

RDS POCKETS FOR DLG'S FROM "CA HINGES"

By Harley Michaelis (1/25/11)

The "CA Hinge" on the left measures 1" x 1-½". Cut in half it makes a practical top and bottom, but it can be cut to any polygon shape to best fit a particular application.



To make a pocket with a "slightly snug" fit with a bent wiper, first settle on the wire if making your own. Smooth nails come in little see-through boxes. Use size 16 or 17 x 1-½", Snip head and end. Clamp in a vise to sharply bend the elbow with a hammer.

BALSA SPACER STOCK: With a flat sanding block, sand down light 3/32" or over thick 1/16" sheet balsa for a "slightly snug" fit between pocket and wiper.

POCKET ASSEMBLY: As seen at picture top, place stock to extend 3/16" or so inside top or bottom ends. Dab CA+ (not instant) either end of the hinge piece. Over Saran wrap, etc. press flat with block. Trim excess spacers. Repeat with other piece to make pocket as seen below the .060 item. Dab instant CA into spacer open grain to make into hard blocks.

REAR OPENING SEAL: As shown by the .060 item, size spacer stocks as a removable "insert" to fit between top and bottom. Thinly coat it with paste wax. Insert to 3/32" from the rear opening. At the rear, insert spacer material 1/32" deep with some extending. With assembly held flat between blocks, wick instant CA at the rear. Trim excess.

INSTALLATION: Practice in foam cut ¼" thick. Make snug opening for the pocket. Apply enough slower epoxy inside to fully fill between pocket and opening as the pocket, with insert, is pushed in. Pick up the ooze. For real, make opening in the hinged surface. Avoid bulging out with blocking either side of it while the epoxy cures.

The .060" item is flat bar aluminum specified as 1/16", but it is thinner. If you can locate wire nails a diameter to make a slightly snug fit with it, use it to make a reusable "insert". A couple of strips of it could be wicked to a flat base for block sanding spacer stock.