

Building a Soneral - See Below



This is my Soneral III taildragger. It is a tube and fabric aircraft with aluminum wings. Mine is the low wing model and the wings fold for easy transport. The aircraft is about 75 percent done at this time. I will be installing a Great Planes 2180 VW motor with a Happi accessory case, alternator, electric starter and Slick magneto. The plane should cruise at 135 MPH and is a two seater with a stabilator trim. This is my first aircraft. Its great to be a member of EAA Chapter 465 as they have been a great source of technical assistance.

Five years ago the FAA established a new class of aircraft and pilots; Light Sport Aircraft and Sport Pilot. The idea was to make flying more accessible and affordable. The cost and effort of becoming a Sport Pilot and owning and operating a Light Sport Aircraft is about one half of previous expenses. I'm saving even more money, and having fun, by building an LSA from a kit. If you would rather buy a Light Sport Aircraft there are about 100 models to choose from. Go to the EAA site at www.eaa.org, look at the Aviation Interests header and go to Sport Pilot/LSA, for more information.

RV-12 kits are manufactured and shipped from Van's aircraft in Aurora, Oregon. They come with large, easy to read plans. Every working day you can get builders help over the telephone for no extra charge. And, they are very nice too!

The RV-12 is a single engine (Rotax 912 100 HP) aluminum, low wing airplane. It will carry two people each weighing 210 lbs, with 50 lbs. of baggage and 120 lbs (20 gal.) of aviation fuel. With this weight it will fly 130 mph and get 20 to 30 miles per gallon depending on how fast and high you fly. It is equipped with a Garmin GPS providing guidance and up to the minute weather reports. A host of modern instruments in the form of a "glass cockpit", a communication radio, transponder, and ELT are part of the package. The whole aircraft parts costs about \$60,000! For and extra 2 Grand you get an Auto Pilot. You can go to their website at www.vansaircraft.com; get information at info@vansaircraft.com or call 503-678-6545



