

WHITE HORSE MODEL CLUB

COVERING DO'S and DON'TS

DO

1. Use a covered iron
2. Pull covering around compound curves
3. Use Balsaloc or equivalent on sheeted surfaces
4. Read instructions
5. Follow heat-setting recommendations
6. Cover small areas first i.e. aileron ends etc.
7. Overlap and seal edges
8. Use thinned dope to shrink and seal Solartex

DON'T

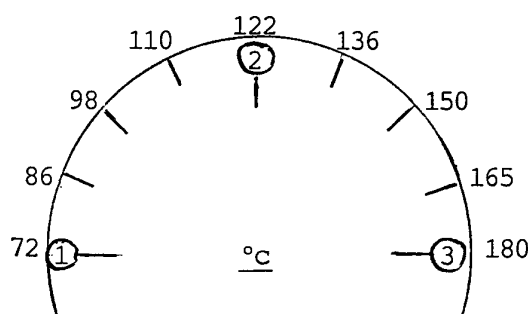
1. Iron down wrinkles
2. Allow covering to touch back to back
3. Shrink one side before covering the other on open structures
4. Try and cover as much as possible in one piece

HEAT-SHRINK COVERING

Those members who saw the excellent demonstration of covering during a past February club night might remember discussion about the importance of correct iron heat.

Although experience helps, it is difficult to assess the exact heat of your iron. The answer is to calibrate it, using whatever marks there are around the rheostat, with the excellent little 'Coverite' thermometer. This can be purchased from the 'Solarfilm' company, although stocks are limited.

I use an 'M & M 1' iron, and the results of calibration are shown below, which have proved to be very similar with a variety of irons calibrated over the last year, and could therefore be used as a guide by anyone with an un-calibrated iron.



Allow iron 5 - 10 minutes warm up

Reference to the film instruction will normally show the required temperature for the material in question. The following table covers many popular films; however I would like to hear from members who have figures for other films.

Film Temperature Table (°c)

<i>FILM</i>	Attaching To Wood	Attaching To Itself	Partial Shrink	Maximum Shrink	Attaching To Foam
Solarfilm Multikote Flitekote	88-101	88-101	93-105	105-110	79-93
Solarspan	90	90	100	110	79-93
Solartex Worldtex Colortex	105-121	99-121	115-137	137-155	79-93
Super Coverite Permagloss “ Silkspan “	105-121	105-121	121-143	149-177	No
Black Baron Film	121-135	121-135	104-121	132-149	65-79
Monokote	102-115	99-115	110-132	132-176	No
Micafilm	104-115	104-115	115-126	132-149	No
Litespan	80- 90	'Tacking' 90-100	Shrinking 150-160		?

Note: For best results use the lowest temperature possible - try to avoid using maximum shrink.