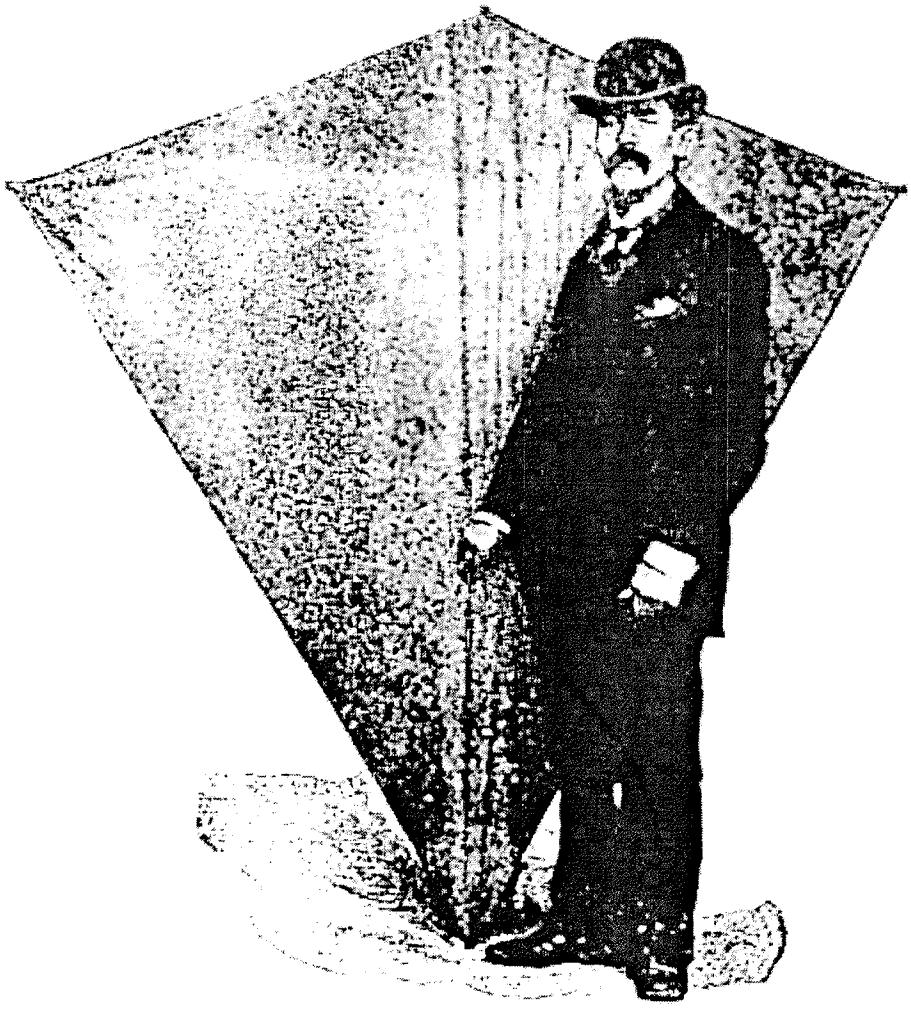
The Eddykite



William A. Eddy

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Fort Worden
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Workshop-Edition #001

Summary

Special thanks to:

Ralf - for doing the layout of the manual

Introduction

First, some reasons, why I don't keep all details from the U.S. patent.

Attention
The following instructions are not suitable for purists of historical kites.

The rods:
As written in the patent, W.A. Eddy has used spruce wood. But this kind of wood is not easy to get and is very expensive. I selected ash for the rods. This kind of wood is very elastic and, for example, it is used for shovels. It is deliverable from the most timber merchants.
As written in the patent, the short horizontal rod was mounted with screws to the long horizontal rod. I prefer to use a binding instead of screws to protect the short rod from destruction if the kite would crash on the ground.
You can use shoemaker thread or thin hemp cord, because it is not elastic.
For a better fixing use a coat of clear varnish.

The cotton cloth:
There are some important points to observe using cotton cloth.
All threads must be made from the same material. Also the numbers of warp threads und weft threads should be the same. This is important when you wash the cloth (shrinking).
Also important is, that the cloth is made from threads as thin as possible. Than the number of threads per cm^2 is higher and there is not so much space in the cloth for shrinking..
Maybe the cloth will shrink more in one dimension than the other, if you don't care fore this points.
The cloth for our project does not shrink very much, because all this criteria are fulfilled.

