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MAGAZINE**
INTERNATIONAL

**ISSUE
318**
April 2022
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**P-40:
POLISHED!**
Eduard/Hasegawa 1:32
P-40N in a shiny suit

Model MAGAZINE

INTERNATIONAL



Tamiya's new 1:12
**Suzuki Ecstar
GSX-RR '20**

ECSTAR SPECIAL

INSIDE

Tamiya 1:24 Alfa Romeo GTA Junior cover version, Neomega Snocat diorama, plus new kits, books and modelling accessories...

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CENTURION Mk.III



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1/16
SCALE

R/C TANK

Powerful & Realistic Action in Impressive Size Innovative British Tank Becomes an R/C Model!

1/16 R/C Tank Series **British Battle Tank Centurion Mk.III Full-Option Kit**

●4ch transmitter, 4ch receiver, battery pack, battery charger, and batteries for transmitter are separately sold.

(Item 56045)

The Centurion was developed as a British counter to German Army tanks at the end of WWII. First serving in the Korean War, the Centurion showed off its overwhelming strength in saving the Allied forces from crisis many times, and it was said to be the most effective tank in the world. Now, this innovative tank upgunned with 20 pounder gun joins the barnstorming 1/16 R/C Tank Series! The powerful form is captured in style with realistic depictions of cast surface patterns and weld lines. A full range of model and turret motion can be controlled, and sounds and lights are synchronized with motion. It is a rewarding task assembling, painting and weathering this large 603mm-length model. Enjoy building up your own version of a tank which exemplified the British Army's commitment to quality.

[Specifications] ●Length: 603mm (hull length: 476mm), width: 214mm, height: 189mm. Weight (approx.): 3,800g. ●The deep sound of the V12 gasoline engine capable of 650hp is realistically rendered. ●A bass reflex speaker with metal baffle plate gives rich sounds. Speaker unit equipped in the hull front emits highly authentic sounds accompanied by model actions such as main and machine gun burst fire, turret rotation and gun elevation. ●Multi-Function Control Unit coordinates various actions, sounds and lights.



The main gun offers elevation up to 18 degrees and depression of 7 degrees, in conjunction with realistic sound. The turret rotates a full 360 degrees and transmitter controls speed and stopping position.



When the main gun and 7.92mm Besa machine gun are fired, a flash is emitted from orange LEDs installed in the clear part in the tips that depict muzzle flash, accompanied by sound.



Durability is ensured by an aluminum chassis and die-cast components such as drive sprockets and suspension arms.



The gearbox unit offers plenty of power at a range of speeds from slow crawling to top speed.



A large bass reflex speaker unit has metal baffle plate to offer deep, rich sounds.



(DMD T-11C)

The control unit facilitates various actions, synchronized with sounds and lights for super realism.



Comes with an optional gun shield canvas cover (bottom) which locks main and machine guns for display models.

★Images show assembled and painted kit. ★Product may vary from images shown.

TAMIYA, INC. 3-7 ONDAWARA, SURUGA-KU, SHIZUOKA 422-8610 JAPAN

Check Tamiya's homepage for the latest releases! [www.tamiya.com] ©2022 TAMIYA



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Giving the Eduard/Hasegawa 1:32 P-40N a shiny suit



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Construction begins on Tamiya's new 1:12 Suzuki Ecstar GSX-RR '20



Model MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL

Issue 318 April 2022

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IN BRIEF...



TAMIYA

- 1:32 Mini4WD Super Avante Jr
- 1:32 Mini4WD Super Hard Small Dia. Narrow Tires (24mm) & Reinforced 3-Spoke Wheels
- 1:10 RC Subaru Impreza Mexico 2004 TT-01 Type E chassis
- 1:10 RC Astute 2022

hobbyco.net



ICM

- 1:16 WW2 Soviet assault engineer-sapper (100% new moulds)
- 1:24 Benz Patent-Motorwagen 1886 (EASY version w/plastic wheel-spokes)
- 1:32 DH.82A Tiger Moth with bombs WWII British training aircraft
- 1:32 AH-1G 'Arctic Cobra', US Helicopter
- 1:35 AR-2 (43105), Hose fire truck
- 1:35 American Civil War Union Infantry. Set #2 (100% new moulds)
- 1:35 American Civil War Confederate Infantry. Set #2 (100% new moulds)
- 1:35 Sd.Kfz. 247 Ausf.B with MG 34 machine gun
- 1:35 10.5cm leFH 16(Sf) auf Geschutzwagen FCM36(f), WWII German self-propelled howitzer
- 1:35 OT-3476, WWII Soviet flamethrower tank
- 1:35 Studebaker US6-U3, Lend-Lease military truck
- 1:72 Type G4 Partisanenwagen with MG 34, WWII German vehicle
- 1:72 APA-50M (ZIL-131), Airfield mobile electric unit
- 1:72 Over all of Spain, the sky is clear
- 1:350 KfK Kriegsfischkutter, WWII German multi-purpose boat (100% new moulds)

www.icm.com.ua

REVELL

- Lightning McQueen w-Light & Sound 02
- Jackson Storm w-Light & Sound 01
- 1:24 '65 Shelby Cobra 427
- 1:8 Pontiac Firebird TransAm
- 1:25 '69 Camaro SS
- 1:24 London Bus (Platinum Edition)
- 1:24 2017 Ford GT (easy-click)
- 1:25 2014 Corvette Stingray (easy-click)

www.revell.de/en



TAKOM

- 1:350 DDG-1000 Zumwalt-class destroyer

www.bachmann.co.uk



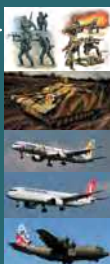
TRUMPETER

- 1:700 HMS Monmouth F235 Type 23 Frigate
- 1:700 USS Guam CB-2
- 1:700 USS Intrepid CVS-11
- 1:350 Aircraft Carrier Weser
- 1:72 Soviet Object 268
- 1:72 M983 HEMTT & M901 Launching Station w/ MIM-104 Patriot SAM System (PAC 2)
- 1:72 Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD)
- 1:48 Chinese J-20 Mighty Dragon "Beast Mode"
- 1:35 15U175 TEL of RS-12M1 Topol-M ICBM complex
- 1:35 M984A2 HEMTT Wrecker
- 1:35 Soviet Aerosan KM-4
- 1:35 L4500A w/ 5cm Flak 41 II

ZVEZDA

- 1:35 German Panzergrenadiers
- 1:35 German Sturmpanzergrenadiers WWII
- 1:35 American Army Car, Dodge WC-51
- 1:72 Pantsir-S1
- 1:72 Panzerkampfwagen VIII Maus
- 1:100 Sturmgeschütz IV
- 1:144 Boeing 757-300
- 1:144 Airbus A321neo
- 1:72 Lockheed C-130J Hercules

www.hobbyco.net



COMING SOON FROM TAMIYA

1:10 RC Alpine A110 Jägermeister 1973 (M-06 chassis)

This 1:10 RC car replicates the Jägermeister Alpine A110 that participated in the 1973 German domestic race.

The beautiful two-door coupé body is reproduced with polycarbonate with headlights, front and rear bumpers, side mirrors into separate parts.

www.tamiya.com www.hobbyco.net



ON THE WAY FROM TAMIYA

1:10 RC Ford Bronco 2021 (CC-02 Chassis)

Ford's fantastic 2021 Bronco SUV is now available as an RC car from Tamiya! Polycarbonate reproduces the shape of the original car, such as circular headlights and the round-edge shapes of front fenders. It's a detailed model with separate parts for the roof rack, front grille, and spare tyre cover.

www.tamiya.com www.hobbyco.net



NEW FROM TAMIYA

1:14 RC Scania 770 S 6x4 Full Operation Set

This new kit reproduces the highest-end model of Scania's large trailer that was launched in 2020. Custom parts such as roof bar equipped with light pods and grill minibars are represented. The chassis has two-axle drive to the rear wheels uses a ladder frame that combines a metal side rail with a moulded cross member

www.tamiya.com www.hobbyco.net



MODELS FOR HEROES AT THE TANK MUSEUM

Models for Heroes is a charity model-making group which promotes the hobby as a wellbeing activity. They were at the South West Model Show on Saturday 19th to Sunday 20th February which took place at The Tank Museum, Bovington, Dorset, UK. Models for Heroes aims to improve the lives of our bravest by providing a meaningful activity that promotes mental and physical wellbeing, skills development and social interaction. Started over five years ago by Malcolm Childs, Models for Heroes now has over 140 volunteers offering face to face sessions. The Tank Museum is an independent Museum and registered Charity.

www.tankmuseum.org



NEW FROM EDUARD

New and aircraft kits

- 1:72: ProfiPACK MiG-15, ProfiPACK Hurricane Mk.I
- 1:48: ProfiPACK P-51D Mustang, Sopwith F1 Camel (Clerget engine)

www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

COMING SOON FROM ICM

New kits for 2022!

This Ukrainian manufacturer has kits of some wonderful subjects coming this year!

- In 1:32: Yak-9T Soviet WW2 fighter aircraft
- In 1:35: Sikorsky CH-54A Tarhe 'Skycrane', US heavy helicopter (100% new moulds), Unimog S 404, German military truck (100% new moulds)
- In 1:48: Bristol Beaufort Mk.IA with tropical filter, Gotha Go 242A, WWII German Landing Glider

www.icm.com.ua



COMING SOON FROM OFFSET SCALE MODELS

1:48 Russian Naval Towing Tractor

This lovely little kit will be perfect for placing on a diorama with a 1:48 Su-33 Flanker-D or similar. It is cast in resin with photo-etched brass parts and decals. www.offset-models.com



NEW FROM REVELL

1:35 Marder I 7.5cm PaK40 (Sf.) on FCM 36(f)

ICM's kit will be found in this Revell box and it's a superb little production with heaps of detail. www.revell.de/en



NEW FROM REVELL

1:48 F-86D Dog Sabre

It's wonderful to have this still-excellent kit available again, and in this attractive scheme, it's quite irresistible! www.revell.de/en



NEW FROM REVELL

1:24 Porsche 917 KH 1970 Le Mans Winner

Fujimi provides the kit parts for Revell here, which is good new because it is a superb kit of the 1970 Le Mans winning Porsche 917. www.revell.de/en



COMING SOON FROM TRUMPETER

1:35 Wehrmachtslokomotive V188

It may look quite modern, but this is a German diesel-engined loco from the WW2 period. Perfect for military railway scenes. www.bachmann.co.uk



NEW FROM TRUMPETER

1:16 German Sd.Kfz.173 Jagdpanther Early

In massive 1:16 we have the deadly WW2 German Jagdpanther tank-destroyer. This will be a big project with a price tag to match! www.bachmann.co.uk



DF-41 BALLISTIC MISSILE LAUNCHER



NEW FROM TAKOM

1:72 Chinese DF-41 Ballistic Missile Launcher

This will be a big model even in 1:72! Expect masses of detail. www.creativemodels.co.uk



COMING SOON FROM EDUARD

- 1:32 Photo-etched brass Tornado ECR exterior (Italeri)
- 1:32 Photo-etched brass Tornado ECR seatbelts STEEL (Italeri)
- 1:32 Photo-etched brass B-25H exterior (HK Models)
- 1:32 Photo-etched brass B-25H (HK Models)
- 1:32 Photo-etched brass B-25H seatbelts STEEL (HK Models)
- 1:35 Photo-etched brass T-62 (Zvezda)
- 1:48 Photo-etched brass A6M2 Zero (Eduard)

www.creativemodels.co.uk
www.eduard.com



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(Photocopies of this form are acceptable)

TAMIYA 50TH FIGURE REMODELLING CONTEST

2021 was a notable year in Japan for a variety of reasons, not just the effects of Covid-19 but also the delayed staging of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. It also marked the 50th holding of the Tamiya Figure Remodelling Contest, a milestone which Tamiya are proud to have reached

The Tamiya Figure Remodelling Contest is an annual competition in Japan where 1:35 Tamiya military figures (roughly 5cm tall) are remodelled into various subjects, being given new or updated parts in the process. As long as it started life as a 1:35 Tamiya military figure, almost anything goes! Entries range from slightly altered poses and paint jobs to complete overhauls into wildly different subjects, each given unique life by the interests of its creator. *(Editor's note; my thanks to Tom Kendall for the translation).* ●

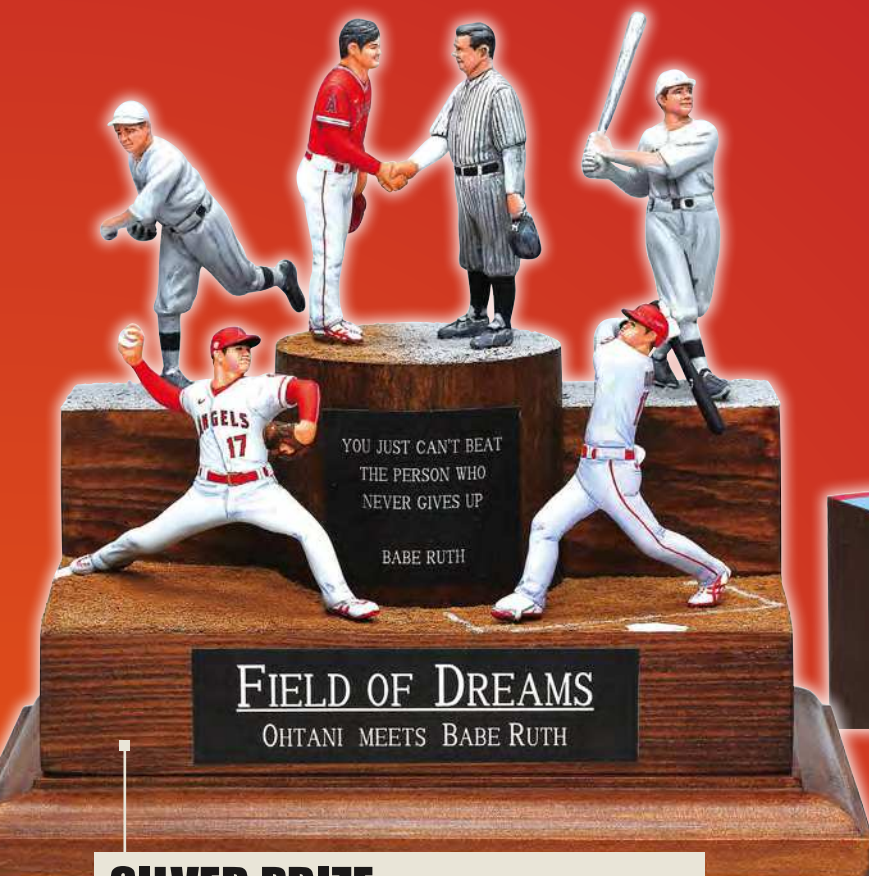
GOLD PRIZE

Creator: Yuji Aoyama

Title: Sengoku Era Meets the Olympics

Creator's Comment: Stuck more often at home due to Covid-19 restrictions, I ended up watching the Olympics – this piece juxtaposes the modern Olympics with Japanese samurai of old, with sword, firearm, bow and more. The Blue Impulse air acrobatics team was added for an extra touch.





SILVER PRIZE

Creator: Norio Mushiake

Title: Field of Dreams – Ohtani Meets Babe Ruth

Note: Shohei Ohtani is a Japanese baseball star playing in Los Angeles. He both bats and pitches at the top level, which is exceptionally rare in baseball. He was the 2021 MVP, only the second Japanese player ever to receive the award.

Creator's Comment: Ohtani is not only a fabulous player but also a role model for many, and I wanted to picture him with the legendary American player Babe Ruth, whose famous quote I put on the plaque.



BRONZE PRIZE

Creator: Naoto Okada

Title: Tokyo 2020 – the Kata

Creator's Comment: Tokyo 2020 was the first time I'd ever seen competitive karate Kata and it made such an impression that I created this piece featuring two Japanese medalists.



TOPICAL PRIZE

Creator: Hidetoshi Shuto

Title: Happy 50th!

Creator's Comment: This was difficult to make! It is a tribute to the great hobby of modelling that I've enjoyed since I was a primary school student. I love the new figures, but the slightly rougher old ones will always have a special place in my heart.



TOPICAL PRIZE

Creator: Yoshiaki Maruno

Title: The 50th Parade

Creator's Comment: I used three different photos for inspiration, fusing them together for this piece, on a 15cm2 base onto which I squeezed seventeen

TOPICAL PRIZE

Creator: Shojiro Morio

Title: The 50th Anniversary

Creator's Comment: I imagined a human-powered Tamiya drill for this fantasy piece, which even features Tamiya Chairman Shunsaku Tamiya. Long may this legendary contest continue!



MM PRIZE

Creator: Hiroyuki Kimura
Title: Goliath
Creator's Comment: While I am always tickled by the ironic naming of the Goliath, its destiny was to cause damage and perish in its own attack. Looking for a slightly different theme, I therefore pictured a Goliath captured by the enemy and being used something like an R/C toy.



INNOVATION PRIZE

Creator: Sanetomo Nagayoshi
Title: Tamiya 2021

Note: The human pictogram performance at the Tokyo 2020 opening ceremony were perhaps the star of the show in the Japanese public's eyes and became a major talking point.

Creator's Comment: Like many others, I was fascinated with the Tokyo 2020 opening ceremony human pictograms – what better way to celebrate this contest's fiftieth running?



NEWCOMER PRIZE

Creator: Hidekazu Nomura
Title: Still Charging...
Creator's Comment: I went for minimal alterations to figure pose, pairing them with the legendary Wild Willy – tires were created individually using epoxy putty and a file, which was rather a labour of love!



JUNIOR PRIZE

Creator: Kowa Miyagi
Title: From the Sea
Creator's Comment: This piece depicts fallen victims of WWII who remain under the Pacific, carrying various weapons and paraphernalia. I hope that their anguish captures the senselessness and tragedy which war brings.

50th ANNIVERSARY PRIZE

Creator: Kunihiro Satoh
Title: Tokyo 2020 Pictograms
Creator's Comment: The Tokyo 2020 human pictograms were such fun that I decided to use them as my subject! I originally only planned to do a few, but ended up with 78 figures! Their heads are 8mm beads.





MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Shinjiro Asaki
Title: Shohei Ohtani



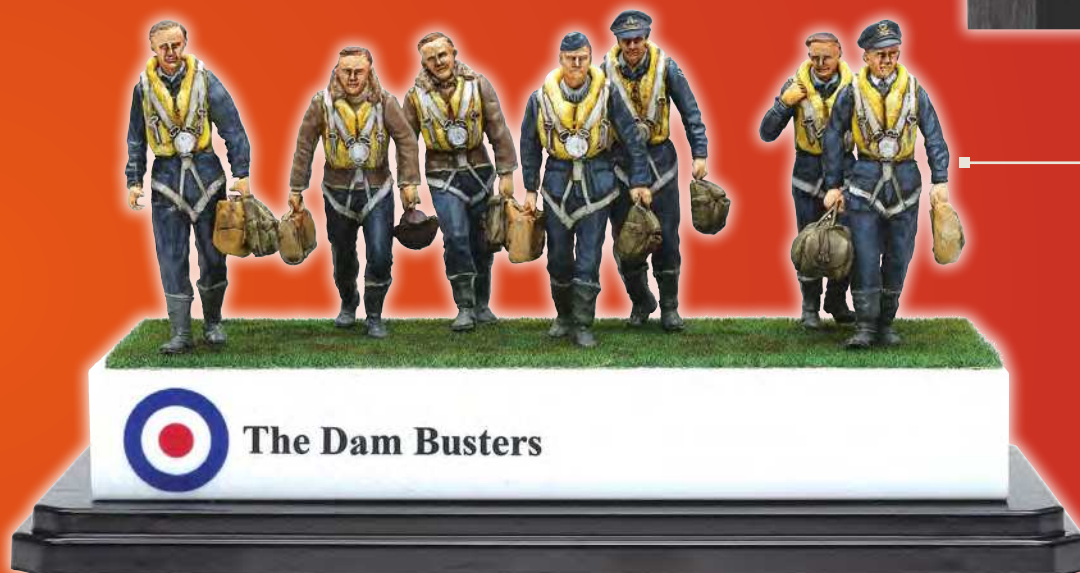
MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Masaaki Okubo
Title: Rengoku Kyojuro
Note: A character from perhaps the most popular animation of the last couple of years in Japan, Kimetsu no Yaiba (English title: Demon Slayer)



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Takashi Ide
Title: This Year's Kanji (A Prediction)
Note: At the end of every year, one of the Kanji Japanese logographic characters is unofficially chosen to represent the happenings of the last 12 months.



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Taro Ohashi
Title: The Dam Busters



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Kiyoshi Okuyama
Title: Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Kotaro Kawamura
Title: JKT48 Team K III, Viviyona Apriani "Yona"
Note: JKT48 is an Indonesian spin-off of a Japanese series of girl groups



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Kazuyoshi Kondo

Title: Lupin the Third (Yasuo Otsuka version)

Note: Lupin the Third is a long-running, much-loved Japanese animation. Yasuo Otsuka was one of its animators, who passed away in 2021 at the age of 89.



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Noriyuki Tani

Title: Toyota Chief Executive Akio Toyoda

Note: Toyoda was rather outspoken about the holding of the Tokyo 2020 games, and Toyota eventually pulled their advertising from TV coverage in response to negative public opinion about their staging.



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Akira Tanikawa

Title: Haramichan

Note: Haramichan is a You-Tuber pianist from Japan.

MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Yoshimoto Namikawa

Title: Yoshi!

Note: A scene from a memorable TV advert in Japan. 'Yoshi!' means 'yes!'



MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Junji Yamano

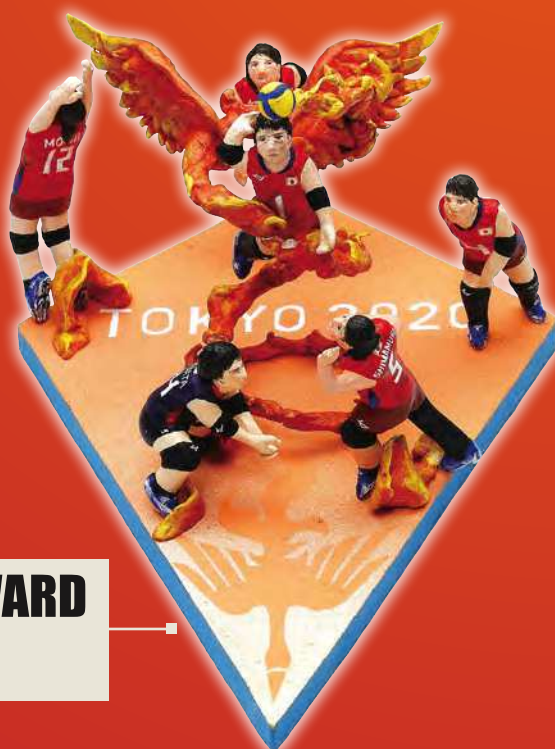
Title: Super Space Team

MASTERPIECE AWARD

Creator: Ayano Watanabe

Title: Hope

Note: Volleyball is a rather popular sport in Japan.



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GIULIA JUNIOR

Alessandro Prini converts Tamiya's sublime 1997 Alfa Romeo Giulia Sprint GTA 1:24 kit into the 1300 'Junior' using the Scale Productions resin transkit

In my many years of model work, I rarely go beyond the 'classic' modelling themes, focusing on famous or winning subjects. In some cases however, other subjects do crop up where I like to pay tribute to something that has made motoring history. I've always been interested in the Alfa Romeo GTA, perhaps because of those oversized wings and the small, thirteen-inch 'Campagnolo' alloy wheels; perhaps because I saw it racing on the track at Monza as a boy.

In fact, I made up my mind when a collector-friend of mine provided me with the necessary items (despite their rarity) to make a good model: a Tamiya kit and a 'Scale Production' conversion.

The project envisaged a very 'clean' subject, without sponsors or colourful livery or

identification of the Milanese car brand; only small 'Autodelta' badges on the sides to keep the morphological character of the car intact. Mechanically, it had to have a wide cylinder head, carburettor feed (prior to 1971) and a bridge roll-bar, with no front pillars.

Tamiya's historic 1:24 GTA kit is perhaps the most successful. Well conceived, as always from Tamiya, proportioned (within acceptable limits) and made of excellent materials. The example I found unfortunately had some deformations in the windscreen area that made it difficult to fit the transparent moulding in place properly. After repeated heat treatment and forced bending, the problem was solved. I therefore had a perfect base on the table from which to extract a new model.



The author made up his mind about this project when a friend provided the necessary items (despite the kit's rarity) to make a good 'Junior': a Tamiya kit and the Scale Production conversion set



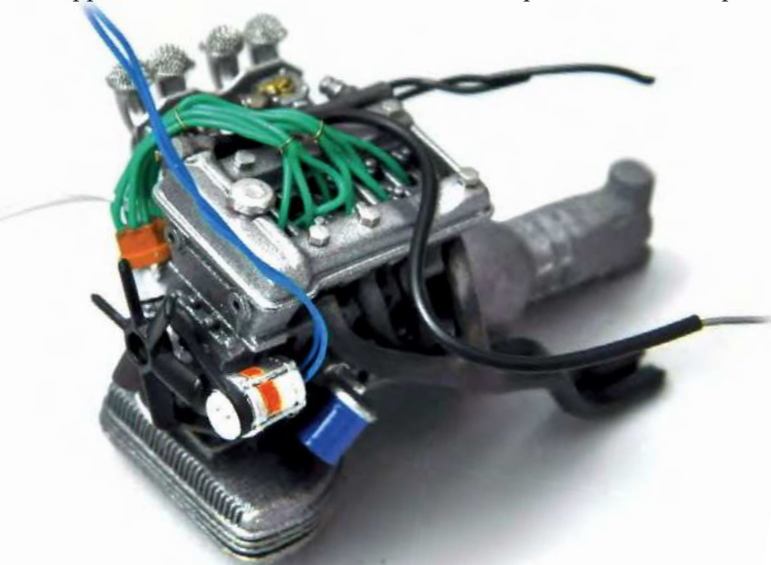
ENGINE

The preparation of the engine block was easy thanks to the realistic treatment of the components. However, modifications to the cylinder head were a must (number of ignition points) as well as the filling of the grooves in the tappet boxes which facilitated the

passage of the air-duct to the filter. The engine compartment received clean-up work and the removal of elements that were unsuitable or had to be reproduced separately.

With the help of various recycled and/or self-made metal components, I reproduced and adapted the

components for the intake, oil and water pipes as shown in the original images obtained. The oil vapour recovery barrel was reproduced from a resin cube, as was the fuse box. Other small electrical components were derived from material stocks and suitably adapted for the purpose.



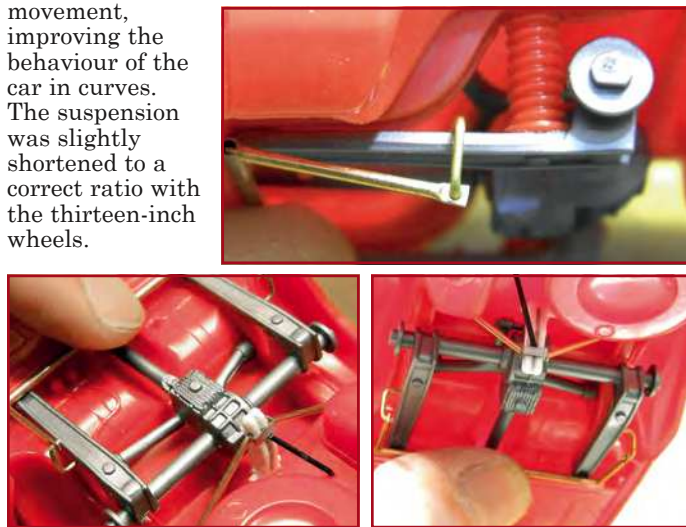
EXHAUST

The 'Scale Production' metal exhaust outlet was modified with hollow copper tube to achieve the correct thickness and depth.



SUSPENSION

Circular spacers were fitted to the hubs to align the wheels with the oversized wings. The torsion bar (or stabiliser bar) was built with brass rod and, under the differential, the famous 'slip' was built: a technical device that in a very simple way constrained the rear axle to the only vertical movement, improving the behaviour of the car in curves. The suspension was slightly shortened to a correct ratio with the thirteen-inch wheels.



MODIFYING THE CABIN

Being a road-car, the kit offers a perfect reproduction of the real cabin. Once I had eliminated the rear seat, I had to adapt to the floor and the vertical panel up to the parcel shelf; considering that the component of the Transkit was very deformed and inadequate, I reconstructed this panel including the ribs of the original parts.



DOOR CARDS

The side panels, realistically reproduced for the road version, were modified (removing detail and thicknesses) with the new panels and metal handles in mind. The passenger-side door was removed from the dashboard, while the gearstick and parking brake levers were enhanced with metal rods.



ROLL-BAR

The usual protection cage (roll-bar) in 2mm plastic card rod bent to shape, required, as always, a lot of work, in terms of shape, size and perfect adaptability to the available space.



DASHBOARD, SEATS AND STEERING WHEEL

The steering wheel is a reworked and adapted racing component. The resin seat from the conversion received a tubular plastic card frame that was then covered in aluminium foil to create a suitable surface. Appropriate control levers with tailor-made pins were added to the steering wheel support block. The beautiful modified 'Merikits' fire extinguisher is on display, below.



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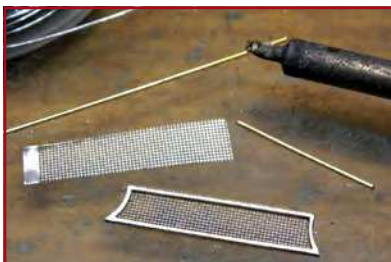
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BODYWORK

The areas that required attention concentrated on two zones: the grille and the wings. The first required a brass metal frame welded to steel mesh, all shaped along the available slit.



WINGS

The second, the installation of the resin wings on the plastic bodywork, required a great deal of attention to attain the correct position and fixing technique: installation with small dots of cyanoacrylate and fastening by filling the cavity with slow-setting, two-component adhesive (UHU Plus), so that the fusion between the two materials – resin and plastic – would remain solid over time. All critical points (for lines, shapes and symmetry) were then sanded to shape.

In order to achieve the correct relief of the wings from the body line, the affected areas (the wings) were painted beforehand with repeated coats of primer after having been masked off, obtaining a subtle step between the two surfaces. I then marked the rivet points with an awl and freehand. A detail that remained visible even with subsequent painting.



“The Giulia Sprint GTA (Gran Turismo Alleggerita) was introduced at the 1965 Amsterdam Motor Show. Derived from the standard Giulia Sprint GT, it featured several modifications that made it about 200kg lighter (hence its name ‘Alleggerita’; lightened),”

www.fcaheritage.com

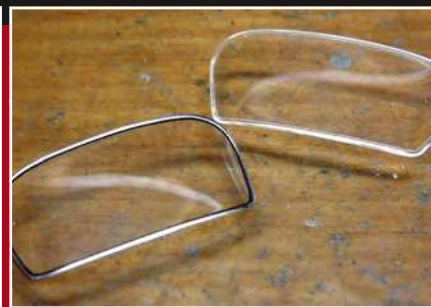
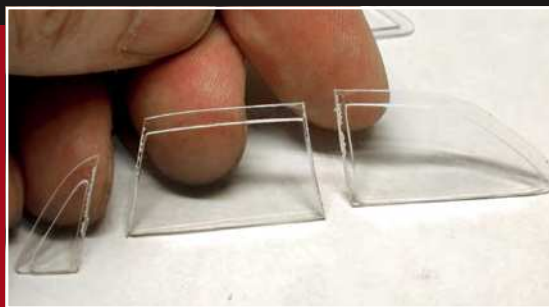
BONNET

The opening-closing mechanism of the front bonnet (very delicate and not very precise) was reinforced by adding a brass rod to stiffen the hinge system. A rotating steel rod (a pin with a photo-etched slot) simulates the original system of binding the bonnet in the open position. Finally, a closing hook was built on the left side of the bonnet, in white metal and equipped with a hinge that allows the opening/closing rotation of the same. At the rear, a box was built to support the lights for illuminating the number plate area.



WINDOWS

The side windows of the model's doors were replaced with thin sheets of acetate usually used for graphic design: this material is very light and can be shaped, allowing the windows to be lowered. All the window frames were finished with self-adhesive 'Bare Metal Foil' with a black border for the rubber seals.



BODY PAINTING

Since we are dealing with plastics, all components must be treated with the excellent transparent acrylic coat specific for plastics (by Talken), which allows the material to receive paint without subsequent flaking, micro-cracks or detachment, either immediately or over time. A grey alkyd primer (also by Talken) insulates the plastic from the aggressive agents of the subsequent varnishes and also highlights any finishing defects (sink-marks, joints, etc), which can be remedied with appropriate sanding phases. Then, several light coats of Alfa Romeo nitrocellulose gloss racing red were applied, levelled from time to time with fine sanding cloths, until the final, very diluted coat was applied to restore a natural and credible gloss (without needing a clear-coat).



DECALS

Almost no decals were used, except for the two small 'Autodelta' badges, drawn on the PC and printed on a white sheet for decals.

WHEELS

The Campagnolo resin rims were finished with separate fixing bolts and aluminium heads to protect the hub for the two front rims while the circular slit was accentuated for the rear ones; valves and balancing weights being compulsory. The tyres are the originals from the 'Scale Production' conversion set.



FULL-BUILD: SPORTS CAR CONVERSION

TAMIYA 1:24 ALFA ROMEO GIULIA SPRINT GTA ● KIT NO.24188



“In 1968 Alfa Romeo chose to take part in the Tourism Championship competitions reserved for smaller displacement engines, so the Giulia GTA 1300 Junior took to the track alongside the Giulia GTA 1600,”

www.fcacheritage.com

NOTES

This was an interesting experience compared to the usual assembly, which was enhanced technically thanks to the study of the real subject. A note of merit to the drivers Gianluigi Picchi and Marco Stella (whom I publicly thank) who, with their technical and historical advice as well as their interest in what I was doing to reproduce the model of this car, certainly stimulated and encouraged towards the final production! ●

TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:24 ALFA ROMEO GIULIA SPRINT GTA KIT NO.24188

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, synthetic rubber tyres, waterslide decals

Accessories used:

Scale Production: Alfa Romeo GTAj transkit (SPTK24046)

Aerosol paints used:

- Talken: Gloss Red, Transparent Primer, Transparent Matt, Matt Grey
- Lechler: Matt Black nitro-cellulose
- Duplicolor: Gloss Aluminium
- Alclad 2: Chrome
- Humbrol Enamels: Semi-gloss Black No.85, Matt Black No.33, Metal Cote 27003, Gloss Red No.19
- Tamiya Acrylics: X-26 Clear Orange, X-27 Clear Red

Adhesives used:

- Loctite: Medium Grip Cyanoacrylate,
- UHU-Plus: two-component slow-setting epoxy

Other materials used:

- Mr Hobby: Mr.Surfacer 1000
- Tamiya: Putty
- Brass, copper, steel, tin, plastic card, scrap photo-etched metal

Availability:

- Tamiya models, accessories, paints and materials are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net.

