



603 Norden Cutter

By: Chris Driftmeyer, Wenatchee, WA. U.S.A

First Wooden Boat Kit

- ▶ This is my first wooden boat kit. My father built Billing Boat Kits and I've always loved his builds. I decided to start one as a "beginner" level and the 603 Norden really caught my eye. It was a fun and challenging build and I've learned so much along the way. I hope you enjoy the building log as much as I've enjoyed building the Norden Cutter!



Chris

Starting the Build

- ▶ Layout and number the bulkheads
- ▶ Lay them out before gluing to insure they are in right order. Use a square to make sure they are 90°
- ▶ Steam or wet planks and “pre-bend” prior to applying
- ▶ Start at top and work down



Making the Half-Hull

- ▶ Use pins or brads to hold planks in place while glue sets
- ▶ Butt planks tightly together
- ▶ Taper ends for smooth lines around the curve of the hull



Making the Half-Hull

- ▶ Fill in spaces with wood putty using multiple skim coats rather than a single thick coat
- ▶ Sand smooth going from medium to very fine grit
- ▶ When starting second half hull work in opposite direction so hull halves match up!!!



Joining the Half-Hulls

- ▶ The hull halves join together easily. Here I've used clamps to insure a tight bond for the glue.



Planking the Deck

- ▶ Planked one hull half at a time for easier build
- ▶ Drew in nails for more realistic look
- ▶ Lay them out over-lapping (like laying bricks)
- ▶ Pre-Cut and fit before gluing



Building the Cabin

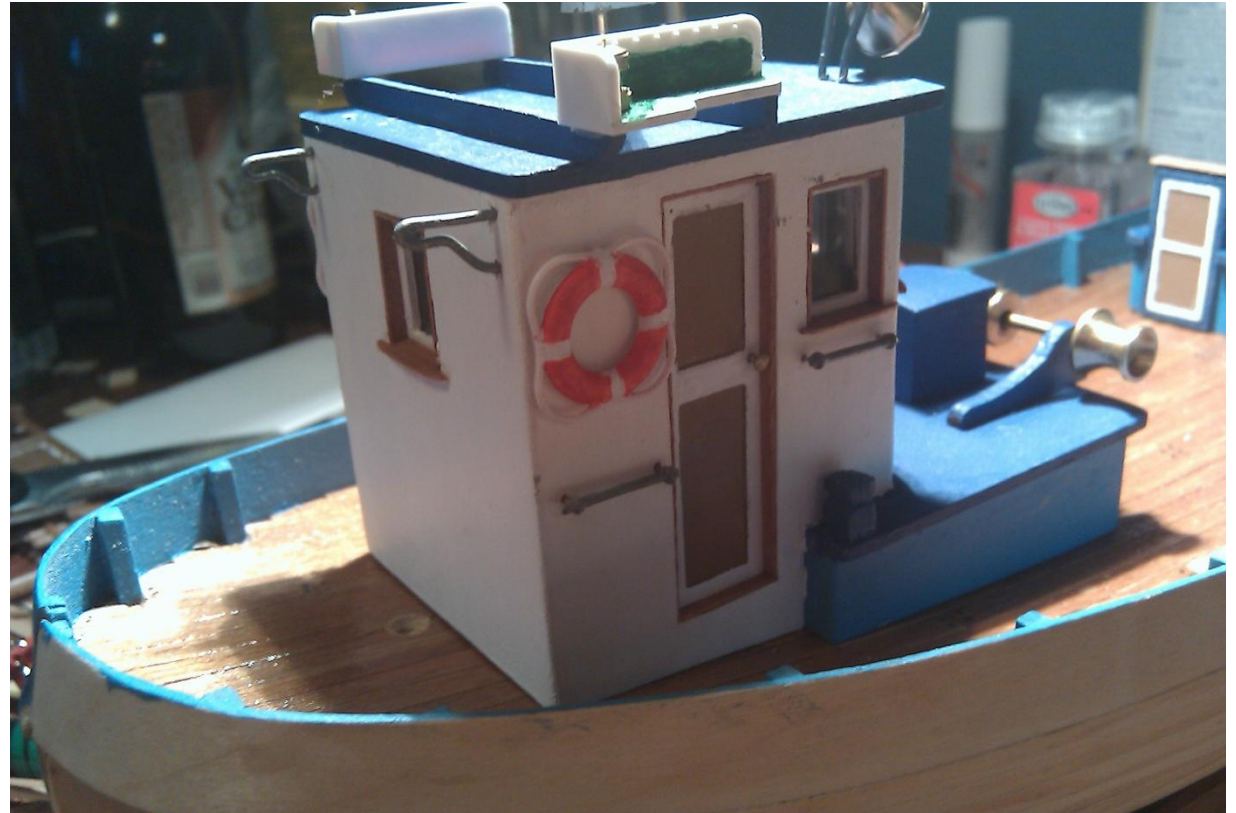
- ▶ Pre-paint small pieces
- ▶ I scratch built window panes for a more realistic and rich look



