

Alexander Beetle

A very small dinghy.

1.650m x 0.970m

400mm depth amidships.

Alexander was designed as a minimal tender, to fit on the aft deck of a much modified trailer sailer. The project was quite a challenge, the allowable dimensions to fit the stowage space indicated that it would be wise to maximise stability with slightly flared topsides, plenty of freeboard and a low seating position for the rower. Even so, it was expected to be on the tender side, but the intrepid builder felt that she would soon adapt to Alexander's characteristics and set forth on the construction.

As it turned out it did not take long for her to become used to Alexander, and it was even found that two people could be fitted in, in calm conditions!. It has turned out to be a great success for the owner and builder, stowing perfectly as anticipated, and towing in a well behaved manner.

Construction is in 4mm marine plywood, with an exterior laminate of 200gsm plain weave fabric. All the panels for the hull, bulkheads, tanktop and decks come out of two sheets of plywood, while the timber framing is oregon. The plan, a single A1 size sheet, is filled with detail and has the panels layed out and dimensioned, so that they can be drawn out to suit the plywood sheets.

Alexander would make quite a neat boat for young kids to play around with, but for anyone else looking for a mini tender that really works, this is the answer.

