

WENDY TWO takes her name from a 10' dinghy I designed for my book, How To Build Fiberglass Boats. The first boat performed so well that I wanted to do an improved version, embodying some refinements, and using a new method of molding.

Wendy Two rows well, tows well and sails fast. Her V-bottom, besides being stiff and able, provides a form which can take advantage of the simplest possible FRP construction method—the drape mold.

She is extremely lightweight (hull less than 100 pounds) and will cost about \$250 to build (including sails) in most metropolitan areas.

Drape mold makes use of three forming mold sections as the only throw-away parts; these can usually be made from scrap lumber. Balsa wood keel, stringers, stem and plywood transom together with a muslin drape, form the shape of the boat and become part of the hull to help stiffen the structure.

The seats are foam plastic blocks covered with FRP and a facing piece of mahogany veneer; their volume of approximately 4 cubic feet provides 250 pounds of positive flotation in addition to 1 cubic foot or so of balsa in the stringers, etc., which makes the boat safe to race where competing skippers sometimes sail their boats into a capsize.

Hardware on a small boat should be the best; it's wise to spend a little extra and buy the best—stainless or bronze fittings.

I recommend a sailmaker for the sail although I made my own sail for Wendy which drew well and worked fine; if you intend to race, though, consider that a professional sail is as different from a stock sail as a racing motor differs from a stock engine.

Wendy Two will have a smart appearance with her mahogany rudder and seat tops, oak tiller bar and cheek pieces, spruce mast and boom—all finished with clear urethane or epoxy plastic, which will maintain its "just varnished" look for years.

Construction is very simple, no lofting to fool with because the dimensions for the transom and mold forms are given in the plans. Just lay them out on plywood boards and cut them out. If you don't have plywood for the forms use any available  $\frac{3}{4}$ " lumber put together in the usual way with gussets nailed in place. Be sure to keep both sides of the frame symmetrical; the top of the frame—which fits onto the building base—must be straight

## WENDY TWO

### A FEATHERWEIGHT CLASS 10' SAILING DINGHY

By CHARLES BELL

An application of the drape mold method of fiberglass construction in which frame members and a muslin drape form the hull shape and are bonded integrally to the fiberglass

