How to Build Pat's ReCycloBot

Pat McMahon- V3- 15/3/2017

Design Brief – Using Recycled PVC and Aluminium off cuts, construct your own Infrared Controlled 14M2 Picaxe ReCycloBot with Whegs (not Wheels/Legs)

Note - The photos taken in this "How to Build" are using Recycled & new parts. The same can be done using all new material & parts.



<u>Below are some of the Production Steps, or you can use your own design, Tick off each box as you complete a task and Document it.</u> <u>Tools Required</u>– Soldering Iron, Pop Rivet Gun, Small Zip Ties, Small Phillips Head Screwdriver, Hot Glue Gun, Drills, Velcro Tape.

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Below are the main parts required to construct your ReCycloBot propelled by Whegs, designed by the European Space Agency.

Materials List -

- 4 x 70mm Diameter 1/2 PVC Water Pipe x 20mm wide.
- 2 x Motor & Gearbox ratio 1:48
- 1 x Two way switch.
- 4 x 5mm LED's.
- 4 x M2 x 12 mm long Metal Threads & M2 Nuts.
- 4 x 40mm x 15mm wide x 1mm thick Connecting Arms.
- 1 x 200mm x 30mm wide x 1mm thick Top Mounting Plate.
- 1 x 230mm x 20mm wide x 0.6mm thick Bottom Deflecting Plate. - 8 x 4.2 Pop Rivets.
- 1 x 14M2 Picaxe Infrared 14M2 Microcontroller & 9V Battery.
- 2 x Red (100mmx2.5mm) Zip Ties.
- 2 x Black (200mmx2.5mm) Zip Ties.

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Detailed Dimensions for the Top Mounting Plate (with optional Motor fixing method using 4 x 2.5 mm Zip Ties) Note—Optional small Zip Tie Motor Fixing holes are coloured in black, not needed if fixing with hot glue gun.



Note- Because of the Torque involved on the motors with using the Whegs, I found that on my initial prototypes, that the Whegs got out of phase on the motors, which caused the ReCycloBot to go to one side. To overcome this it is necessary before assembly, to carefully undo the gearbox and super glue the shaft inside the motor, to make a solid fixed shaft on both sides.



Remove the manufacturers sticker as it may hold the two half gearbox cases together.



Carefully remove the clear plastic motor tensioner, noting the flat on one side of the hole for re-assembly.



Using a small Phillips head screw driver, remove the two self tappers and gently pull the housings apart.



Ensure both opposite half shafts are aligned and carefully Super Glue the cam lobe half shaft only. Allow the super glue to fully set before assembling



Construct 4 Aluminium Connecting Arms

(40mm x 15mm x 1mm thick) Drill holes 2mm Diam 5mm in, 3.2mm Diam holes 5 &15mm in.





Construct the Aluminium Top Mounting Plate.

Drill using a 6mm drill for the switch, 4.8 mm(3/16th inch) for the LED's & 2.5mm if using the Zip Tie fixing method.







Build Pat's 14M2 Microcontroller, attach to the Top Plate with velcros or double sided tape. Program your Infrared Controlled ReCycloBot using Pat's ReCycloBot Program.



Note - If the Motors/Whegs are going in different directions, swap the Positive and Negative wires around on one motor only, at the motor.

Congratulations on Building & Coding your own ReCycloBot, Well Done!