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**POLYSTYRENE
PIRATE**

Full build: Airfix's
stunning new 1:48
Blackburn Buccaneer S.2

**Model
MAGAZIN**
INTERNATIONAL

**ISSUE
327**

January 2023

£5.25

Model MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL

**SHOOTING
STAR**

Tamiya's 1:35 WW2 British
Comet Cruiser Tank
is finished!



Full build: Eduard's fantastic new 1:48 F4F-3 Wildcat

GRUMMAN GET IT!

INSIDE

Telford Scale Modelworld report, Tamiya 1:48 M8 HMC previewed,
plus new kits, books and modelling accessories...

DOOLITTLE
MEDIA





SUPERLEGGERA V4



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Top Performer

1/12 Motorcycle Series
Ducati Superleggera V4 (Item 14140)

**1/12
SCALE**

True to its name, Ducati's Superleggera V4 announced in February 2020 features a strong focus on lightness: cowlings, frame, swing arm and wheels are carbon fiber components. Power is supplied by a 998cc V4 engine capable of 224hp featuring Ducati's signature Desmodromic valve timing system. One design highlight is aerodynamic "biplane wings" on the front cowl developed based upon the Ducati MotoGP bike, but without limitation by race regulations. Only 500 of the full size Superleggera V4 were available for purchase. Explore this astonishing motorcycle and the reasons for its superlative performance with this assembly kit!

Removable side cowlings and fuel tank are attached by screws.



The silencer shape blends expertly into the body line.

A racing stand and moving side stand are included.

★Length: 176mm, width: 67mm, height: 98mm.



(V4 engine)

The engine-rear shock and exhaust are also rendered in detail. Metal spring does not require painting.

- Front and rear finely drilled brake discs.
- Decals depict gradated red side cowlings sections.



Four biplane wing aero devices on the front are recreated in style.



Aerodynamic air tunnels on either side of the seat cowl are faithfully recreated with an ergonomic parts breakdown.

The chain comes in left and right halves for more details.



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

Unique & Epoch-Making Ducati Lineup –1/12 Motorcycle Series–



Ducati 1199 Panigale S Tricolore (14132)



Ducati 1199 Panigale S (14129)



Ducati Desmosedici (14101)



Ducati 888 Superbike Racer (14063)



Ducati 916 (14068)

Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A.
Official Licensed Product





22 GRUMMAN GET IT!
Eduard's fantastic new
1:48 F4F-3 Wildcat

52 POLYSTYRENE PIRATE
Airfix's stunning new 1:48
Blackburn Buccaneer S.2



COVER STORY

34 SHOOTING STAR

Tamiya's WW2 British Comet
Cruiser Tank concludes

Model MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL

Issue 327 January 2023

EDITOR Marcus Nicholls
editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

Contents

- 4 NEWS DESK**
New kits and model product news
- 6 US HOWITZER MOTOR CARRIAGE M8**
Tamiya's 1:48 Military Miniature Series gets a US M8 HMC
- 8 SCALE MODELWORLD 2022**
Models from Scale Modelworld 2022
- 18 NEW AND COMING SOON FROM TAMIYA!**
Some new and on-release kits from Tamiya
- 46 NEW RELEASES ACCESSORIES**
New and recently issued modelling accessories
- 48 IF YOU'RE GONNA HAVE ONE...**
AHHQ 1:16 M4A3E8 Sherman 'Easy Eight' Sherman, previewed
- 50 NEW RELEASES KITS**
New model kits reviewed
- 60 BOOK REVIEWS**
New and recent books related to scale modelling
- 64 CONTACTS**
Where to buy the products used and reviewed in TMMI
- 66 THE EDITOR'S PAGE**
The Editor's favourite from SMW 2022



HOW TO CONTACT US:

TELEPHONE: (UK) 01525 222573
EDITORIAL EMAIL: editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com
ALL OTHER ENQUIRIES: enquiries@doolittlemedia.com
ADDRESS: Tamiya Model Magazine International,
The Granary, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK

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IN BRIEF...



TAMIYA

- 1:10 RC TT-02BR Gearbox Joints
- 1:10 RC TT-02BR Gearbox Joints for Ball Differential
- 1:10 RC TT-02 Type-SRX Front Direct Cup Joints
- 1:10 RC TT-02 Type-SRX Aluminum Gearbox Joints
- 1:10 RC TT-02 Type-SRX Aluminum Propeller Joints (& Swing Shaft Caps)
- 1:10 RC TH-10-Spoke Wheels (White) (24mm Width, Offset 0)
- 1:10 RC Hotshot II Blockhead Motors
- 1:32 Mini4WD 3mm Hex Shaft Set
- 1:10 RC 1990 Mercedes-Benz C 11

hobbyco.net

AHHQ

- 1:16 Tiger I Early Production

andyshhq.com

COPPER STATE

- 1:35 Tzar Tank
- Lanchester wire wheels 3D-print

copperstatemodels.com

EDUARD

- 1:48 P-38J engines PRINT for Tamiya

creativemodels.co.uk

HOBBYBOSS

- Hobbyboss LKW 7t mil gl 85522

creativemodels.co.uk

MINIART

- 1:35 Austin armoured car 3rd series

creativemodels.co.uk

REVELL

- 1:76 03334 First Diorama Set - Sd.Kfz. 124 Wespe
- 1:35 03339 ie. gl. Einheits-PKW.4
- 1:144 British Legends - Airbus A400M Atlas RAF
- 1:48 B-26C Invader
- 1:3 Grogu - The Child (The Mandalorian)
- 1:25 '71 Ford Mustang Boss 351

revell.de/en

RYE FIELD MODEL

- 1:35 Joint Light Tactical Vehicle
- 1:35 Tiger I Late Production

tigerhobbies.co.uk

ST GEORGE MODEL

- 1:35 German tractor KD.1 (Krupp-Daimler)

artmaquette@mail.ru



TAKOM/BLITZ

- 1:35 StuG.III Ausf.G w/winterketten
- 1:35 Mi-28N Night Hunter
- 1:35 Jagdtiger 128mm/88mm 2-in-1

bachmann.co.uk

ZOUKEI-MURA

- 1:32 Henschel Hs129B-3

tigerhobbies.com



COMING SOON FROM TAMIYA!

1:48 Dornier Do335A Pfeil & Kübelwagen Type 82 Set

Dornier Do335A 'Pfeil' and Kübelwagen Type 82 all in one box! More details on page 18 this issue.
www.hobbyco.net



NEW FROM TAMIYA!

2023 Catalogue

Packed from cover to cover with Tamiya goodness!
www.hobbyco.net



NEW FROM AIRFIX!

1:25 Spitfire Mk.IXc

Airfix's spectacular, all new 1:24 Supermarine Spitfire Mk.IXc is proudly manufactured in the UK. It's a stunning kit that will form a major feature in TMMI soon - keep reading!
www.airfix.com



COMING SOON FROM DEF MODEL

1:35 A34 Comet mantlet cover

Coming soon from DEF Model, this amazing 3D-printed mantlet cover for Tamiya's new 1:35 A34 Comet tank kit will breathe life into this area of the model.
www.defmodel.com



NEW FROM EDUARD!

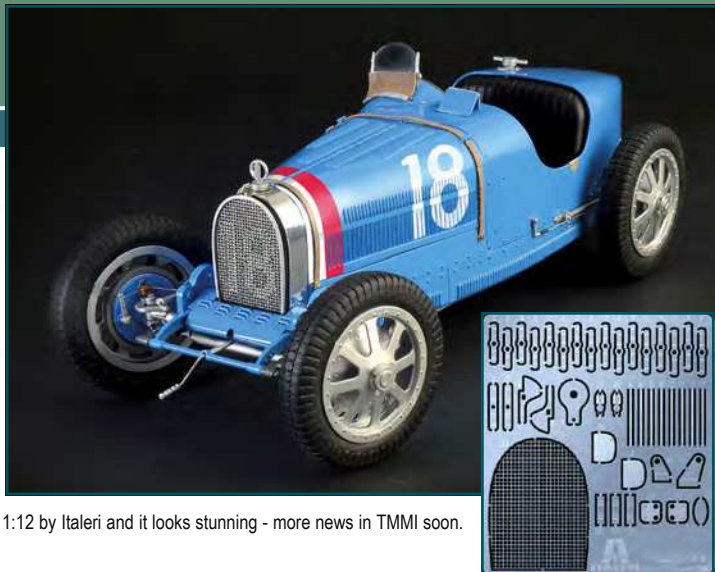
New and re-launched aircraft in 1:48 and 1:72

1:48 - F4F-4 Wildcat (early), Bf109G-14/AS ProfiPACK, SE.5a Hispano Suiza ProfiPACK, Tornado IDS
1:72 - Bf110G-4 Weekend Edition, F6F-5N nightfighter
www.creativemodels.co.uk
www.eduard.com



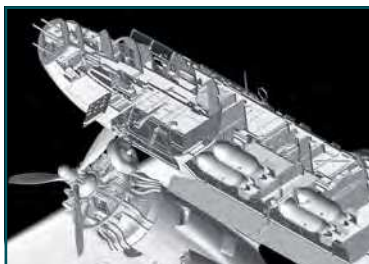
NEW FROM ITALERI 1:12 Bugatti Type 35B

This 1930s motoring icon has been created in 1:12 by Italeri and it looks stunning - more news in TMMI soon.
www.hobbyco.net



COMING SOON FROM REVELL 1:32 Hawker Hurricane Mk.IIb

Revell have tooled up for an all-new Hurricane in 1:32 and it looks impressive! More news soon.
www.revell.de



COMING SOON FROM HK MODELS - 1:32 Douglas A-20G Havoc

An all-new kit of the handsome, twin-engined WW2 US Havoc bomber is on its way from HK Models! www.hk-models.com