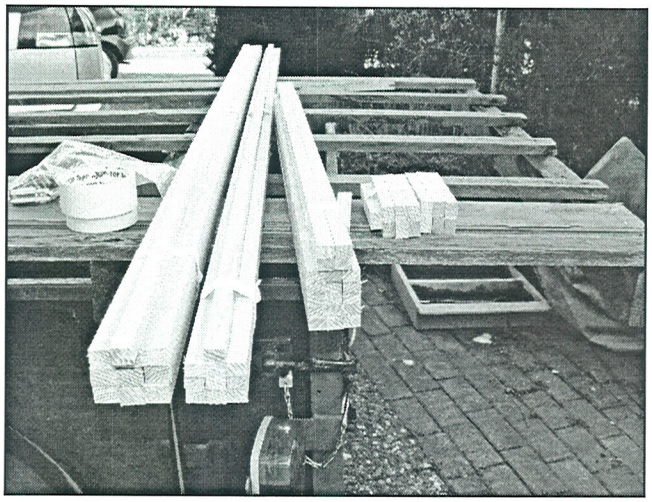
The metal parts:
Mr. Eddy used tin plate for the metal parts.
Sorry, I don't want to use old tins for this workshop. We will use metal parts made from stainless steel with an unlimited lifetime.
This parts are made by a german kite friend. He used drawings and samples made by Werner Schmidt.
Mr. Eddy used a wire ("trusswire")in the outside seam of the kite.
We will use hemp cord and D-rings. It is not original, but functional.

This instructions, written by myself, were used for the Historical Kite Workshop in Maschen/Germany in 2003 for making around 35 kites.
This workshop was planed and organized by Frank Schulz and me.

Holm Struck

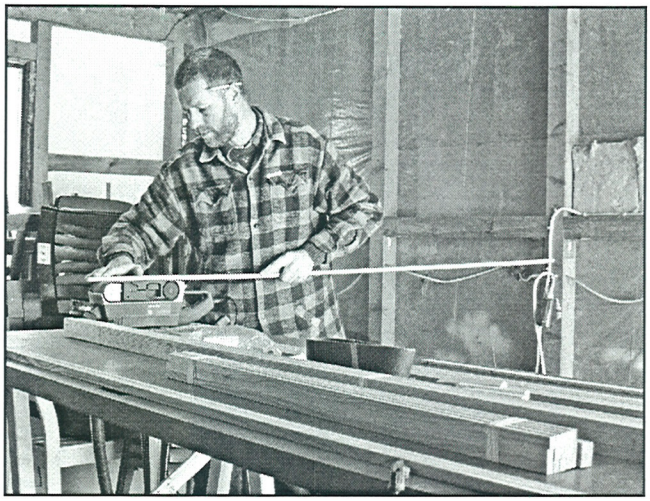
Chapter 1: Preparations

If you like to build a kite in historical shape, look for the right materials....

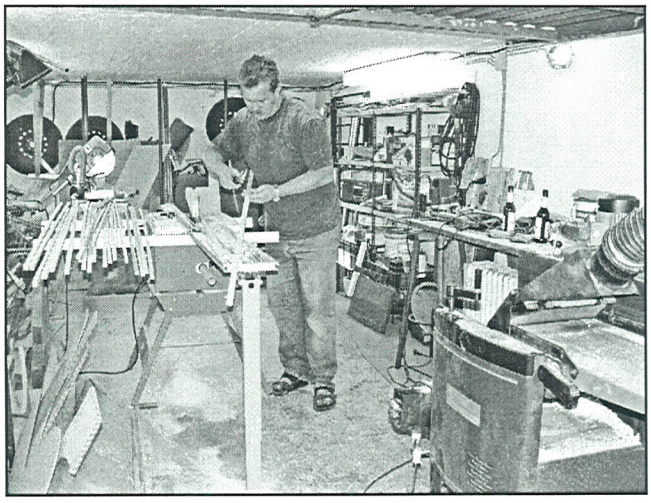


...and you will get good results for your kite-project

...and the right tools to prepare (get) it.



Think about the right way for the necessary works...



If you know somebody with good and helpfull skills, ask him for help...

