

Minimost



Five evenings building—
\$50 for all materials—
and then comes the real thrill of owning and running your own 8-ft. outboard sports hydroplane

By William Jackson

MINIMOST was designed as a low-cost playmate for Minimax, our most popular sport boat (Craft Print Project No. 255). By using stressed-skin construction and advanced underhull design, however, it's been possible to wring more speed out of the same size hull. When fitted out with any of this year's lightweight outboard motors in the 10 h.p. class, you've got speeds well up into the 30-m.p.h. range.

Needless to say, Minimost's record low cost and construction time means more hours and money that can be used to show off your new hydro.

Unlike most boats you have built or read about, Minimost's construction begins with the shaping of the bottom plank. First draw the 24-in radius (Fig. 3A) on one of the two sheets of 1/4-in. fir exterior plywood, using a beam compass or a pencil and string. Then place a full-size paper pattern of the cutaway that forms the bow on the plank centerline and transfer it to the plywood by running a toothed leatherworkers' wheel along the outline.

To save time and insure accuracy, a set of the designer's full-size patterns for the bow cutaway, the frames, and many other parts for Minimost can be purchased ready to use. Information for ordering is given at the end of this article.

Shaping the Bottom Plank. After cutting the bottom

MATERIALS LIST—MINIMOST		
Amt. Req.	Size and Description	Use
PLYWOOD		
2	1/4" x 4 x 8' fir EXT, AB or AC plywood	bottom plank, decks
1	3/8" x 14 x 60" fir EXT, AB or AC plywood	transom
LUMBER (Parentheses indicate stock sizes used when ordering only)		
1	(2x6) x 15" fir	transom knee
1	(2x4) x 10' fir	keelson, chines, stem
1	(1x6) x 10' fir	frame members, clamps
2	(1x4) x 10' fir	transom frame, bottom stringers, carlins
1	(1x4) x 4' fir	deck batten, anti-skid rails
FASTENINGS		
4	#12 x 2 1/2" FH woodscrews	
12	#8 x 1 3/4" FH woodscrews	
24	#8 x 1" FH woodscrews	
	1 lb. 1" Maze ringed nails	
	12 1 1/2" wire nails	
	1 lb. Weldwood plastic-resin glue powder	

plank to shape with an electric saber saw or a keyhole saw, set the plank with its poorest side up on a pair of sawhorses, positioning the forward horse at the aft end of the cutaway. Then set a 1x2 prop between a ceiling beam of your shop or basement and the aft end of the cutaway directly over the forward horse.