

Here is a possible solution for getting perfect formers for the turtle deck.
Mark Lightsey & Jack Pickering, builders of #279 submitted this one.

Thanks Guys!

"Here's a few images of the method Jack and I just used to form the turtle deck bulkheads.

The front bulkhead was formed according to the plans, the rear one was formed to fit the front of the fin and side longerons. Easy enough, but how about the three intermediate ones? Due to the offset of the fin, the rear one was slightly offset, also they start leaning in from the vertical as they move rearward, a real nightmare to loft.

What we did was to rough out some styro foam insulation and fix it place where each of the three intermediate bulkheads are located. We then borrowed a hotwire assembly and extended it with a straight piece of 1"x 2". We marked a few stations on the front and rear bulkhead and used the actual bulkheads to guide the hotwire assembly and carve out some foam bulkheads. Don't panic, the foam was only used as a pattern to layout some 1/2" plywood templates that the 3/8" x .049 aluminum tubing was then formed around. Because of the offset fin, it is important to mark the left and right sides of the bulkheads. After bending the tubing, it was a simple matter to tack weld the 1/4" rod in place and that's it. Five formers that line up perfectly without having to do any complicated math.

Mark Lightsey & Jack Pickering"





