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**plans and specifications : blake hollow**

**1937 Tom Blake Hollow Paddle Board**  
**Australian Racing 16, Cigar Box, Kook Box**

Sides are fastened to bow and stern blocks with 2-in. flat-head brass screws.

Decks: Decks (top and bottom of the board) can be cut from a plank 12 in. wide.

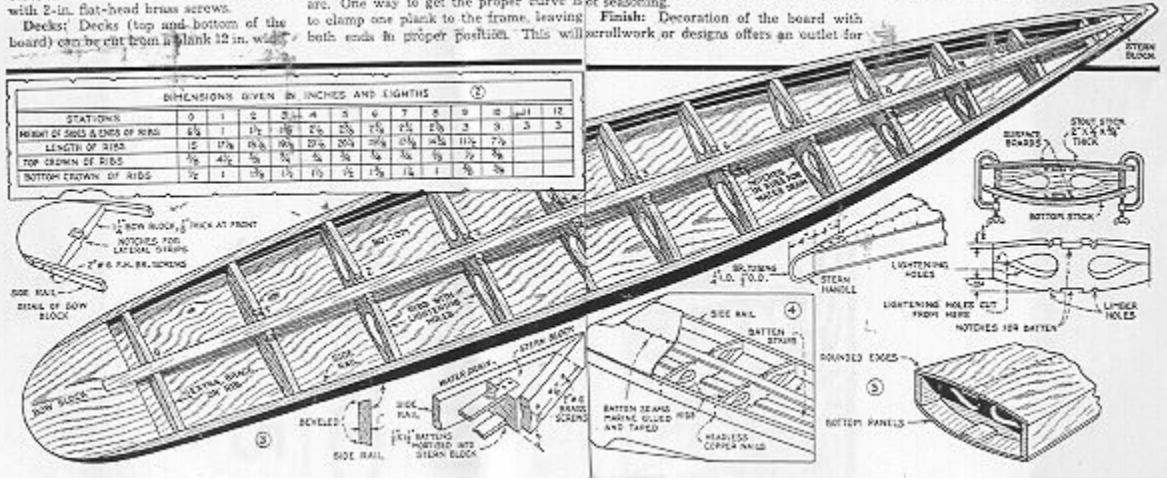
One way to get the proper curve is to clamp one plank to the frame, leaving both ends in proper position. This will

Finish: Decoration of the board with scrollwork or designs offers an outlet for

NOT SHOWN BECAUSE OF LINE WEIGHT.

DIMENSIONS GIVEN IN INCHES AND EIGHTHS

STATIONS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
HEIGHT OF SIDES & ENDS OF RIBS	6 1/2	1	1 1/2	2 1/8	2 3/8	2 3/4	2 3/4	2 1/2	2 1/8	3	3	3	3
LENGTH OF RIBS	15	17 1/8	19 3/8	20 3/8	21 3/8	22 3/8	22 3/8	21 3/8	19 3/8	17 1/8	15		
TOP CROWN OF RIBS	1/2	4/8	5/8	3/4	5/8	3/4	5/8	3/4	5/8	4/8	1/2		
BOTTOM CROWN OF RIBS	1/2	1	1 1/8	1 1/4	1 1/2	1 3/4	1 3/4	1 1/2	1	1/2			



Tom Blake : *Riding the Breakers on this Hollow Hawaiian Surfboard* -  
**Popular Mechanics Magazine**  
July 1937 Volume 68 Number 1  
pages 114 - 117

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Reprinted in : **How to Build Your Own Canoe, Kayak or Surfboard, Number 30**  
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### Notes

First designed in 1926 by Tom Blake based on 16 ft ancient Olo board, and lightened by drilling the board full of holes then covering them with sheets of plywood.  
This success, primarily as a paddleboard, was followed by the common hollow design of plywood covering over a light wood frame, with a bung.

On 18th April, 1931 Thomas Edward Blake submitted three pages with a detailed drawing for a 'Water Sled'. and was subsequently granted US Patent No. 1,872,230 by the US Patents and Trademarks Office, Washington DC.

Apart from competitive success in many paddling races, Blake published construction plans, e.g. **Popular Mechanics**, 1937, with the result that his design was used throughout the then surfing world.

This had definite influence in Peru (first surfers), New Zealand and Australia, where it first appeared as the Australian Racing 16.

In 1945 the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia issued plans for the approved design of a Hollow Surfboard.

These bore close resemblance to Blake's plans of 1935, above.

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