want to be sure your airborne equipment is as light as possible.

Finally, the Little Extra ARF design is not intended as a beginner's R/C model. The design assumes that you are a proficient R/C pilot, capable of flying relatively high-performance model aircraft.

RADIO EQUIPMENT

As mentioned previously, it is very important to select the correct airborne radio equipment for your Little Extra ARF model. This Assembly Manual will show the use of the following equipment. This equipment is what we have used and can highly recommend for the Little Extra ARF:

- 5 Micro Servos (Hitec™ HS-55 Servos used, (Hitec™ P/N 31055*)
- 1 Micro Receiver (see suggested receivers below)
- 1 270-300 mAh Airborne Battery Pack (Hitec™ P/N 57405*)
- 1 Hitec™ Miniature Switch Harness (Hitec™ P/N 54403*)
- 1 Hitec™ 6" Y-Harness (Hitec™ P/N 57351*)
- 1 Hitec™ 6" Servo Extension (Hitec™ P/N 57344*)

(*With these part numbers you must specify the connector type for your radio system)

We used and recommend the Hitec™ HS-55 Feather Servos for this model. Of course you can use different brands of servos but make sure they are the same size, weight, and output as the HS-55 units.

IMPORTANT SERVO NOTE: The Hitec™ HS-55 servos we used in this kit all had off-the-shelf servo lead lengths of 10-1/2". This meant that we did not have to add servo extensions to these servos to reach the center of the wing. If you are using servos with shorter leads, you will likely have to add servo lead extensions.

For receivers, we have used the Hitec™ #555, the Hitec™ Electron 6 and the FMA M5 units. All three of these receivers are dual conversion types. These receivers are light, have excellent range and, because they are dual conversion types, they are perfect for use at any typical R/C flying field. We do not recommend using single conversion receivers for this model.

Finally, the transmitter you use for this model is important. For our Little Extra ARF models, we used both the Hitec™ Flash 4 and the Airtronics® RD-6000 transmitters. Both of these affordable systems offer multi-model memory and a host of easy-to-use computer features that make radio set-up and flying a whole easier and much more fun. If you do not use these transmitters or similar units, the set-up and flying of your model is going to be more difficult.

ENGINE SELECTION:

As previously mentioned, the Little Extra ARF was specifically designed to fly very nicely using the Norvel™ .074 BigMig R/C engine. The use of this recommended engine provides really
good power margins and excellent high speed-low speed characteristics. Using larger engines is not recommended. Larger engines weigh more and will cause CG problems.

COVERING MATERIAL:

Your Little Extra ARF has been professionally covered using SIG AEROKOTE-LITE™ iron-on covering film. This is a low temperature covering film that is both very tough and light, weighing only 5.9 grams per square foot. For reference, the AEROKOTE-LITE™ colors used on this model are:

#SIGSGX204 Cream and #SIGSGX241 Turquoise or #SIGSGX100 Brilliant White and #SIGSGX360 Violet

If you live in a drier climate, you may notice that some wrinkles might develop after removing the covered parts from their plastic bags. This is not mean that the covering is defective! Your model was built and covered in a part of the world with relatively high humidity and therefore the wood was likely carrying a fair amount of moisture. When exposed to drier air, wood typically loses this moisture, dimensionally "shrinking" in the process. In turn this may cause some wrinkles. However, wrinkles are easy to remove by just using a hobby type heat iron. Remember that with thin structures, such as the tail group and ailerons, excess heat will warp them. Therefore, be careful when applying heat to remove a wrinkle - a Trim Seal tool, with a small shoe is always best for these kinds of surfaces - be sure to use the low heat setting on this tool.

For reshrinking AEROKOTE-LITE™ set your iron temperature to approximately 140°-180° F (60°-82° C).

Use the iron to go completely over all seams and color joints, making sure they are all well sealed and secure. If a wrinkle is found, hold the hot iron over the wrinkle to lightly shrink the material - do not press on it. Once the covering is tight, lightly iron it back down to the wood. Also, use caution when working with heat around the canopy area - heat will distort this clear plastic material.

MODELER'S TIP: A method to avoid damaging seams and joints when reshrinking the covering is to protect them with paper towels soaked in cold tap water and rolled into strips. These are then arranged directly onto the joints or seams and their coolness protects the seam from shifting or "crawling" under heat.

REQUIRED TOOLS:

For proper assembly, we suggest you have the following tools and materials available:

A selection of glues - SIG Thin and Thick CA and SIG Kwik-Set 5-Minute Epoxy
Threadlock Compound, Such as Loctite® #242 Non-Permanent Blue
Screwdriver Assortment
Pliers - Needle Nose and Flat Nose
Diagonal Wire Cutters
Small Allen Wrench Assortment
Small Power Drill With Selection of Bits
Pin Vise for Small Dia. Drill Bits
Hobby Knife With Sharp #11 Blades
Scissors
Heat Iron and Trim Seal Tool
Masking Tape
Paper Towels

COMPLETE KIT PARTS LIST:

The following is a complete list of all parts contained in this kit. Before beginning assembly, we suggest that you take the time to inventory the parts in your kit.