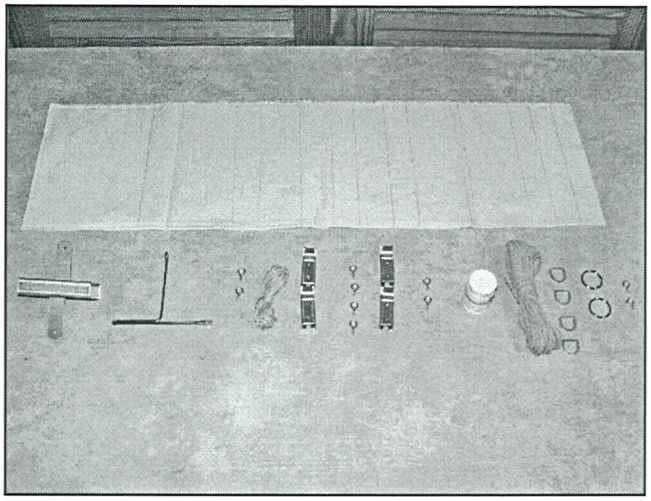
...and control it while you work.

Chapter 1: Preparations

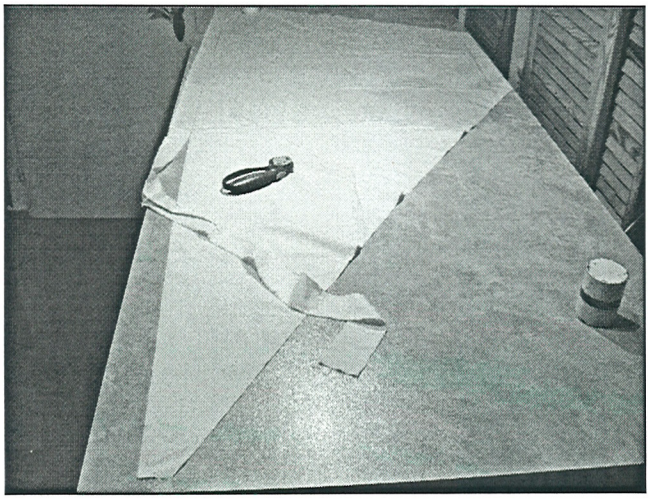
At first you should wash the cotton cloth. It will shrink and so you need cotton cloth a little bit bigger in size to get the right size for your sail parts.

Look for accessoires that are usefull for your kite-project.

Dry the wet washed cotton cloth by ironing you will get less folds.

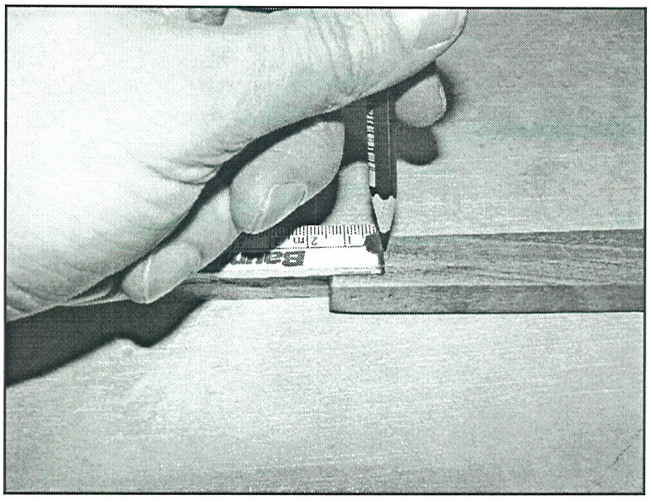


Use it in the right sequence.

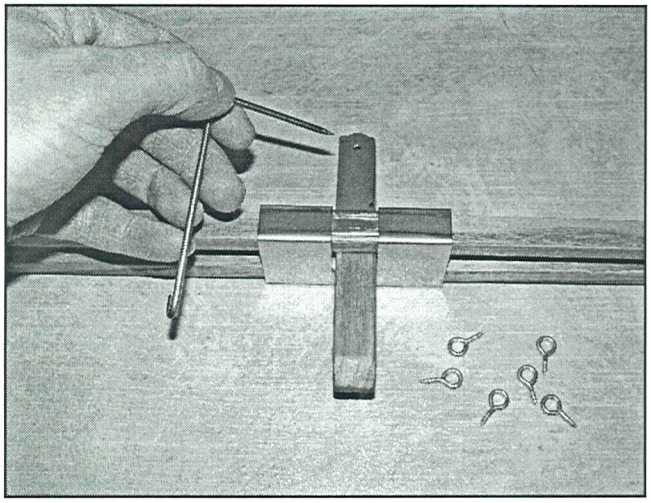


Draw the pattern with a soft pencil on the cotton cloth and cut it out with scissors or a sharp knife.