COMING SOON FROM TAKOM 1:32 AH-64D and AH-64E Apaches

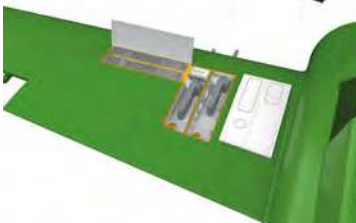
Also on the way from Meng, the Apache gunship helicopter is the flavour of the moment it would seem. More news soon!

www.bachmann.co.uk

COMING SOON FROM EDUARD

- 1:48 L60K Yak-9D (for Zvezda)
- 1:48 F4F-3 gun bays PRINT (for Eduard)
- 1:48 F4F-3 landing flaps PRINT (for Eduard)
- 1:48 A6M3 cockpit PRINT (for Eduard)
- 1:48 F4F-4 cockpit PRINT (for Eduard)
- 1:48 Yak-9D exhaust stacks PRINT (for Zvezda)

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



COMING SOON FROM REVELL 1:24 Trabant 601S Builders Choice 2022

Revell's 'Builders Choice 2022' takes the form of the Trabant in 1:24, complete with a big 'peace' symbol for the bonnet and other imagery for the body sides.
www.revell.de

KIT PREVIEW: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED ARMOUR
TAMIYA 1:48 US HOWITZER MOTOR CARRIAGE M8 ● KIT NO.32604



US HOWITZER MOTOR CARRIAGE

M8



Tamiya's wonderful 1:48 Military Miniature Series gets a real treat in the form of an all-new US WW2 M8 'Howitzer Motor Carriage' or 'HMC'

Although Tamiya already offer the M8 kit in the 1:35 Military Miniature Series (Items 35110, 35312), this kit features a totally new design based upon the intensive research of the actual M8 vehicle. With the HMC based upon the WW2 US M5 light tank chassis, the M8 featured an open-top turret and 75mm M3 howitzer. From September 1942 to early 1944, around 1,800 units were produced. M8s saw action in Italy, Western Europe and the Pacific, and supported US infantry until the end of the Second World War.

*Full build coming soon to TMMI!
Subscribe now at:
www.doolittlemedia.com*

- Features realistic renderings of interior details (such as main gun breech) of turret, plus the howitzer covered by a distinctive sleeve.
- The suspension bogies and hull are finely depicted by an ergonomic parts breakdown.
- Assembly-type tracks feature one-piece straight sections.
- Includes two marking options to depict the 106th Cavalry Reconnaissance Group, Germany or the 758th Tank Battalion, Italy.
- Metal chassis weights give the model a realistic and satisfying heavy feel.
- Comes with one full body commander figure.

Please note, photos depict a pre-production model, subject to change in final production.

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 MODELWORLD 2022 NOVEMBER 12TH/13TH 2022

SCALE MODELWORLD 2022

A ROUND-UP OF MODELS THAT
CAUGHT OUR EYE AT SCALE
MODELWORLD 2022, TELFORD, UK

This year's competition tables were heaving with models built and finished to incredible standards and it was hard to stop taking photos! The quality really was very high and it was wonderful to see so much scale modelling talent in one place. Over the next few pages you can see some of the star attractions and we missed out any models, it was due to lack of space here, not because they weren't good enough! ●

See you all again next year!

Scale Modelworld 2023

November 11th and 12th, 2023

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Telford

Shropshire

TF3 4JH

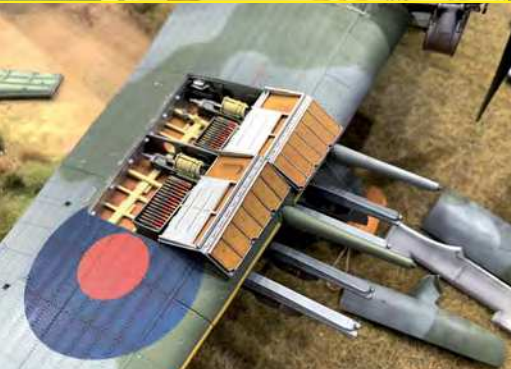
UK

www.ipmsuk.org/ipms-scale-modelworld/



Newsdesk *Special*

SCALE MODELWORLD 2022 NOVEMBER 12TH/13TH 2022



NEW from the 'HOW TO BUILD...' series



How to Build... TAMIYA'S 1:48 LOCKHEED P-38F/G LIGHTNING

By Marcus Nicholls

The Lockheed P-38 Lightning is an iconic US fighter from the Second World War. Its twin Allison V12 engines were mounted in booms to free-up the nose so it could house a fearsome array of four M2 Browning machine guns and a 20mm cannon. The twin-boom airframe became a sight feared by enemies wherever it served, with good reason.

In 2019, after several years of painstaking research, Tamiya released an all-new kit of this sleek aircraft and it has taken its place proudly in the 1:48 Aircraft Series as No.120 in the range.

In this new 'How To Build' book, Tamiya Model Magazine's Editor, Marcus Nicholls, presents no less than four built-up examples of Tamiya's fantastic model; one Lightning each from Brett Green and Spencer Pollard, plus two from Marcus Nicholls.

The second of Marcus's models incorporates resin and photo-etched super-detail sets from Eduard, showing how they can be used within the build to take the detail to an even higher level. New photos of the other models show how Brett Green and Spencer Pollard built and painted the models in their own styles.

The book includes four complete builds, covering the following topics:

- Adding photo-etched parts
- Using resin upgrade components
- Extending the nose undercarriage leg
- Upgrading the cockpit detail
- Weathering the airframe
- Alternative decal sets

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**NEW
MOULD**

1:24

Supermarine Spitfire Mk.IXc A17001



SUPERMARINE SPITFIRE Mk.IXc

Aircraft flown by Squadron Leader "Johnny" Plagis, No.126 (Persian Gulf) Squadron, Royal Air Force Harrowbeer, Devon, England, July 1944.



SUPERMARINE SPITFIRE Mk.IXc

Aircraft flown by Flight Lieutenant Ian Keltie, No. 402 Squadron "City of Winnipeg", Royal Air Force Kenley, Surrey, England, March 1943.



SUPERMARINE SPITFIRE Mk.IXc

Aircraft flown by Wing Commander James Edgar "Johnnie" Johnson, No. 402 Squadron "City of Winnipeg", Royal Air Force Kenley, Surrey, England, Summer 1943.



SUPERMARINE SPITFIRE Mk.IXc

Aircraft flown by Captain Garth Jared, Commanding Officer, 309th Fighter Squadron, 31st Fighter Group, United States Army Air Force, Italy, December 1943.



SUPERMARINE SPITFIRE Mk.IXc

GR 2/33 "Savoie", Armée de l'Air, Luxeuil-les-Bains, France, early 1945.

Length 397mm Width 469mm Pieces 433

The Spitfire Mk.IXc was arguably the most important mark of Spitfire in the entire production run with it initially being conceived as a stop-gap fighter to counter the German Fw190 whilst the Mk.VIII was being developed. The Mk.IX is considered by many to be the ultimate Merlin powered Spitfire, coupling the iconic lines of the early Spitfires, which defended the skies above South East England just a couple of years earlier, with a two-stage Merlin.

- Standard and clipped wingtips
- Early and late cannon breech blisters
- Two rudder types
- Both carburettor air intake types
- Various cockpit configuration options
- Exposed engine and gun bay options



Airfix.com

and all good retail stockists



The excitement is building

**HORNBY
HOBBIES**
Official Product

Tamiya 1:48 Kawasaki Ki-61-IId Hien (Tony) & 4x4 Light Vehicle Kurogane Set

This set includes the 1:48 Kawasaki Ki-61-IId Hien 'Tony' (61115) and 1:48 Japanese 4x4 Light Vehicle Type 95 'Kurogane' (32558) within a special package. The Hien was the only Japanese aircraft to be fitted with a liquid-cooled engine during WWII. Among a number of different variants produced, the Ki-61-IId featured a 20cm-elongated nose to house 20mm cannons plus 12.7mm wing machine guns. The 'Kurogane' was developed for the Japanese Army as the world's first lightweight 4x4 vehicle. From December 1937, after various improvements, a new type was produced that carried three passengers with a 33hp engine. The lightweight 4x4 Kurogane was used for reconnaissance and communication in China, South East Asia, and the Pacific. •



Tamiya 1:48 Messerschmitt Bf109 G-6 & Kübelwagen Type 82 Set

This 1:48 set provides the Messerschmitt Bf109 G-6 (61117) and the German Kübelwagen Type 82 (32501) in special packaging and painting guide. The Bf109 was the German Air Force's main aircraft during WWII and among its variants, the G-6 featured heavy armour with the dual 13mm gun (changed from dual 7.92mm guns) and 20mm cannon gondolas. The Kübelwagen Type 82 was developed based on the Volkswagen 'Beetle' and featured simple, lightweight structure with reliable air-cooled engine and four-wheel independent suspension. During WWII, this vehicle was in service for German forces. •



**NEW
COMING
FROM T.**

Tamiya 1:48 North American P-51D Mustang™ & 1/4-ton 4x4 Light Vehicle Set

In this set we have the North American P-51D Mustang 8th Air Force (61040) and the '1/4-ton 4x4 Light Vehicle' (89755), plus two – standing and sitting – pilot figures and two 108-gallon drop tanks, with a special boxing and new instruction manual/painting guide. The P-51 Mustang had laminar-flow wing, ergonomic radiator position and a Packard-built Merlin engine capable of 1,500hp. The 'US 4x4 Light Vehicle' offered great off-road performance with its rigid, lightweight structure and reliable engine and over 600,000 were produced during WWII. •



AND
G SOON
TAMIYA!

Tamiya 1:48 Dornier Do335A Pfeil & Kübelwagen Type 82 Set



Here we have the Dornier Do335A 'Pfeil' (61074) and the German Kübelwagen Type 82 (32501). The Do 335 featured a revolutionary design which had two engines and propellers, cross-shaped tail and an ejection seat. The single-seat fighter-bomber Do335A was developed around the middle of 1944, but the war ended before its actual deployment. •





Tamiya 1:12 Ducati Superleggera V4

The latest factory pics of this Italian superbike are just in! (full build feature coming soon to TMMI).

