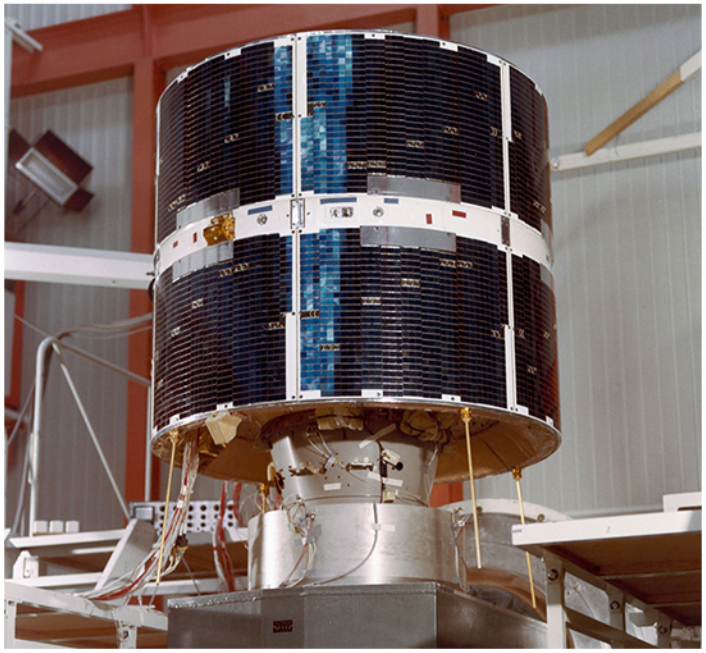
COS-B Satellite



COS-B, the first satellite to be launched under the banner of the newly created European Space Agency, on August 9, 1975 on a Delta 2913 rocket.

COS-B was the first European mission to study gamma-ray sources and to be dedicated to a single experiment.
The concept for COS-B was first put forward by the European scientific community in the mid-1960s and approved by the European Space Research Organisation (ESRO) Scientific and Technical Committee in 1969.

It was one of the most successful space missions ever, had no optical telescopes or complicated scientific instrumentation (though the central spark chamber was a significant technical achievement). It had one function - pointing in the direction of a star or other object and measuring its gamma-ray emissions.

Cos-B was configured as a cylinder 1.40 m (4.6 feet) in diameter and 1.18 m (3.87 feet) tall, with the main experiment package occupying the central region.

The analysis of the scientific data and the production of the mission's scientific archive were completed by 1985, ten years after launch. During its life, COS-B had increased the amount of data on gamma rays by a factor of 25. Scientific results included the 2CG Catalogue, listing around 25 gamma ray sources, and the first full gamma-ray map of the Milky Way. The satellite also observed the X-ray binary Cygnus X-3 and the first gamma-ray active galactic nucleus, 3C 273.

The end of the mission coincided with the end of its fuel supply, which had been conserved by careful choice of manoeuvres. The originally foreseen duration of the mission was two years, but Cos-B was finally switched off on 25th April 1982, having functioned successfully for more than 6.5 years.

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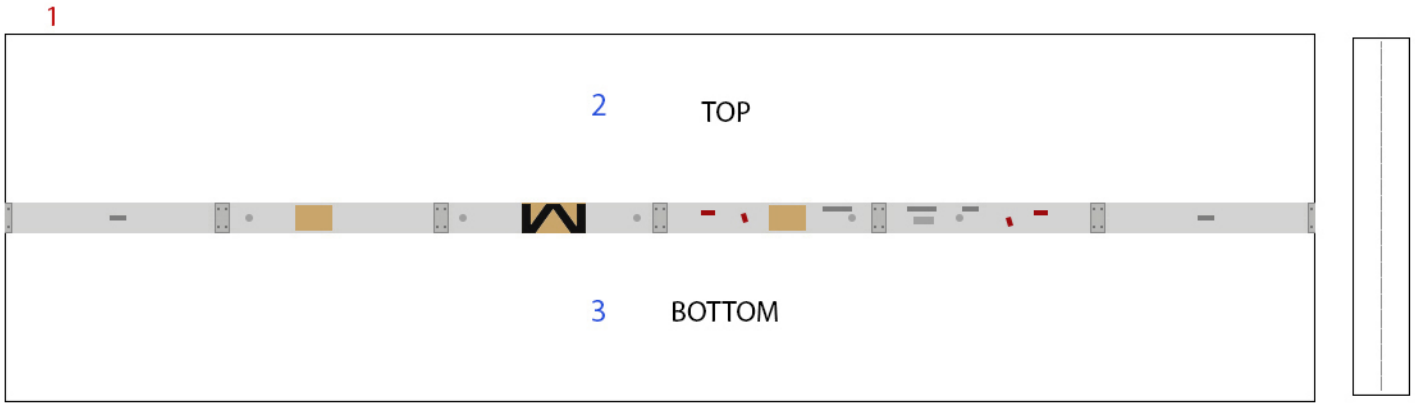