AIRCRAFT PARTS:

Bag #1 Vertical Fin and Rudder Assembly (with 3 unglued hinges in place)
Bag #2 Horizontal Stabilizer and Elevator Assembly (with 6 unglued hinges in place)
Bag #3 Wing Assembly with Ailerons (with 4 unglued hinges in place for each aileron)
Bag #4 Fuselage Assembly (with rudder & elevator pushrod tubes installed and canopy installed)
Bag #5 2 1mm x 126mm Aileron Pushrods Z-Bend
1 1mm x 325mm Throttle Pushrod with Z-Bend
1 1mm x 495mm Rudder & Elevator Pushrods with Z-Bend
1 Sub Bag (a) 1 4-40 x 1" Nylon Wing Bolt
4 Control Horns
5 Pushrod Keepers
Bag #6 2 42mm x 58mm Plastic Aileron Hatch/Mount Covers
4 7.2mm x 10.2mm Hardwood Aileron Servo Mounting Blocks
1 Plywood Aileron Positioning Guide (APG)
1 6mm x 12mm x 63mm Balsa Fuel Tank Retainer
4 M2.6 x 12mm PWA Engine Mounting Screws  
1 Sub Bag (a) 8 M2 x 5mm PWA Aileron Hatch Cover Screws

Bag #7 1 Pre-Bent Aluminum Main Landing Gear  
1 Sub Bag (a) 2 2" Dia. Main Wheels  
1 Sub Bag (b) 2 M3 x 25mm Wheel Axle Bolts  
4 M3 Hex Nuts  
2 M3 Lock Nuts  
4 M3 Flat Washers  
2 9mm PWA Screws  
2 M3 x 10mm PWA Bolts  
2 M3 Split Ring Lock Washers

1 Sub Bag (c) 1 Tail Wheel Wire  
1 Brass Tail Wheel Mounting Bracket  
2 M2 x 6mm PWA Screws  
1 15mm Dia. Tail Wheel

Bag #8 1 1-1/2" Dia. SIG Spinner Assembly  
1 Sub Bag (a) 2 2.6mm x 10mm Assembly Screws  
1 4mm Prop Shaft Adaptor (Norvel™ .074)

Bag #9 2 Wheel Pants, 1 Left, 1 Right, Factory Painted

Bag #10 1 Fuel Tank Assembly  
1 Sub Bag (a) 1 Metal Clunk  
3 Metal Fuel Tank Lines  
1 Rubber Tank Stopper  
With Mounting Hardware

Little Extra Decal Sheet  
Little Extra Assembly Manual

ASSEMBLY:

To avoid unnecessary "dings", dents, or scratches, we suggest covering your workbench with a sheet of light foam or an old blanket to protect the pre-covered parts. We also suggest that you fully charge the transmitter and airborne battery pack for use in the following assembly steps.

WINGS:

The wing in your Little Extra ARF kit is fully assembled and ready to use. Note that the aileron hinges are in place, but are NOT yet glued in place.

1) The ailerons are now hinged to the trailing edge of the wing. The supplied hinges are the CA type. Remove the ailerons from each wing panel, keeping the left aileron with the left wing panel and the right aileron with the right panel. Remove the eight (8) hinges. Note that the method used for hinging the ailerons is the same method that will be used to hinge the rudder and elevators.

The hinges have a die-cut center in them that can be used to accurately place and center the hinge equally into both the wing panel and the aileron. To do this, use a business card and a pair of scissors to cut eight or so "wedges". These should be wide enough at the top so as to not pass through the cut out in the center of the hinge. Press the hinges into the pre-cut hinge slots in the wing panel up to the hinge slot cut out. Place a card wedge into each hinge center and then press the aileron in place onto each exposed hinge half, up to the card wedges. Align the outer tip of the aileron with the wing panel tip. The hinges are now in proper position for permanently gluing in place with thin CA glue.

Flex the aileron downward about 30° or so, exposing both sides of each hinge between the wing and aileron. Use a piece of masking tape to hold the aileron in this position. For CA hinges, we always suggest using a fine-tipped applicator on the glue bottle to have better control of the flow. Remove the wedge from one of the hinges and apply four small drops of thin CA glue to each hinge edge. Remove the wedge from the next hinge and again apply four drops of glue to each hinge edge. Repeat this process for the remaining two hinges. Remove the tape holding the flexed aileron to the wing panel and flex the aileron in the opposite direction, again taping it to the wing to hold it in position. Turn the wing over and apply four drops of thin CA glue to each edge of the exposed hinges. Remove the tape and return the aileron to its neutral position. It takes about 10 minutes for the CA glue to fully wick its way across the surface of the hinge. Clean off any spilled glue with SIG Debonder.

After sufficient time has passed, flex the aileron firmly up and down on the wing panel to create free and easy movement. We also suggest pulling on the aileron at each hinge location to be sure that they are firmly in place. Repeat this procedure to hinge the opposite aileron in place.

2) Each aileron has two pre-drilled control horn mounting holes at their leading edges, directly behind the aileron servo openings. From the kit contents, locate the two plastic control horns. Note that the control horns are to be mounted on the bottom of each aileron, facing forward to the aileron servo openings. Use thick CA glue for this step. Apply a small amount of glue to each of the two "spikes" on the control horn. Apply an additional dab of glue to the base of the control horn, between the two "spikes". Press the two control horn spikes into the two
pre-drilled holes and against the bottom of the aileron. Repeat this procedure to attach the opposite aileron control horn. The exposed “spike” ends on the top of each aileron can be easily trimmed using a single edge razor blade.

❑ 3) From the kit contents, locate the following parts:
   2 Plastic Aileron Hatch/Mount Covers
   4 Hardwood Aileron Servo Mounting Blocks
   8 M2 x 5mm PWA Hatch Mounting Screws
   (For this step you will also need both of your aileron servos.)

Note that the aileron servo mount hatches are oriented on the bottom of the wing with their output arm slots on the wingtip side and closest to the aileron control horns, as shown.

The bottom surfaces of both aileron hatch/mount covers are now lightly sanded, using 220-grit sandpaper. Move the servo output arm to position it at 90° to the servo body. Hold the aileron servo in place on the sanded side of one of the aileron hatch covers. Move the servo to center the servo arm within the slot, leaving equal clearance on both sides, as shown. This is the position that the servo is mounted.

Hold the servo to the tray in the correct position with a small piece of tape. Apply some thick CA glue to one end of one of the hardwood mounting blocks and press it in place next to the servo, beneath its mounting lug and use CA accelerator to set the glue. Apply glue to the end of another mounting block and press it in place on the opposite side of the servo, beneath the mounting lug. Remove the tape and remove the servo.

