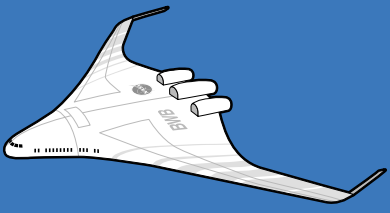
Blended Wing Body Airliner



NASA's Aerospace Research and Technology Base Program is developing technologies for a new type of aircraft that would be more economical and efficient than today's airliners. This revolutionary flying wing configuration, called the Blended Wing Body (BWB), has a thick airfoil-shaped fuselage section that combines the engines, wings, and body into a single lifting surface.

The BWB could carry as many as 800 passengers over 7,000 miles at a cruise speed of about 560 mph. Compared to today's airliners, it would reduce fuel consumption, harmful emissions, operating cost, and noise levels. NASA is developing high-payoff technologies for a new generation of safe, environmentally compatible, and highly productive aircraft.

Airplanes of the future may look very different from those of today. Be an engineer and experiment with a possible new wing type.

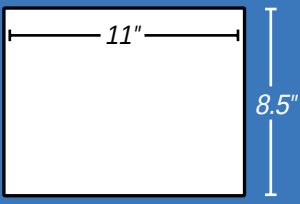
Additional information is available over the Internet at:
http://www.aerospace.nasa.gov/

National Aeronautics
and Space Administration

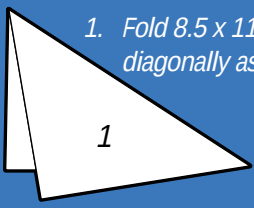
ET-2000-07-013-HQ

Ring Wing Glider

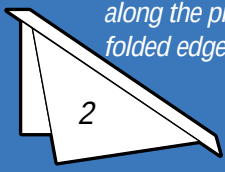
This wing demonstrates the great room there is for aeronautics innovation. Can you design a better wing?



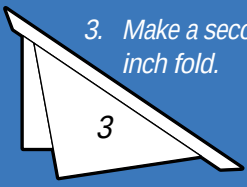
1. *Fold 8.5 x 11 inch paper diagonally as shown.*



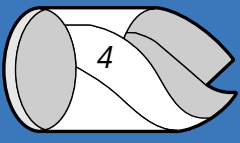
2. *Make a 1/2 inch fold along the previously folded edge.*



3. *Make a second 1/2 inch fold.*



4. *Curl the ends of the paper to make a ring and tuck one end into the fold of the other.*



5. *Gently grasp the "V" between the two "crown points" with your thumbs and index fingers and toss the glider lightly forward.*

The folds in the paper make an airplane wing where the front end is heavy and the back end is light. Curling the ends to make a ring changes the shape of the wing and improves the wing's flight performance.