

The front sides follow.

Here some more attention is needed, since the cross section now becomes an airfoil section, thick at the hub and thin at the tips. So, for each blade, the trailing edge has to become quite thin and the leading edge somewhat thicker.



Both blades have been rough cut here. The remaining shaping can be made rather with sandpaper now.

And a side view of the progress so far.



The rear faces are 90% completed and sanded whereas the front ones only carved.

Again, working with sandpaper blocks we can form the front faces as well



We work parallel and interchanging on each blade to achieve a symmetric progress.

As we near the final result, any defects or asymmetries become more visible and can be corrected with more sanding.

Our aim is to get thin smooth outlines and curves on all surfaces. Perhaps difficult to describe with words but once you get there you will understand what I mean.

If all goes well (and it should) you should arrive at a result like this one.



And this is what your finished dummy prop should look like, more or less.

Final steps are some fine sanding to get the surface very smooth. It helps to moisten the basswood surface occasionally in order to raise the grain, for even smoother sanding.

When satisfied with the result we can varnish the prop with the appropriate wood varnish, 4-5 coats, until it gets the correct colour we want.

Any interior/exterior wood varnish will do, remembering to allow 24 hours before re-coating. It is also advisable to try the varnish on a scrap piece of wood first, in order to know what to expect as the final result.

And the last photographs, the unpainted propeller on the model and after final varnishing and painting. Gray propeller spinner.