Use an engineer's square for perfect angles.

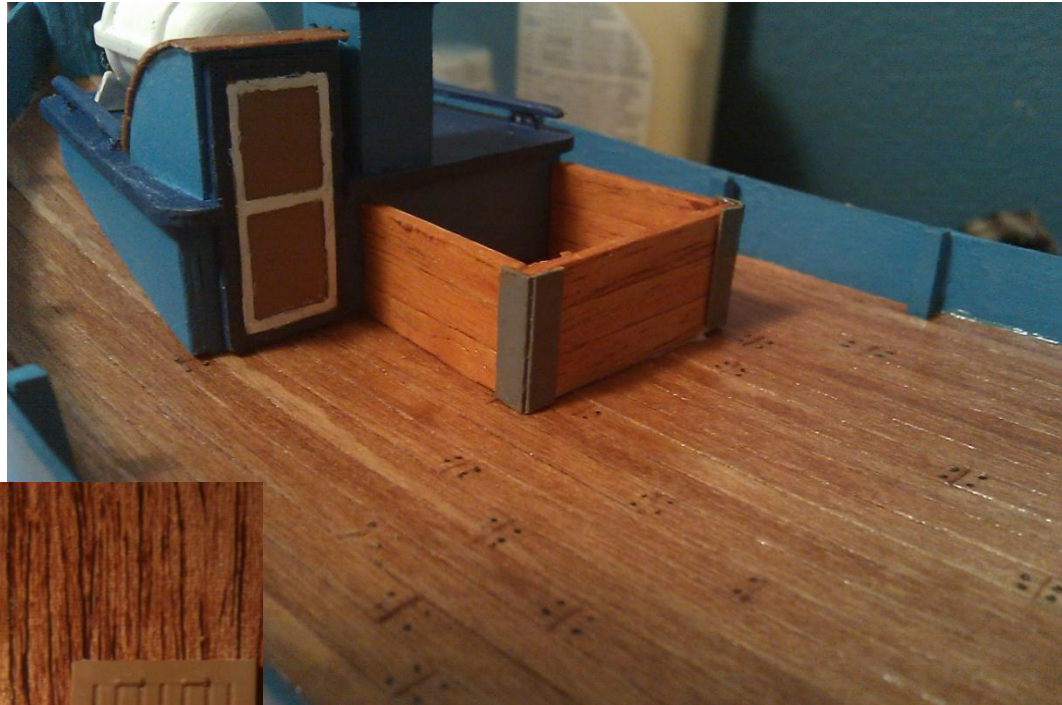
Adding Cabin Accessories

- ▶ Step by step
its looking
more realistic!
- ▶ Make sure all
is “square”
before gluing



Adding the Deck Fixtures

- ▶ Pre-stained wood for easier build
- ▶ The beauty is in the details. I took lots of time here.



(Scratch built hatches rather than the supplied plastic ones)

Getting Ready for the Masts

- ▶ Stained wood for a richer look
- ▶ Applied clear coat to wood prior to installing masts (use multiple thin coats rather than heavy coat)



Adding More Detail

- ▶ Added the masts and begun the lines.
- ▶ Installed more detail to the deck.



