

Karl Szilagi's 'secret' method for attaching a line around the perimeter of a traditional bamboo/paper fighter kite.

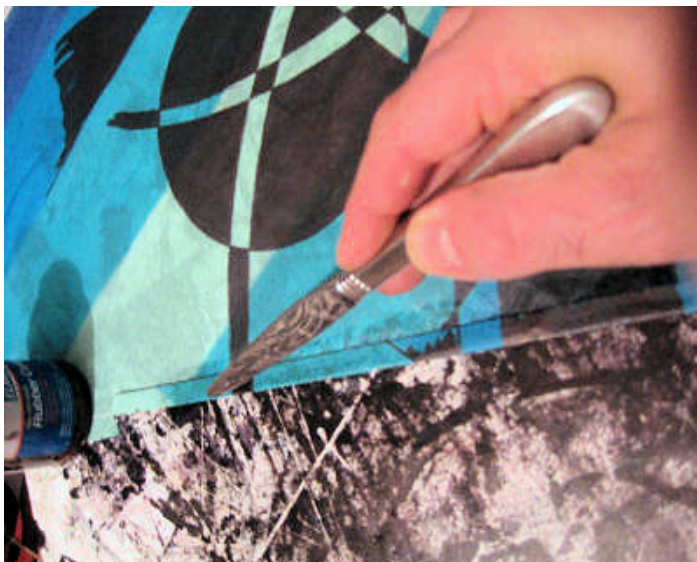
The following are Karl's own words I copied, with Karl's permission, from his discussion about this topic on the forum at www.fighterkitecentral.com. Karl emailed me the photos; I combined them so it would be easier to get the 'whole' picture on this subject. Bruce.

This is a question I have been asked before when people see one of my little Fighters. "how did you get the string perfectly in the crease?"

Here is the trick...Put rubber cement in your already scored fold on say the trailing edge. Let the rubber cement dry. Pull 3 or 4 feet of thread off your spool (I use the same string for the perimeter string as

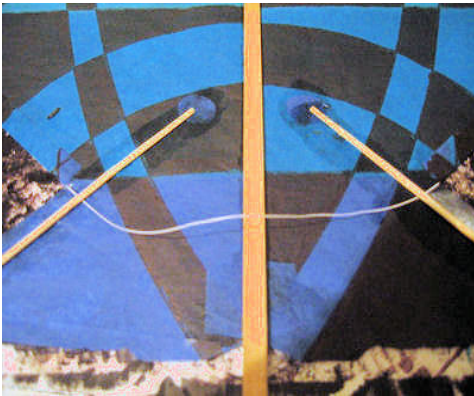


the bridle and flying line) lay it into the crease, pull it taut and weight both sides that you are working on with something (I use rubber cement bottles) fold the hem over but do not press is down too hard yet.



Now get a butter knife or better still a letter opener and gently but firmly push the string all the way into the crease. This is like a dragging and pushing motion at the same time. Then press harder and rub the hem together. And there it is...a factory like edge.

I notch the nose of the spine and when I finish the hem and string on the leading edge I tie it with three knots into this notch and then snip off the excess very close to the knots.



On the bottom I cut the string after the complete stringing is done and wrap the bottom ends around the stabilizer ribs and then rubber cement paper strips over that sealing (or as Master Berman used to say "Weld") the ends in forever.



I know it may be a little hard to follow what I just described but try practicing this method on some scrap paper you have...It could be computer paper. This part took me a long time to figure out and I will modestly say, master.