- Length: 176mm (including a racing stand: 198mm)
- Height: 98mm
- The distinctive, complex front cowl biplane wings are authentically recreated
- The V4 engine, swing arm, front fork, side cowlings and fuel tank are attached to frame by screws
- Side cowlings and fuel tank are removable after assembly
- Chain parts are split into right and left to accurately recreate roller sections
- Front and rear brake rotors have depictions of holes
- Includes metal transfers to render mirrors realistically
- Decals authentically depict subtle red gradation patterns and carbon fibre material of side cowlings
- Synthetic rubber tyres feature tread patterns, and Pirelli logos which can be recreated by decals •

Tamiya Lacquer Paints

LP-81 Mixing Blue

LP-82 Mixing Red

LP-83 Mixing Yellow

Tamiya has added three new materials to the Lacquer Paints line; LP-81 Mixing Blue, LP-82 Mixing Red and LP-83 Mixing Yellow. They are intended to be mixed in with other colours to adjust their hue. Other pigments are not utilised to ensure purity of colour. Using the mixing colours by themselves will result in a certain degree of transparency and may let plastic or paint colours beneath show through. Use with LP-10 Lacquer Thinner. •





Tamiya 1:24 NISSAN Fairlady Z (RZ34)

The Fairlady Z was announced for North America in August 2021 and for Japan in January 2022. The main theme of the 7th generation is "a fusion of tradition and the latest technology" by incorporating designs that pay homage to previous models of Nissan's belter. The engine is a high-performance three-litre V6 twin turbo that produces 405 horsepower. The power of the engine – mounted longitudinally at the front – is transmitted to the rear wheels via a six-speed MT or nine-speed AT transmission. In addition to the attractive form of a two-door fastback coupe it attracted the attention of sports car fans around the world as a pure petrol-engined machine without an electric motor.

- The outer panel of the body and roof is composed of separate parts
- Separate parts such as the lower part of the transmission and front and rear suspension arms give the underside of the chassis a three-dimensional look
- The seats are each divided into four sections for ease of painting
- Comes with masking stickers for tinting transparent parts
- Tyres are made of solid synthetic rubber •



Also on the way back!

Tamiya 1:12 Lotus Type 78 w/photo-etched parts

On the way back is the 1:12 Lotus Type 78 with photo-etched details, originally released in this form in 2008 with the car kit itself dating back to 1977. It comes with updated decals and photo-etched parts that include brake discs, radiator, two designs of front and rear wingtips and seat buckles. •



Build Your Dream!



03820 Eurofighter Typhoon "Black Jack", 1:48



07720 London Bus (Platinum Edition), 1:24



07698 Audi RS e-tron GT (easy-click), 1:24

REVELL ACCESSORIES

Full range of Revell paints and selected accessories available at Hobbycraft and all good stockists



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hobbycraft

hobbycraft.co.uk/brand/revell

FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO US NAVY AVIATION
EDUARD 1:48 F4F-3 WILDCAT ● KIT NO.82201

GRUMMAN



CAN GET IT!

What happens when you take a superb plastic model kit and then embellish it with cutting edge details? **Spencer Pollard** seeks to answer that question as he builds Eduard's 1:48 Grumman Wildcat with all the bells and whistles...



FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO US NAVY AVIATION

EDUARD 1:48 F4F-3 WILDCAT ● KIT NO.82201

Over my *cough* forty-five years of building models, certain kits, specific subjects or whole genres, have remain stubbornly absent from my repertoire. One of those subjects is Grumman's pugnacious Wildcat, a famous machine that should really feature in any collection of WWII aircraft. Given this rather shameful exclusion from my display cases, I was pleased when Marcus offered this kit up for review as now, a mere four decades after I should have looked at it, I had the chance to build one in miniature...

Eduard's kit has been around for a little while now, with a number of iterations hitting the shelves throughout 2022. The kit

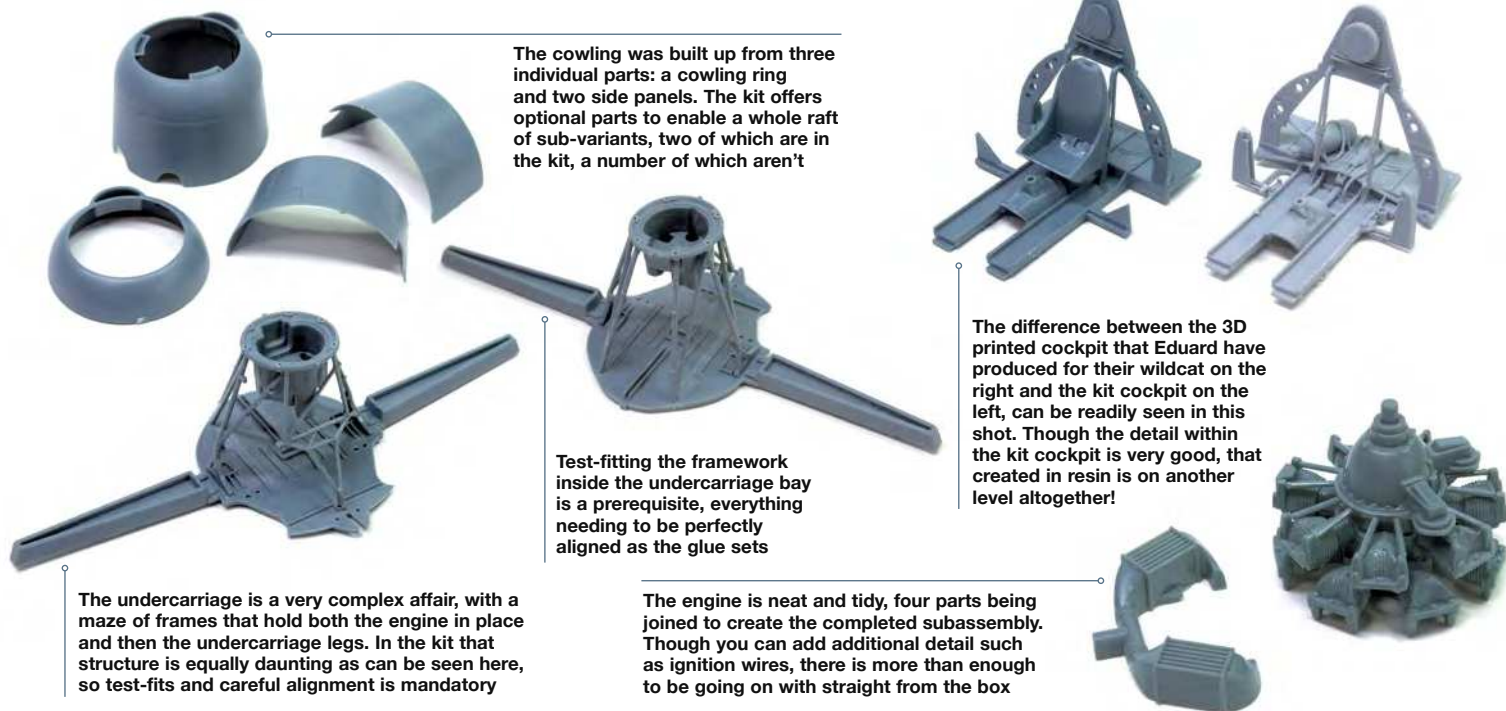
that I was sent is part of their ProfiPACK range that includes a full set of plastic parts, an etched fret, a sheet of canopy masks and large decal sheet that covers 6 different machines in a variation of schemes and markings.

Open the box and you are faced with a very familiar-looking kit, the dark grey runners that are now de rigueur in all Eduard models, sitting there waiting to be examined further. With the poly-bag opened and the runners sat on your desk you can marvel at the quality of the mouldings, the excellence of the delicate parts and the sheer volume of stunning surface details that decorate all of the airframe parts. You will also notice a surfeit of

parts, many of which are not appropriate to this particular F4F-3 variant. With an F4F-4 just released, a large number of details will either remain in the box or find their way into your spares box, but it's good to see them anyway. As a preparation for the build, I tend to remove all of these unwanted parts and place them in a small poly bag which I offer to you dear reader, as a worthwhile use of your initial time before construction begins proper.

As a kit, this one is actually fairly straightforward in its approach, seeming to be much like a 'curbside' car model where the kit only offers what can be seen and little more. Here, that manifests itself in offering the complete

airframe, with a detailed cockpit, enclosed engine and detailed gear bay and though there are separate control surfaces, these are designed to be - in the main - fixed in their neutral position. As a result of this approach, the number of parts in the kit is kept to a bare minimum and unwanted features left to the modeller, or Eduard's comprehensive collection of aftermarket products. For instance, the engine, including the cowling, is only seven parts, the cockpit fourteen and the gear bay, complex as it is, just under twenty. If you are building this kit as a 'Weekend' release, you will only have around 100 parts to deal with, which is remarkable given the complexity of the



The cowling was built up from three individual parts: a cowling ring and two side panels. The kit offers optional parts to enable a whole raft of sub-variants, two of which are in the kit, a number of which aren't

Test-fitting the framework inside the undercarriage bay is a prerequisite, everything needing to be perfectly aligned as the glue sets

The difference between the 3D printed cockpit that Eduard have produced for their wildcat on the right and the kit cockpit on the left, can be readily seen in this shot. Though the detail within the kit cockpit is very good, that created in resin is on another level altogether!

The engine is neat and tidy, four parts being joined to create the completed subassembly. Though you can add additional detail such as ignition wires, there is more than enough to be going on with straight from the box

The undercarriage is a very complex affair, with a maze of frames that hold both the engine in place and then the undercarriage legs. In the kit that structure is equally daunting as can be seen here, so test-fits and careful alignment is mandatory

MINI REVIEW...