Use a small diameter drill to make pilot holes in the hardwood mounting blocks, using the servo itself as a hole guide. Mount the servo to the hardwood blocks using the screws provided with your servos. Repeat this process with the remaining servo tray to make a “mirror image” servo mount for the opposite wing panel.

❑ 4) In this step the aileron servo leads will be routed from the aileron servo bay, through the wing and out through the two center holes in the top center of the wing. Carefully note the pre-installed string in the wing for this purpose. In each servo opening you will see a small scrap of balsa with string tied to it. This scrap balsa piece has been lightly glued into the bay and is easily broken loose.

Once the string is loose, remove the scrap balsa piece. Carefully tie and tape the aileron servo lead to the end of the string. From the top center of the wing, begin to pull the string and servo lead through the wing. Do this gently, using a little back and forth
movement if the connector hangs up anywhere within the wing.

Once the lead is out of the center hole, remove the string from the connector. Leave a little slack in the lead and tape it temporarily to the top of the wing. Turn the wing over and carefully position each servo into its opening in the bottom of the wing.

The hatch covers are now mounted in place. From the kit contents, locate the two Aileron Pushrod Wires - 1mm dia. x 126mm long. Attach one of the pushrods to the outermost hole in the servo output arm, using the end with the Z-bend. Hold the hatch in place in the wing and align the opposite end of the pushrod with one side or the other of the control horn. Slide the hatch left or right in the wing opening until the pushrod wire is at, or close to 90° to the trailing edge. This is the position the hatch should be mounted to the wing. Use a piece of masking tape to hold the servo tray to the surface of the wing. Use a pointed dowel or sharp pencil to carefully mark the position of the four hatch mounting holes onto the surface of the wing.

Use a pin vise or power tool to drill small diameter pilot holes through the surface of the wing for the mounting screws (Note: The wing has plywood plates installed beneath the hatch mount area to accept and hold the mounting screws). Mount the hatches to the bottom of the wing using the eight provided M2 x 5mm PWA screws - do not over-tighten these screws, just cinch them in place to establish the threads. Now remove all of the hatch screws and set them aside for now.

5) Remove the output arm retaining screws from both aileron servos and then remove the output arms. Connect both servo leads to the Y-harness and plug the Y-harness lead into the aileron channel in your receiver. Connect your On/Off switch lead into the receiver and the battery pack to the switch. Turn on your transmitter and make sure the aileron trim lever is in dead neutral. Turn on the airborne system with the switch and move the transmitter aileron stick to confirm that he servos are both moving. Reinstall both of the servo output arms to the aileron servos, making sure they are at 90° to the servo body.

Next, move the transmitter stick to confirm that the servos are moving in the correct direction to produce right and left movement to the ailerons. If they are not moving in the correct directions, use the servo reversing feature on your transmitter to reverse their movement - this may require that you will again have to reposition the output arms to 90°. After you confirm that the servos are moving in the correct direction and that the output arms are in the correct position, secure the output arms to the servos with their retaining screws.

The servos/servo hatches are now installed into each wing panel and their mounting screws secured. Turn off the airborne radio system and disconnect the switch and the Y-harness from the receiver and the battery from the switch. Turn off your transmitter.

6) The aileron pushrods are now connected to the aileron servos and the aileron control horns. For this step you will need the 2 Aileron Pushrods, 2 plastic Pushrod Keepers, and the plywood Aileron Positioning Guide (APG).

a) In order to correctly size and install the pushrods, the ailerons themselves must be placed and held in the neutral position. To do this, have a couple of pieces of masking tape handy, about 3” long. Hold the APG in place to the wing and aileron as shown. Use a piece of tape along the hinge line to hold the aileron in this position.
Turn the wing over and use another piece of tape along the hinge line to temporarily "lock" the aileron in this neutral position. Repeat this process with the opposite aileron. When viewing the wing from the side, the two ailerons should now be aligned with each other and in the neutral position to the wing.

b) Attach the "Z"-bend end of the pushrod to the exposed servo output arm, making sure the "V"-bend is facing away from the wings surface. Attach opposite pushrod in the same manner. Slip a plastic Pushrod Keeper onto each pushrod, with its arm facing to the control horn, as shown.

c) Hold the pushrod end against the control horn, at its outermost hole location. Use a fine tipped marker to mark the pushrod wire at the control horn hole location.

Remove the pushrod from the servo output arm and use a good pair of pliers to now bend the wire to a 90° angle at the mark just made. Trim the bent end of the wire to a length of 3/16" and lightly sand off any burrs on the cut end. Reinstall the pushrod to the servo output arm and press the bend end of the pushrod through the control horn hole. Slide the Pushrod Keeper back to the control horn and flex its arm over the wire end. Press the keeper in place over the wire and against the control horn. Repeat this process on the opposite aileron.

Remove the tape holding the ailerons in neutral. You can now test the operation of the ailerons with your radio system. The ailerons should move smoothly with transmitter stick movements and the ailerons should be moving in the correct directions (right aileron movement raises the right aileron and lowers the left aileron). Recheck the centering of the ailerons using the APG tool. If some adjustment is needed, use a pair of needle nose pliers to open or close the "V"-bend in the pushrod. Finally, we suggest you put the APG tool in your field box in case you need it again in the future.

With the exception of adding the decals, the wing is now complete and ready to use.

MOUNTING THE TAIL GROUP:

- 1) The elevators are now hinged to the horizontal stabilizer, using the same hinging method as the ailerons. **NOTE:** The right elevator half has two pre-drilled holes, near its inboard leading edge, to accept the control horn. Make sure when hinging the elevators to the stabilizer, it is with these holes on the right side.