Please note; the kit featured here is currently out of production, please check online for second-hand availability

- Scale Production: www.scaleproduction.de

1970 Alfa Romeo Giulia GTA 1300 Junior

- Engine: 1,290cc in-line four-cylinder DOHC, twin spark, mechanical fuel injection
- Power: 165bhp at 8,400rpm
- Maximum speed: 210km/h
- Design: Bertone





KOREA

Fighter bomber and photo
recon F-51D and RF-51D
Mustang over Korea

1/48



F-51D-30, 45-11705, Lt. Robert H. Dewald, 35th FBS, 8th FBG, Seoul City AB (K-16), Korea, December 1950



F-51D-25, 44-73073, Lt. Daniel E. Parr, 12th FBS, 18th FBG, Pusan East AB (K-9), Korea, summer 1951



F-51D-30, 44-74597, Maj. Murrit H. Davis, CO of 39th FIS, 18th FBG, Seoul City AB (K-16), Korea, August 1951



F-51D-30, 44-74651, Col. William H. Clark, CO of 18th FBG, Hoengsong AB (K-46), Korea, July 1952



RF-51D-25, 44-84840, Lt. Frank M. Ward, 45th TRS, 67th TRG, Taegu AB (K-2), Korea, July 1951



RF-51D-10, 44-12237, Lt. Watts/Lt. Taylor, 45th TRS, 67th TRG, Kimpo AB (K-14), Korea, 1952



RF-51D-25, 44-84837, Lt. Grover J. Isbell, 45th TRS, 67th TRG, Kimpo AB (K-14), Korea, 1952



F-51D-30, 44-74629, Col. Dean E. Hess, ROKAF, Seoul City AB (K-16), Korea, October 1950

- Limited edition kit of US fighter aircraft F-51D and RF-51D Mustang in fighter bomber and photo reconnaissance role used in Korean War
- Dual Combo - plastic parts, photo-etched details and die cut masks for two complete models
- Decals for 10 marking options

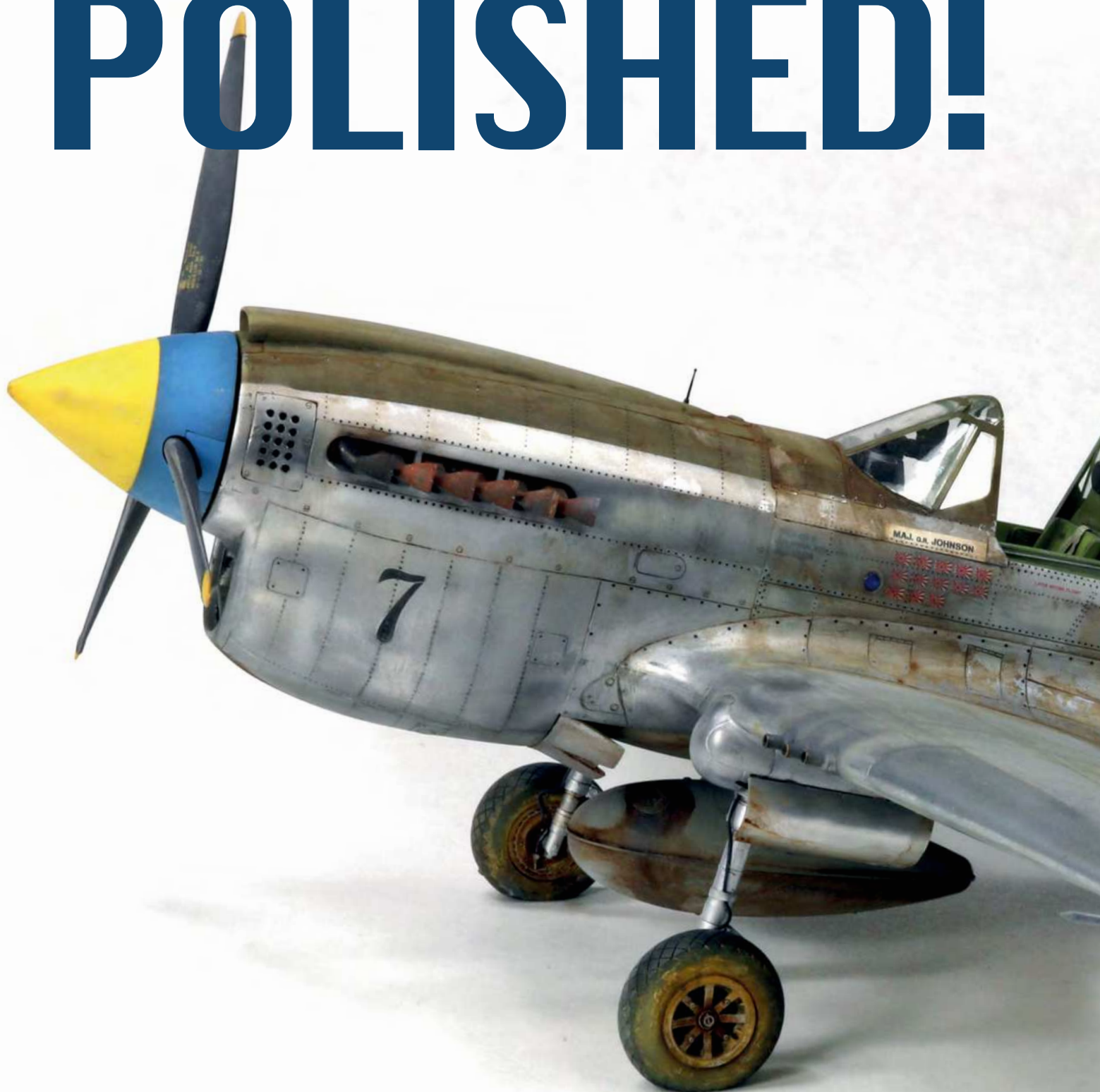


F-51D-25, A68-809 (45-11474), W/Cdr L. T. Spence, CO of No. 77 Squadron RAAF, Iwakuni, Japan, August 1950



P-51D-30, 44-74863, No. 2 „Flying Cheetahs“ Squadron SAAF, Chinhae AB (K-10), Korea, 1952

P-40: POLISHED!



TECHSPEC...

EDUARD/HASEGAWA 1:32 CURTISS
P-40N KIT NO.11104

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide
decals

Paints used:

Listed in main text

Accessories used:

- Eduard: Löök instrument panel for P-40N (634011), P-40N upgrade set (32406), P-40N interior set (33072), P-40N Landing Flaps (32260), Canopy Mask (JX109), P-40 Placards (32786), Brassin P-40N wheels (632143)
- DK Decals: P-40N Warhawk and Kittyhawk Mk.IV (32004)
- Master: P-40E-N brass barrels:AM-32-099

Availability:

- Eduard models and accessories are widely available from good model shops and online. www.creativemodels.co.uk www.eduard.com.
- The kit featured here is out of production but check online for secondhand availability

My fascination with the Curtiss P-40 goes back to a moment in my childhood. I remember sitting with my grandfather watching the old John Wayne movie 'Flying Tigers'. In my mind's eye, the memory of seeing shark's teeth on the nose of old fighter planes was extraordinary. I was that kid obsessed with monsters and vehicles of all sorts, but particularly planes. Seeing an aeroplane with 'monster teeth' was nearly more than my little heart could take....

Brian Criner creates a perfect aluminium finish on Eduard/Hasegawa's 1:32 P-40N Warhawk



After returning to modelling as an adult, the P-40 was one of the first kits on my to-do list. Of course, the only one available at the time was the old standard, the 1:48 Monogram P-40B. I built that kit with all the enthusiasm of that child watching movies with his grandfather. When I was done, I was certain I had created a masterpiece. In reality, it was absolute rubbish. Brush-painted, with seams showing everywhere. I didn't notice any of it until a friend invited me to attend a model contest; my first. I proudly placed that sad little

plane on the table, bursting with pride at what I had created. I had no idea how the hobby had progressed in the intervening years. Needless to say, my P-40 began to look more and more shabby as the contest tables filled with entries. I was stunned at the talent on display. I had never seen models so exquisitely finished. I was hooked!

Over the course of the last thirty years, I've built dozens of models of all scales and types, but never a P-40. I had started a few, but never finished them. Perhaps I was simply waiting for the proper motivation. It had

to be right. While browsing the Hannants online store one night, I came across a decal DK decal sheet (32004) of P-40s in 1:32. On it were several examples of natural metal P-40s. I had never considered doing a natural metal P-40. I knew they existed during the war, though they were certainly not common. I had my inspiration!

I quickly added the sheet to my basket and set about planning the project, Major Gerald Johnson's P-40N. Johnson's story, like so many from the war, is both fascinating and tragic. A twenty-two victory ace,

Johnson survived the war, only to perish while piloting a B-25 from Ie Shima to Atsugi AB after the war. Caught in a storm, the aircraft had to be ditched, presumably due to fuel exhaustion. As the plane began to fail, Johnson ordered the passengers to bail out. One person on board had failed to bring a parachute, so Johnson gave him his. Johnson's co-pilot elected to stay on board, while the remaining four passengers bailed out. The four people who escaped the plane were rescued. Johnson and his copilot were never found.



The cockpit was enhanced with Eduard PE cockpit, most of which came in the EduArt limited edition boxing



Pre and post-shading, as well as some drybrushing, were used to enhance the cockpit components



The sidewalls attach nicely to the floor and armour plate creating an easily manipulatable 'pod' that is easily inserted through the lower fuselage



The Eduard 'Löök' instrument panel was used in place of the PE part



Eduard's pre-painted seatbelts came with the kit, and are easy to manipulate and install



Lead wire was used for the back of the instrument panel gauges. The completed cockpit pod fits nice and clean into the fuselage from below

PLANNING THE BUILD

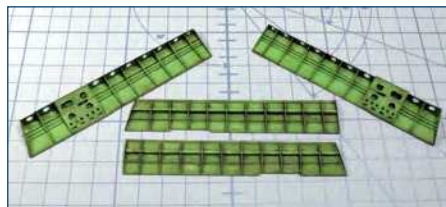
Today the market seems flush with P-40s. I chose to build Eduard/Hasegawa's beautiful 1:32 'N' because I had it in my stash. Of course, it was necessary to stock up on aftermarket, though not as much as usual, since the kit came with a substantial amount of goodies in the kit, including the Brassin Exhaust stacks. I picked up Eduard's Lök instrument panel, canopy mask as well as all the available Eduard PE upgrades for the 'N'. I had a set of resin wheels, maybe from True Details, but I decided to use the Brassin set of resin wheels. Lastly, I picked up Master Models' exquisite brass gun barrel set (which also includes a pitot tube).

RIVETS

As this project was to be an NMF (natural metal finish), I decided that it would necessarily need to be fully riveted. I own the Kagero book on the P-40, so I had accurate three-view drawings of where the rivets should go. After marking start and finish points with a Sharpie fine point pen, I used Tamiya flexible (white) masking tape as a guide. I followed the tape guides using my 'Rosie the Riveter' tool. Once satisfied they were straight, I deepened the holes using a Tamiya punch tool. This was a long and exhausting process. If you're wondering quite how long, it took about 2½ seasons of Game of Thrones to complete...



The Eduard flaps were complicated to assemble, but look fabulous when completed



Once complete, the flaps were pre-shaded with Testors Dark Umber, then painted and post shaded with Testors Interior Green



Prepping the wing requires some careful and precise surgery. Thinning of the inner wing area was accomplished with a grinding bit in a Dremel tool



Inverted view showing the flaps' inner faces; they look very effective

THOSE PESKY PLUGS

One the reasons I never completed the previous attempts at building this plane was my frustration over Hasegawa's use of 'plugs' to apparently solve the problem of how to efficiently offer several versions of the plane. The fuselage pieces are a four-part affair, with the two sides of the forward fuselage connecting to the sides of the tail/empennage via a plug. This apparently allowed for optional tails to be included when later

versions of the plane were offered. There is also a plug for the gun ports as well as the rear cockpit bulkhead. Unfortunately, as most of you well know, the plugs don't really line up properly. If you connect the left and right sides of the fuselage pieces, and then insert the empennage unit into the forward fuselage, there will be a small step between the forward and rear sections. So rather than follow the instructions, I glued the left empennage piece to the forward fuselage, being sure

to line up my panel lines. I did the same with the right side. After attaching the two fuselage halves, there was a slight gap on the top and bottom that was easy enough to patch and re-scribe.

The rear cockpit plug was a bit more annoying, because the end of the plug fell between normal panel lines, so filling, sanding, polishing, re-scribing, re-riveting and, of course, constantly re-pouring my beer in order to keep my sanity. ☹



Master Models gun barrels set AM-32-099 was a big improvement over the kit parts. Careful drilling and sanding was necessary to get a good fit



The fuselage and wing were carefully riveted using the P-40 Kagero book as a reference



The wings and fuselage were polished to a nice sheen with a Dremel and the cotton/fabric polishing disc



The Hasegawa fuselage, because of the built in options for other P-40 variants, was a frustrating to assemble. Some work was necessary, after the fact, to repair lost panel line detail



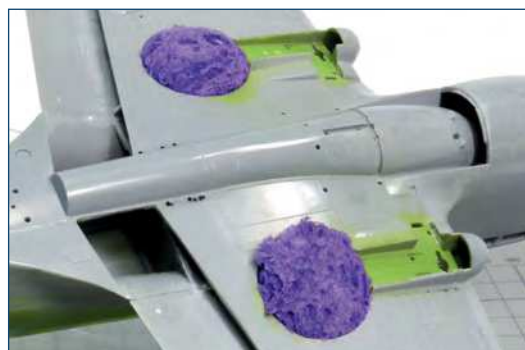
Attaching the wing to the fuselage leaves behind many seams the require filling, particularly around the forward wing root section

◀ GUN PORTS

The plugs for the gun ports were the worst part of the kit. The seams formed by them must all be filled and repaired, as there are no panel lines like this around the gun ports of the actual plane! The plastic 'bumps' that represent the gun fairings must be carefully removed and holes drilled into the wings that match the exact diameter of the Master gun barrels. This was a time-intensive and tricky process. Rather than paint the gun barrels, I used the excellent burnishing fluid offered by Uschi Van Der Rosten. That stuff is amazing! An outstanding finish that won't chip or flake when handled. Once burnished and dry, I lightly buffed them out with a cotton bud. Inserting the barrels into the wing was an easy affair, as there is a natural backing within



Pros and cons. The forward windscreen design is brilliant and trouble free. The rear canopy is problematic, as blending the hard clear plastic and the soft grey plastic requires some extra attention



Cut pieces of cleaning sponges moistened with water are an cheap and efficient way to mask-off odd and irregular areas like wheel wells

the wing to stop the barrels from falling into the wing. After careful alignment, I superglued them in. The slight gap around the barrels was filled with Liquitex clear adhesive, which dries hard and invisible.

FLAPS OR NO FLAPS

A slight digression. I had decided, since they look fabulous, to add Eduard's flap set to the build. Ordinarily I avoid this sort

of modification, there is just so much that can go wrong that would spoil the finished product. After concluding that dropped flaps would be a part of the build, I set to building the flaps. I don't have any complaints about Eduard's product, they're extraordinary. They're also fragile. My concern was how and when to add the flaps to the plane; I opted for the end of the build, as masking and handling them during

construction was just asking for trouble. This meant that my measurements, cuts and prep had to be perfect, as I would not be able to edit any problems after installation due to that pesky NMF finish. I carefully cut the flaps and filed down the inner surfaces of the wings. At this time, I also attached the wheel wells, which spruced up with some solder and PE, in preparation for closing the wing halves.

Mini Review...

EDUARD A6M2 SEATBELTS STEEL (FE 1238)
FOR EDUARD
www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

Eduard's all-new 1:48 A6M2 Zero kit is a pretty complete production straight from the box, but if you want to upgrade the pilot's seat, this 'Zoom' set provides a small but useful fret of pre-coloured, photo-etched steel harnesses that will lend an extra edge of sharpness. Don't be put off by them being steel - it's not the springy nickel-steel sometimes found in kits, but a malleable metal that bends around detail well.





The anti-glare panel was pre-painted and then masked in preparation for the natural metal paint processes to follow



After a primer coat of Mr. Surfacer 1500, the aircraft was painted using Testors Model Master Buffable Aluminum Plate. After a 24 hour "setting" period, the paint was thoroughly buffed using a Dremel polishing disc



After masking off and painting certain panels in a MM Stainless Steel Buffing Metallizer, the model was sealed with a coat of Future Floor Wax



Decals were applied using MicroSet and MicroSol. If there is a clear protective coat, the Metallizer is not damaged by this process

THOSE PESKY WINGS

Those of you that have built this kit know that the fit between the fuselage and wing root is not particularly good. As a matter of fact, it's horrible. Once again, the process requires you to eliminate several panel lines, which will require repair later on. One set of panel lines was literally impossible not to destroy. Unfortunately, they're the conspicuous, elliptical lines just forward of the wing root. They were not going to be an easy fix. I tried to mitigate the panel line massacre by first gluing the wing uppers to the fuselage sides, then attaching the whole bottom wing. This process preserved the wing root lines, but left a mess everywhere else. After substantial use of superglue, consumption of large quantities of some excellent German beer plus

application of some Tamiya tape to ensure the proper wing dihedral, I started the long, ugly process of repairing and redoing all of the lost rivets and panel lines. I was able to repair the little elliptical lines forward of the wing root by making a template of thin cardboard using the fuselage half of the Hasegawa P-40E as a guide. Some of the repair was just freehand scribing with my scribing tool. At this part of the build I was seriously questioning my commitment to the hobby.

PAINT PREP

Once I was satisfied that all panel lines and rivets had been properly filed and/or repaired, and that all of those pesky plugs had been sanded into anonymity, started the process of painting. After masking the areas to be protected, I began by buffing entire

surface of the model with a polishing cloth wheel mounted in my Dremel tool. Once I had a nice, gloss surface, I gave the model a coat of Mr Surfacer Grey 1200. Once dry, I lightly sanded the surface with 3,200 grit polishing cloth, followed by more polishing with the Dremel tool.

PAINTING WITH THE 'MAGIC' PAINT

I've been infatuated with Testors line of Metallizer paints for years now. They give an extraordinarily realistic result, but are terribly fragile. Testors still advertises them as a product on their website, though very few vendors seem to carry them these days. After painting the anti-glare panel OD, I began the process of painting with Metallizers. Initially, I coated the entire model with Model Master Buffable Aluminum Plate.

Once dry, I lightly buffed the surface with a polishing wheel mounted in a Dremel. I then gave the model a second coat, followed by more buffing. Next, I coated the surface in with Future Floor Wax (Johnson's Pledge). After drying, I carefully masked off a few select panels with low-tack tape and Post-It notes. I gave these panels a couple of coats of Model Master Stainless Steel Buffable paint, followed by another sealing coat of future once they were dry and buffed out. Next, I used 3,200 grit polishing cloth on a few select areas of the airframe. The polishing cloth lightly abrades the surface, creating a sort of ageing effect to the metallic surface. I generally try to follow natural lines when I do this, for example, the direction of air flow over the wings, or natural drip lines on the fuselage. ▶



Weathering was accomplished with soft pigments from AMMO, as well as localised 'pin' washes of burnt umber oils



Exhaust stains were created using a very dilute mixture of Testors Sand, Testors Flat Lacquer and a pin wash of burnt umber that was 'fast dried' with a can of compressed air



Additional weathering on the glare panel and spinner was accomplished using a photo-etch weathering mask

A close-up on the well-weathered wheels/tyres

DECALLING METALLIC SURFACES

Applying decals to a delicate, metallic surface is not a big deal, provided you have that protective clear coat. I always use Future, un-thinned, to protect my models and to prepare the surface for decalling. I always use decals, as masking this particular paint, even when protected with Future, is risky. For decal setting solutions, I always use the Microset/Microsol combination. I manoeuvre the decals with a paint brush, then press them down with a moistened sponge. After the application of Microsol, I wait until the setting solution is dry, then I poke holes in the decals where the rivets sit, and carefully cut the panel lines through the decals with a No.11 X-Acto blade. Then I re-apply the Microsol and re-tamp with the sponge. Once completely settled and dry, I seal them in with a coat of Future/Johnson's Klear.