Sd.Kfz.247 Ausf.B (36483) for Revell/ICM
www.creativemodels.co.uk
www.eduard.com

Eduard don't offer as many photo-etched sets for armoured vehicle models as they once did, but the latest three to arrive contain some useful parts that would look clumsy if moulded in polystyrene. This pack for the ex-ICM Sd.Kfz.247 includes dashboard and radio faces, along with some others neat fittings.





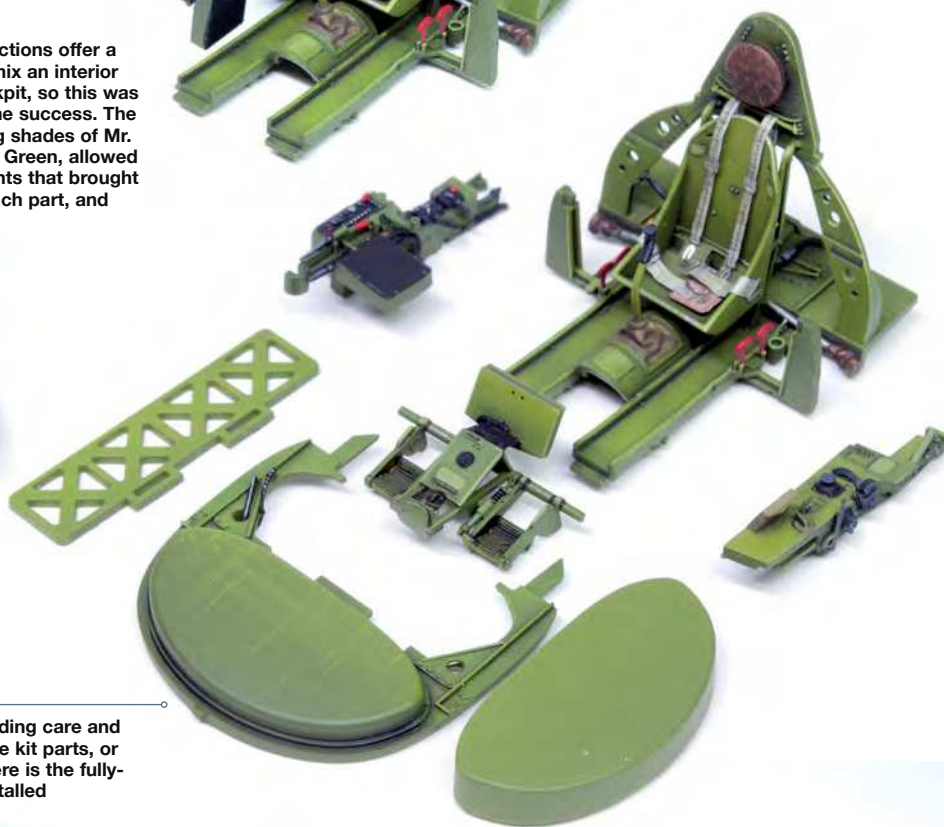
The Eduard instructions offer a guide on how to mix an interior green for the cockpit, so this was followed with some success. The addition of varying shades of Mr. Color C58 Interior Green, allowed me to add highlights that brought out the shape of each part, and their detail



AK Interactive's superb 3G acrylics paints were used within the cockpit to add detail and finesse. These were particularly useful when it came to drybrushing layers of paint over Eduard's exquisite detail



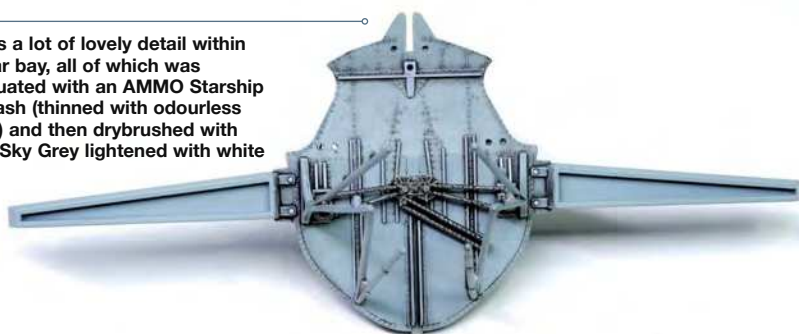
Once painted, the BRASSIN replacement cockpit looks superb. Combining 3D printed resin parts with etched details, the modeller is offered the chance to create something extraordinarily detailed with no additional work. Painted using the same mixes as shown for the interior walls, the parts were subsequently washed with oils and then all detail picked out with Vallejo acrylics, an Optivisor and Kolinsky sable paint brushes helping along the way



The cockpit within the Wildcat is complex, needing care and attention if the best is to be gotten from either the kit parts, or those offered within Eduard's BRASSIN range. Here is the fully-assembled and painted interior ready to be installed



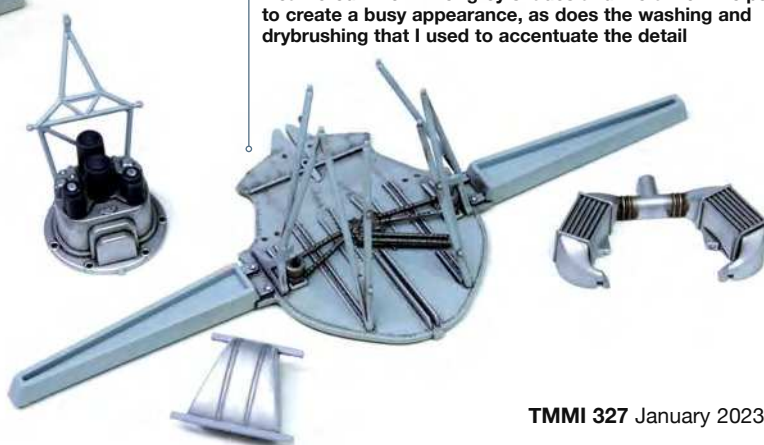
There is a lot of lovely detail within the gear bay, all of which was accentuated with an AMMO Starship Filth wash (thinned with odourless thinner) and then drybrushed with Vallejo Sky Grey lightened with white



The main parts that complete the gear bay are painted and weathered. The mix of grey shades and metalwork helps to create a busy appearance, as does the washing and drybrushing that I used to accentuate the detail



As I had no off-the-shelf pale grey for the undersides of the model, I mixed a shade that I felt was close from Mr. Color Barley Grey, lightened with Tamiya Flat White. Thinned with Tamiya Lacquer Thinner, this was first sprayed over all gear bay details and the rear bulkhead that you can see here



FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO US NAVY AVIATION

EDUARD 1:48 F4F-3 WILDCAT ● KIT NO.82201



The engine was airbrushed with Tamiya Gloss Aluminium, washed with oils and then drybrushed with Citadel Stormhost Silver

The instrument panel is built up in layers, a plastic baseplate being embellished with delicate, photo-etched parts. Everything was glued together using AMMO's Ultracolors

The engine parts are painted, ready for assembly. Despite the simple steps taken to paint the engine, the detail has really popped and the pfft once all together, is very pleasing!

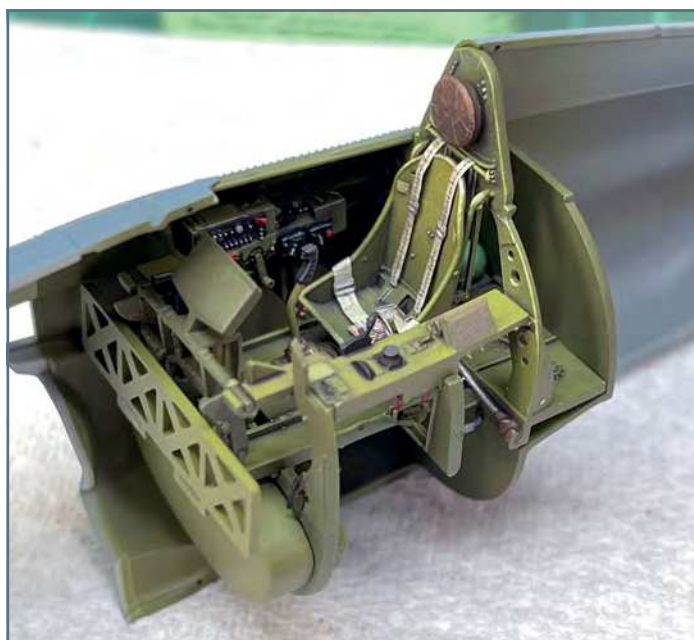
◀ detail that you will find in and on, this model.

Though the smaller parts are noteworthy, perhaps the most impressive feature of this kit is once again the surface detail. This is complex, delicate and incredibly realistic, Eduard's designers offering recessed panel lines and rivets, as well as raised rivets, fasteners and hinges. Its all rather remarkable and a lot of fun to accentuate when the model is built, painted and decalled. That said, there are a few areas where

the panel lines and rivets drift off, no doubt as a result of the moulding process and the curvaceous lines of the full-sized aircraft. This is particularly so around the belly of the machine, as well as the upper surfaces of the cowlings and just under the cockpit. This is not an insurmountable problem, just one that feels noteworthy enough to mention here. Anyone willing to build this kit (especially in its ProfiPACK form) is likely to have the skills to deal with such issues, so I'll happily



The bulkhead that carries both the engine bearers and then the undercarriage is complex and at times, fiddly to assemble. Here is the completed structure, with everything bar the lower undercarriage legs in place. Care needs to be taken to ensure that not only is everything assembled neatly, paintwork is carefully carried out and then protected as the individual parts are brought together



The cockpit is now in place. This was initially held inside the fuselage thanks to the rear bulkhead, Tamiya Extra Thin Cement being used to fix that part to the inner fuselage wall. Some fettling was then needed allow the fuselage halves to close neatly, especially around the instrument panel that has yet to be fitted



All of the internal parts are now in place. Given the small size of this model, there is a lot of parts inside that nose, all of which have to be carefully aligned. Care and no little patience is certainly needed before the day is done!

The assembled wings and fuselage were joined and any seams dealt with using sanding sticks, wet & dry paper and Scotchbrite. Panel lines were reinstated using an RB Productions scribing tool

mention it and move on...

