

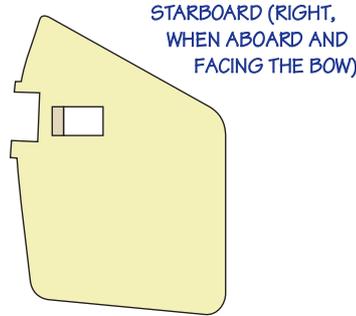
# DIVE PLANES & RUDDER

The Revell 1:72 Gato kit can be greatly improved with replacement parts. The kit Bow Planes and the Rudder lack surface detail and proper shape. The Stern Planes are *extremely inaccurate*: too thick, no surface detail, and a uniform, simplistic profile instead of a compound, wing-like profile.

AMP replacement parts are designed from actual Gato and Balao plans and photos, with only minor tweaks for scale and kit issues. All pieces are designed to be glued static, but it is possible to make them movable.

## BOW PLANES

These are a direct-replacement for the kit parts. They do not have the notches for the strut connection (KIT Part #24), so glue #24 after trimming. The planes are identical (OK to flip Port/Starboard). **INSTRUCTIONS:** Remove the flat sprue/base.



## STERN PLANES

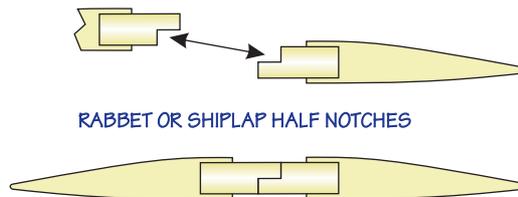
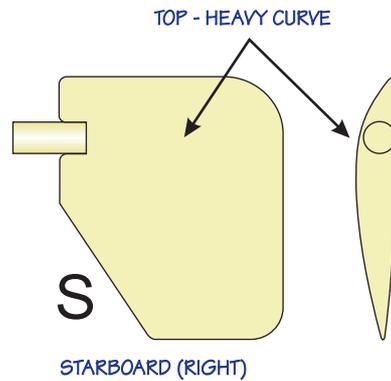
**INSTRUCTIONS:** Remove the flat sprue/base and trim the axle. **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

1 - the Rudder **MUST BE INSTALLED FIRST!** See **RUDDER** for instructions on thinning the aft keel.

2 - the axle/pivot rod is long and must be trimmed to custom length once the keel is thinned.

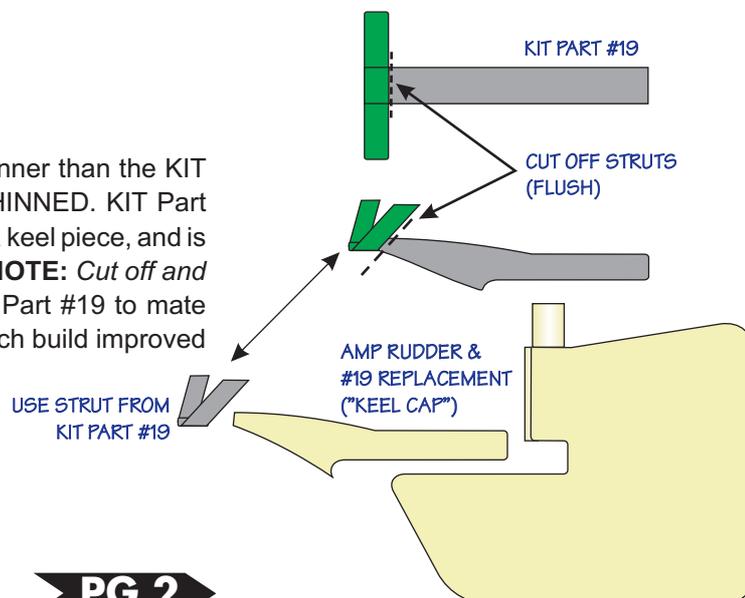
If you want to make the planes move, or just want more axle strength, you can cut *rabbit* or *shiplap* notches (overlapping *half notches*) in each axle.

Each pair of dive planes act together, like aircraft *elevators*. (Bow = 1 pair, Stern = 1 pair). So make sure each pair is at the same angle (Port and Starboard Planes up or down together). The Planes are **NOT** like aircraft *ailerons*. The Bow pair is not connected to the Stern pair, so it is possible to have the Bow set to "down" and the Stern set to "up."



