



Jeff Troy

Flight Report

F-22 Raptor PTS

Hangar 9 brings a second Progressive Trainer System airplane into the fold.

Don'tcha just love creative designing that blows the doors off stuck-in-a-rut thinking, and opens them to new and improved hobby products? If ever there was a shining example of dismissing traditional thinking and coming up with a surefire way to attract the attention of a wannabe RC pilot, Hangar 9's exciting F-22 Raptor PTS is the jet-like airplane of choice.

When it comes to aircraft, you don't get much more intimidating than the full-scale F-22 Raptor, one of the USA's premiere Stealth fighter jets. The name alone sparks the imagination and creates excitement, and Hangar 9 translates that energy into an RC trainer that generates the same enthusiasm.

When prospective customers compare the looks and features of the Hangar 9 F-22 Raptor PTS to the hum-drum appearance of the traditional boxy trainer, you can easily see which way the shopper will want to go. Then, when you understand that this F-22 can truly behave like a primary trainer, you can pile on all the model's included bonuses to close the sale.



PTS is Progressive Trainer System, and it means that the model can deliver trainer-like performance in its basic mode, then have a few of its flight-softening add-ons removed to deliver its more aerobatic, intermediate flight envelope. PTS works, and it works well. The new Raptor flies gently with a great deal of stability, and it makes a

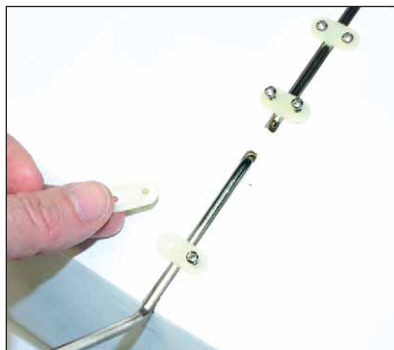
fine trainer for anyone who wants to move his skills forward without having to purchase a second model.

Hangar 9's PTS series launched with their P-51 Mustang PTS, and that model proved just how well a World War II fighter could be tamed to serve a budding RC pilot.

Knowing that shoppers

will never stop asking dealers for Mustangs, B-17's and Tomcats, it was only logical that a good jet-like trainer would soon have to be added to the lineup. Here it is.

The F-22 Raptor PTS flies a lot like Hangar 9's P-51 Mustang PTS. It takes off gently, although a little more



Main gear legs are secured by nylon straps and Phillips-head screws. Nose gear is secured with tiller arm. Assorted hex wrenches are provided in this RTF kit.



Specifications

- Wingspan: 52 inches
- Area: 731 square inches
- Length: 50.3 inches
- Weight: 7.0 – 7.5 pounds
- Power: Trainer Power System
- RC: Six-channel, five servos
- Propeller: 3-blade w/ spinner

Features

- Factory-built and covered model
- Factory-installed JR SX600 RC system
- Factory-installed Evolution .46 TPS
- ABS wing droops and tip extensions
- Positionable flap system
- Aluminum wing joiner tubes
- FS One Solo flight simulator for PC
- 36-page assembly manual

PTS — Progressive Trainer System



Horizontal stabilizers and vertical fins fit into slots at the rear of the Raptor's uniquely shaped fuselage. Two socket head cap screws secure each component. Assembly concludes with installing the propeller and spinner.

runway is required. It flies with amazing stability, and it absolutely will not roll or drop a wing tip as it comes out of the box in its primary trainer mode.

The model gets its primary trainer manners with the help of a pair of ABS plastic wing droops and tip extensions. One of these dual-function units is attached to each of the Raptor's wing panels with double-sided tape for easy removal or reinstallation. The extensions increase the model's wing area and lighten its loading, and the droops provide anti-stall stability and allow the model to fly much more slowly. Setting the model's mechanical wing flaps to half-down or full-down allows even slower flight.



Evolution .46 two-stroke engine is part of TPS (Trainer Power System) package. A three-bladed propeller and rugged nylon spinner complete the Raptor's easy starting power system.