With such a high level of detail, there comes a payoff of sorts in the form of complex, sometimes fiddly, subassemblies. This is particularly so inside the gear bay, where the Heath Robinson approach to dragging two wheels into a very confined space on the real aircraft, necessitates the construction of a large number of very delicate parts in miniature. In plastic this

is tricky, add in an extra layer of delicacy in the form of replacement brass and resin legs and you can will I am sure, begin to understand what I'm talking about! An early suggestion would be to spend time dry-fitting parts and then adjusting where needed. I found that this paid dividends when it came to using the brass legs that you see later on, as I needed to remove a small part of one of the braces to ensure it all

lined up. Similarly, one of the legs needed to have its upper struts shortened to make it fit, which came as something of a surprise, as the opposite leg dropped into place with no additional work! Answers on a postcard to...

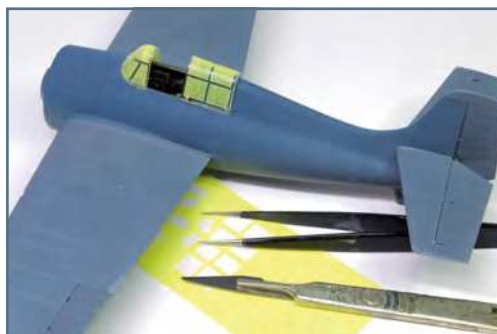
DECALS: A NEW SYSTEM AND A MODELLER'S CONFUSION!

Recently-released Eduard kits have included decal sheets that reflect this new manufacturing process, my

Wildcat being no exception. From the off, you can see that there are changes; the colours are not as vibrant, the printing doesn't appear to be as sharp and the carrier film, previously found under the individual designs with tightly controlled edges, is now over each one, with varying amounts of excess material in evidence. They look different and in practice, they are applied differently, or in the case



Although I had a T-Face set to use for this build, I kept things simple and brought in to play the masking set supplied in the kit. You of course can pay your money and take your choice!



Here are the masked canopy parts. The kit offers a choice of windscreen and rear canopy, the latter offering open or closed structures



There are two small observation windows under the belly of the Wildcat that need to be fixed in place and masked prior to painting. Fit here is tight, so take care when gluing them in place



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With everything masked off, the undersides could be airbrushed with the same Barley Grey/Flat White mix used for the main gear bay interior. In order to create a smooth finish, Tamiya X-22 Clear was added to the mix and then everything thinned with around 60% lacquer thinner



Once dry, the undersides were masked off with using Silly Putty and Tamiya masking tape to allow the recreation of a soft demarcation between the lower surface grey and upper surface blue. Issues with the decals would mean that this step was redundant as my scheme was changed at the last minute, but it shows you how to define these edges should you choose to do so

❶ of this model, some of them are, because as a completed project, I really didn't get on with this new system, and the decals that were supplied to facilitate the decoration of the painted model.

The idea, so I can see, is that you apply the decals in a fairly normal way: soak them in water and then using your solutions of choice, apply the markings to the model. So far, so good. Once in place, you can either leave them be, seal them in and move on, or, you can carefully remove that carrier film

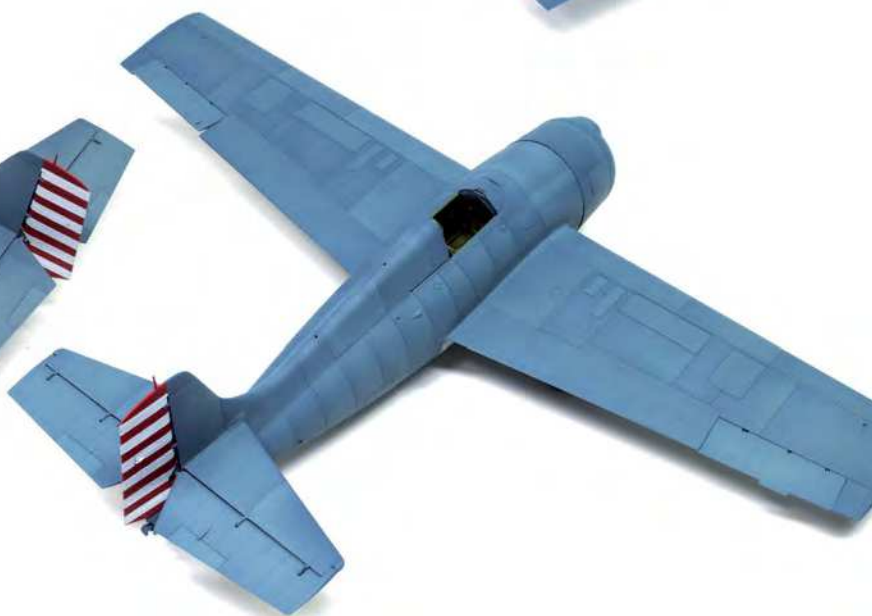
that I mentioned earlier, the resultant markings being free of this tricky material and I suppose, any chance of dreaded 'silvering' appearing under each individual decal. No carrier film, no chance of silvering: see?

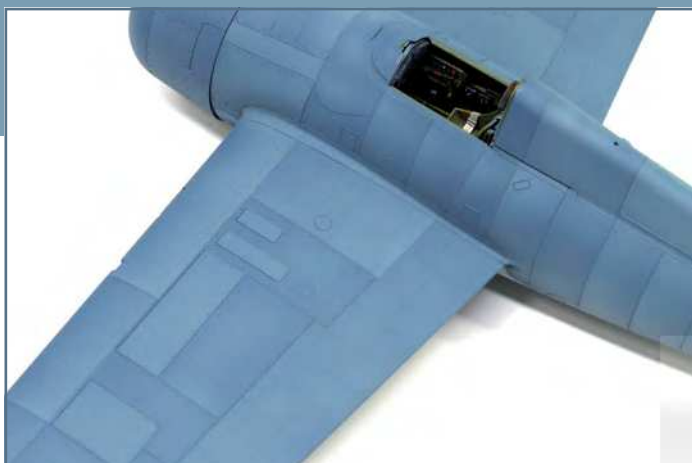
This all seemed like a good idea, until I put it into practice! Having seen other modellers use these decals with great success, I applied them in the normal way, at least the larger roundels and then left them to dry out. Try as I might, I couldn't remove the carrier film, all attempts made either

The Blue Grey is now in place. As mentioned earlier, this was created using Tamiya Medium Blue, lightened with flat white and then mixed with Tamiya X-22 Clear and lacquer thinners. Sprayed on in very thin coats the resultant mix of paints, clear and thinners, created a perfectly smooth finish



Happy that the Blue Grey upper camouflage was dry, individual panel edges and then complete panels, were masked and airbrushed with very fine layers of the underlying colour, lightened with Mr. Hobby RLM65 Light Blue. This broke up the finish, helping to define surface details and structural features along the way





A close-up of that work with the airbrush shows how even with simple ideas such as those used here, a plain finish can become anything but! Note also the quality of the superb surface details, incised panel lines and rivets, working in harmony with raised rivets and hinges



The undersides were similarly treated, though this time work was carried out with a darker shade of grey to break up the panels and accentuate details

not lifting the film up, or damaging the marking. I was stumped. How did others remove this film when mine seemed to have steadfastly stayed in place? Was there a secret to all of this? Had I applied them incorrectly? Was each sheet slightly different..?

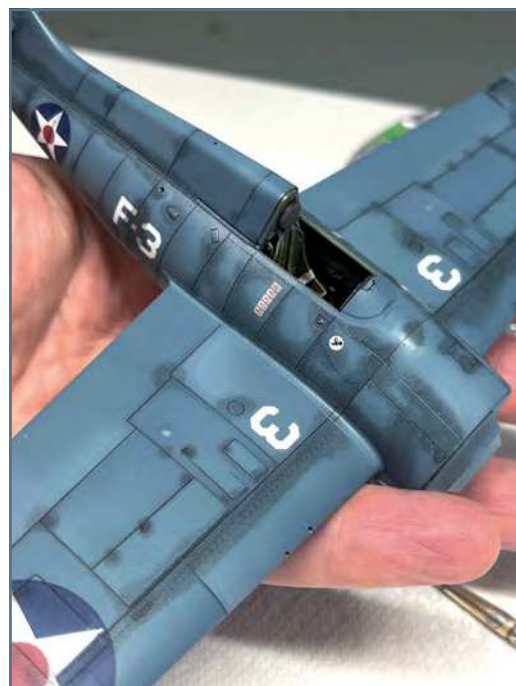
Whatever my issues were with the decals, I persevered and managed to create a model that though fully decorated, still left something to be desired, the colours of each marking looking to be washed out and slightly indistinct. As for that film, I managed to hide much of that with varnish. It was all a bit of a trial to be honest; maybe next time will be more successful!

As for choices, the kit offers to following six, the review kit being built in the colours and markings of Lt. Edward O'Hare.

