

Using Magnetic Building Boards

by George White

I have used the magnetic building board sold by Easy Built for some time, and have never looked back. I now wouldn't consider using anything else — which is quite a leap considering that I've used celotex & straight pins since I was 8 years old. Recently my friend Al Pardue sent me an email calling my attention to a website which even further opened my eyes to this method of building models. The address is a bit long, but if you value the ability to build accurate models, you owe it to yourself to take a look at:

http://www.airfieldmodels.com/information_source/how_to_articles_for_model_builders/tools/magnetic_building_board/index.htm

When I've mentioned the idea of using a magnetic board to some of my friends, particularly my SAM friends, they complain that the Easy Built board is only 24 inches long, which isn't long enough for the things they build. The above website talks about how you can make your own board for little money and even more important, shows how you can make simple jigs to help you build models that are more accurate than you can build with pins.

The magnets sold by Easy Built are the same as those he describes in the article. His comment about buying plenty of extra magnets is true. They are so versatile you'll quickly run out otherwise. BTW, our good Texas member George Hilliard has found that the magnets sold in hardware stores for use in holding cabinet doors shut come with the steel plate on each side, and have greater holding power than the Easy Built ones — something of interest if you are building large models.

Take a look — you won't be sorry you did.