- 2) The horizontal stabilizer and elevator assembly is now glued in place to the fuselage. First mount the wing to the fuselage with the provided 4-40 x 1" nylon wing-mounting bolt. Trial fit the stabilizer in place into the slot at the rear of the fuselage. Visually center the stabilizer in top view. Use a tape measure or ruler to measure the distance from the tip of the aileron to the tip of the stabilizer and note the measurement. Take the same measurement on the other side of the model - the two measurements should be the same or within 1/16" or so of each other. Also make sure the slot in the center of the stabilizer is aligned directly beneath the vertical fin slot at the top rear of the fuselage. Use the vertical fin to check that it fits in place without leaning one way or the other.
Remove the stabilizer from the fuselage and mix a small amount of 5-minute epoxy. Apply a thin layer of glue to the top and bottom of the stabilizer slot - very little is actually needed. Slide the stabilizer/elevator assembly carefully back in place into the fuselage. Once again, align the stabilizer squarely to the fuselage per the above instructions. With everything aligned, set the model on a flat surface and stand back a few feet to view it directly from the front. The stabilizer should be parallel with the wing in front view. If it is tilting one way or the other, use tape or small weights to pull it back into alignment. Clean any excess glue with a fresh paper towel and alcohol and allow the glue to set.

4) Before hinging the rudder to the vertical fin and fuselage, the wire tailwheel assembly is installed. From the kit contents, locate the Tail Wheel Assembly bag. Use a ruler to measure a point 7/16" from the very bottom of the rudder, at its leading edge - mark this point with a fine tip marker.

At the mark, use a pointed "punch" to poke a small guide hole in the center of the rudder hinge line, at 90° to the leading edge. This small hole is now drilled to a depth of about 3/8" into the leading edge of the rudder, again, at 90° to the leading edge, using a .046" dia. drill bit and a pin vise.

With a hobby knife and a sharp #11 blade, carefully cut a "V" notch in the leading edge of the rudder, from the hole just drilled, down to the bottom of the rudder. This notch has to be deep enough to fully accept the .046 dia. tail wheel wire. Test fit the tail wheel wire in place into the hole and notch in the rudder. Adjust the notch as needed to fully "nest" the wire into the rudders leading edge.

Mix a small amount of 5-minute epoxy. Slide the tail wheel mounting plate out of the way, down to the tail wheel itself. Use a pin or thin object to apply glue into the drilled hole and into the "V" notch. Press the tail wheel wire into the rudder. Wipe off any excess glue with alcohol and allow the glue to set.

5) The rudder is now hinged to the vertical fin. Slip the three rudder hinges into the two hinge slots in the trailing edge of the vertical fin and the hinge slot at the rear of the fuselage. Center the hinges and slip the card stock wedges into their center slots. Press the rudder in place to the exposed ends of the three hinges, all the up to the fin and fuselage. Make sure the top of the rudder is aligned with the top of the fin. Use a piece of masking tape to hold the rudder hard over to elevators. Turn the fuselage over, remove one of the card wedges and use thin CA glue to apply 3 or 4 drops of glue to each edge of the exposed hinge at the hinge line. Move to the next hinge and repeat this process to glue the remaining hinges in place. Remove the tape, and hold the rudder
in position to the opposite side, against the elevators. As before, apply 3 or 4 drops of thin CA glue to each exposed hinge edge. Remove the tape and return the rudder to its neutral position. Allow about 10 minutes for the glue to fully wick its way through the surface of each hinge. Flex the rudder firmly in both directions to free up its movement.

The bottom rudder hinge will likely interfere with the bottom control horn hole - use a pointed object or small diameter drill bit to clear out this hole to allow clearance for the rudder control horn mounting "spikes".

2) Use the shortest piece of aluminum tubing for the fuel pick-up line. Insert the tubing through the rubber stopper. Fit the smaller diameter rear metal clamping plate over the vent and fuel pick-up tubes at the rear of the stopper. Adjust the two tubes as needed to bring them close to the rear of this plate, leaving 3/16" of tubing exposed for the fuel pick-up line.

Slip the larger diameter front clamping plate over the two tube ends at the front of the rubber stopper. Insert the clamping bolt through the front clamping plate and through the rubber stopper back to the rear clamping plate. With a screwdriver, thread the bolt through the rear plate, bringing both plates in contact with the stopper - do not tighten yet.

Insert the stopper assembly into the tank body. Adjust the stopper to align the two tubes toward the top, in line with each other. Twist the vent tube to align its inner bent end to the top center of the tank body. This is the position that the tubes need to be in when tightening the clamping bolt.

FUEL TANK ASSEMBLY:

1) The 2-ounce (60cc) fuel tank supplied with this kit is now assembled. We suggest using a simple two-line system in this airplane. One fuel line is connected to the "clunk" or fuel pick-up line and the engine's carburetor. This line is also used to fill the tank. The second line is the overflow or vent line and is connected to the muffler pressure nipple, providing pressure to the tank when the engine is running. This same line is also used during fueling as the overflow line. Note that the correct orientation of the this tank, when installed in the fuselage, is the "rounded" sides are the 'top' and "bottom" and the offset opening at the front is toward the "top" of the tank body. The rubber stopper for the tank has two holes all the way through it. Use these two holes for the two aluminum tubes through the rubber stopper.

Since the carburetor fuel nipple on the Norvel™ .074 engine is located on the right side of the engine, it is most convenient to locate the fuel pick-up line on the right side of the fuel tank stopper and the vent line on the left side of the stopper. NOTE: The small diameter silicon fuel tubing pick-up line is inside the tank body and should be removed now.

Inside the tank body, the vent line must reach up to - but not touch - the top of the tank. To do this, the aluminum vent line is now bent. Use the longest piece of aluminum tubing for the vent line. Gently bend one end of the tubing up to about an 80° to 90° angle - a Harry Higley Tubing Bender is perfect for this task. Insert the unbent end of the tubing through the back of the rubber stopper up to the bend just made. Insert the rubber stopper into the tank body and check to see if the bent end of the tubing is close to the top of the tank. Pull the stopper out and adjust the tubing as required. Keep checking the fit of the tubing inside the tank until it is right. We always make it a habit to chamfer the bent end of the overflow line to eliminate any blockage of air.