The Raptor is a ready-to-fly model, and setup takes just minutes. Two main gear legs insert into grooves under the fuselage and are retained by nylon straps, then the nose gear is inserted in the forward fuselage and retained by tightening the set screw in the tiller arm. The horizontal and vertical stabilizers slip into slots in the



A special version of Hangar 9's FS One flight simulator is included with the F-22 Raptor PTS. FS One Solo has several Hangar 9 training aircraft, including the P-51 Mustang PTS,

predecessor to the F-22 Raptor PTS. FS One Solo is an excellent RC flight simulator for the PC. It uses the model's fully programmable JR SX600 transmitter, and comes with a USB interface, and adapter cables for JR and Futaba.

The included disk for FS One Solo features five aircraft, the popular Hangar 9 Alpha 40 and four versions of the P-51 Mustang PTS. The F-22 Raptor PTS, not present on the initial version, will

soon be available to FS One Solo owners as a free download. Other noteworthy FS One Solo features include Recordings and Flight Instruction. Instruction offers Ground School, Flying and Stunts, all by Mike McConville.



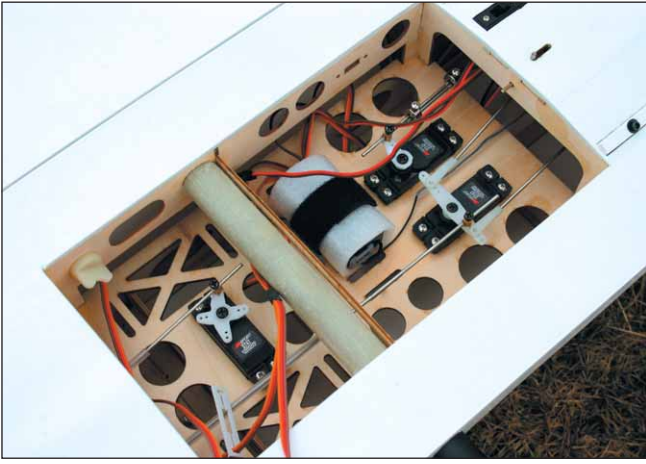
Positionable, mechanical flaps are part of the Hangar 9 F-22 Raptor PTS package. Flaps can be fixed in any of three positions for flight — neutral, half extended or

fully extended. If RC-operated flaps are desired, their installation is facilitated by a factory-cut servo bay in each wing panel. Two JR SPORT ST47 (47-ounce) standard servos and a JR SPORT 6-inch Y-harness are the recommended extras.

Hangar 9's PTS (Progressive Trainer System) relies on embellishments like these painted ABS plastic wing droops and tip extensions to make docile performers out of what might otherwise be fairly aggressive airplanes.

Despite its Stealthy, jet-like appearance, the F-22 Raptor PTS is a very stable model with the wing droops and tip extensions installed. As shown, parts are easily removed for more advanced flight.





Spacious RC bay shows three of the model's five JR SPORT ST47 Standard Servos. Two others in wing panels for ailerons.

fuselage, and each is held by two socket head cap screws. A complete JR SPORT SX600 six-channel RC system and an Evolution TPS (Trainer Power System) .46 two-stroke engine come factory installed. The final steps are simply to attach the propeller and spinner, then sit down and watch the instructional video and get some practice on the FS One Solo PC flight simulator. Both are included.

Solo is an entry-level version of Hangar 9's remarkable FS One simulator. Solo comes with the high wing Hangar 9 Alpha 40 Trainer and four versions of the Mustang PTS. The F-22 will be added to later versions of FS One Solo, although it will soon be available to solo owners as a free download. The full FS One Solo version

is included with the Raptor PTS package, along with a USB interface, an adapter cable for the JR transmitter that comes with the new F-22, and a Trainer Link for Futaba.

This model performs as promised, and its appearance is truly striking. Hangar 9 has done an exceptional job of capturing the allure of the Stealth fighter in a 100 percent factory-built model, then adding all the necessary trainer enhancements to assure its entry-level performance.



Wing panels mount over two sturdy aluminum tubes. Each one secures with a 1/4-20 nylon "ear" bolt — no tools required.

For more information about the Hangar 9 F-22 Raptor PTS, see the ads on pages 5 and 51, visit www.horizonhobby.com or telephone Horizon Hobby in Champaign, Illinois, at 800-535-5551. **HM**



Yes, it's a trainer. Looks like a jet, flies like a high-wing primary, and will not roll or drop a tip with the droops and extensions installed.