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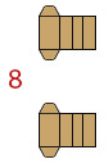
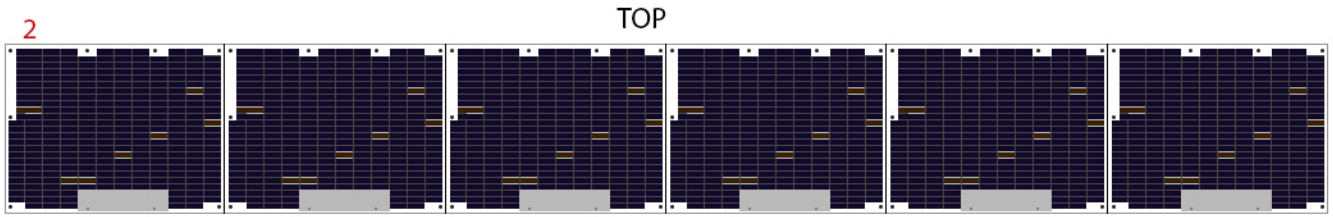
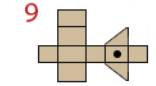
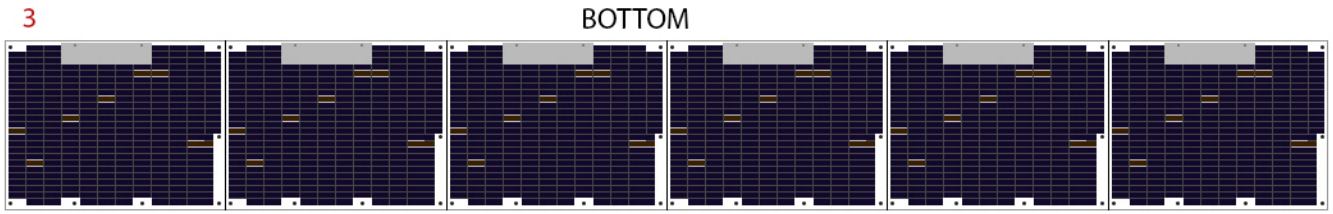
Glue to cardstock

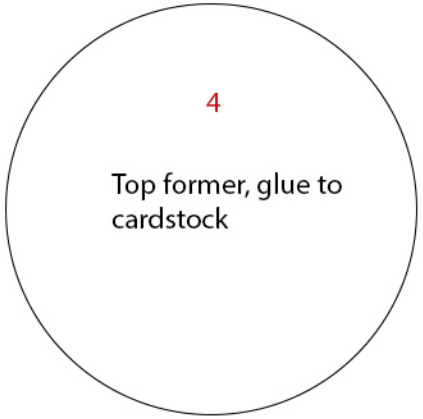


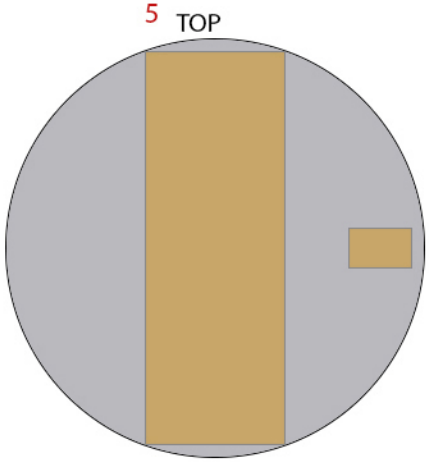


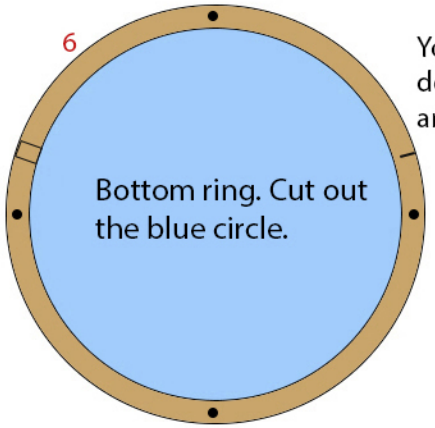




Need four (4) plastic broom straws or similar material, cut at the same length as the line below (20mm) colored light grey or silver for the antennas.







You can poke small holes on the black dots. All this does is to help hold the antennas in place.

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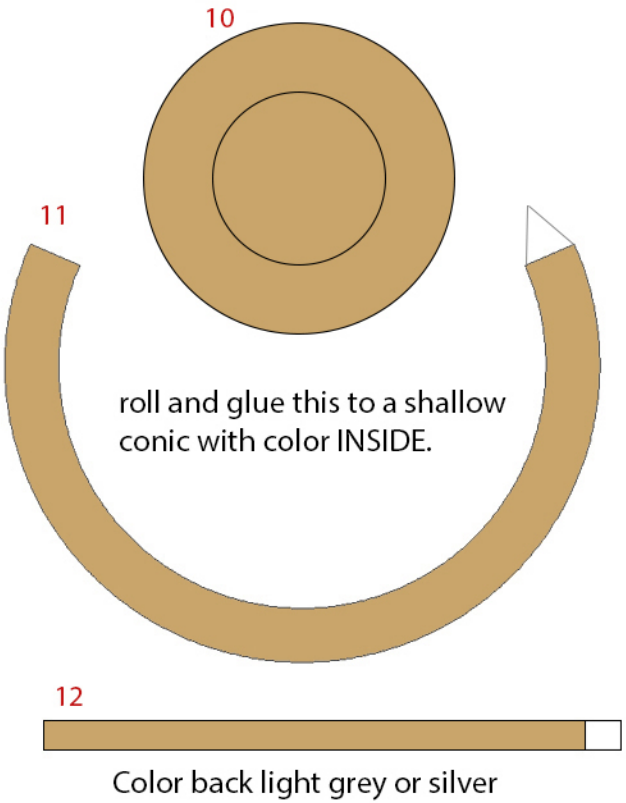

Color back light grey or silver