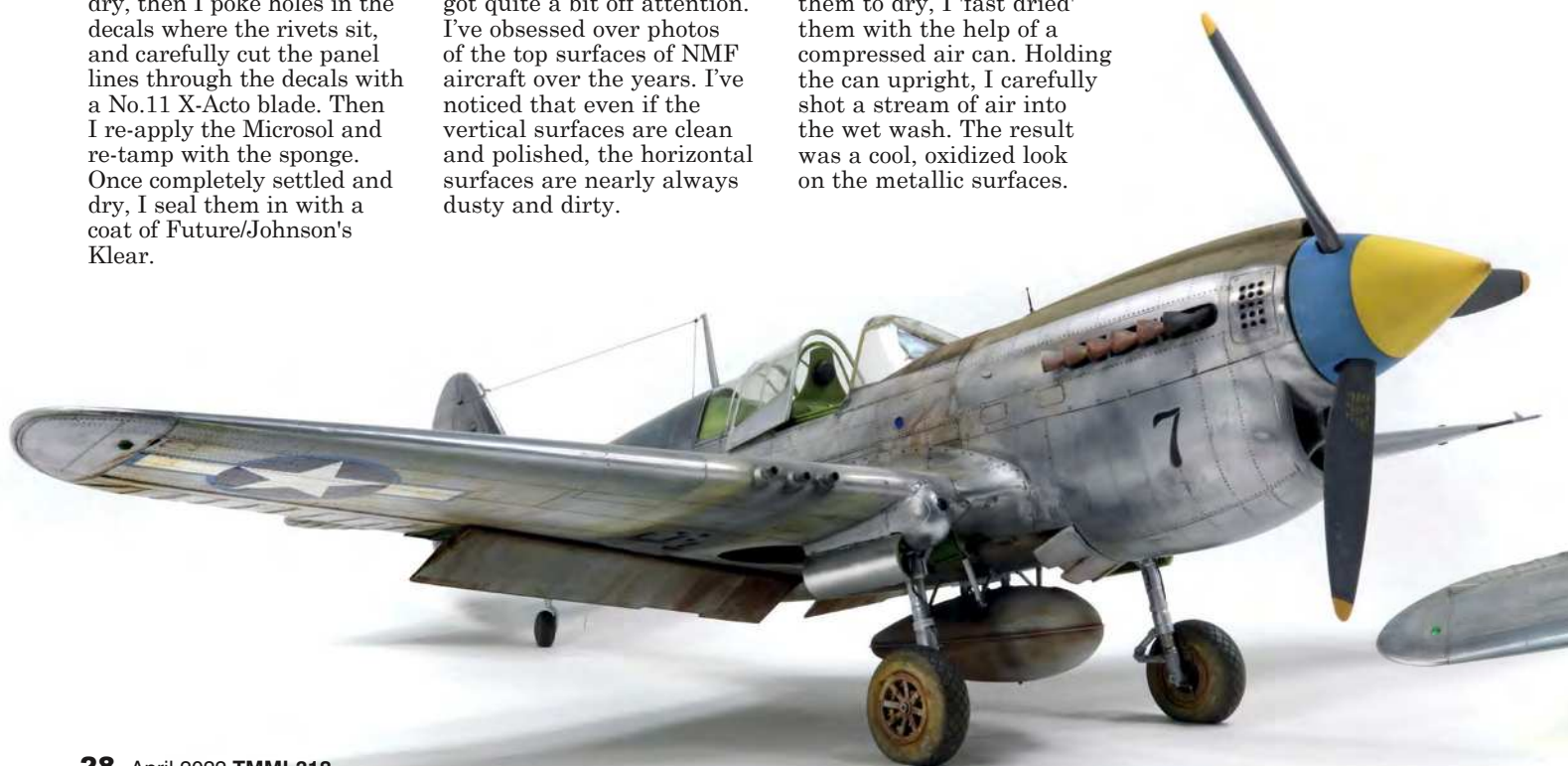
WEATHERING NATURAL METAL

Careful attention to the fragility of the paint is necessary here. I started with a nice dusting of dry pigments (usually Mig or Vallejo pigment) to the surface. I usually start with black, then add sand, some darker dirt-toned pigments. Once the excess is removed, I will carefully run a wash of burnt umber artist oils into the panel lines. I use turpentine as the thinner, as it's not as 'hot' as some other oil based solvents. The wash tends to 'soak' into the dry pigments, creating some interesting stain effects. The surface of the wings got quite a bit off attention. I've obsessed over photos of the top surfaces of NMF aircraft over the years. I've noticed that even if the vertical surfaces are clean and polished, the horizontal surfaces are nearly always dusty and dirty.

It's here that I discovered something new. I've known for a while that occasionally, while using Testors clear flat lacquer as a clear coat, that a whitish 'fog' can occur under certain environmental conditions. I'd tried, on occasion, to recreate that fogging effect to represent oxidation patterns around exhaust stacks. After initially trying this with the clear flat, with mixed results, I thought I'd try something different. I ran a wash of burnt umber/turpentine into some panel lines along the sides of the fuselage in what would be the exhaust flow.

Instead of waiting for them to dry, I 'fast dried' them with the help of a compressed air can. Holding the can upright, I carefully shot a stream of air into the wet wash. The result was a cool, oxidized look on the metallic surfaces.

Of course, this process is expensive (compressed air cans are costly!) and risky. If you accidentally spray the surface of your model while the can is inverted, you will squirt extraordinarily cold fluid across the surface. This will create a completely different effect, not necessarily one that you want, on the surface of your model. Next, I used a variety of Berol metallic coloured pencils to round out the weathering effects. I finally have a finished P-40 that I'm happy with, though next time around I think I may go with the simpler OD over Natural Grey! ●





Revell

Build Your Dream!

LEVEL 4
★★★★★



03834 F/A-18F Super Hornet (Twin Seat), 1:72

LEVEL 5
★★★★★



03837 Stearman PT-17 Kaydet, 1:32

LEVEL 5
★★★★★



NEW TOOL

04967 Lockheed SR-71A Blackbird, 1:48

LEVEL 4
★★★★★



03839 Eurocopter Tiger '15 Jahre Tiger', 1:72

LEVEL 3
★★★★★



NEW PARTS

Parts'inc. for 1 of 3 possible configurations
06782 Outland TIE Fighter™ (The Mandalorian), 1:65

Available from all good model stockists and online from

hobbycraft

hobbycraft.co.uk/brand/revell

ECSTAR SP

Tamiya's all-new 1:12 Suzuki Ecstar GSX-RR '20 begins! **Robert Riley** tells all...

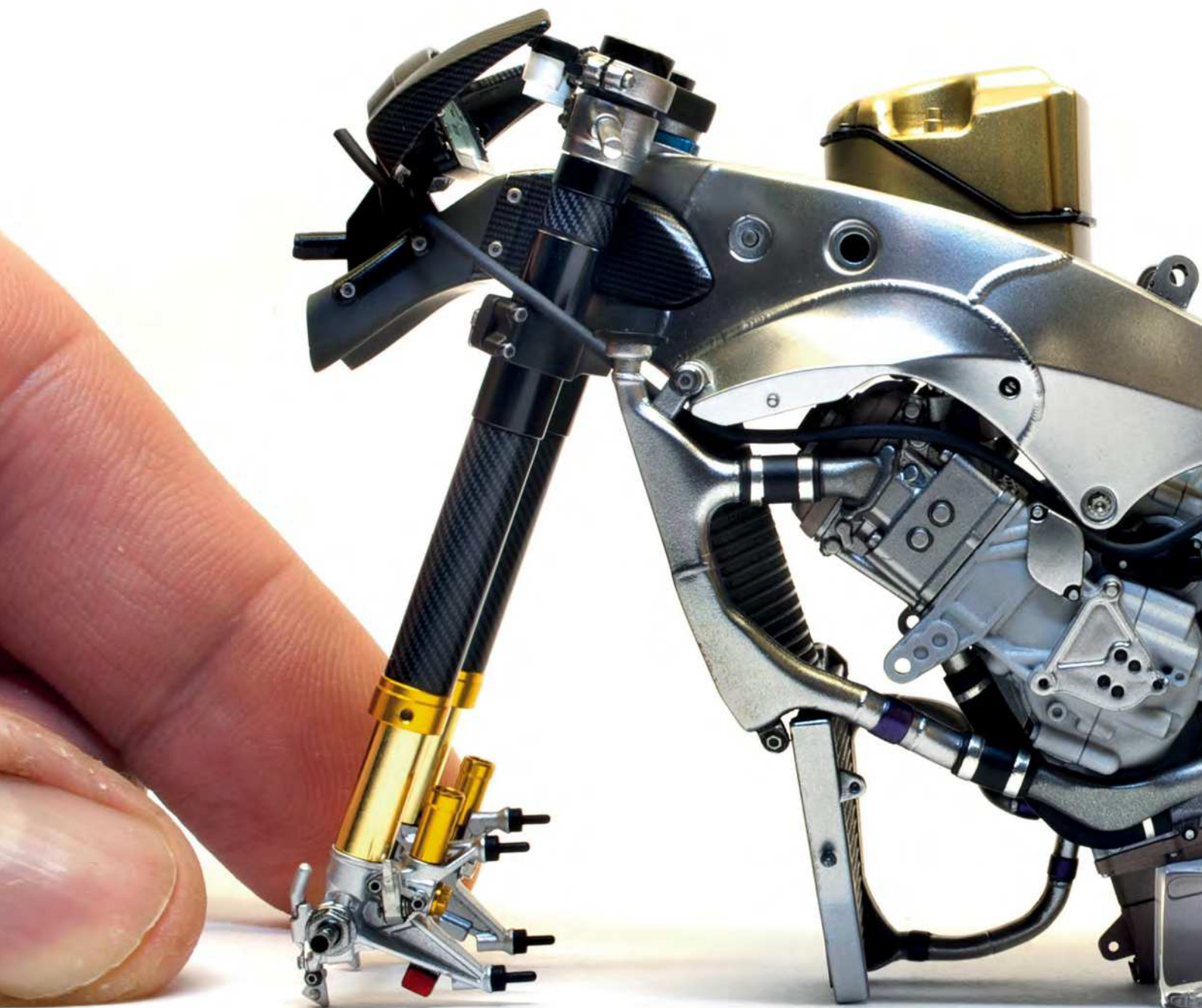
Let's get straight into this. Tamiya's brand new 1:12 Suzuki GSX-RR is an absolute gem; well designed, well planned and high in quality.

What makes this bike extra special is that the big 'T' finally bought us a race bike! Don't get me wrong, the 2020 released CBR1000RR-R Fireblade was superb and

a welcome addition to the series, but it wasn't the fire breathing circuit beast we were hankering after. The last taste of this was back in 2016 with the ever-popular

REPSOL Honda RC213V '14, so it was about time we were gifted this next track instalment.

To represent the championship-winning Team



SPECIAL!

PART 1

ECSTAR GSX bike, we as builders can choose between riders champion Joan Mir, third-placed Alex Rins or Test Rider Sylvain Guintoli. I decided to run with

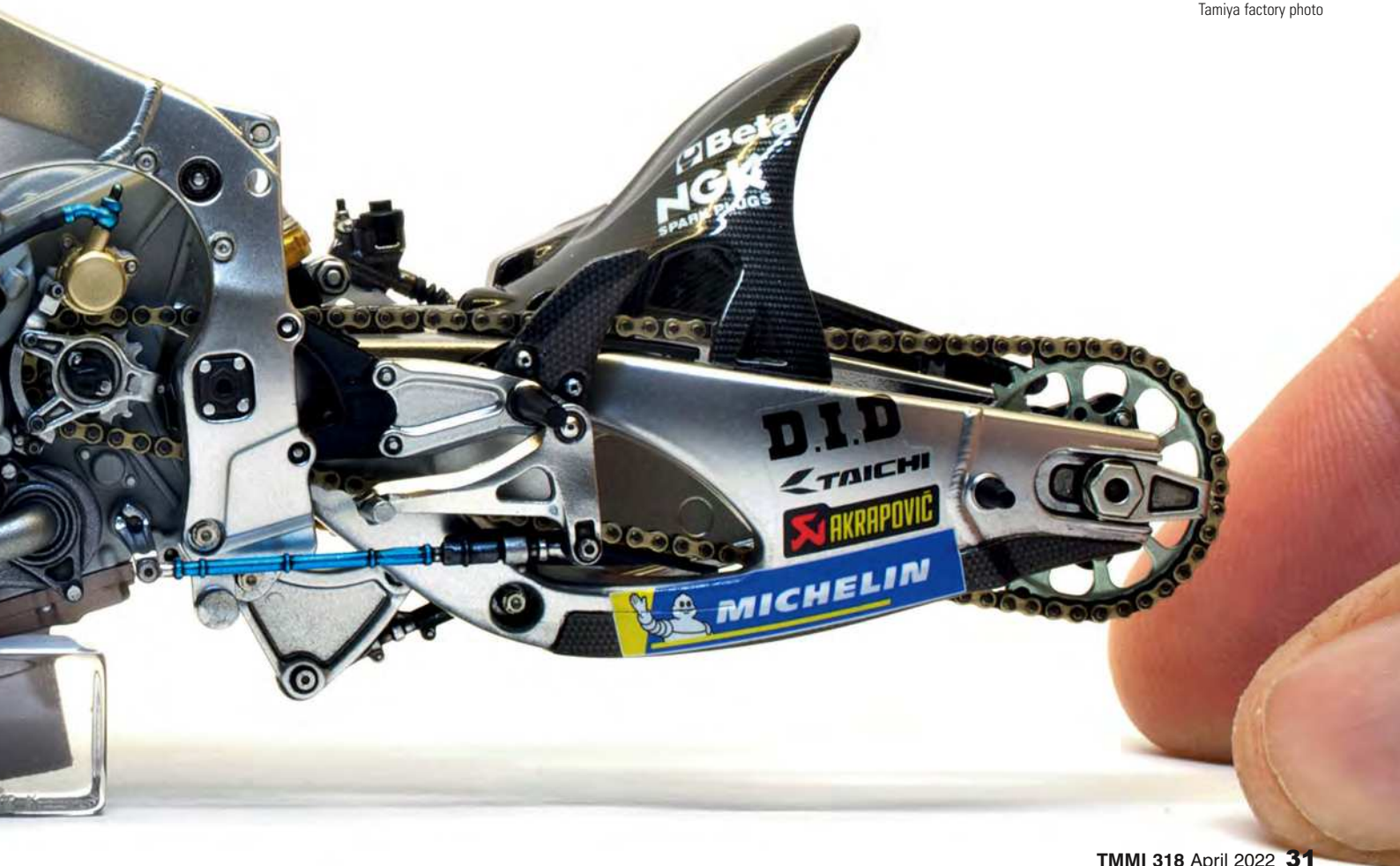
champion Joan Mir for my build, simply because I like the bright yellow contrast of his number 36 against the bike's blue/silver livery. With the rider choice made

all that was needed now was to plan what route to take with regards to a building plan – build mainly out of the box, delete all screws where possible, add some

carbon-fibre, dress up with various rivets and apply Tamiya's Detail-Up parts (sold separately). 🛠️



Tamiya factory photo



FULL-BUILD: MODERN RACING BIKE

TAMIYA 1:12 SUZUKI ECSTAR GSX-RR '20 ● KIT NO.14139

BUILDING AND PAINTING THE ENGINE

❶ MECHANICALLY SOUND

Following the usual instructed process we start with the engine and its various components. Lusciously detailed in all areas yet a simple process so nothing to report here, apart from something I've not come across before on a bike build; the clutch unit once fitted rotates. I get the idea but for me, as detailed as it is I felt it pretty unessential.

To make things easy during the paint and prep stages, the instructions were scanned through to find the rest of the mechanical components so they could be separated from their parts trees, tidied up and test fitted. Throughout the build, for colour work, my general choice has been Mr Hobby Super Metallic range alongside Tamiya's fabulous Lacquer Paints. A reliable process from primers to clears, I find them all hugely versatile and very user-friendly. Employing a blend of high shine finishes, darker shades and varied dull and gloss coats, one can achieve a good variety of colour mixes. ▶

Here we see the parts specific to the engine cleaned up and prepped for paint

Due to the details and ease of build-up, the author chose to paint the engine components independently prior to permanently fixing them together

Finding the correct colour for these cast parts was a task, as the author felt the directed bronze was too general so opted to mix his own

The clutch straight out of the box is really nice. You'll need a steady hand to pick out the details but we do love a challenge. The clutch-plate pattern around the edge is a decal supplied in the box



All engine components were airbrushed using Mr Hobby Super Metallic range alongside Tamiya LPs with details picked out with the trusty old paintbrush

Engine head detail. Adding some extra cabling to enhance the final look here would go a long way

From reflective to cut flat, the various metallic finishes really come into themselves from this angle. Who said silver was boring?

The rotating clutch firmly fitted into place. Again, the cover's colour was adapted to taste instead of what was directed. A chrome silver base with light coats a clear orange looks much nicer

For added realism the lower black hose was textured. A simple process was applied via wet brushing pure solvent around the pipe resulting in the rippled pattern we see here

The only thing that's missing here to complete the engine is the exhaust section. The author felt the exhaust could be done later on in the build as it demands more attention

The engine in situ within frame. The supplied screws were replaced with metal rod and tidied up with metal bolts to complete the look

❶ A CARBON COLLECTIVE

As with the case in almost all forms of modern motorsport, carbon-fibre (CF) is widely used for its strength and stripped weight. The GSX here is no different with many CF components scattered around the bike. So checking references found on the 'suzuki-racing.com' webpage for type of weave, pattern direction found on each component and where, I set to making templates.

Now, if I'm completely honest, most of the areas to be worked on are small, fiddly and full of undulating angles and curves. I find applying CF tedious and the job seems to be endless. Give me a classic any day. That said, once the turmoil is over and the carbon job is complete, you do feel a sense of achievement and it definitely was all the effort. If I can offer some advice when working with CF; rather than leaving your CF decal work in its raw state, decide what sort of finish is suitable; gloss, semi-gloss and flat clear are worth considering. You can have the same style weave across varied components but applying different clear-coats can help define their appearance and individuality. ➤

FINISHING THE FRAME

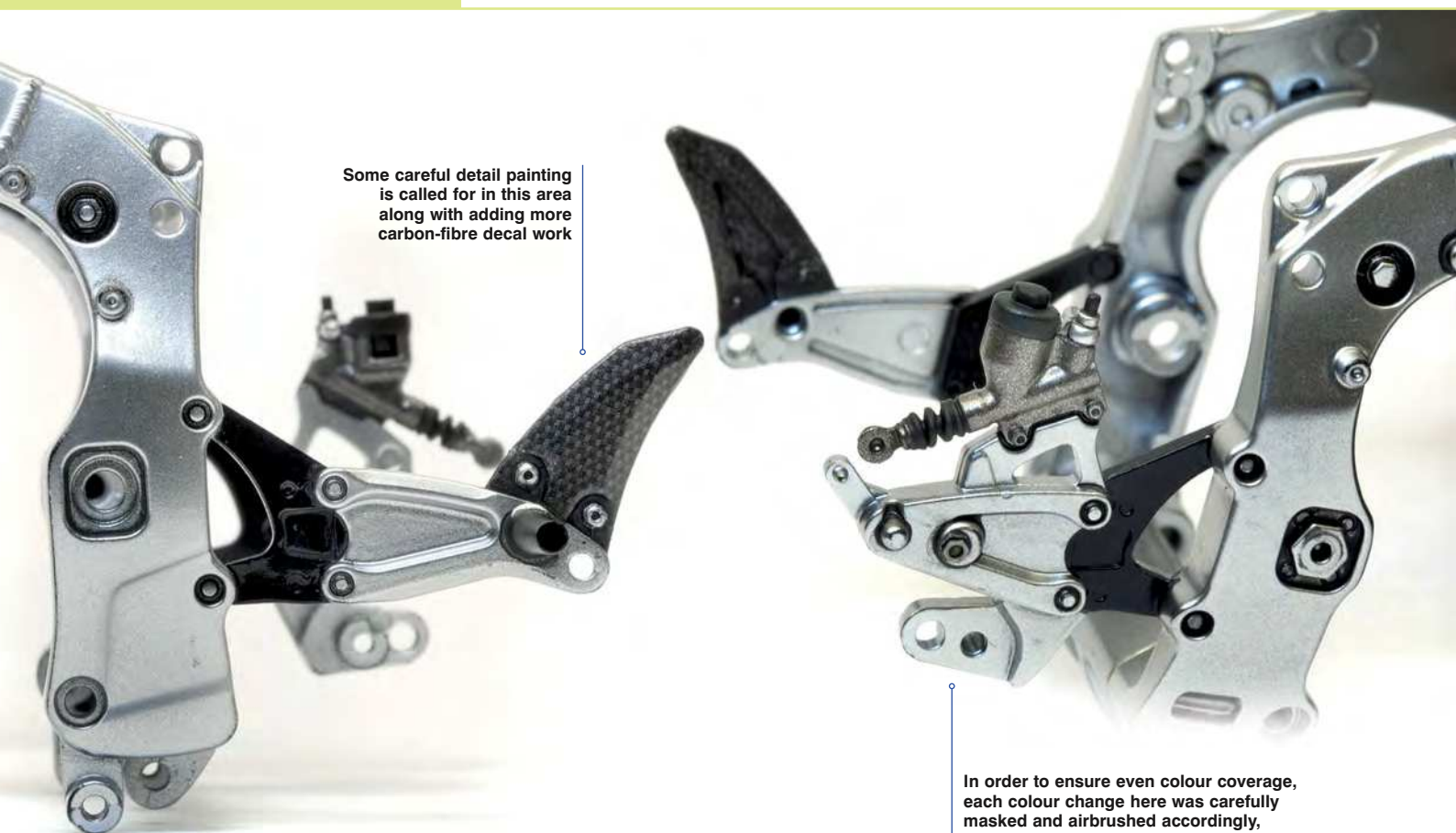


Using references, it was noticed the front air scoop part was not a complete carbon component, but its surrounding elements are. So careful masking work was done ready for painting. The next stage was to mask off the previous work so the black upper section could be airbrushed



