

Pack 369

Space Derby Rules & Notes



Rules

1. Rockets can use only the pieces in the official Space Derby kit, plus glue, paint, and lubricant of your choice.
2. Maximum length of finished rocket not counting the propellor assembly or anchoring dowel at the rear is 7 1/4 inches.
3. Rockets must be safe to race in the sole opinion of the judges.
4. Rockets that break or interfere with another rocket during the race will be allowed a second heat. Rockets that break or interfere a second time will be disqualified.
5. Only official Space Derby rubber bands are allowed (they are in the rocket kit). We will have extra rubber bands on hand in case of breakage. Each ship will race with three rubber bands installed.
6. All rockets will be wound to 100 turns at launch.
7. Rockets must be presented in "ready to race" condition, with rubber bands installed and lubricated.

Assembly Notes

1. The brass bushing in the kit is tiny - about the size of a pinhead. You may put some graphite between the bushing and the propellor.
2. A potato peeler can work well for initial shaping. Please be sure to exercise careful supervision if you let the Scout try this!
3. Check your propellor to make sure the rounded side of the hub is towards the rocket.
4. Be sure to slide the little plastic tube over the propellor hook. This is easiest if you do it from the straight end before bending the hook. Ensure that it goes all the way to the other end, or the hook will slice through your rubber bands.
5. Don't try to trim off the bent-over part of the propellor hook too short, or it won't drive the propellor well.
6. The Space Derby box shows the rocket on the carrier - the carrier is not part of the kit, but will be supplied at the race.
7. Do not paint the plastic hanger that fits into the carrier.
8. Do not glue the nose assembly or the anchoring dowel in, or you'll be unable to replace or adjust rubber bands.
9. A notch cut at the back of the rocket for the anchoring dowel to fit into helps the rubber bands wind more securely.
10. The rounded end of the hanger goes towards the front of the spaceship.

Awards

In addition to racing for speed, Scouts may also win ribbons in a variety of categories, including: Scout's Choice, Most Creative, Most Patriotic, Most Futuristic, Most Colorful, Most Humorous, Best Paint Job and Best of Show. So keep these in mind as you design your rocket!