## RUDDER

The AMP rudder is accurately thinner than the KIT rudder, so the keel **MUST BE THINNED**. KIT Part #19 ("propeller struts") is more of a keel piece, and is replaced by a thinner AMP part. **NOTE:** Cut off and use the forward strut part of KIT Part #19 to mate with the AMP keel piece. Or scratch build improved struts.



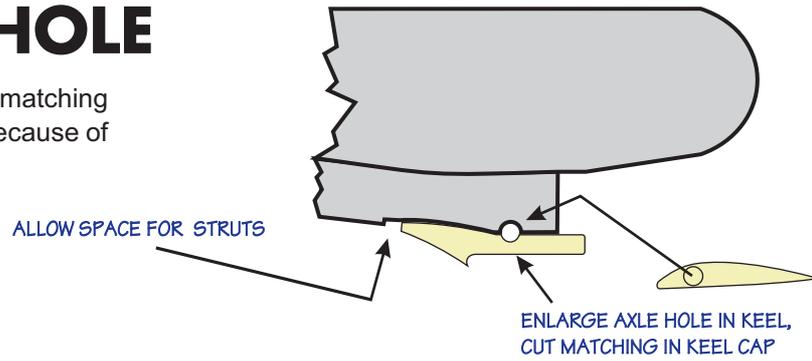
# 1. THIN DOWN KEEL

Thin down the lower keel to match the thickest parts of the Rudder and Keel Cap. Blend as necessary.



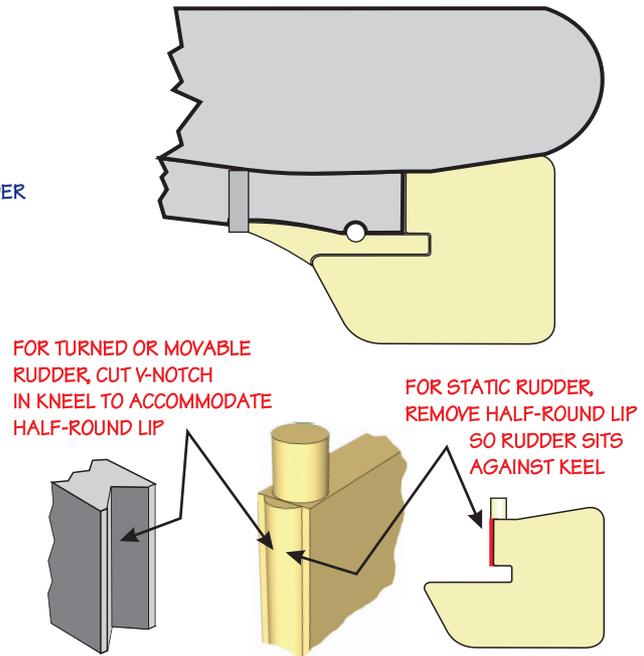
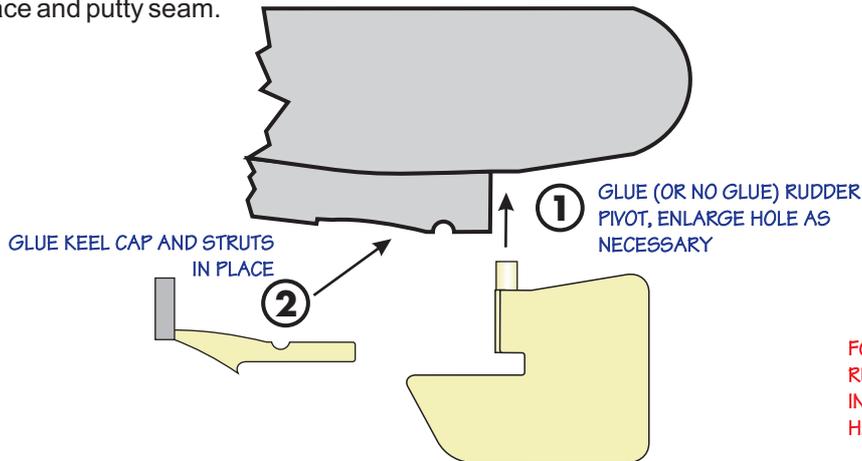
# 2. ADJUST KEEL AXLE HOLE

Enlarge keel hole for Stern Plane Axle, including cutting the matching hole in the Keel Cap. (Hole could not be included in piece because of the varying keel thickness and alignment.)



# 3. FIT RUDDER

Install Rudder (enlarge pivot hole as necessary). Glue Keel Cap in place and putty seam.



# 4. FIT STERN PLANE

For static Planes, glue Planes to keel. For movable, cut half notches in the axles (as shown on Page 1), insert both axles into hole, and glue the notches.