Voila! Don't you just love when a plan comes together? Anything left needs to be covered in carbon-fibre effect decal

To finish this section the area was tidied up, given careful pin-washes with Tamiya Panel Line Accent Color (black) and PE rivets added for fixing points



Some careful detail painting is called for in this area along with adding more carbon-fibre decal work

In order to ensure even colour coverage, each colour change here was carefully masked and airbrushed accordingly, patience most definitely being key

CHAIN REACTION



Straight out of the box this chain looks superb. Okay, there are now lots of 3D printed versions giving each separate link but what is supplied is very impressive



After a coat of fine silver, each cog was sealed off leaving the main chain exposed



The whole area was then airbrushed in Dark Iron instead of the suggested metallic grey. The darker option was chosen to add more contrast and detail to the detail in the chain moulding



Now for the tricky part. The outer edge and inner edges were carefully masked using Aizu 0.4mm masking tape, ensuring to leave a slight exposed edge to represent the links' edges

The outer links were airbrushed in gold, de-masked then detail painted, giving a really nice outcome. Well worth the careful work and process



TAMIYA 1:12 SUZUKI ECSTAR GSX-RR '20 ● KIT NO.14139

Keeping the trend with Tamiya's latest and more high-end bike releases, we are offered the choice to add some extra detailing classiness. The Front Fork Set is specific to this bike and includes enhancements for the radiator, rear fairing, exhaust tips, a replacement yellow shocker coil and completely reworked forks. The latter come with a nice variety of turned metal components and CF decal accents and the build-up of all key points is very simple and easily fits into your build process. I'd 100% recommend you grab a pack to go with your GSX build as they give instant results. My only criticism is the exhaust exit faces - these are nicely finished photo-etched pieces that we are required to wrap around the existing plastic parts to gain the same shape. That's all well and good but the pattern for me should be more honeycomb, just like on the real bike and the existing plastic moulded parts. The etched parts have a more circular finish so do seem a little out of sync. It's not the end of the world, more of an observation and preference. ➤

The swing arm consists of two halves which line up well enough, but the main seam was still visible. Some simple filling and smoothing over to remedy this was called for



All cleaned up and in primer, we are ready for the airbrush work. As a base for all metallics, the author applies gloss black to ensure each colour pigment naturally 'popped'



Lots of colour changes here on the rear suspension, some more obvious than others. The yellow coil is part of the detail up pack replacing the black box stock version



Let's not forget, it's all well and good showing the photos but it's good to be reminded of their size. The suspension will be fixed with metal rod rather than using the screws supplied



A quick dry-build of various mechanical components, detail painted and ready for the next stages



Carbon components. Opting for Scale Motorsport 1:20 Twill Weave and 1:20 Hi-Def patterns, these came out really nicely. They were clear-coated in gloss, semi-gloss and flat to create different finishes

The completed swing arm. Be careful applying those large 'Michelin' decals as they seem very thick. Use gentle heat along with a decent strength decal softener to get them to lay down nicely



The main frame and swing arm were painted with Mr Hobby Super Chrome Silver, but applied heavier to avoid that chrome finish in favour of a more polished alloy look

Apart from a lower carbon panel to apply, this super cool swing arm is now ready for installation



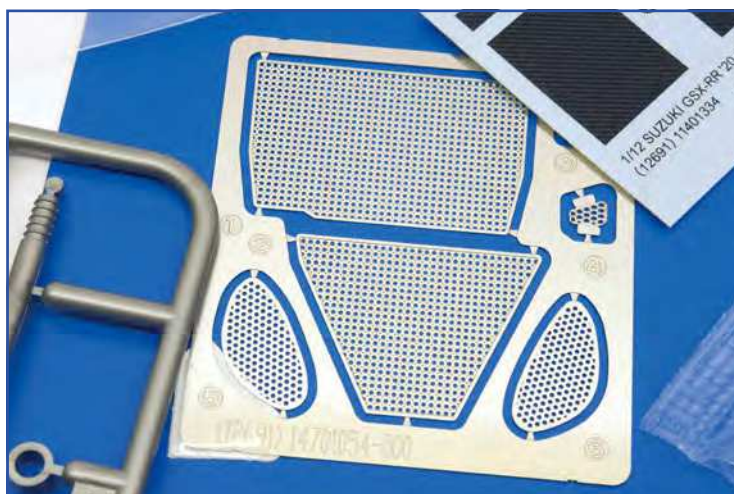
FULL-BUILD: MODERN RACING BIKE

TAMIYA 1:12 SUZUKI ECSTAR GSX-RR '20 ● KIT NO.14139

FINISHING THE STAGE

As we draw a close to this first instalment of Tamiya's GSX build review, I have to say I am massively impressed. Many of Tamiya's latest motorbike releases seem to have overly tight tolerances and little room for manoeuvre in some of the integral build points. Sometimes we have to nervously/anxiously force delicate parts into their final position with the hope of not damaging them. But on this GSX I haven't come across any of that yet. Parts just seem to slot in nicely holding their own without any fit issues, a little jostling here and there maybe but nothing that brings out those anxious sweats. The bodywork is next alongside tidying up loose ends and including the final build-up. That is however reserved for the next issue of TMMI so make sure you grab your copy to see how my take on this superb bike comes up, plus my final thoughts. ●

RADIATOR RE-DONE



Included with the separately-available detail-up fork pack is this wonderful photo-etched fret. The two larger parts will form the new front radiator faces



The main rad is made up of ten parts including the new photo-etched enhancements. Instead of following the instructed process, all parts were dry-fitted and glued into place at once (apart from engine contact points). This would make for a cleaner paint job and ensuring all parts lined up correctly

It would be nice to have not only the front photo-etched radiator matrices, but the rears too, if only to cover up those unsightly injector-pin marks



With a straightforward silver, some general detail painting and colour washing the radiator really comes into itself



If you choose to build yours up the same way, be mindful and careful of those lower thinner pipes, as they are fragile

BRAKES DRILLED OUT



Nicely detailed rear disc brake with cooling holes. It would be rude to not drill them out, right?



The outer holes are larger in diameter than the inner holes, so two drill sizes were used here; something like 0.45mm and 0.3mm. A steady hand was the order of the day, thank goodness there was only one of them



Both front and rear discs ready for the next stages. There were some extra holes drilled on the front inner spokes also as per references



Here we see an attempt to create a representation of mild disc wear. Spinning the front disc up, pigments were gently rubbed into the outer section to weather them. Then a dry swipe across the middle, buffing the metallic shade up to a shine



Another section complete. The discs will be fitted to each rim once each wheel was ready




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FRONT FORKS UPGRADE



Breaking down the front forks and deciding the best route of work application. Note the main struts in their raw form and how superbly sharp they already look



Main yolk detail. The centre panel was covered in Scale Motorsport 1:20 Hi-Def CF pattern and then cleared in Tamiya Flat Clear to dull the sheen back



Radiator dry-fitted along with the upgraded fork components. These cannot be firmly located yet until the exhaust is complete



Lower arm detail. Lots of upgrading in this area including some photo-etched rivets and resin bolt heads on the callipers. Note the new hollow stub axle to replace the supplied screw



Almost all detail-up components in one place. The excellent carbon-fibre arms were clear coated in Tamiya's LP Semi-Gloss Clear to seal the deal



Front air-box detailing work. Note the weave direction, varied pattern styles and also finish sheen. Again, references are most definitely key



Details to come. This exquisite T2M cable tensioner will replace the moulded Tamiya prong on the right-hand handle grip. Nothing too drastic but a nice enhancement all the same



In-prep handles. Some careful masking will be called for here with at least six different colour changes to be planned out for, including yet more carbon detailing

WHEELS



These wheels are lovely, well detailed but do have their issues. Watch out for the seam line that runs right through the centre of them which will need cleaning up

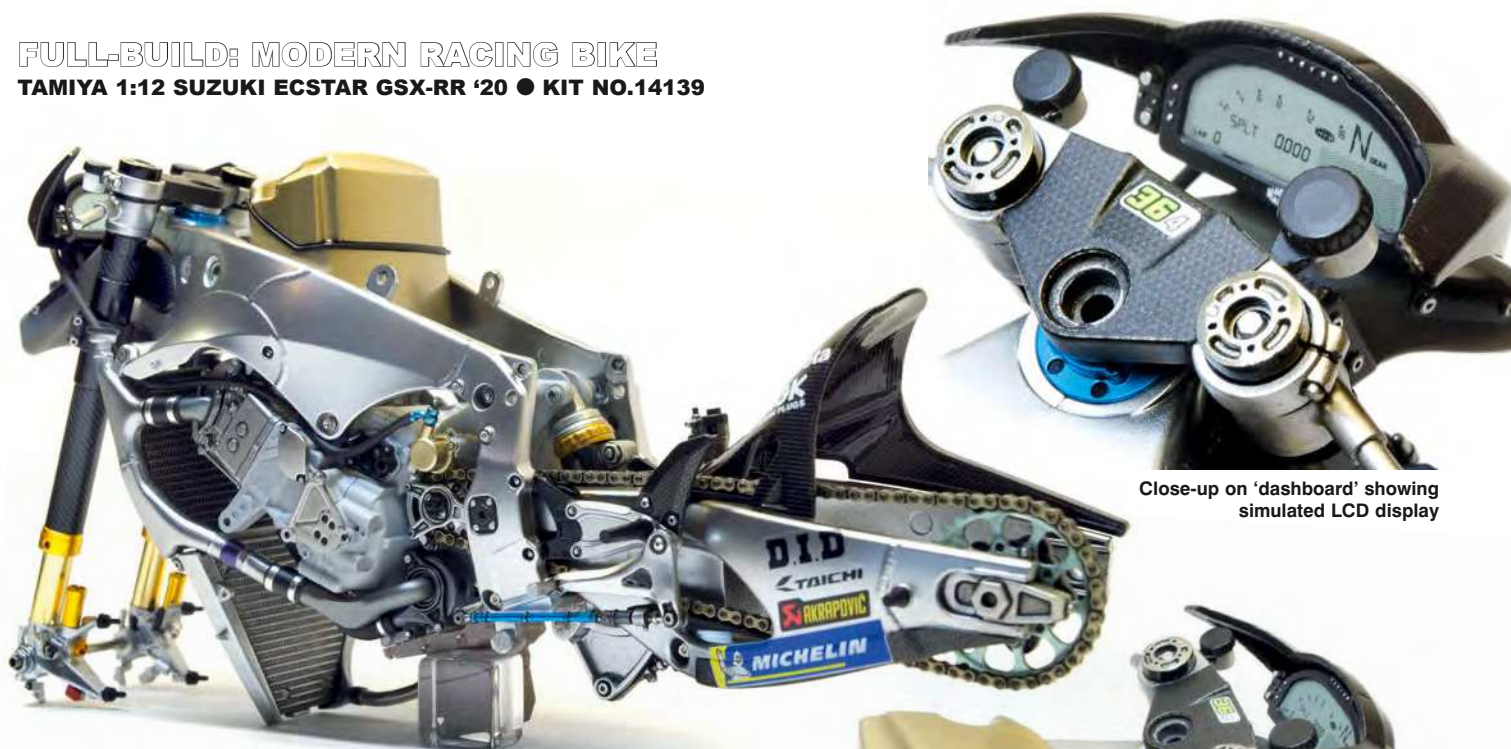


Looking at the real bike, the author noticed the bottom of each spoke and inner hubs had holes in them. Tamiya represent these by having partial holes already moulded. So they were drilled them all the way through for an improved finish

Both wheels now carefully drilled, cleaned up and the moulded in air valves removed; they'll be replaced by metal ones for that final touch



FULL-BUILD: MODERN RACING BIKE
TAMIYA 1:12 SUZUKI ECSTAR GSX-RR '20 ● KIT NO.14139



Close-up on 'dashboard' showing simulated LCD display



TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:12 SUZUKI ECSTAR GSX-RR '20
 KIT NO.14139

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, synthetic rubber
 tyres, micro-screws, vinyl tubing, waterslide
 decals

Paints used:

Mr Hobby and Tamiya LP paints, listed in text
 and captions

Accessories used:

- Tamiya 1:12 Suzuki GSX-RR '20 Front Fork
 Set (12691)
- Scale Motorsport: 1:20 Twill Weave, 1:20
 Hi-Def carbon-fibre decal

Availability:

- Tamiya models, accessories, paints and
 materials are widely available from good
 model shops and online. UK import and
 distribution by The Hobby Company Limited;
www.hobbyco.net
- Scale Motorsport: www.scalemotorsport.com

NEXT TIME...

Tamiya's Suzuki GSX-RR gets its exhausts and bodywork...

(Tamiya factory photo)



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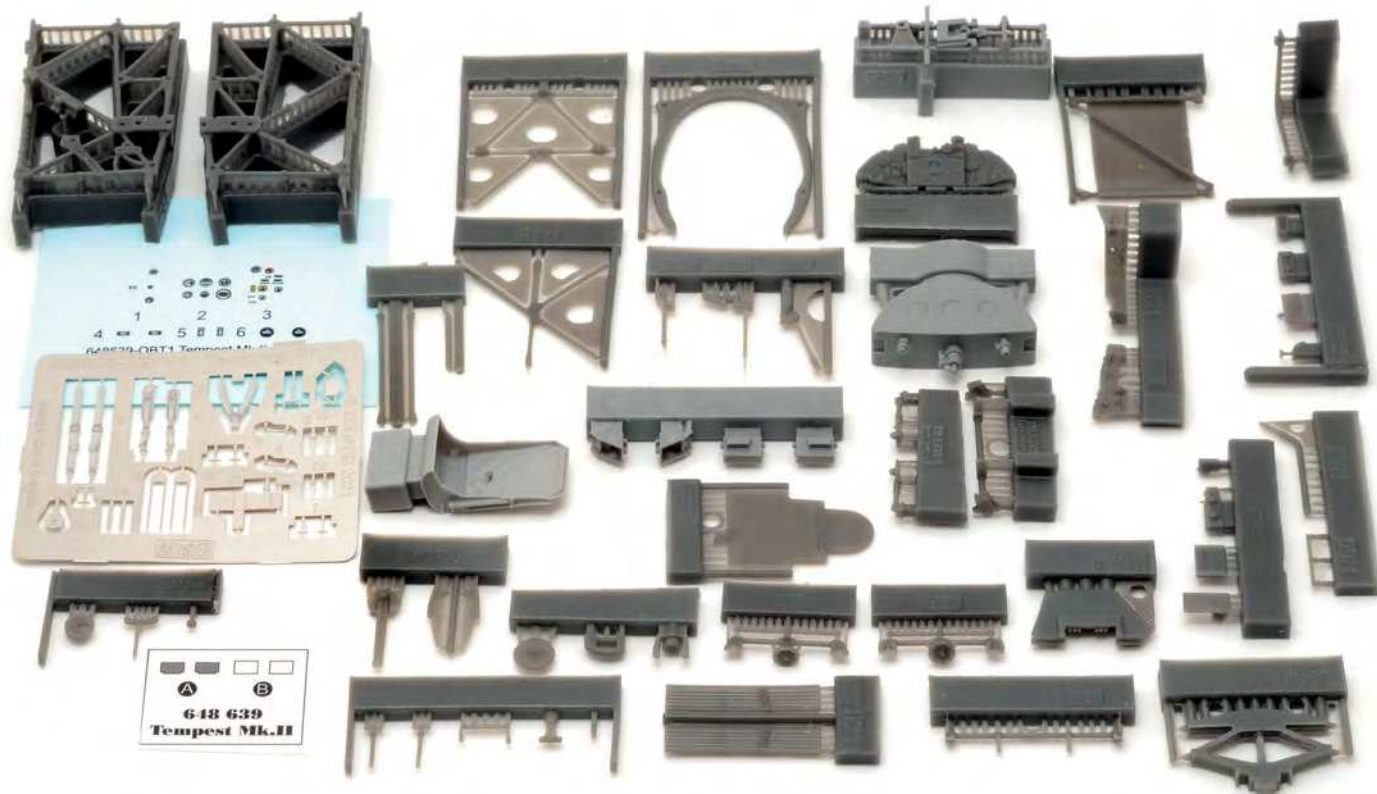
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New Releases

The latest photo-etched sets, resin parts, figures and accessories to enhance your scale models...

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EDUARD, CZECH REPUBLIC

www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

Eduard's collaborative release with Special Hobby to release the Hawker Tempest Mk.II has, as you'd imagine, given rise to a host of aftermarket goodies from the former, the most significant being a whole new cockpit. This set contains internal framework, rear bulkhead, oil tank, pilot's seat, instrument panel and more. 3D digital design has been used to form the parts and they are packed with incredible detail, the only caveat being the parts, which look very delicate, need extremely careful removable from their casting plugs to avoid damage.

This month we also have a round-up of Eduard's 'Löök' sets which comprise a pre-painted, resin instrument panel and a small photo-etched fret carrying seat harnesses, also pre-coloured. These are very handy to bring a quick and affordable touch of extra detail to an aircraft model's cockpit.