2) Use the shortest piece of aluminum tubing for the fuel pick-up line. Insert the tubing through the rubber stopper. Fit the smaller diameter rear metal clamping plate over the vent and fuel pick-up tubes at the rear of the stopper. Adjust the two tubes as needed to bring them close to the rear of this plate, leaving 3/16" of tubing exposed for the fuel pick-up line.

At the front of the stopper, measure a point on both aluminum tubes about 3/16" away from the front face of the clamping plate. Remove the stopper assembly and cut the two tubes at the marks just made. Clean up their ends with a sharp #11 blade and sandpaper to remove any burrs.
3) Slip one end of the silicon fuel pick-up tubing over the nipple on the metal fuel-pick-up weight. Trim the opposite end of the silicon tubing to a length that allows the fuel pick-up weight to just clear the rear of the tank body, no matter what position the fuel tank is in. It should be able to move freely at the rear of the tank to pick-up fuel in any attitude. Once the tubing length is established, slip the free end of the tubing over the straight aluminum tube fuel pick-up at the rear of the stopper.

Insert the tank stopper completely into the neck of the tank body. Use a screwdriver to firmly tighten the assembly in place into the tank. Tightening the clamping bolt compresses the rubber stopper, forming a tight seal. The fuel tank is now complete and ready for installation.

ENGINE AND TANK INSTALLATION:

In the following instructions, you will install the fuel tank and the engine of your choice. We will show the installation of the Norvel™ .074 R/C engine in the following steps. Please note that we have also included a FINAL ENGINE SET-UP section in this manual. In this section you will be informed about propellers, engine idle tips, etc.

1) From the kit contents, locate the 6mm x 12mm x 63mm balsa Fuel Tank Retainer. You will also need a single 8” length of small diameter silicon fuel tubing (not included).

Slip one end of the fuel tubing onto one of the fuel tank lines. Slip the opposite end of the fuel tubing onto the remaining fuel tank line. Route a length of common string through the fuel tank opening in the fuselage firewall, back and out of the wing opening. Loop the string through the fuel line on the tank.

Apply a generous bead of silicon sealer (bath and tub type works well) around the stopper assembly at the front of the fuel tank. While pulling on the string from the front, guide the tank through the fuselage wing saddle and into the tank former. Continue pulling the string until the stopper assembly fits into the round cut out in the front face of the firewall. From the rear, push the tank firmly into position as far forward as it will go. The silicon sealer will form a very nice gasket, protecting the inside of the fuselage from fuel.

2) The balsa Fuel Tank Retainer is now installed at the back of the tank, between the two fuselage side doublers. Press the retainer firmly in place against the back of the fuel tank. Use thin CA glue with an applicator tip to apply a drop or two of glue to each side of the retainer where it contacts the fuselage sides - this will secure it firmly and also allows it to be easily removed if ever necessary.

3) Remove the needle valve and the muffler from the engine. Set these parts aside for now. Place the engine onto the plywood engine mounting plate. Use a screwdriver to mount the engine to the plate, using the four supplied M2.6 x 12mm PWA screws - do not over tighten the screws, just cinch them in place. Remove the screws and engine from the mounting plate. Place a small drop of thin CA glue into each engine-mounting hole and allow the glue to set. Re-insert the screws and use a screwdriver to establish the now hardened threads.

OPTIONAL:

As mentioned earlier, the engine compartment and engine mounting plate have been fuel-proofed at the factory and are ready to use. However, some modelers may wish to use paint in the engine compartment and the mounting plate to make their Little Extra ARF models look a bit more “custom”. We also like this look and decided to use gray fuel-proof paint. If you also want to achieve this look, now is the time to do it.

4) Cut the 8” length of small diameter silicon fuel tubing used earlier, into two 4” lengths. Install two pieces of tubing onto the two exposed fuel tank lines. The engine is now installed onto the plywood mounting plate, using the four PWA screws. Tighten the screws firmly.
For now, leave the muffler, needle valve, propeller and spinner off of the engine. These parts will be re-installed after the throttle servo and throttle pushrod are in place and functioning with the radio system.

**RADIO INSTALLATION:**

1) Install the rudder, elevator, and throttle pushrods into the fuselage. From the open wing saddle, insert the unbent ends of each wire pushrod into the appropriate tubes.

The rudder, elevator, and throttle servos are now installed onto the fuselage servo tray, as shown. We installed the rear rudder and elevator servos first and the throttle servo last. We also found it helpful to first label the servo connectors for later identification when connecting them to the receiver. As shown, position each servo's output arm to approximately line-up with the appropriate pushrod. Install the servos using the mounting screws that came with them.

2) Connect the rudder, elevator, and throttle servos to the correct receptacles in the receiver. Connect the switch to the receiver and connect the battery pack to the switch. Turn on your transmitter. Check that the transmitter trims are all in neutral. Turn on the airborne radio system. The first thing to check is that all three of the servos are moving in the correct directions. Check each servo, one at a time. Use the servo-reversing feature on your transmitter to make any needed corrections.

Now that you know the servos are moving in the correction directions, remove the output arm retaining screws in all three servos. Install the "Z"-bend end of the rudder pushrod into the rudder output arm and install the output arm back onto the rudder servo, positioning it at 90° to the servo body, as shown. Repeat this procedure with the elevator pushrod. Re-install the output arm retaining screws back into the two servos.

Remove the output arm from the throttle servo. Connect the "Z"-bend end of the throttle pushrod to the output arm. Place the transmitter throttle stick in the "full throttle" position (with Norvel™.074 engine, the full throttle position has the output arm moving to the rear of the fuselage). Install the output arm onto the servo in this position. Now move the transmitter throttle stick to the low throttle position, moving the throttle pushrod full forward. Do not install the throttle servo output arm retaining screw yet.

