VOBA Uncensored ramblings on making upholstery 12-18

http://www.kitplanes.com/issues/31\_9/builder\_spotlight/seat\_foam\_21072-1.html

On Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 11:03:34 AM UTC-5, Rick Lee wrote:

Kitplanes magazine had an upholstery foam article a while back concerning designing the foam layers for crash safety. Worthwhile read.

Rick

My advice, go to Oregon Aero.

They do good work and already have experience doing work for this plane.

It will save you a lot of pain and you can focus on completing other tasks required to get you flying.

T Mann

On Dec 12, 2018, at 7:29 AM, Scott Fish <scottbcs@gmail.com> wrote:

Same boat as Andrew. Here’s my butt ugly cushions…

Those will work but if you are going to the effort to make cushions, you might want to use Confor Foam, it will make really comfy cushions. <https://www.seatfoam.com/products.htm>

This fellow has really nice Youtube channel on sewing auto upholstery. He does some nice work.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCw_8PUaXqvjSq3p1lYouXzQ>

Two things I’d suggest. (1) Make pax cushion bottom that can be swapped between a thick one for short copilots or a thin version for really tall people. It also helps to be able to do that with the copilot’s back cushion, too. (2) Sew in some velcro or snaps so the cushions do not slide down when you get in the airplane. Finally, it might be a good time to sew in some heat tape.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/Carbonheatertape>

I second Thomas’ recommendation for Oregon Aero. Their seats are made for YOUR plane and are made from varying densities of foam that will save your butt if you have a bad landing, as I did.

I hit so hard that I broke off the nose gear, damaged the belly board, scraped the wheelpants and removed 3/4” of my prop tips...but no damage to the pilot.

The seat cushions are intended to be part of the safety features of the aircraft, just like the seatbelts. I recommend not scrimping here.

Phil Kriley

 John’s pics were very helpful in my thinking about this, and not that far from plans for the actual pads themselves.  For those who don’t want to search for it, here’s John Basol's page on Interior finishing.  Very nice work…

<http://cozy.basol.net/chapter26.htm>