1:48 BRASSIN RESIN AND PHOTO-ETCHED METAL DETAIL SETS

- Tempest Mk.II cockpit (648639) for Eduard/Special Hobby

1:48 LÖÖK PRE-PAINTED RESIN AND PHOTO-ETCHED DETAIL SETS

- Spitfire Mk.V (644113) for Eduard
- Spitfire Mk.I late (644064) for Eduard
- Do17Z bomber (644082) for Eduard/ICM
- Beaufighter Mk.IF (644079) for Revell
- Bf110C (644076) for Eduard
- P-39Q (644098) for Eduard
- B-17F (644103) for HK Models
- Blenheim Mk.I (644105) for Airfix
- Sabre F4 (644112) for Airfix

1:48 LÖÖK PRE-PAINTED RESIN AND PHOTO-ETCHED DETAIL SET

- Bf109E (634021) for Eduard



Accessories

PLASTIC SECTION, **F**; FABRIC, **IM**; INJECTION MOULDED (PLASTIC), **ITL**; INDIVIDUAL TRACK LINKS, **LCC**; LASER CUT CARD, **LLT**; LINK AND LENGTH TRACKS, **MC**; METAL CHAIN, **MMA**; MACHINED METAL PARTS), **PS**; PAPER STRIP, **R**; RESIN, **SVT**; SOFT VINYL TYRES (OR TUBING), **VF**; VINYL FIGURES, **VFP**; VACUUM FORMED (PLASTIC), **WC**; WOVEN CORD, **WD**; WATERSLIDE (DECALS), **WS**; WOODEN STRIP



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AMMO BY MIG JIMENEZ, SPAIN

www.migjimenez.com

Three new paint sets have arrived from Miguel Jimenez's 'AMMO' company and they offer very some very useful solutions for specific armour modelling subjects. The biggest set contains twelve, 17ml plastic bottles of acrylic colours for the painting and finishing of Tiger Is, from the early models in overall dark grey (panzergrau) through the desert-based tanks in overall sand-tones, winter white-washed machines and naturally, the later vehicles in the well know three-colour camouflage scheme of dark yellow (dunkelgelb), red-brown (rotbraun) and olive-green (olivgrün). Other than some colour illustrations on the package, no specific painting guide is included so the modeller will need to do a little research, but overall it is a useful selection of colours. It's a similar situation with the packs for the StuG.III and Spanish Civil War sets, but with six 17ml bottles in each.

ACRYLIC PAINTS SETS

- Tiger I Colors (A.MIG-7182)
- StuG.III Mid & Late Colors (A.MIG-7186)
- Spanish Civil War Republicans (A.MIG-7184)



BRENGUN, CZECH REPUBLIC

www.brengun.cz

New products from Brengun this month include some superb little exhaust nozzles from Revell's still-excellent 1:72 F/A-18E/F Super Hornet, providing not only the nozzles but also the afterburner rings inside. The new photo-etched sets offer some exquisitely fine metal parts to sharpen up the recipient kits, all etched to perfection.

1:72 PHOTO-ETCHED METAL SETS

- FuG220 radar array (BRL72257)
- Ilyushin Il-10 (BRL72240) for Fly
- Reggione Re.2005 (BRL48154) for Special Hobby

1:72 RESIN SETS

- F-14D Tomcat wheel set (BRL72238)
- F/A-18E/F engine nozzles (BRL72258) for Revell

1:48 RESIN SET

- Tiny Tim rockets X2 (BRL48158)



PLASTIC SECTION, F; FABRIC, IM; INJECTION MOULDED (PLASTIC), ITL; INDIVIDUAL TRACK LINKS, LCC; LASER CUT CARD, LLT; LINK AND LENGTH TRACKS, MC; METAL CHAIN, MMA; MACHINED METAL PARTS), PS; PAPER STRIP, R; RESIN, SVT; SOFT VINYL TYRES (OR TUBING), VF; VINYL FIGURES, VFP; VACUUM FORMED (PLASTIC), WC; WOVEN CORD, WD; WATERSLIDE (DECALS), WS; WOODEN STRIP

DEF MODEL, KOREA

www.defmodel.com

Some superb new tyre/wheel sets are on release from DEF Model, covering a range of vehicle types. One set much-desired by scale armour enthusiasts is for Trumpeter's 1:35 Rooikat AFV released in 2017. This is an excellent model that comes with its own photo-etched fret, so the icing on the cake – the thing that will really bring it to life – is DEF's new weighted tyre/wheel set. Fantastic. Also new in are two wheel/tyre sets for the US M977 HEMTT (Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck) military truck. Each pack provides no less than thirteen resin castings; nine 'sagged' tyres/wheels including spare (with an unweighted tyre of course), adapter discs to allow each wheel to fit on the hub of the main kit plus a sheet of self-adhesive masks to help with the painting process. The 'Michelin XL' are the type used on the M977 from the 1980s to the first Gulf War. The second pack depicts the distinctly different-looking Goodyear AT2A tyre used by US and IDF forces and both can be used on the Italeri and Trumpeter kits. As always, it is worth pointing out that DEF Model's products are far, far more than just modified kit wheels and tyres. They are designed from scratch in digital 3D using accurate technical data and are correct in diameter, depth, tread pattern and sidewall data. They are cast from inert polyurethane resin which will not attack kit plastic, which vinyl tyres can over time and there's also the advantage of no moulding seam to remove. In the same way a set of individual-link tracks can greatly improve a tank model, DEF Model's wheels will bring that extra touch of realism that will bring a wheeled vehicle model to life and are worth every penny.

1:35 RESIN WHEEL SETS

- Rooikat South African AFV Sagged Wheel Set (DW35134) for Trumpeter
- M977 HEMTT US/IDF 16.00R20 Goodyear AT-2A Sagged Wheel Set (DW35133) for Trumpeter, Italeri
- M977 HEMTT XL Gulf War 1990 Sagged Wheel Set (DW35135) for Trumpeter, Italeri



MINIART, UKRAINE

www.creativemodels.co.uk

MiniArt's packs of accessories are never less than wonderful and three of their latest to arrive at TMMI prove the point. If you are constructing a street-scene diorama of mainland Europe in the 1930s to 1940s, 'Street Accessories with Lamps and Clocks' will be extremely useful; the pack provides old-style street-lamps, benches, bollards, cast-iron railings, drain and manhole openings and covers, plus a pair of large clocks that come with faces in Roman and Arabic numerals, clear covers and even minute/hour hands that can be fitted at any time of day or night one desires!

'Street furniture with electronics and umbrella' provides a TV set (old CRT-style), a radio/cassette player, tea and coffee cups, plastic chairs and even a hookah! Perfect for modern-era dioramas.

Finally, we have the German cargo trailer; a four-wheeled flatbed design with a vast range of diorama possibilities. It comes with four paint options; overall panzer grey (early-war, Eastern Front), dark yellow/green camouflage (mid-war, Eastern Front), overall white with red cross (Western Front) and three-colour hard-edge camouflage (late-war, Germany). Superb wood textures abound and the chassis/suspension is fully detailed.

1:35 INJECTION-MOULDED SETS

- Street Furniture With Electronics & Umbrella (35647)
- Street Accessories With Lamps & Clocks (35639)
- German Cargo Trailer (35320)



New Releases

A selection of the latest full kits in plastic, resin, metal and more!

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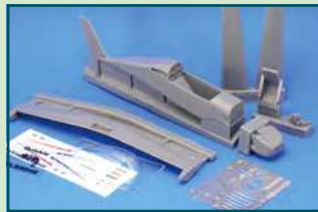
BRENGUN, CZECH REPUBLIC RUTAN QUICKIE

www.brengun.cz

SCALE: 1:32 • MATERIALS: R, PE, WS • ITEM NO. BRL32045

The Rutan 'Quickie' was primarily designed by Burt Rutan as a low-powered, highly efficient kit-plane. Its tandem wing design has one anhedral forward wing and one slightly larger dihedral rear wing. The forward wing has full-span control surfaces and is thus similar to a canard wing, but is considerably larger. The aircraft has unusual landing gear, with the main wheels located at the tips of the forward wing. (Edited from Wikipedia). The Quickie is certainly an unusual-looking machine and almost by default, its unusualness makes it a great subject for a scale model. The airframe is cast entirely from grey polyurethane resin, accompanied by a vacuum-formed canopy, photo-etched instrument panel, seat harnesses and other small parts, a clear acetate foil carrying the dials plus a sheet of waterslide markings for one simple but snazzy livery. The casting quality of the resin is generally exemplary although there were some small air bubbles on the fuselage's underside in our review sample which will need a few swipes of filler to eliminate. Parts clean-up should be mostly quick although there is a large casting plug under the engine/forward fuselage which will need some careful work with a coping saw to remove. The cockpit is nicely executed, with a side-stick on the right and throttle on the left, photo-etched rudder pedals (plastic rod required) and an instrument panel with dial bodies at the back. **TMMI**

- A very interesting design and some excellent detail
- Some experience with resin, PE and vacuum-formed parts required



EBBRO, JAPAN LOTUS 33

www.hobbyco.net

SCALE: 1:20 • MATERIALS: IM, SVT, PE, WS, • ITEM NO. 20027

The Lotus 33's development was based on the earlier Lotus 25 model, taking the monocoque chassis design to new development heights. The '33 was again powered by the 1,500cc Climax engine. The '33 was almost identical to the '25, but had suspension designed around newer, wider tyres. The car was more rigid and was simpler to build than its predecessor; six Lotus 33s were constructed. Introduced for the 1964 season, the '33 made its first appearance at the non-Championship Aintree 200. Jim Clark qualified fourth and set the fastest lap before retiring. The 33's first World Championship event was the German Grand Prix but both Clark and his team mate Mike Spence struggled with the car and it was not until the following year that it came good (Edited from Wikipedia).

With the Lotus 33 being such a close relative of the '25, this new release from Ebbro kit makes extensive use of Tamiya's Lotus 25 kit from 1997. Much of the grey plastic 'mechanical' sprue (B) is used, providing parts such as the monocoque tub, engine block and gearbox, chassis floor, brakes, seat and steering wheel. Parts from Tamiya's sprue D (black) and sprue C (chrome) are also used, with Ebbro contributing one large sprue that carries a whole new body, rear bulkhead, five-point wheels, exhaust system, engine rocker-covers and other structural parts, a supplemental chromed sprue with roll-over hoop, revised suspension elements and 'knock-off' wheel hubs plus four new tyres, new decals (Clark, Spence), machined aluminium exhausts and intake trumpets and a photo-etched radiator face. **TMMI**

- A classic and significant Formula 1 car kit with a lot of fine detail
- Some experience required



ED PLASTIC SECTION, F; FABRIC, IM; INJECTION MOULDED (PLASTIC), IML; INDIVIDUAL TRACK LINKS, LC; LIQUID CEMENT, LCC; LASER CUT CARD, LCT; LINK AND LENGTH TRACKS, MC; METAL CHAIN, MMA; MACHINED METAL PARTS), PS; PAPER STRIP; R; RESIN, SVT; SOFT VINYL TYRES (OR TUBING), VF; VINYL FIGURES, VFP; VACUUM FORMED (PLASTIC), WC; WOVEN CORD, WD; WATERSLIDE (DECALS), WS; WOODEN STRIP



EDUARD, CZECH REPUBLIC SOPWITH F.1 CAMEL (BR.1)

www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

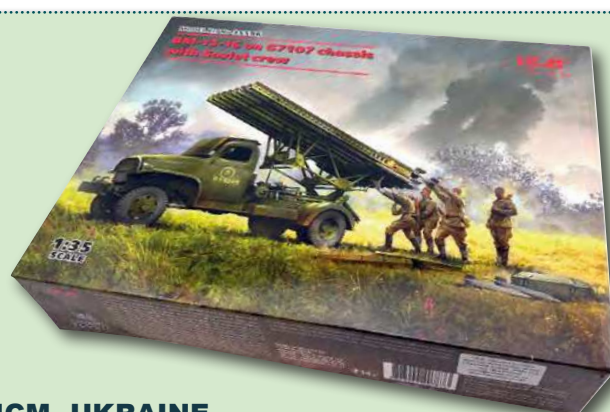
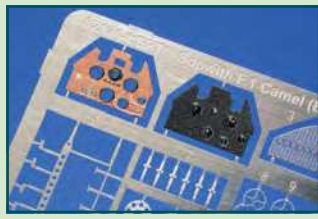
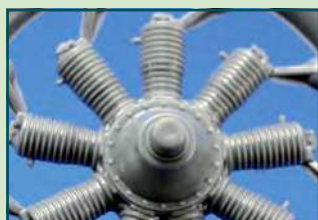
SCALE: 1:48 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, PCM, WS • ITEM NO.82171

The Sopwith Camel could be seen as the Spitfire of the First World War, perhaps because it has an equally catchy monicker as RJ Mitchell's supreme

achievement. Developed by the Sopwith Aviation Company as a successor to the Sopwith Pup, the Camel was introduced on the Western Front in 1917 and became one of the best known fighter aircraft of the Great War. The Camel was powered by rotary engine and was armed with twin synchronised Vickers machine guns. Though difficult to handle, it was highly manoeuvrable in the hands of an experienced pilot, a vital attribute in the relatively low-speed, low-altitude dogfights of the era (Edited from Wikipedia). Eduard's 1:48 Camel was a new tool launched in 2021 and is a state-of-the-art production; one look at the parts of their sprues and this is clear to see. The detail is absolutely eye-wateringly refined from the ribbing on the wings to the stitching along the fabric of the fuselage. This is a ProfiPACK edition by Eduard and such comes with a modestly sized but well designed sheet of photo-etched parts that include a pre-painted instrument panel, 'woven' wicker seat and harnesses, sights the twin Vickers guns and other small fittings. The engine is fantastically well detailed as standard but if you want to take things even further, check out Eduard's 3D resin engine (reviewed in TMMI Issue 315) which is simply extraordinary.

TMMI

-  An absolutely gorgeous kit of this WW1 British classic with lots of upgrade options to buy
-  As always, the rigging will be the true test of one's skill/bravery



ICM, UKRAINE

BM-13-16 ON G7107 CHASSIS WITH SOVIET CREW

www.icm.com.ua

SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO.35596

The Katyusha rocket system was developed by the Soviets in mid-1941 and began to appear in service in very limited numbers – and very secretly – from

September onwards. They then became much more common, and were used throughout WW2. The system comprised a series of rails which could mount rockets above and below and where the rockets could be fired in a staggered salvo. There were two main sizes of rocket, the M-8 and the larger M-13. The apparatus could be fitted on any suitable vehicle, and the BM-13 mount first appeared on the ZIS-6 truck, but as better Lend-Lease trucks arrived, they were extensively used instead. This kit from ICM consists of the Chevrolet 1.5 ton truck, carrying the BM-13-16 (sixteen rockets on eight rails) that was fitted to many truck types. The little Chevrolet was quite heavily loaded with this system and it was more commonly found on the Studebaker 6x6 truck. ICM's kit contains all the parts to make a standard GS version, but includes the BM-13 rails and rockets, as well as an excellent crew loading the missiles.

The moulding is absolutely up to modern standards and the resulting model is really impressive. The proportions of the cab and bonnet are possibly not perfect, but this is barely noticeable, and the final result is a striking vehicle, particularly when posed with the superb figures. Well done ICM! **CLS**

-  A very dramatic model, not previously available, with excellent figures.
-  Purists may wish to correct barely visible faults with cab, bonnet and wheels.



New Releases

A selection of the latest full kits in plastic, resin, metal and more!



ICM, UKRAINE OV10D+ BRONCO

www.icm.com.ua

SCALE: 1:48 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO. 48301

ICM released their all-new 1:48 kit of the OV-10A Bronco (Vietnam War-era) at the end of 2021 to much acclaim, it being a big step forwards from the old (but still workable) Testors kit. Now, ICM

have issued the second variant of their kit in the form of the OV-10D+ which, to quote online sources, is; "a second-generation Bronco developed from an extensively modified OV-10A airframe, adding a forward-looking infrared night-vision system with a turret-mounted camera under an extended nose (visually distinct from the short, rounded nose of the A-model). The 'D' also has bigger engines and larger fibre-glass propellers, chaff dispensers midway down the booms and infrared-suppressive exhaust stacks. The OV-10D+ is the next USMC upgrade, consisting of 'A' and 'D' aircraft extensively reworked with new wiring and strengthened wings. Engine instrumentation was changed from round dials to tape readouts". Phew. The kit takes these changes into account with a new sprue carrying the longer nose halves being the most obvious, but there are many other, more subtle alterations and it seems ICM have really done their homework here. Detail is superb as before, with a slight caveat being the rivets on the tail booms looking a little over-emphasised, but in no way a deal-breaker. Five markings-options are provided, all for US Marines Broncos operating in the early 1990s painted in desert camouflage, grey/green/black and grey schemes. Eduard have a suite of photo-etched metal and resin upgrades on the way for the OV-10A and it's logical to assume the same will be offered for the D+, canopy masks in particular! **TMMI**

+ A fascinating and very welcome second version of the Bronco with heaps of detail

- You'll still need an Eduard Zoom set at the minimum, for the seat harnesses



MINIART, UKRAINE STUG.III AUSF.G FEB 1943 ALKETT PROD.

www.creativemodels.co.uk

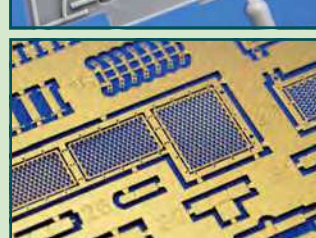
SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, PE • ITEM NO. WS35335

The first thing that strikes you as the box of MiniArt's latest armour creation is opened is 'wow, there is a lot of kit in this box'. Digging through the scores of grey sprues, we find the

instruction booklet which numbers no less than forty pages, which confirms its intricacy and comprehensiveness, as if confirmation were needed. Yes, this is one incredibly detailed kit indeed. What really adds to the parts-count here is MiniArt's inclusion of a very thorough interior, from the rear hull to the bow plate. The engine and its bay are included in full and without checking references it would appear that little if anything has been left out; the modeller will need to plumb and wire it all up though. The twelve-litre, Maybach HL120 TRM V-12 engine is represented in delicious detail but MiniArt haven't stopped at 'just' the powerplant; its cooling system of twin, belt-driven, fan-cooled radiators and associated pipework is all present, building into an impressive unit that drops into the engine bay once the Maybach has been fitted. Absolutely marvellous! The fighting compartment is similarly uncompromising and naturally, the StuG's 7.5cm StuK 40 L/43 gun is depicted in full in the form of a beautiful sub-assembly that will be extremely satisfying to paint and weather. Moving forwards we come to the driver's station which is dominated by the gearbox, to the left of which the driver sits. Again, all replicated perfectly in miniature, turning this into a mini engineering exercise as much as a model-building project! **TMMI**

+ An utterly incredible kit of the currently in vogue armour subject; the detail is to be marvelled at

- A methodical, zen-like approach will be needed, ideally with no deadline





REVELL, EUROPE

FAST 'N FURIOUS DOMINIC'S '71 PLYMOUTH GTX

www.revell.de/en

SCALE: 1:24 • MATERIALS: IM, CP, SVT, WS • ITEM NO.07692

The base version of this kit appears to have started life in 1995 as a stock 1:24 1971 Plymouth GTX, based on Monogram's 1982 1970 GTX kit but with a new body and other parts, but examining timelines too closely is somewhat academic, because despite this model's heritage, Monogram/Revell car kits from this era are treasured by enthusiasts thanks to their buildability, excellent detail and, most importantly, accurate profiles. This GTX certainly falls into the 'classic' category and happily served devotees of the marque for many years until 2020, when Revell brought it back into the limelight. Famously, Vin Diesel's 'Dominic Toretto' character from the Fast & Furious series of action films drove a modified '71 GTX (specifically in 2017's 'The Fate of The Furious' movie) and this kit was the ideal base on which to create Dom's souped-up beast of a Plymouth. Revell have included a set of new wheels and tyres for Dom's car, as well as a whole new front suspension moulding with revised hubs that lower the nose by a few millimetres, hopefully just visible in the photos to the left here. With the addition of massive new wheels with open spokes, the brakes suddenly become visible, so Revell oblige again with some nicely detailed ventilated discs and huge callipers. The only other 'physical' option is the provision of a larger air filter, the interior remaining the same with just the dial-face receiving new decals. The decal sheet provides the gold flashes that run up the front wheel arches up to the bonnet bumps and numerous other transfers are included for the body and seats' racing harnesses. **TMMI**

+ A very slick upgrade to create Dom Toretto's macho'd-up GTX and the stock car can also be built

- What's not to love? it's Dom's GTX!



