

## **Rocket Construction Tips**

Here are some tips from a couple of the judges at the McLean County 4-H Fair.

1. Do not choose a rocket kit with plastic fins. It will be disqualified.
2. Use all the pieces in your kit. Follow the instructions and have a copy at the judging.
3. Make sure that the recovery system is free to deploy and only the shock cord is glued in.
4. Do not have a live motor in your rocket during the judging. 2 and 3 stage sections can be held together with spent motors.
5. Try to get the fins on as straight as possible
6. Sand all balsa parts to a smooth finish. Fill the grain of the wood before painting.
7. Apply the decals as straight as possible. Use the instructions and kit artwork for positioning.
8. Try for neat glue joints. Avoid heavy globs of glue and paint.