Place the fuselage right side up on your workbench to give you easy access to the engine. Slide a Pushrod Keeper onto the throttle pushrod, all the way back to the tube. Pull the engine throttle lever all the way forward and use a fine tip marker pen to mark the location of the lower throttle lever hole onto the throttle pushrod wire.

Use a pair of needle nose pliers to make a 90° bend in the pushrod wire, at the mark just made. Trim the bent end of the wire to about 3/16". Slip the bent end into the bottom hole in the throttle lever and slide the pushrod retainer forward. Lift the retainer arm over the end of the pushrod wire and press it in place.

Test the action of the throttle with the transmitter. If your radio system has an EPA (End Point Adjustment) feature, use it to adjust the movement of the throttle servo to match the movement of the throttle lever. Turn off the airborne system and the transmitter.
Re-install the output arm retaining screw in the throttle servo. Reassemble the muffler and needle valve back onto the engine. Trim the silicon fuel tubes to fit onto the carburetor and muffler pressure nipple. Be sure to leave enough slack to easily grip these tubes for fueling purposes.

3) From the kit contents, locate the two remaining nylon control horns. These are now mounted to the rudder and elevator. Apply thick CA glue to the two spikes on one of the horns. Apply another dab of glue to the bottom of the control horn base. Press the horn in place, into the holes in the bottom of the right elevator half. Use the same method to mount the rudder control horn in place to the bottom left side of the rudder.

4) The elevator pushrod is now connected to the elevator control horn. Start by using pieces masking tape to hold the elevators in neutral to the horizontal stabilizer. Turn the transmitter on, followed by the airborne radio system. Make sure the transmitter elevator trim is in neutral. Turn the fuselage over for easy access to the bottom of the horizontal stabilizer.

Slide one of the plastic pushrod keepers in place onto the pushrod - with its arm facing to the rear - and move it back toward the fuselage, getting it out of the way for now. Line the wire elevator pushrod up with the bottom hole in the elevator control horn. Use a fine tip marker to mark the wire exactly where it intersects this hole. Use a pair of pliers to now bend the pushrod wire to a 90° angle, exactly at the mark just made. Trim the bent end of the pushrod wire to within 3/16” and use a little sandpaper to clean up and burrs at its cut end. Press the bent end into the bottom hole in the elevator control horn. Slide the pushrod keeper back to the control horn and flex its arm up and over the exposed pushrod end and press it in place, securing the pushrod to the horn. Remove the tape holding the elevators in neutral.

The rudder pushrod is now connected to the rudder control horn, using the same method just used for the elevator pushrod.

Use the transmitter to now test the action of the rudder and elevator. If necessary, make small bends in the pushrods, at the rear of the fuselage, to free their movement. You do not want any undue pressure on the servos in their movement. Finally, the "V" bends in each of the wire pushrods allow you to make small adjustments in the length of the pushrods itself. For example, opening the "V" a little makes the pushrod a little longer and conversely, closing the "V" a little shortens its length. Each time this is done, needle nose pliers should be used to re-straighten the wire on each side of the "V".

5) The On/Off airborne radio switch is now installed into the fuselage. Because both the Norvel™ .074 engine has its exhaust on the right side of the fuselage, the switch mount doubler and its switch lever hole have been located on the left fuselage side. As mentioned earlier, we used the Hitec™ #54403 after-market micro switch assembly for this model. You can certainly use a standard switch assembly but these are typically much bulkier and weigh more - your call.

6) The battery pack is installed into the fuselage through the wing saddle and placed into the space directly beneath the fuel tank. In order to make the pack a little more easily removable, we first wrapped it with a little filament tape, forming a "tab" at one end. When the pack is inserted into the space beneath the tank, the tab is left hanging out of the opening. This allows you to remove the pack if ever necessary.

7) The receiver is now installed into the fuselage. First make each of the servo connections to the appropriate receptacles in the receiver. Also plug the switch connector into the receiver. Wrap the receiver in foam and place it into the forward compartment, just behind the fuel tank. For battery charging purposes, leave the switch connection to the battery pack accessible within the fuselage. Likewise, leave the 6” aileron servo extension lead out and accessible within the fuselage for easy connection to the aileron “Y” harness. Use additional small pieces of foam to wedge the receiver within the compartment.

The receiver antenna is now routed out of the fuselage and back to the rear of the airplane. To do this, drill a small hole in the side of the fuselage to exit the antenna. Secure it at the rear of the fuselage with a small hook and a rubber band.

MODELER’S TIP: A common problem with many smaller R/C models is the typical length of the receiver antenna. These are often 30” to 36” long and therefore leave a lot of their length hanging off the rear of a small model, such as the Little Extra. Because the antenna should never be cut, the only other way to shorten its length is to use a “bobbin”. We have used this technique with our own Little Extra models with excellent results.
2) The Wheel Pants are now installed to the aluminum main landing gear. Note that in side view, the landing gear is tapered on one edge. The front or leading edge of the landing gear is the untapered edge. Prepare the mounting holes in each wheel pant by drilling a small diameter pilot hole (.052, #55 bit) through the factory mark in the pant and the plywood pad inside. Mount the pant to the landing gear using a 9mm PWA screw. Mount the remaining pant in the same manner. After establishing the threads with the mounting screws, we suggest removing the screws and "hardening" the threads in each wheel pant with a small drop of thin CA glue. After the glue sets, re-establish the threads once again with the screws. This protects the threads from fuel damage and makes them more resistant to stripping.

What will this procedure do to the range of your receiver? The answer is that you will lose some amount of range but not enough to affect the overall safe operation of the model. This is because a small R/C model is rarely flown to extreme distances for the simple reason that you can no longer see it. Since you would never do this, some loss of range is more than acceptable for a small model.