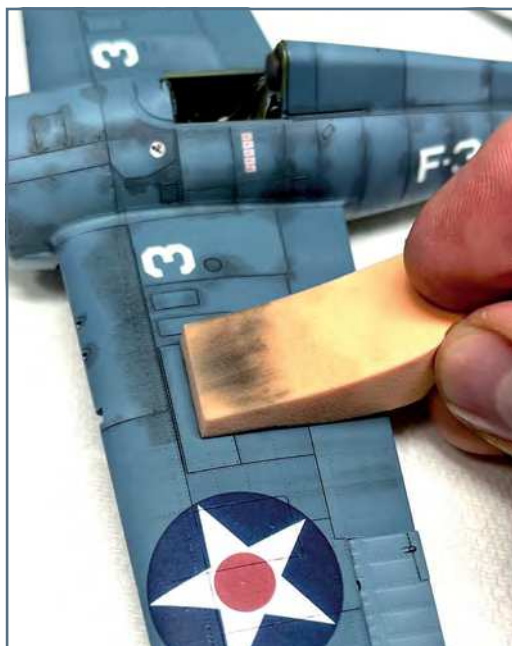
- F4F-3 Wildcat 1/48 - BuNo. 1850, Lt. Charles Shields, VF-41, USS Ranger (CV-4), December 1940
- F4F-3 Wildcat 1/48 - VMF-111, Army-Navy manoeuvres, Louisiana, United States, November 1941
- F4F-3 Wildcat 1/48 - Lt. Edward O'Hare, VF-3, USS Lexington (CV-2), Hawaii Islands, April 1942
- F4F-3 Wildcat 1/48 - BuNo. 4019, Capt. Henry T. Elrod, VMF-211, Wake Island, December 1941
- F4F-3 Wildcat 1/48 - BuNo. 2531, Lt. Elbert S. McCuskey, VF-42, USS Yorktown (CV-5), May 1942
- F4F-3 Wildcat 1/48 - BuNo. 4006 (4008), Capt. John F. Carey, VMF-221, Midway Island, June 1942



In order to define the panel lines, a wash comprising AMMO's Starship Filth and Raw Umber oil paints both thinned with Odourless Thinner, was flowed into all panel lines and around raised detail



The whole model was treated with this wash and then allowed to stand for a few minutes to dry out (you can speed up the process with a hair dryer)



Then, using a makeup sponge dipped in Odourless Thinner, the excess wash was removed by dragging the sponge backwards along all surfaces



Here you can see how perfectly the panel lines are defined using this simple method of accentuation

FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO US NAVY AVIATION

EDUARD 1:48 F4F-3 WILDCAT ● KIT NO.82201

The completely washed model shows off its markings and those delicate surface details



In close-up the complexity the model's surface detail can be easily appreciated. Nice as it looks in this shot, it was now time for some additional weathering!



BRASSIN 3D printed gun barrels and exhausts were brought into play to further up the levels of detail on this model. Being 3D printed, the detail and manufacture is absolutely superb. Note also in this shot how these delicate parts are supplied in small plastic boxes - a very nice touch

The complex undercarriage was made even more impressive thanks to the use of Eduard's brass undercarriage legs and resin, replacement wheels



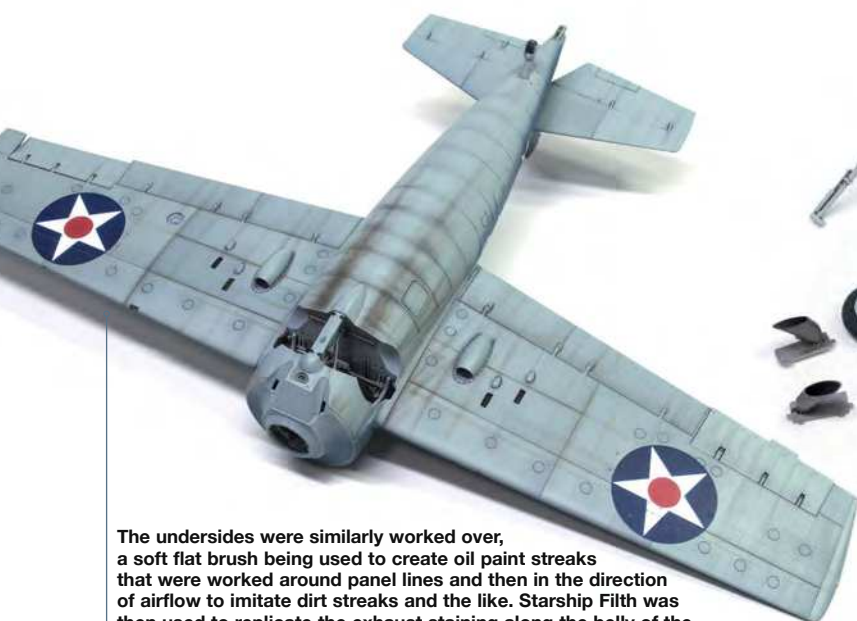
◀ DETAILS, DETAILS...

Along with the 'basic' kit (if a ProfiPack can be called such a thing!) I was also sent a whole host of additional details that could be used as part of the build. These are listed at the end of the feature, but included a new cockpit, brass undercarriage legs, replacement wheels, gun barrels and exhausts.

The majority of these new parts are from Eduard's stunningly-detailed new range of computer-designed and 3D printed accessories. Though the smaller parts were pleasing enough, it was the cockpit that really shone, the improvement in detail over the plastic kit parts being extraordinary. It wasn't long ago that we would have been delighted in what was supplied in plastic (indeed, I still am!) but to see new technology offering the kind of detail and finesse, not to mention incredible fit when used, ▶



With the basic finish and those aforementioned washes dry, the model was worked over with neat oil paints to add some much-needed additional weathering. Though I had no intention of killing the work I had already carried-out with too much dirt, Starship Filth, Raw Umber and Payne's Grey oil paints were worked into the surface to create the illusion - albeit subtly - of use, wear and tear



The undersides were similarly worked over, a soft flat brush being used to create oil paint streaks that were worked around panel lines and then in the direction of airflow to imitate dirt streaks and the like. Starship Filth was then used to replicate the exhaust staining along the belly of the aircraft. Though I normally airbrush this onto a model, I rather liked the oily effect that this changed method created here



Here are all of the small sub-assemblies that will find their way onto and into the finished airframe. Completing everything like this and then adding it all to a model in one sitting is not only a very pleasant part of a build, it also allows me to be more efficient when working towards an inevitable deadline!



The undercarriage is fiddly to construct, but looks very realistic in place. The legs and arms were painted with a mixture of pale grey and flat black, the polished oleo strut being replicated with chrome Bare Metal Foil



The completely painted engine is now in place. Having test-fitted the cowlings over the top of this sub-assembly (which explains some green paint on the cylinders!) I was confident that I could now complete the model with all of the remaining details



❶ is something to behold. Hopefully the accompanying images will give you a good idea of just how impressive these parts are and how you model will benefit from their use. Conclusion

Other than the issues with the decals, this was a superb kit to build and a really fun project to complete for my collection. Straight from the box the model would look great, but with the additional details that I used here, it became a real showstopper that showed off what was not only possible in last, but also what can be achieved using cutting edge technology and 3D printing.

I'm so pleased that I have now build this little fighter for my collection and may well build another when the later F4F-4 is released. Who knows, next time I might build a Royal Navy machine. Now wouldn't that be nice?! ●

TECHSPEC...

EDUARD 1:48 F4F-3 WILDCAT KIT NO.82201

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide decals, photo-etch and masks.

Paints used:

- Vallejo: Golden Olive, Ice Yellow, German Grey, London Grey, White, Black, Sky Grey.
- AK Interactive 3G: Interior Green (Light Green), Zinc Chromate Yellow
- Tamiya Lacquer: Silver, Flat Aluminium, Gloss Aluminium, Semi Gloss Black.
- Tamiya Acrylic: Flat Black, Flat White, Flat Yellow, Flat Red, Medium Blue, Light Blue, Medium Grey.
- Mr. Color: GX Super Clear Gloss, GX Super Clear Flat, Barley Grey, Interior Green.
- Citadel: Stormhost Silver, Iron Breaker, Thunderhawk Blue, Nuln Oil, Agrax Earthshade.

Accessories used:

Eduard BRASSIN F4F-3 Cockpit/Reflector Gun Sight, F4F Gun Barrels, F4F-3 Wheels Early, F4F Undercarriage Legs Bronze.

Availability:

All good model shops or via your favourite mail-order outlets.



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#12 William Grover-Williams



A version
1930 Monaco GP - 2nd
#18 Louis Chiron



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SHOOTING STAR

PART 2

Marcus Nicholls concludes the painting and weathering of Tamiya's new WW2 British A34 Comet Cruiser Tank in 1:35





When starting the Tamiya Comet a couple of months back, I swore to myself that I would get the whole thing done within one issue of TMMI in the form of a 'mega article' because I know how frustrating it can be when articles end up being split over two or more issues. All the more frustrating when there's an entire issue of the magazine in between parts one and two of that article, right? Well, sadly, I failed at my initial goal but in the long run, I am quite happy that I did, because I was able

to spend a little more time than usual on the painting and weathering of the model. As you will observe in the accompanying photographs, the initial stages of the weathering process looked pretty ugly and I did question myself at this point; "Where on earth are you going with this" and my answer was "I have no idea". But there's nothing like a deadline to motive oneself, so I kept at it, gradually refining and adjusting the finish until it approached something I was happy with; "don't sweat the technique" to quote Eric B and Rakim. 

BASIC PAINTING

Iwata CM Takuma

Iwata's top airbrush, the 'Custom Micron Takuma Edition' was used to apply all the colours for this project. It is a revelation to use, atomising the paint to an incredibly fine degree and offers total control during spraying. It's not cheap, but you really do get what you pay for.
www.airbrushes.com

A basic green of Tamiya LP-28 Olive Drab, 'cooled' with some LP-68 Clear Blue was first applied, forming a deep green



❶ BASE COLOURS FIRST

I wanted to suggest the appearance of a relatively new tank (the Comet entered the war in the closing months of the Second World War) with a dark green tone and a simple dust build-up on the running gear and horizontal surfaces, so I applied a deep green made from Tamiya Olive Drab, 'cooled' in colour temperature by the addition of some Tamiya Clear Blue, which also imparted a nice sheen. "I'm off to a great start" I thought. Over this I liberally airbrushed a dust-coloured mixture of enamels, erroneously thinking it would only be a couple more days until I was finished. It looked awful, made worse by a somewhat desperate attempt to save

the day by the application of some colour-washes. I binned the idea of a dark green base colour and went back in with a lightened version of the green mix and sprayed it patchily over much of the green areas, leaving some of the dust effect to show through. This instantly transformed the look of the model and I could see daylight at the end of the tunnel again and not just the headlight of an approaching train. It now had a more traditional, almost 'Verlindeneque' look and I was quite happy with that.