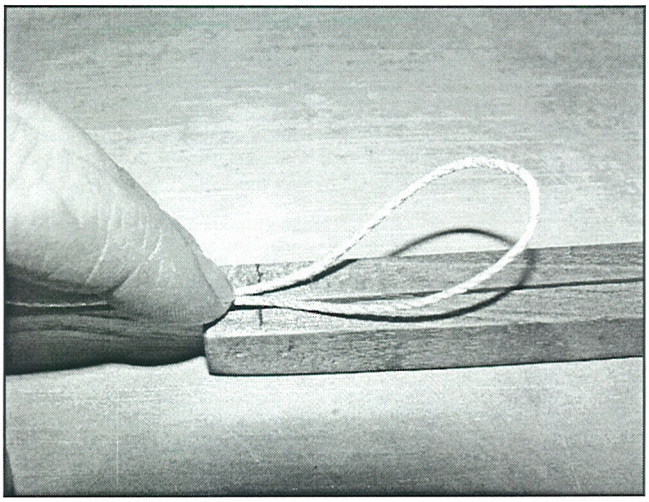
If you like, paint the rod.
For example, you can use wood oil, wax or varnish.



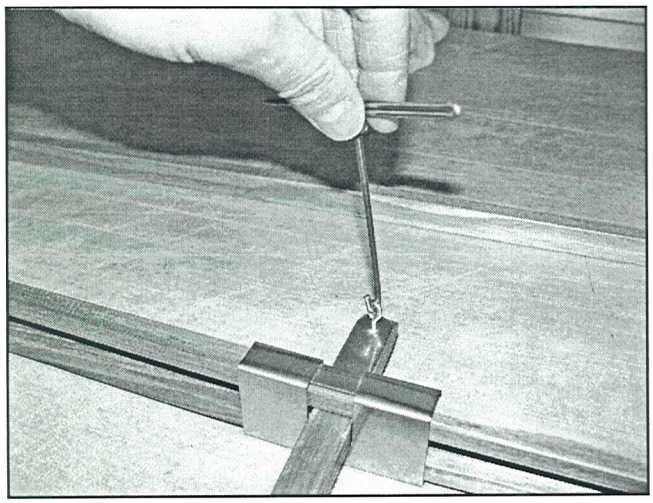
Draw a mark (1,5cm) on both ends of the short rod.



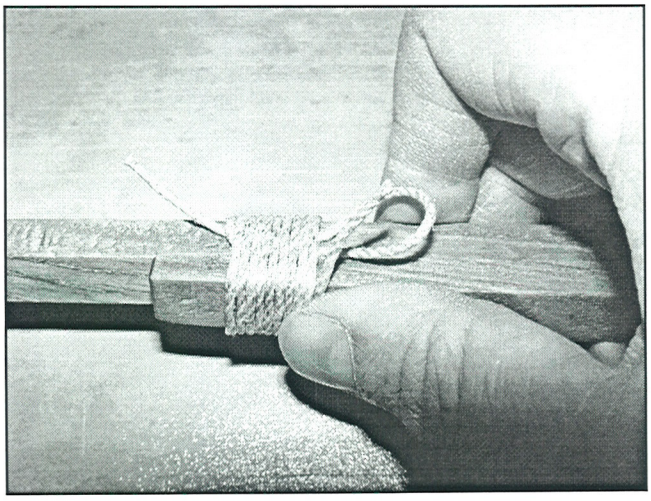
Complete the middle connector with the horizontal rod.
Stich holes for easy srewing ...



Cut the thin hemp in the middle. Take one piece (125cm), at first make a loop and begin to turn the hemp cord around the rods at the mark.



... and fix the dummy rod with two ring-screws.



After twelve turns put the hemp cord end through the loop.