LANDING GEAR AND WHEEL PANTS:

From the kit contents, locate the bag containing the two Wheel Pants and the bag containing the aluminum Main Landing Gear, the Main Wheels, and the smaller bag of Mounting Hardware.

1) Slide one of the M3 x 2mm Axle Bolts through one of the main wheels. One the other side of the wheel, slide two M3 Flat Washers in place. Thread one of the M3 Hex Nuts in place almost up to the wheel hub. Thread a second M3 Hex Nut in place up to the first nut. Use pliers or a metric box end wrench to hold one of the M3 nuts while firmly tightening the second nut to it - make sure the wheel turns freely. Slide the exposed end of the M3 Axle Bolt through the bottom hole in the aluminum Main Landing Gear. Start to thread one of the M3 Lock Nuts onto the Axle Bolt. Hold the nut firmly with pliers or a wrench and use a screwdriver to tighten the axle bolt assembly firmly in place to the landing gear. Repeat this process with the remaining wheel.

2) The main landing gear assembly is now mounted to the bottom of the fuselage, using the two M3 x 10mm PWA bolts and the two M3 Split Ring washers provided. It is highly recommended that you first apply a small amount of non-permanent thread locking compound, such as Loctite® #242 "Blue", to the bolt threads.

3) MODELER’S TIP (continued): We made our "bobbin" from a piece of 3/32" x 3/4" x 1-1/4" balsawood. From the receiver, measure the antenna out to 4-1/2" - no closer. This is the point to start neatly wrapping the antenna wire around the bobbin. Do not cross the wrapped antenna wire, simply lay it neatly next to each strand. Wrapping the antenna wire 12 - 14 times around a bobbin this size shortens its overall length by about 11". Hold the now wrapped antenna wire to the bobbin with a length of clear tape. Now when you install the receiver into the fuselage, you will have a much more reasonable length of antenna wire to work with at the rear.
FINAL ENGINE SET-UP:

1) The Norvel™ .074 R/C engine has an offset head idle stop bolt installed into the left side of the carburetor body, just behind the needle valve. This bolt is in place to limit the travel of the throttle arm at low throttle.

We have found that if this bolt is completely removed, the throttle lever is free to move further forward in low throttle movement with the throttle servo. This means that an even lower idle speed can be obtained. However, you must experiment a little to obtain the lowest possible reliable idle speed, without killing the engine. Our experience with this simple modification has given us very reliable low speed idle characteristics and - after adjusting the trims on our transmitter - even the ability to use the "Throttle Cut" feature, available with some transmitters.

2) Now is the time to give some thought to the propeller that you will use on your engine. We have used a variety of propellers on our own Little Extra ARF models and have learned that different brands all seem to have different prop shaft hole diameters. For reference, the Norvel™ .074 engine has a prop shaft diameter of .157". Typical prop sizes for the Norvel™ .074 are 6 x 4, 7 x 3, and 7 x 4. APC produces great props in these sizes but they are produced with large diameter shaft holes. For example, the APC 7 x 3 prop has a shaft hole measuring .185" in diameter. Therefore, in order to use an APC 7 x 3 prop on our .074 engine, we used a 5/16" length of K&S 3/16" o.d. aluminum tubing to "sleeve" the prop shaft hole down to the diameter that fits onto the engine's prop shaft bolt.

Finally, some propeller brands come with shaft holes that are smaller than the prop bolt. This requires that they be drilled out to fit. For accuracy, always use a drill press.

3) With the Norvel™ .074 engine, we found that in order to mount both the propeller and the provided spinner onto the engine, the aluminum prop/spinner that comes with these engines, must be replaced. This is because it is too deep, not allowing enough of the prop shaft threads to engage securely into the engine. We replaced the stock prop/spinner with three Du-Bro #8 Flat Washers. This allows the spinner to fit perfectly.

4) Before mounting the propeller to the engine, take the time to make sure it is balanced. NEVER use an unbalanced propeller on this or any model. Also, NEVER use a propeller that has been previously damaged in any way.

The Spinner Assembly bag includes an aluminum adaptor ring, specifically made for the Norvel™ .074 engine. This adaptor ring fits into the molded recess in the back face of the spinner base.

Insert the propeller shaft bolt - with the three washers in place - through the propeller and the spinner back plate. Tighten the prop bolt firmly to the engine, aligning the propeller with the upright orientation spikes.

Press the spinner cone in place to the backplate, aligning it into the recesses in the backplate. Secure the spinner in place firmly using the two provided screws.
5) The Norvel™ .074 engine has an exhaust outlet that can be positioned to any desired angle. We positioned ours to aim the exhaust directly out of the right side of the fuselage and then added a short length of large diameter fuel tubing to carry the exhaust past the fuselage side. In actual practice, this works quite well in keeping much of the exhaust residue off the model.

DECAL APPLICATION:

The decals supplied with your Little Extra ARF kit are high quality Mylar® with an extremely aggressive adhesive. These are not die-cut and must be individually removed from the sheet with a hobby knife and a sharp #11 blade or with sharp scissors. For placement, refer to the box art and various other photos. Note that we have provided multiple "N" numbers that allow you to personalize your model with your AMA number, etc.

We suggest the following method to accurately apply these decals. Carefully cut out the decal with a hobby knife. Lift it carefully off its sheet with tweezers. Use a product like SIG Pure Magic Model Airplane Cleaner, Fantastic®, or Windex® to spray the area of the model that will receive the decal. Then spray the adhesive side of the decal as well. Lightly position the decal in place on the model. The liquid cleaner allows the decal to slide easily into the desired position – do not press down on the decal. Once in position, hold the decal lightly in place with your finger and use a paper towel to gently dab the excess liquid away. Use a small squeegee to now set the decal in place, removing all excess liquid and any air bubbles. The SIG 4” Epoxy Spreader - #SIGSH678 - is perfect for this job. Mop up any excess cleaner with a dry cloth and allow the decals to set overnight. They will be solidly adhered to the model without any air bubbles.