ZVEZDA, RUSSIA

RUSSIAN NUCLEAR-POWERED ICEBREAKER ARKTIKA

www.hobbyco.net

SCALE: 1:350 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO.9044

The 'Arktika' is a Russian (formerly Soviet) class of nuclear-powered icebreakers. Formerly known as 'Project 10520 nuclear-powered icebreaker,' they were the world's largest and most powerful vessels until the 2016 launch of the first 'Project 22220' icebreaker, also named Arktika. As of 2021, two Project 22220 icebreakers (Arktika and Sibir) have been in service, third (Ural) has been launched, fourth (Yakutiya) and fifth (Chukotka) have been laid down at Baltic Shipyard in Saint Petersburg, and sixth and seventh are planned. (Edited from Wikipedia).

It was entirely logical for Moscow-based Zvezda to create a scale model of this vast vessel as it is very 'modelgenic' (like photogenic, but for scale models) with its eye-catching paint scheme, muscular looks and helicopter landing pad. The kit comes in a large, suitcase-like box that even features a carrying handle! It is actually quite lightweight, but it does lend a certain gravitas to the subject. Eight sprues of grey polystyrene plus one in clear carry the parts and for a 1:350 kit it doesn't feel as much of an overwhelming project as some ship-kits can. The main hull measures 47.5cm in length, an impressive but again, not overwhelming size. The upper deck builds up from some satisfyingly chunky mouldings and the tower-block-like main superstructure is formed from four panels atop which sits the bridge and beefy mast. There is masses of detail here, with some lovely touches like the delicately detailed rotors of the Mil Mi-8 helicopter. Just add some PE brass railings and mast frames! **TMMI**

+ A stunning subject with heaps of superdetailing and even ice-scape diorama potential

- Full-hull only



FULL-BUILD: EXPLORATION VEHICLE

NEOMEGA 1:35 TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION TRACTOR ● KIT NO.NUK 5



Member of the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition posing in front of a Sno-Cat during the first overland traversal of the continent, 1957 (Photo; Creative Commons)



Sir Edmund Hillary and Vivian (Bunny) Fuchs stand on the tracks of a Tucker Sno-Cat (B) on the sea-ice outside Scott Base after the completion of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, 1958. Photo taken by Dr Graeme Midwinter www.adam.antarcticnz.govt.nz/nodes/view/63125 (Creative Commons)

THAT'S SNOW-BUSINESS!

Carl Robertshaw goes on an adventure with NeOmega's 1:35 Trans-Antarctic Expedition Tractor



In 1957/58, the Commonwealth Trans Antarctic expedition set out to attempt the land crossing of Antarctica via the South Pole, from the Weddell Sea to the Ross Sea. British Geologist Sir Vivian Fuchs led it, with a support party headed by New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary. It was an attempt to complete the ill-fated venture by Ernest Shackleton in 1914-17.

Made up of British, New Zealand and South African scientific and military-trained personnel, they crossed the 2,158 mile distance in ninety-nine days, after encountering many problems, from personality clashes and insubordination, to deep, snow-covered, hidden crevasses that would, on a later expedition, swallow a tractor whole, killing its driver.

The 3.5 tonne vehicles had a top speed of about 15mph and were powered by a Chevy V8 180hp engine that did a mere four miles per gallon, running on specially blended fuel and lubricants provided by BP as sponsorship. This meant that the dog sled support team could easily keep up or overtake the convoy.

Each towing two large sleds weighing in at 2.7 tonnes carrying fuel, supplies, explosives and

scientific equipment to regularly measure the ice thickness along the trip. Originally the plan was to use four tractors but one proved constantly unreliable and was left at the base. It was eventually discovered that someone had accidentally dropped a nut into the one of the cylinders. Two 'Weasel' tractors and a modified Muskeg tractor fitted with tracks and converted for the Antarctic conditions accompanied the three remaining large tractors that set out on the crossing, but all these others were eventually abandoned en-route by the twelve-man team after irreparable mechanical breakdowns. An Auster AOP6, a DH Beaver and a DH Otter, all with a ski configuration undercarriage, also supported the exhibition form the air.

The three historic vehicles still exist in museums around the world, one in Canterbury NZ, one in California USA and on in the UK Science Museum reserve collection at Wroughton. Vivian Fuchs was knighted by the Queen during the crossing, receiving the telegram just before he arrived at the destination. ▶

**background text provided in the NeOmega instructions.*

FULL-BUILD: EXPLORATION VEHICLE

NEOMEGA 1:35 TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION TRACTOR ● KIT NO.NUK 5



All the resin and Photo-etched parts, instructions and decals included in the top opening sturdy card box. The parts are grouped and supplied in clear zip lock bags. The instructions are small but descriptive

THE NEOMEGA KIT

I was attracted to the kit by the penguins of all things and the chance to try my hand at modelling snow. Being an all resin kit, something I have not tackled before, looked like a decent challenge and I was entrusted by our Editor to undertake the build. The background history and the unusual subject matter combined with the evocative images of the tractors resting perilously on the edge of crevasses makes this kit a very attractive proposition.

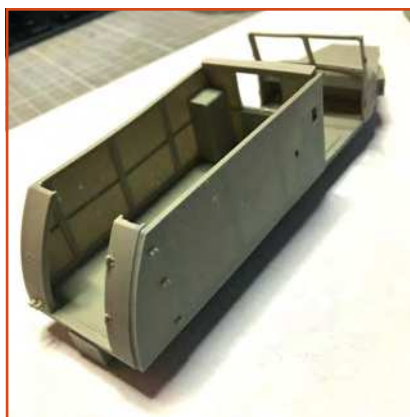
The sturdy, top-opening box contains all the parts to build the vehicle as well as the Hillary figure and two penguins. Photo-etched parts complement the resin castings and even skis are included. You are only required to provide copper wire to create the axle clamps. The resin parts show striations across the surface, I assume from the 3D printed master, which I wasn't a fan of. Many of the



The main resin parts cut away from the pour blocks and cleaned up. This takes some time and suitable protection is needed not to breathe the resin dust



Each independent track sponson is made up of four resin parts that sandwich four photo-etched links to complete each assembly. Some careful sanding and filing is needed to align the main resin mouldings that form the body of the sponsons. The thin delicate fins are fragile and easily broken, which I duly did do on a couple! These items provide some weight and stability to the finished model



The main body of the vehicle is under construction and you can see in this shot how thin the resin sides are. Some heating was needed to rectify the bent parts, which then needed careful fettling to get them to have any chance of fitting. Bubbles are evident through the finely cast resin which highlights you need to pay attention through the whole build

The front three-quarter view of the main vehicle body. The windscreen-surround is a delicate piece of resin which was warped slightly



The side panels for the body simply butt-joint against the chassis/floor. This needs some dextrous gluing as the floor and the side are both warped and using quick setting thin CA in sections allows for the parts to force themselves to align

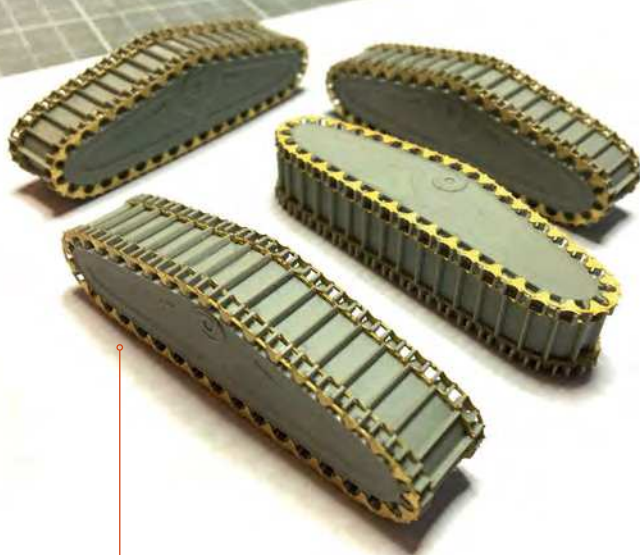
Mini Review...

DEF MODEL 1:35 F-4B PHANTOM II FOD COVER SET (DS40106) FOR TAMIYA
www.defmodel.com



Tamiya's exquisite new 1:48 F-4B Phantom II is starting to accrue aftermarket goodies from various manufacturers and DEF Model have contributed with a very neat FOD (foreign object damage) covers for the engine air-intakes. The set comprises a pair of 'plugs' in resin which will push-fit into the apertures, plus a sheet of 'remove before flight' tags which even come with photo-etched metal clips for the ultimate in detail.





The completed sponson track units, basically solid blocks of resin. They do look the part once complete and define the major feature of the vehicle. The "Tucker Sno-Cat" text is absent from the side walls of the sponsons (and also absent from any wording in the kit) which is a key feature of the tracks. I considered adding the text using masks and Mr Surfacer to add the raised lettering, but took the simpler approach and kept to the kit as supplied. The casting quality is crisp and clean and with correct alignment they go together well



The springs and steering plates are more delicate resin pieces. Photo-etched spring brackets are provided as an alternative detailed option, but I chose to stick with the one cast in to the springs in resin. They would be hard to see on my finished model anyway



The underside of the chassis with the boxes and braces glued in place. The gearbox is straightforward to fit. The cylindrical recesses are for the steering plates and allow you to pose the steering turned with a solid fixing. These vehicles were (are) very utilitarian and simple in construction. Some additional detailing could be added to the underside, but again won't be seen in my finished scene so just the base kit was used and no extra detail was added



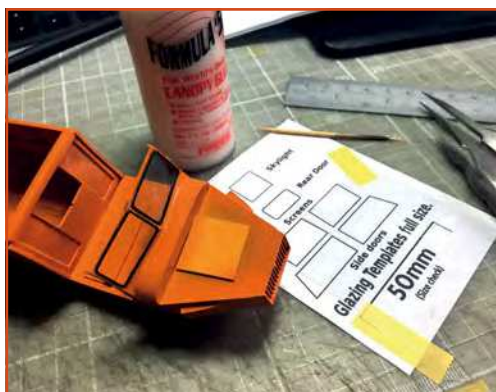
To complete the steering plate and springs, they need the axles fixed with the addition of their brackets. You need to make these yourself and these are described in the instructions. I simply used copper wire bent over a paintbrush to create the brackets. These were glued with CA and completes the steering plates. When the body of the vehicle is mounted onto the sponsons, both of which are relatively heavy items in their own right compared to these delicate springs. These springs are the only structure holding the two together so care needs to be taken when handling the whole model



With the main parts constructed they were sprayed with a base coat of Mr Surfacer 1500 Grey, thinned with Mr Color Levelling thinner to act as a primer and filler for the surface textures and multimedia parts



Once the base was left to go off for twenty-four hours the parts were sprayed with successively denser layers of X-6 Orange, again thinned with Mr Color Levelling Thinner



The windows are provided in the kit as a thin acetate sheet that you cut following the printed templates. Before fitting the windows in place with Formula 560 canopy glue, the window surrounds were painted in enamel semi-gloss black so any mistakes could be easily corrected using enamel thinner without affecting the underlying orange acrylic. Note on the bonnet area the 0.75mm square of plastic. This is described in the instructions and you add this yourself to create a spacer to allow for the brown felt pad applied after all the painting is complete



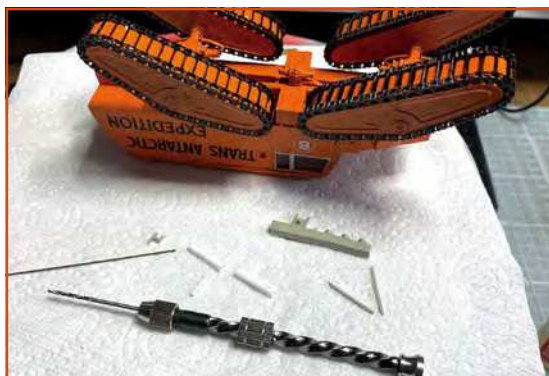
The dashboard and cab interior is pretty sparse with a very delicate and fragile resin steering wheel. The bench seat is pretty bland like the real thing and the stowage area in the back is also very plain. Not much of the interior may be seen on the completed model, but there is the chance to glimpse through the skylight and side windows which all helps the viewer believe in the scene. I made the rear compartment more interesting with some simple styrene boxes painted with a woodgrain effect and a box of gas bottles - these were simply domed ends of sprues painted black. I don't claim this to be accurate by any means, but it is enough to help elude to a possible reality. The interior was given a stark enamel wash of dark brown black to help provide contrast in the dark exterior



With the all the orange paint on, and be prepared, orange is a tricky colour. It's surprising how much orange you needed! The decals for all three tractors are provided in the kit. There are subtle differences in the typefaces and spacing so pay attention to this. I was building the 'B' tractor and on close inspection, the appropriate decal is not faithfully recreated. It is good enough, but there is room for improvement here. Over a gloss coat I applied the decal using Micro Set and Sol to adhere the thin delicate decals. The decals are on a continuous backing sheet so careful cutting out is required to eliminate as much carrier film as possible

FULL-BUILD: EXPLORATION VEHICLE

NEOMEGA 1:35 TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION TRACTOR ● KIT NO.NUK 5



Like the window surrounds, I used enamel black paint to carefully paint the tracks. This is fiddly work but is a kind of meditation! Any mistakes could be cleaned up easily with thinner without damaging the underlying acrylic. With the crevasse and snow scene under construction already I was able to pose the tractor – literally in the chasm – the track sponsons could be permanently glued in position. You need to be careful when handling the whole model because the thin resin springs are all that hold the heavy sponsons in position. I could now add the steering and drive shafts. The steering plates need to be turned at opposite angles to each other to suit the scene. Each of the rods have tiny resin universal joints which require a very delicate and dextrous touch. I used white tack to hold the parts instead of tweezers, where the parts could ping off into oblivion. The kit includes small white styrene tubing for the drive shaft. These are meant to telescope but the wider diameter tube needs drilling out to accommodate the smaller one



With the steering rods and drive shafts in place the underside of the tractor is complete. A liberal coat of orange paint was brushed onto the exposed rods which will subsequently be covered in snow detracting and covering much of this detail



This is not the most straightforward object to handle once the sponsons are glued in position. A roll of kitchen towel provided the perfect perch which was squashed to make a flat bottom so the whole thing didn't just roll over! The cab doors were glued in place and these are difficult to fettle into place. There isn't much contact area to adhere them to the body and their dimensions differ slightly from the real vehicle. All the rows of raised rivets are present on the panels of the body which help to make this more delicate when sanding the parts. The front grill doors are etched metal which gives them scale thickness, but they lack a little detail



The kit includes a brown felt square which you trim to size. This represents the insulating around the bones seal on the real vehicle. Of course this needs to be fitted after painting and I used clear PVA to simply keep it in place



Using the Starship Filth Oil Brusher liberally on the underside easily creates a gunky, oily look of the real vehicles as it was in the field. The excess was blended using orderless thinners with an eye on making the detail stand out with high contrast as the snow texture paint to follow would detract and contrast with the shading



The same oil brusher was used on the sponsons and cotton buds were used to create texture and gradation. The fine moulded details comes alive at this point. Use of photo references is essential as there are defined areas and streaks of oil and shading. This detail helps impart the reality of how this vehicle looked out on the field and adds the sense of visual weight to the sponsons



Once the oils were dry, weathering pencils were used to great effect. I'm liking these more and more because there are so many ways to create varied effects. They are quick drying when used wet and can be completely removed, giving you the opportunity to experiment and rework the mediums, eliminating the risk committing any mistakes. Aluminium, Dark Aluminium, Smoke and Rubber coloured pencils were used to create chips, scuffs, wear and general shading. Tamiya weathering pastel "soot" was used with a makeup applicator to shade in the exhaust stain on the front corner of the roof. None of the delicate appendages were fitted yet because they would certainly be broken off in the subsequent handling

❶ resin parts are very delicate and there are some equality delicate photo-etched parts.

To start the build, like every project, I first collected as much visual material as possible. The story of the endeavour is fascinating and the jeopardy of these heavyweight machines clinging perilously to the edge of crevasses captures the emotion and tenacity of the story in one moment. I settled on one of black and white photos I found online of the 'B' tractor perched, clinging on with the front tracks while the rear tracks are dangling into a crevasse. How they managed to get these machines free is incredible. Some days they only travelled two miles, delayed by the efforts to dig and heave the tractors free of the deep freezing canyons.

This is a kit for experienced modellers only. It clearly states this on the A5 printed Instructions covering sixteen pages with eleven steps. The very front page says "for experienced builders only. And even then, read the instructions before you start!" which is exactly what is needed. The instructions are simple yet clear and the extensive descriptions guide you through the build imparting experience and advice. This is reassuring and encouraging but you do find yourself repeatedly reading the instructions.

Being a specialist multimedia kit this build needs your full attention plus some ingenuity to work around the build. It doesn't fall together and you need to draw on many previous, involved builds. Some of the resin parts were warped in my package. The instructions do advise on placing them in hot water, which does help to some extent but for some of the parts wasn't quite enough. Sanding and test fittings made the build a more lengthy process throughout, and you need to be constantly planning ahead.

Having now completed the build, I can recommend this kit, but only to experienced modellers with the motivation and passion to see it through to completion. It's a small scale endeavour not to be taken lightly, but the results can be surprisingly pleasing. ●



Tamiya snow diorama texture paint was tested on to the underside of the sponson to get a feel for how the product acts and performs and ensure it looked right. The Tamiya paint stirrer with a small spoon proved to be the perfect tool to gradually build up small amounts of the 'snow'. This is a grainy paste which dries as you manipulate the product into the nooks and crannies. I worked in small areas at a time to gradually build up the effect. I kept referring to the reference photos to inform the way the snow gathered and clung to the tracks. On occasion I did wet the product sparingly which thins it out leaving minute clumps of snow grains.



By starting on the underside gave me chance to practice the application of the snow. Here the underside of the vehicle quickly takes on that freezing in-action look. I didn't rush the process and in a couple of evenings this effect looked convincing to my eye.



