

Knockdown Tank by Tom Phillips

Knockdown Tank Construction:

Components can be rough lumber from construction sites, left overs and shop stuff. Since it is a knockdown unit, it is easy to transport and set up. You need a level surface, anything will do, may or may not need a Base board — minimum 48x12 inches recommend 6ft.

2 – Side Boards, 48 min by 10 (recommend 60 in)

2 – End Boards, 10 by 16

End board cleats, 8 each about 4-6 inches long.

Level

Band clamp

Drop cloth

Clothes pin clamps

Magic marker

Mirror

Marking Process:

Mark the boat bow and stern with a marker, this boat was mfg marked with a scribed line for the waterline at 42.5 inches. We also put it on a jig to check the position fore and aft. (see Tom Germer jib)

After placing the bottom board, the side boards were put in the cleats on the end boards. Side boards are at an angle to support the thrust of pressure and to reduce the amount of water needed.

The boat needs to be at sailing weight. ie – completely rigged for sailing with batteries installed and a “rig pig” to represent the weight of the the rig set on the mast step. 12.5 oz or 350 grams is the average weight of most A-rigs.

The boat will need a full tank at final float at these dimensions. Use a mirror and check the marked line. Adjust ballast to get the waterline and trim as you want it.

This method will get you approximate waterline, if you want to stretch the limits, you need a more accurate tank measurement. The water line is supposed to be

42.5 inches +/- ½ inch. This is easily achievable.