SETTING THE CONTROL SURFACE MOVEMENTS:

The following control movement information is provided for initial set-up and test-flying purposes. After you have test-flown your Little Extra and get a feel for how effective these movements are, you can increase or decrease the movements as desired.

Ailerons: 1/2” Up - 1/2” Down
Elevators: 3/4” Up - 3/4” Down
Rudder: 1-1/8” Right - 1/1/8” Left

CENTER OF BALANCE:

IMPORTANT: The model is always balanced fully assembled with the prop and spinner in place, the complete radio system installed, and the fuel tank empty. As shown, we use a simple CG stand to balance the model upside down, shifting as needed to get the airplane level. The recommended starting CG for this model is 2-5/8” back from the leading edge of the wing at the fuselage side. If needed, shift the battery pack to achieve the correct CG location.

PRE-FLIGHT:

Before flying your Little Extra ARF, we strongly suggest that you take the time to break-in your engine and adjust the idle for the lowest possible reliable rpm’s. The high quality of the piston-to-cylinder fit on Norvel™ engines makes break-in a must before attempting to fly the model. Break the engine in per the factory instructions and DO NOT use the molded plastic spinner provided in this kit during break-in. We recommend that you use an electric starter to start the engine the first few times, using the propeller spinner/thrust washer provided with the engine. This avoids burning the spinner with the electric starter during the break-in process.

We use and highly recommend either SIG "Champion" 15% or 25% fuel for the Norvel™ .074 R/C engines. These fuels both contain generous oil content, absolutely essential for high-revving smaller 1/2A engines.
Finally, *always* make sure your transmitter and airborne battery packs are fully charged before heading to the flying field!

**FLYING:**

If you have followed the instructions in this manual carefully, flying your Little Extra ARF should be a lot of fun! We suggest choosing a calm day for test-flying this model. Such conditions are always best for evaluating and trimming R/C aircraft, especially smaller models. We also strongly suggest that you perform a complete range check of your radio system - with and without the engine running. Radio system problems will not magically disappear once you're in the air!

We suggest that you take this model off from the ground (Rise Off Ground). While it might be possible to hand-launch this design, its low wing configuration makes this awkward. This is a small model and therefore has small wheels. So it is obviously best to take off and land from a relatively smooth surface, such as asphalt, concrete, or smooth dirt. Taking off of a grass field may be doable but it would have to be very close-cut grass to allow this to happen.

Before starting your engine, carefully check all control movements with you transmitter. Start the engine and adjust the needle valve for peak rpm's. Taxi the airplane out to the runway and turn it directly into the wind. Throttle up the engine slowly, while gaining speed, keeping it pointed into the wind with small amounts of rudder input as needed. Flying speed will be very quickly reached and only a small amount of elevator will be needed to become airborne. Climb to a reasonable altitude before beginning to trim the model. This airplane has a fully symmetrical airfoil and should therefore be trimmed for straight and level flight while at full throttle.

After trimming the airplane, start making a few turns to become comfortable with the way the airplane responds. This is NOT a beginner's airplane and was specifically designed to respond quickly to control inputs - keep this in mind, especially at lower altitudes! Climb back up to altitude and throttle back the engine to become familiar with the airplane's low speed characteristics. You should find that it will fly very slowly at low throttle settings, especially if you keep the nose level or slightly up with a little up elevator input. This is also a good time to become familiar with the stall characteristics. Our Little Extra ARF prototypes have all displayed a straight-forward stall with almost instant recovery to trimmed flight. All of this is great information to have when it comes time to set up your first landing.

Once you're more comfortable with the airplane and how it responds at various throttle settings, you can begin to explore the flight envelope of this great little model. Start with a simple loop or two. Next, try a little inverted flight. You should find that the Little Extra is comfortable in inverted flight, needing only a small amount of up elevator to keep the nose up. Try a few aileron rolls to get a feel for the roll rate. Remember that you have likely set your airplane up with the suggested initial control throw movements - these can be changed later to suit your particular preferences.

You will also find that the Little Extra spins very nicely and will exit the spin almost instantaneously after releasing the controls. We have managed some very respectable "flat spins" with this model as well.

When it comes time to land, you should find that it is almost a non-event with the Little Extra! To set-up a proper landing, use the standard downwind leg approach to the end of the runway, throttled back just enough to see a very slight descent. Smoothly make the 180° turn to set-up the upwind final approach to the runway. Continue to throttle back as needed to land exactly where you want. Again, the rudder is quite effective and should be used to maintain the model's heading in relationship to the runway.

We sincerely hope that you will enjoy your Little Extra ARF model for a long time to come. Please fly your model safely, with respect to other flyers, spectators and property.

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**WARNING! THIS IS NOT A TOY!**

Flying machines of any form, either model-size or full-size, are not toys! Because of the speeds that airplanes must achieve in order to fly, they are capable of causing serious bodily harm and property damage if they crash. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND YOURS ALONE** to assemble this model airplane correctly according to the plans and instructions, to ground test the finished model before each flight to make sure it is completely airworthy, and to always fly your model in a safe location and in a safe manner. The first test flights should only be made by an experienced R/C flyer, familiar with high performance R/C aircraft.

The governing body for radio-control model airplanes in the United States is the ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS, commonly called the AMA. The AMA SAFETY CODE provides guidelines for the safe operation of R/C model airplanes. While AMA membership is not necessarily mandatory, it is required by most R/C flying clubs in the U.S. and provides you with important liability insurance in case your R/C model should ever cause serious property damage or personal injury to someone else.

For more information contact:

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The craftsmanship, attention to detail and actions of the builder/flyer of this model airplane kit will ultimately determine the airworthiness, flight performance, and safety of the finished model. SIG MFG. CO.'s obligation shall be to replace those parts of the kit proven to be defective or missing. The user shall determine the suitability of the product for his or her intended use and shall assume all risk and liability in connection therewith.