The combination of the previous oil and pencil weathering and the snow applications layered over each other creates the unusual, distinctive and recognisable effect. Taking care to work in small sections at a time helps to 'zone' the various areas which in turn helps the viewer to believe in the scale effect. The contrast between the sponsons and the side of the body is quite pleasing



Even though this rear view will eventually be buried within the scene it isn't forgotten. The union jack decal is a little translucent but no bother here. By treating the vehicle as a whole and not ignoring any areas means that when it is placed within the scene there is no chance for a 'gap' that subsequently needs filling. Like the real vehicle, it is fully treated then sunk into the crevasse which recreates the visual story when viewed from any angle



I printed out my main reference image and mounted it in the background to continually refer to. Ensuring the angle of dangle was correct and also aiming to achieve as close an approximation to the crevasse as possible. I experimented with several different snow products and the Deluxe Micro Balloons proved to be the most real looking scale snow finish. This was easy to sprinkle on top of the other previous snow layers by simply spraying cheap hairspray over the base and sieving the micro balloons over the area. The excess was shaken off and collected to use again. Once the model and snow were complete the sponsons were glued to the snow using Elmer's transparent glue which holds well and dries clear without biting or miring the foam block below

FULL-BUILD: EXPLORATION VEHICLE

NEOMEGA 1:35 TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION TRACTOR ● KIT NO. NUK 5



Included in the kit is a figure that looks like Hillary. The spade and arms are separate resin parts which need careful removal from the pour blocks. The figure is sculpted well and the fur lined coat is a highlight. On my figure, there was a large gap in the leg area where a bubble had been trapped in the casting process, which was duly filled. The penguins are also provided in resin with photo etch wings. I drilled and fixed a short copper rod into the feet of the characters to enable painting and fixing into the scene. They were given a primer base spray coat of LP-60 lacquer paint to start with a near black base. The lacquer 'bites' perfectly into the resin and also adheres to the etched metalwork. Thinned with Mr Color Levelling thinner is sprays easily and cures smooth



Part way through the figure painting Hillary looks seriously sun burnt! The face was spray painted first using the base skin tone mix, then successively darker shades of the skin tone were wet painted using the wet on wet technique. The Adelie penguins were first sprayed with the off white, then using the same skin tone mix feathered up from the feet. They are a joy to paint and add a real unique character to the scene



Hillary's jacket and trousers were painted in colours following the photo references I found online. The textured materials and oily worn look of the jacket was something I aimed to capture in the model which is a nice exercise to differentiate it from the orange of the tractor. Hillary's beard and the coat's fur edge were also given careful consideration to create different textures. The spade was painted black then a wet gun metal pencil was used to make it look metal



A large scrap block of polystyrene was carved to approximate the snowy crevasse in the reference image. This was then covered in toilet roll soaked in diluted PVA. A technique sometimes used to make small waves in a surface. This dries hard and creates a textured shell on which apply the snow products



I experimented with painting the inside of the crevasse gradual shades of blue to create depth. On closer inspection of the photo references and the look of the blue paint, I decided against this in the end and generously covered the inside and top surface of the block with a mix of woodland scenics snow, matt acrylic medium and diluted X-1 White. The vast white expanse of the terrain in the Antarctic and the incredible depth of the crevasses seems to be bleached white. Light doesn't penetrate the snow so the sides of the crevasses were still pure white far below the surface



Here is the 'in action' image of the table during the snow scene creation. The products I had to hand to create the snow are in the foreground and the various implements and kit parts behind. Micro Balloons by Deluxe Materials can be seen in the centre rear, which after all the trial and error turned out to be the best and easiest product to create the finished result for the snow



The crevasse part way through the white out treatment. It was important to recreate the snow texture of nubs and striations in the side walls. This gives the impression of how the void in the snow is created in real life

Adding peaks of the acrylic gel medium helps to make the wall texture and pattern



Part way through the fettling process getting the tractor resting at the correct angle and making sure the rear is suitable embedded into the scene. I had to chip and hack away quite a surprising amount of material to get the correct angle of dangle! As seen in the small avalanche inside the crevasse. I used a metal dental pick and a flat bladed scalpel as a chisel to cut into the snow





TECHSPEC...

NEOMEGA 1:35 TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION TRACTOR KIT NO.NUK 5

Materials:

Resin, photo-etched brass, waterslide decals

Paints and materials used:

- Tamiya Acrylics: X-6 Orange, X-2 White, X-9 Brown, X-18 Semi-Gloss Black, XF-15 Flat Flesh, XF-23 Light Blue, XF-59 Desert Yellow, LP-60 NATO Black
- Tamiya Diorama Texture Paint: Snow
- Revell Enamel: Colour 7 Gloss Black Enamel
- Mr Color: Levelling Thinner
- AMMO by Mig: Oilbrusher Starship Filth
- AK Interactive: Odourless Thinner, Weathering Pencils, Snow Sprinkles
- Woodland Scenics: Snow Flake Snow
- Golden Regular: Gel Medium
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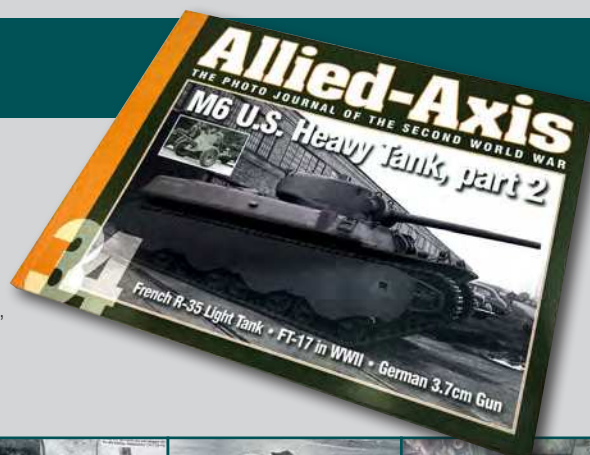
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ALLIED-AXIS: THE PHOTO JOURNAL OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR, VOL.34

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www.daviddoylebooks.com

When David Doyle took over sales of the superb Allied Axis series, there was no indication that more volumes would be released. However, no.34 has been published, and no.35 is soon to arrive. The latest issue contains the usual outstanding range of very high definition photos, making the images invaluable to modellers and researchers. This volume features the second part of the treatment of the M6 Heavy Tank, developed in the US in 1941 but proving to be a dead-end which did not see service. The book then moves on to photographic coverage of two WW2 French vehicles, the FT-17 and the R-35, with the latter being given further colour photos of a preserved vehicle. Finally, the issue deals with the well-known German 3.7cm anti-tank gun, nick-named the 'door-knocker' because of its ineffectiveness against many tanks. Interestingly, these photos illustrate two barrel types, which is a rarely seen feature. Altogether, the 96-page A4 landscape book is a fabulous collection of excellent photos, covering factory shots, wartime pictures, and photos of restored items. A great resource with very good captions. **CLS**



TANKS IN THE BATTLE OF GERMANY 1945 – WESTERN FRONT

STEVEN ZALOGA, OSPREY PUBLISHING

www.ospreypublishing.com

The final weeks and months of the war on the Western Front are well documented and there are ample photographs taken by the Allies to show their own and Axis vehicles. Where this book offers something new is in the data provided. This 50-page softback book (New Vanguard no.302) explains the range of vehicles, with clear photos and colour profiles of many. The text is very clearly written, and examines the position of American, British Commonwealth and German units, with descriptions of the issues faced by each. The tables of information list the vehicle types and the numbers in each army, allowing the reader to understand the disparity between the thousands of Allied tanks (14,000 US and 9000 British) against around 1000 German vehicles. The German defence was augmented by widespread use of infantry anti-tank weapons such as the Panzerfaust, and these accounted for around 40% of Allied tank losses in the last weeks – rising tenfold since the start of 1945. This demonstrated the changing nature of fighting at close range in densely settled environments, alongside fewer German tanks, so that the hand-held weapons became more significant. Overall, this excellent book summarises the desperate German defence of their homeland, and the determined of the Allies to end the war quickly at all costs. A great read for modellers and for anyone interested in military history. **CLS**

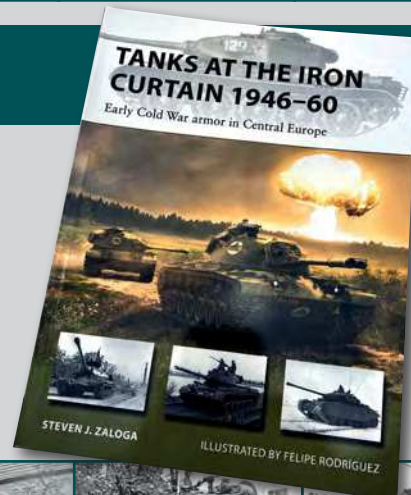


TANKS AT THE IRON CURTAIN 1946-1960: EARLY COLD WAR ARMOR IN CENTRAL EUROPE

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Osprey release books covering topics in a readable and affordable format, and this volume is number 301 in the New Vanguard series. Written by the renowned author Steve Zaloga, this 48-page book covers the tank types that faced off in Europe after the end of WW2. The vehicles included many types that saw service in the war (eg. T-34, Sherman), plus others that appeared in the closing stages of WW2 (eg. Centurion, Pershing, Comet). However, these types were soon joined by many new vehicles that emerged in the early post-war period, such as the T-55 and M48. The book explores the use of tanks by each of the nations embroiled in the Cold War, illustrating many with superb colour profiles. Of particular interest is the comparison of vehicle effectiveness, with the Soviet tanks rated somewhat better than many people believed at the time. In summary, this book covers a very scary period where war was often closer than we realised, and where three distinct generations of vehicles served side-by-side. **CLS**





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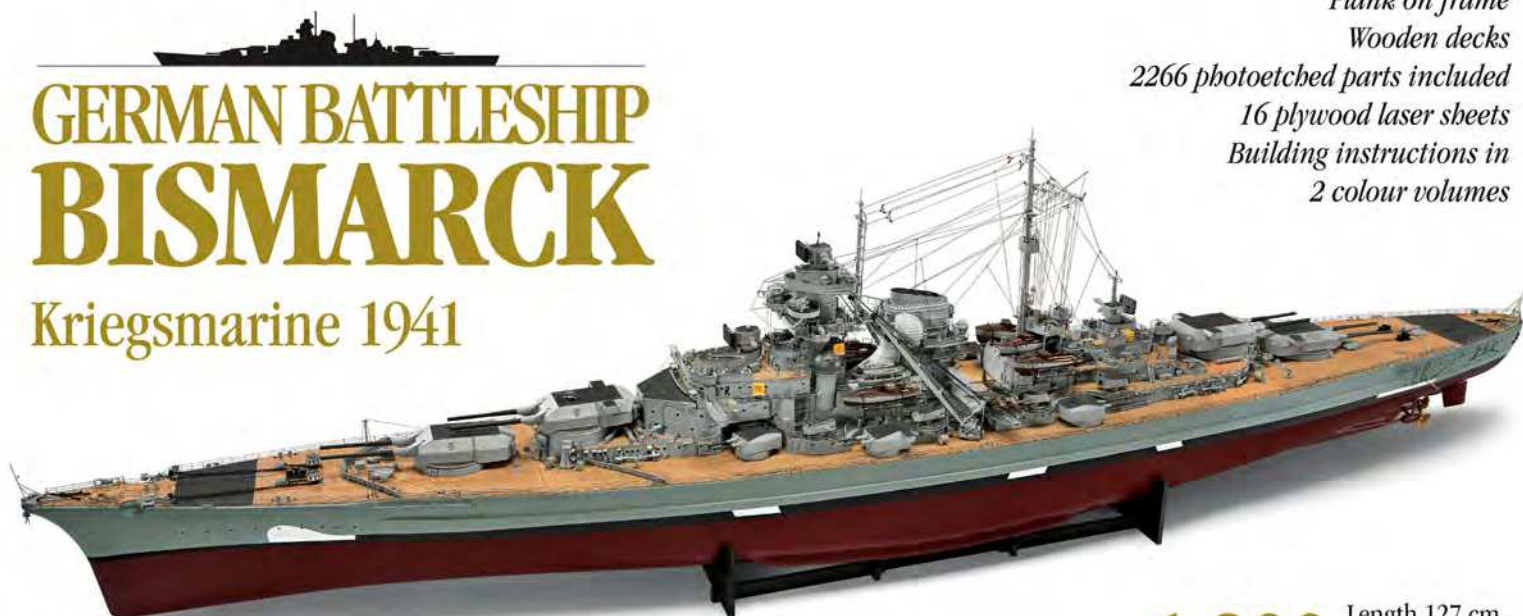
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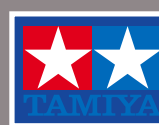


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The Editor's Page...

Alpine Miniatures have something for your WW2 diorama

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GUN TEAM AT THE READY!

Alpine Miniatures have established themselves as one of the very best producers of resin figures and are extremely popular with modellers, thanks to their stunning detail and flawless castings...

Alpine's latest set is this pair of US WW2 machine-gunners in 1:35, dressed in winter coats and gloves. One gunner carries a .30cal M1919 Browning machine gun in a sling, the other has his M1 Garand rifle slung over his right shoulder, carrying the ammunition box for the Browning in his left hand. As you can hopefully see from the photos, the detail is astonishing and they paint up beautifully. Perfect for posing alongside any of Tamiya's 1:35 US military vehicle kits. Very highly recommended. ●

• 1:35 WW2 US MG Team Winter Set. X2 figures, set No.35295
www.alpineminiatures.com



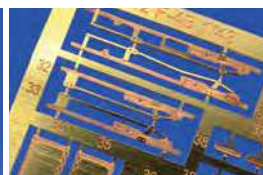
A brief note about piracy...

Modellers must always be diligent when buying model accessories (figures like Alpine's in particular) to make sure they are the genuine article and not illegal copies which are often found online and are usually poorly cast with air bubbles and soft detail. But most importantly, pirated figures and accessories represent copyright theft and purchasing them always damages the creator of the original product. Please buy from the official manufacturer/distributor.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

**Eduard photo-etched details (491212)
for Tamiya 1:48 F-4B Phantom II**
www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk

Ed's Choice is back! To kick it off, let's take a look at Eduard's recently released photo-etched detail set for Tamiya's superb 1:48 F-4B Phantom II kit, released last year. In the pack we have two frets of metal, one carrying pre-coloured instrument panel faces (double-layered), fuse boxes and more. The second fret provides rudder pedal faces, canopy mirrors, extra detail for the canopy frame's edges (very handy) plus extra bits for the Sparrow and Sidewinder missiles. A nicely planned set without an overwhelming number of parts.



**1/48
MM**
MILITARY MINIATURE SERIES

GERMAN SELF-PROPELLED HEAVY ANTI-TANK GUN

NASHORN

519th
Heavy Anti-Tank Battalion,
Eastern Front, February 1944



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Powerful Gun For the East

1/48 Military Miniature Series (Item 32600)

German Self-Propelled Heavy Anti-Tank Gun Nashorn

With the commencement of the German-Soviet War in June 1941, the German Army found the overpowering Russian T-34 and KV tanks waiting for them. As a counter-measure, the German forces started developing a number of self-propelled anti-tank guns based upon existing tank chassis, and among them, the Nashorn had particularly overwhelming power. With all benefits of a powerful 8.8cm gun, the Nashorn mainly battled at the Eastern Front. Now, Tamiya welcomes this popular self-propelled heavy anti-tank gun as the 100th model in the extensive 1/48 Military Miniature Series! This is a highly accurate depiction of the powerful form based upon a chassis employing Pz.Kpfw.III and IV components, and featuring a large fighting compartment with an 8.8cm long-barrel gun. Superb details despite its compact size, and a succinct parts breakdown are major highlights. 2 marking options are included to depict vehicles of the Eastern Front. Expand your diorama ideas with various kinds of 1/48 vehicles and soldiers in service during battles in Russia.



★Length: 176mm
★Width: 62mm



Comes with weights for heavy feel.
Contains two Eastern Front marking options.

3rd Company,
88th Heavy Anti-Tank Battalion,
Eastern Front, 1944

Assembly type tracks feature one-piece straight sections and capture upper run 'sag'.

One commander figure in cold weather gear included.



The fighting compartment interior realistically depicts the gun mount, breech and sighting device. The gun barrel features elevation and traverse.



Hull side parts

Road wheel suspension bases are integrated for ease of assembly.

★Images show assembled and painted kit.
★Product may vary from images shown.

Painting the German Self-Propelled Heavy Anti-Tank Gun Nashorn

(Tamiya Color Lacquer Paints (LP)/ Tamiya Color Acrylic Mini Paints/ Tamiya Color Enamel Paints (XF))

●LP-55/XF-88 (Dark Yellow 2) ●LP-56/XF-89 (Dark Green 2) ●LP-57/XF-90 (Red Brown 2) ●XF-2 (Flat White)

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KV-2 RUSSIAN HEAVY TANK



Superb Power for Russia!

**1/35
SCALE**

1/35 Military Miniature Series

Russian Heavy Tank KV-2 (Item 35375)

In June 1941, the Russian Heavy Tank KV-2 protected Russia from the invading German Army, taking advantage of its superior defensive strength. In spite of struggles with technical trouble caused by its weight, it was fearsome enough to become known as "Gigant (monster)". Now, Tamiya welcomes this heavy tank into the famed 1/35 Military Miniature Series! It has been 47 years since the original model's release (Item 35063), and this model was developed based on the extensive research of an actual tank in Moscow. The powerful form of the boxy turret is depicted with realistic surface textures, and the massive 152mm gun features rifling detail in the muzzle section. The model also captures rib-less road wheels, return rollers with rubber rims and stowage boxes - features different from the KV-1 - and includes figures to add further detail. Do not miss this great chance to get this powerful tank!

★Choose between open or closed hatches. ★Assembly type tracks feature one-piece straight sections and recreate upper run "sag" in style. ★Comes with two marking options.

The massive turret depicts rough cast surfaces and weld lines.



Wehrmacht-captured vehicle
★Length: 204mm ★Width: 95mm

Painting the Russian Heavy Tank KV-2

(Tamiya Color Acrylic Mini Paints/ Tamiya Color Enamel Paints (XF))

●XF-58 (Olive Green) ●XF-4 (Yellow Green) ●XF-2 (Flat White)

Victorious Russian Vehicle Model Line Up - 1/35 Military Miniature Series



Russian Heavy Tank KV-1
Model 1941 Early Production (35372)

In addition to the KV-1 and T34/76 which gave the German Army such a shock, this series has various kinds of Russian tanks such as JS-2 with 122mm long barrel gun and BT-7 featuring distinctive suspension, plus models depicting vehicles which British and US forces gave Russia. Enjoy our wealth of models!



Russian Tank T34/76
1943 Production Model (35059)



Russian T34/76 Tank "ChTZ"
Version 1943 Production (35149)



Russian Heavy Tank JS-2
Model 1944 ChKZ (35289)



Russian Tank BT-7 Model 1937
(35327)



Infantry Tank Matilda Mk.III/IV
"Red Army" (35355)



M3A1 Scout Car
(35363)