New colour-washes were applied over the lighter green, followed by localised applications of pigments, more Humbrol and Revell enamel paint dust-mix

and finally, a going-over with AK Interactive's very handy Weathering Pencils. These can be sharpened to a point and applied directly to the model's surface, or

one can moisten the tip (!) and the colour applied with a small brush, allowing subtle streaks and staining to be created. I used both techniques on the Comet. ▶



Where to go from here? To create a more manageable green-tone, a lightened mixture of the initial green colour was airbrushed over the model in patches, keeping the finish irregular (done after this photo was taken)



A roughly 50/50 mixture of Humbrol 119 and Revell 89 enamel paints was made and thinned with white spirit

What not to do... In these images, the initial application of the enamel 'dust mix' and some subsequent colour-washes looked an absolute mess, with streaks, sticky patches, tide marks and other untidy effects in evidence. The moral of the story is to never give up, even when you think you've ruined the model. By working into the surface effects, one can refine and improve them until a satisfactory result is achieved



Here we can observe the model after some refinements had been made, gradually coaxing the painted surface into looking more scale-like and less random and patchy

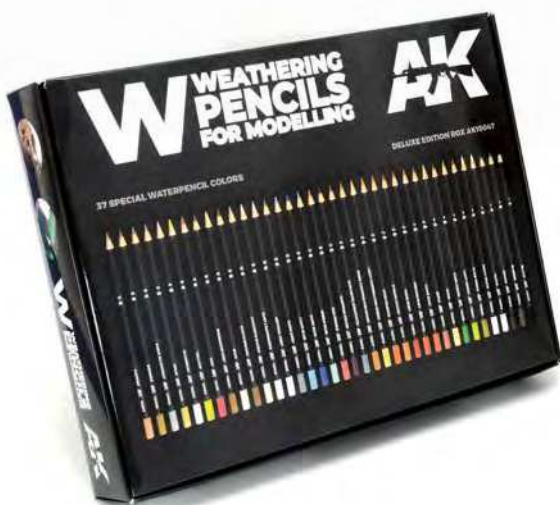


FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED ARMOUR

TAMIYA 1:35 BRITISH CRUISER TANK A34 COMET ● KIT NO.35380



The dust mix was applied in areas where dust might accumulate, in recessed areas, in the wheel discs and along the inner edges of the track guards. Further fuel stains and colour-washes have also been applied in this view



AK Interactive offer this fantastic set of weathering pencils and they are incredibly useful. They can be sharpened to a fine point and applied directly, or lightly moistened and the colour applied with a small brush, which allows extremely subtle streaks and stains to be created



Green and earth tones were used on the Comet, creating a matrix of tiny scratches and scuffs across the model's surface, visible on the turret roof for example



eduard

LIMITED



c/n 3032, Lt. Kiku-ichi Inano, Tainan Kōkūtai, Buna airfield, New Guinea, August 1942



PG1c Kyoshi Itō, 3. Kōkūtai, Koepang airfield, Timor Island, September 1942



Kōkūtai 204, Yunakanau airfield, Rabaul, New Britain, April 1943



Tainan Kōkūtai (II), Tainan airbase, Taiwan, summer 1944



Tsukuba Kōkūtai, Tsukuba airbase, Japan, 1944



Kōkūtai 204, Rabaul, New Britain, April 1943



Iwakuni Kōkūtai, Iwakuni airbase, Japan, 1944



Lt. (jg) Takeyoshi Ōno, Kōkūtai 251, Rabaul airbase, New Britain, May 1943



Rabaur Kōkūbuntai, Lakunai airfield, Rabaul, New Britain, second half of 1943



Kōkūtai 251, Rabaul airbase, New Britain, May 1943



Ensign Tetsuzō Iwamoto, probably Kōkūtai 253, Rabaul, New Britain, late 1943/early 1944



Lt. Cdr. Saburō Shindō, Kōkūtai 582, Buin airfield, Bougainville Island, June 1943

- A6M3 Zero Type 22, 22a and 32 in 1/48 scale; Eduard design and tools 2022
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WHEELS

MAKING TRACKS

Tamiya's inclusion of link-and-length tracks moulded in the standard kit plastic instead of flexible, one-piece synthetic rubber items has greatly increased the realism of armour kits without the need for extra expenditure on aftermarket tracks sets by the modeller. There are two main of approaches to fitting them; they can be mounted during assembly – as suggested in the instructions – and airbrushed in situ, or painted and weathered while still on their sprues and fitted towards the end of the model's assembly. I took the latter approach with the M18 Hellcat from Tamiya, (published earlier this year and at the end of 2021 - another of my multi-part articles) and I did the same with the Comet. In my opinion this technique offers more a potentially more realistic result, because having full access to the inner track faces allows them to be painted and weathered without the roadwheels in the way. ▶



As described in part 1 of the Comet's build (TMMI Issue 325) the roadwheel tyres were given a bit of a beating to suggest wear and tear



Once the tyres had been painted a dark grey colour to suggest rubber and given a coat of dust colour, the black finish of the running faces was re-instated using pigment, allowing the 'damage' to show

TRACKS



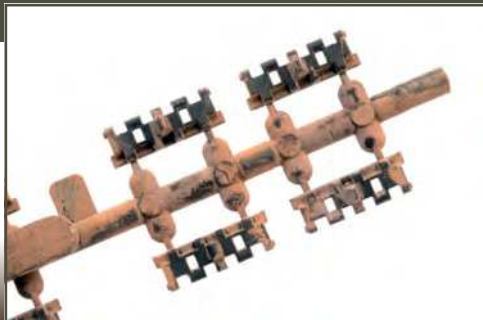
Tamiya's use of link-and-length tracks moulded in kit plastic, instead of one-piece synthetic rubber items, has greatly increase the realism of armour kits without the need for extra expenditure on aftermarket tracks sets



The track parts were painted in a deep brown colour and covered with a pigment mix while still on their sprues

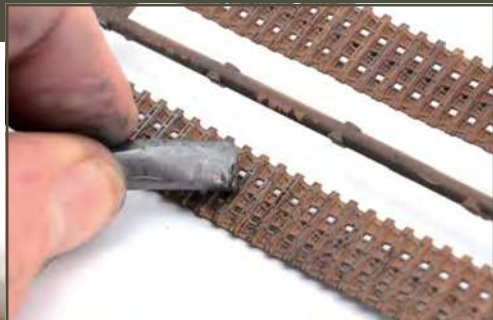


To create the impression of the rubbered-up inner face, a Q-Tip dipped in white spirit was used to remove the pigment, allowing the bark brown to show through



Don't forget the individual links!

To depict a burnished steel effect on the track treads, an artist's graphite stick was rubbed up and down each length and link



The 'graphiting' process creates a lot of dust that settles in the recesses, but it can simply be blown off once the tracks have been treated



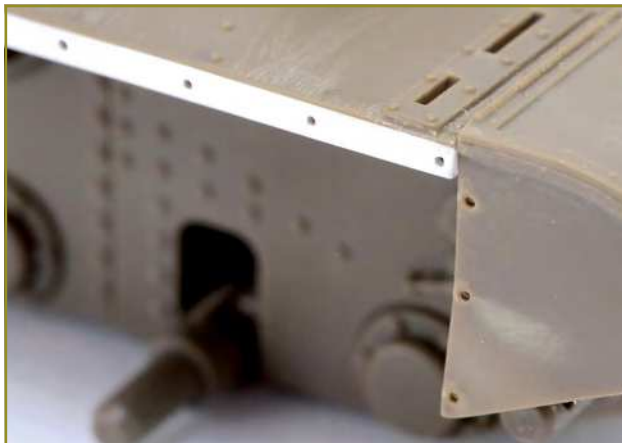
With the tracks fitted, it's hard to imagine how a set of individual links would improve the appearance, and they are included in the box!

Following the instructions to the letter (it's essential that the track sections and links are fitted in the correct order) the track was gradually built up on the running gear, fixing it using thin-type CA glue

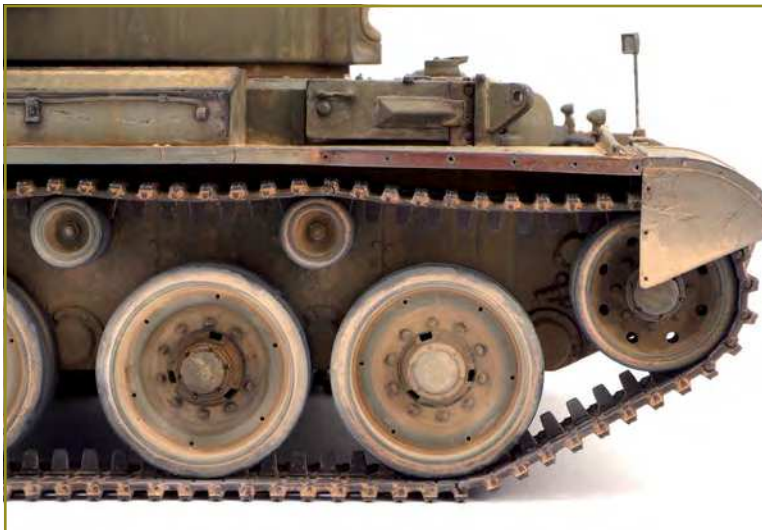


The correct degree of 'sag' is pre-moulded into the upper length and looks perfect

SIDE SKIRT



As shown back in Issue 325, the side mudguard was snipped away and plastic strip added to represent where it had been mounted



During painting, this exposed area was painted in a red-lead primer colour. Not necessarily accurate but it adds a little individuality to the model

AERIAL BASES



The aerial bases included with the kit are a little simplified, so both – types A and B – were replaced with Heavy Hobby's superb 3D-printed parts



The Type A is very delicate and 3D-print is the ideal medium to represent it in scale. The resin used by Heavy Hobby is slightly flexible to make it less vulnerable to damage



The Type B base features the locking nut on its base, a nice inclusion

In place, the improved aerial bases make a small but significant detail improvement



