



Scratch Building Tips and techniques ©

Making ejection handle ropes for Verlinden's 1/72nd scale GRU-7A Ejection seat

Photos and text Copyright © 2007

By: Gregory D. Williams

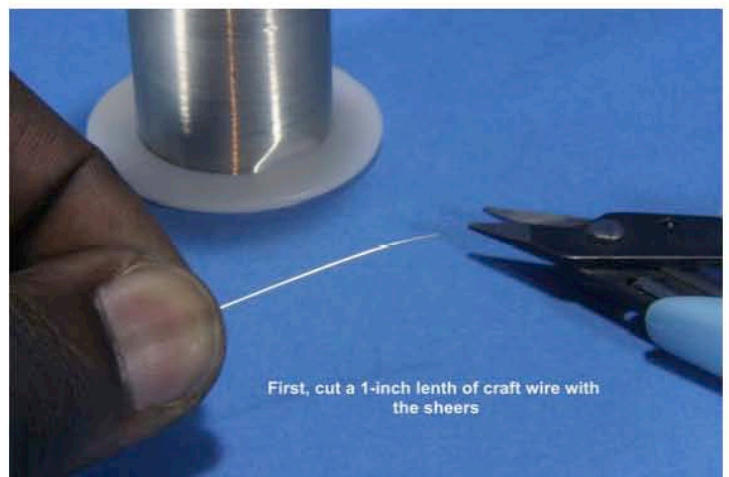
IPMS# 44084

Verlinden's GRU-7A seat is finely cast and makes a great replacement for any F-14A/B, A-6E and E/A-6B Prowler kit. I purchased this set and added them to a recent E/A-6B project, featured on The Aircraft Resource Center. What I didn't elaborate in my article was how I created the single-rope ejection handles for the seat. In the photos below, I demonstrate how I made the ejection handles. For making these tiny details, you will need the following supplies:

1. Craft wire
2. Modelers tweezers
3. Pin vice with #. 018 bit
4. Photo-etch sheers
5. Testors burnishing tool /or/ Mission Models Multi-Tool *Small



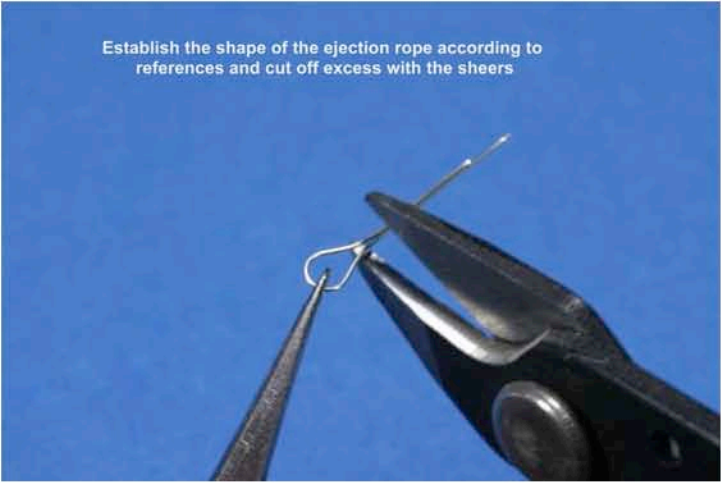
Craft wire, photo-etch sheers, tweezers, a pin vice and burnishing tool was needed to create the single-rope ejection handle for my GRU-7A seats



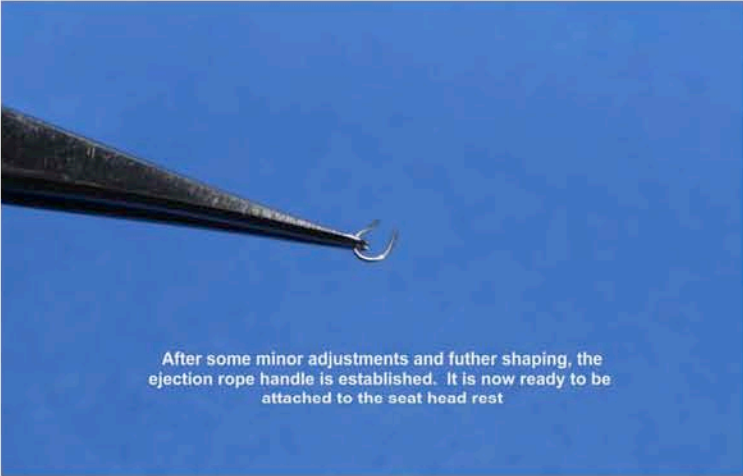
First, cut a 1-inch length of craft wire with the sheers



Using the burnishing tool, loop the wire around the stem to create a loop shape



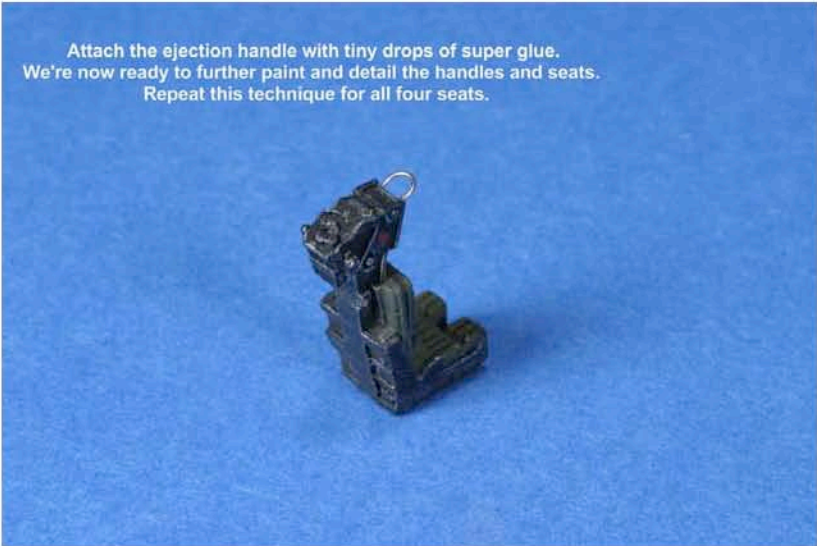
Establish the shape of the ejection rope according to references and cut off excess with the sheers



After some minor adjustments and futher shaping, the ejection rope handle is established. It is now ready to be attached to the seat head rest



Drill out tiny holes above the head-rest using the pin vise to accept the ejection rope handles



Attach the ejection handle with tiny drops of super glue. We're now ready to further paint and detail the handles and seats. Repeat this technique for all four seats.