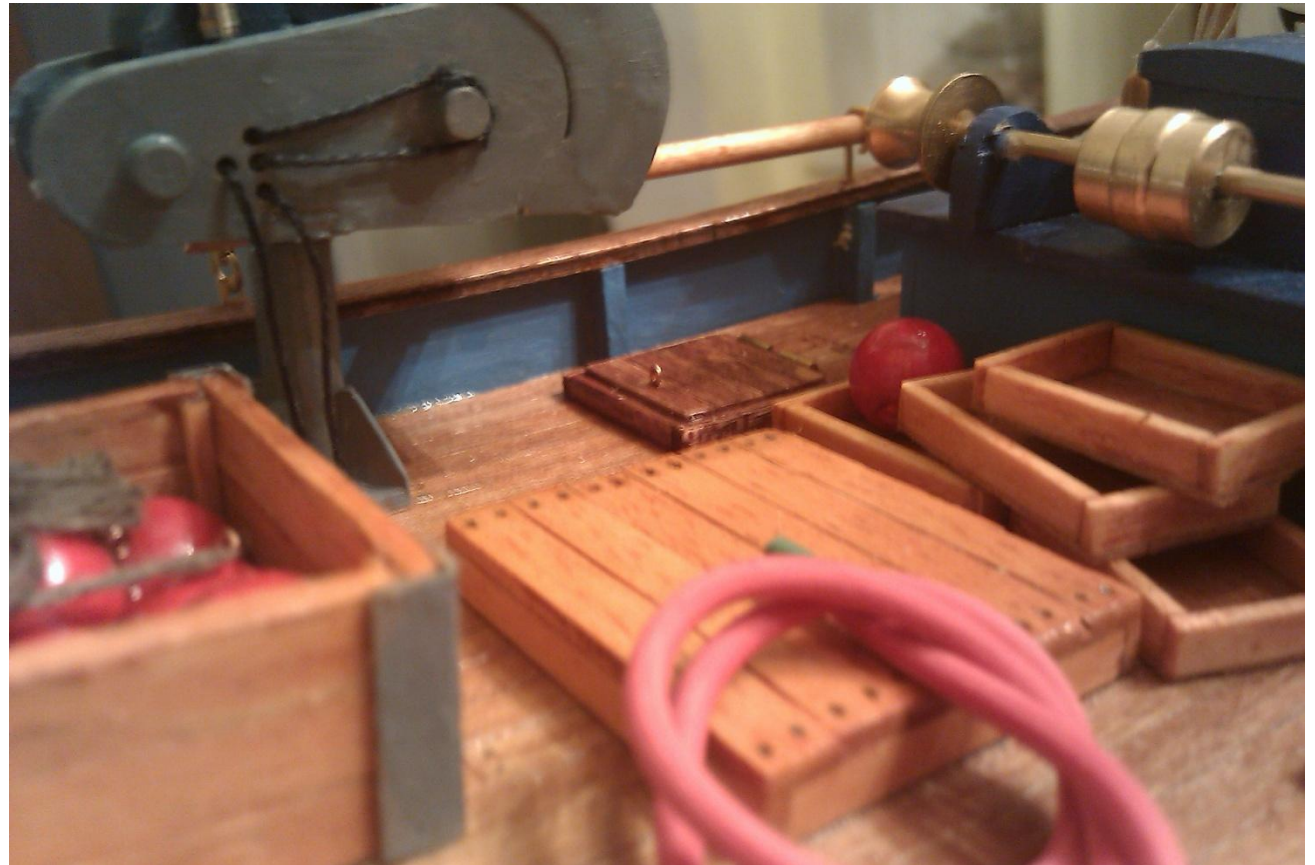
Finished Photo's

- ▶ Added the sails and additional detail that will show on the following photo's



Finished Photo's

- ▶ Staggered the scratch made boxes and added the hose for a more realistic look to this working craft.



Finished Photo's

- ▶ *I have really enjoyed building this Model, with some challenges along the way, I chose to make my boat have a lot more detail than was in the kit, and for you, you can build it just how you would like it also. I was able to learn do's and don'ts on building the boat. I really loved this model by understanding the building process of a real boat, of course the learning of the "why's" in the engineering of a beautiful boat (was great). I really highly recommend this to a beginner with challenges, it's a great kit for your first or second build. So I hope you buy this kit with a smile I know I did....*

▶ *Chris Driftmeyer*

