The Pedal Plan Patterns

We love Full-Size Patterns! Easy to make sure everyone gets the shapes right. We have *never* liked those awkward plans with shapes drawn a grid-background! They're clumsy, innaccurate, and kind of the only solution if one doesn't either loft out the shapes or have actual patterns. Our original pedal car plans were printed on large-format sheets of 22" x 34", so they had *plenty* of room to include full-size patterns for many of the parts.

When we re-did the old printed plans for the digital-age we were faced with a little problem: These new digital format plans are designed to fit on 8½" x 11" letter-sized paper for easy printing at home. This means that we have to make up the full-size patterns from smaller pieces of paper taped together. A bit more work, but it does mean you don't have to cut up your plans to get usable patterns!

We have "tiled" the original patterns into pages you can print out, with registration marks you can match up to make sure everything is all aligned and in the right positions. We printed out the pages, then used a pair of scissors to cut to the registration marks of one page which will overlap the next. You can cut diagonally through the registration mark, or along one side of the vertical line (that's how we preferred to do it.)

Then just line up a pair, tape them together, and repeat with the next page.

After you have a pattern complete, you can use it to transfer the shapes to the plywood as you like: Cut and trace along the edges, glue the whole thing down and use the line to cut along, or make marks through the line to transfer it to the wood. There are a number of different methods online, too.

On the next page is a sample image of the Grill Front pattern group from the Pedal Racer plans, as well as the Cabane Strut Pattern from the Pedal Biplane. These show how the numbered sequence of pages fit together, and the arrangement to lay them out. The coloured pages are just so it's easier to see how each page overlaps the next. The same type of arrangement is used for each of the patterns which have more than one page to them.

Hopefully this explains how we can have Full-Size Patterns in downloadable plans you can print at home!