VISION BLOCKS



Achieving a neat appearance to AFV vision blocks can be tricky, so decals were chosen for the Comet



Fantasy Printshop offer decal strip in various widths and colours; 0.75mm strip in black was chosen here



The effect is subtle but neat, with a slight sheen

FIGURES



Tamiya's 1:35 injection-moulded figures have evolved beyond all recognition in recent years, with natural-looking poses and excellent detail

PAINTING THE FIGURES

The Comet is a handsome tank as it stands, but the installation of Tamiya's superb two-man crew will really bring it to life. I am not a particularly accomplished painter of figures, but it doesn't really matter if they are not given award-winning paint jobs, just so long as they are

there, they will give the model some real personality. I undercoated my pair with Tamiya LP Lacquer Paints to create the basic shades, followed by colour-washes and drybrushing to accentuate the moulded detail in the 'zoot' (later 'pixie') suits, with faces and details hand-painted using enamels and oil paints. ▶

Undercoated with Tamiya LP Lacquer Paints, followed by colour-washes and drybrushing with details hand-painted using Humbrol Enamels and oil paints, the crew figures can look excellent and really bring the tank model to life



FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO ALLIED ARMOUR

TAMIYA 1:35 BRITISH CRUISER TANK A34 COMET ● KIT NO.35380

● ACCESSORIES

I chose not to cover the model with the camouflage netting often seen in wartime photographs, simply because I wanted to show how the kit looks built 'from the box' and the net would have hidden all that. At model shows and online, I am sure we will soon see Tamiya's Comet built with this in place and it will look marvellous, no doubt. The only stowage items of note

that I added are the piece of cloth and wooden box on the left-side track-guard and there's a reason for their presence. During assembly, I managed to snap the track bar (part D58) clean in two, with one half of it entering low Earth-orbit, never to be seen again. Not wanting to make a new one, I cemented the remaining piece to the model and hid the missing end with the cloth, which I made from lead foil. The box

(Value Gear) is there to hold the cloth in place, visually. Ahem.

FINAL THOUGHTS

I loved every minute of this kit, even when I thought I had dug (weathered) myself into a hole during the initial paint stages. It could be argued that creating an engaging-looking model in a single-colour paint finish is more challenging than a camouflaged vehicle and

one could argue this point over and over. Personally, I enjoy that challenge and to re-iterate what I said at the start, having a couple of extra weeks on the model made all the difference to the outcome. I highly recommend this kit to beginners and experienced modellers alike; it's full of detail, smooth to build and with the crew fitted, looks terrific once complete. Just add a trumpet and you're all done! ●



“I highly recommend this kit to beginners and experienced modellers alike...”



TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:35 BRITISH CRUISER TANK A34 COMET NO.35380

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, polycaps, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya Lacquer Paints: LP-28 Olive Drab, LP-68 Clear Blue, LP-75 Buff, LP-16 Deck Tan, LP-73 Khaki,
- Tamiya Acrylics: X-28 Park Green,
- Humbrol Enamels: Matt 119, Matt 29, Matt 226
- Revell Enamels: Matt 89
- Vallejo Acrylics: 71057 Black

Materials used:

Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement, Mr Surfacers 500, Revell Contacta cement, copper wire, Slater's plastic strip, stretched sprue, CA glue, artist's graphite stick (art stores), AK Interactive Weathering Pencil set, weathering pigments (various makes), steel wire, lead tape, lead foil,

Equipment used:

Iwata Custom Micron Takuma airbrush

Accessories used:

Heavy Hobby Aerial Bases A (HH-35029), Aerials Bases B (HH-35030), Value Gear Allied WWII, MiniArt Musical Instruments (35622), steel helmet (manufacturer unknown)

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
- Revell and Humbrol Enamels: good model shops
- Vallejo Acrylics, MiniArt: www.creativemodels.co.uk
- Iwata airbrush: www.airbrushes.com
- Heavy Hobby: www.heavyhobby.com
- Value Gear: www.valuegeardetails.com

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What's in the box?

AD; ACETATE DIALS, **CC**; CAST CERAMIC (PLASTER), **CMA**; CAST METAL ALLOY, **CP**; CHROMED PARTS, **CPS**; CLEAR PLASTIC SHEET, **DT**; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), **EM**; ELECTRIC MOTOR **EPS**; EXTRUDED PLASTIC CARD, **LLT**; LINK AND LENGTH TRACKS, **MC**; METAL CHAIN, **MMA**; MACHINED METAL ALLOY, **MR**; METAL ROD, **MW**; METAL WIRE, **MT**; METAL TUBING, **NM**; NYLON MESH, **PE**; PHOTO ETCH, **PEBM**; PHOTO-ETCHED **R**; RESIN, **SVT**; SOFT VINYL TYRES (OR TUBING), **VF**; VINYL FIGURES, **VFP**; VACUUM FORMED (PLASTIC), **WC**; WOVEN CORD, **WS**; WATERSLIDE (DECALS)

EDUARD, CZECH REPUBLIC

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

Tamiya's exquisite 1:48 Lockheed P-38J Lightning comes in for more aftermarket goodies this month, with a Löök+ plus set providing 3D-printed exhaust turbosuperchargers, new wheel/tyres, instrument panel and canopy masks; an extremely useful pack that adds a touch of sharpness to the kit with having to chop it up! Eduard's 'P-38J over Europe' decal set provides five sets of alternative markings specifically for Tamiya's 1:48 model, all depicting Lightnings fighting in the ETO. Finally, we have Eduard's raised rivets for the same kit and here things get very interesting. Tamiya's mouldings are devoid of rivets and this set will cover the entire airframe with them; a challenge to apply but the results are potentially very impressive.

1:48 Löök+ resin and photo-etched set

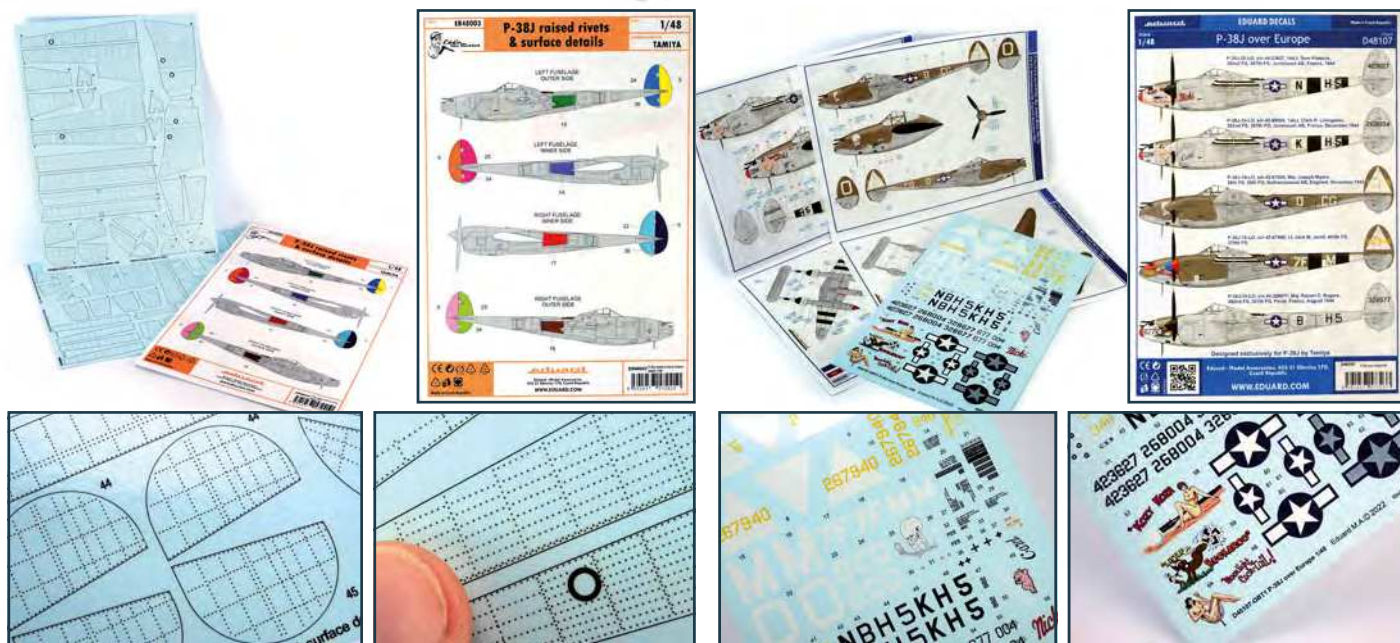
- P-38J Lightning (644182) for Tamiya

1:48 Eduard decals

- P-38J over Europe (D48107) for Tamiya

1:48 Eduard raised rivet decals

- P-38J raised rivets and surface details (ER48003)



LIFECOLOR, ITALY

www.airbrushes.com

These three new packs of acrylic colours each contain six, 22ml bottles of colour, finely pigmented and formulated for both airbrush and paint-brush application. The Dust and Rust packs are ideal for creating super-flat weathering effects on AFVs and dioramas. And with the current surge of interest in WWI subjects, the Austro-Hungarian uniform colours will prove very handy.

Acrylic paint sets

- Compact Dust: dust, rain and dirt effects (SPG08)
- Compact Rust: rust and decay effect (SPG09)
- The Austro-Hungarian Army Uniforms 1916-1918 (CS59)



Accessories

C SECTION, F; FABRIC, IM; INJECTION MOULDED (PLASTIC), ITL; INDIVIDUAL TRACK LINKS, LCC; LASER CUT BADGES/MIRRORS, PCM; PRE-CUT MASKS, PMP; PRE-ASSEMBLED METAL PARTS), PS; PAPER STRIP,



COZMIC SCALE MODELS, UK

www.cozmicscalemodels.com

The Blade Runner 'Spinner' car was released by Fujimi over ten years ago, which is rather amazing to believe! There have been several attempts to create Deckard and Gaff figures for the model with varying degrees of success, but Cozmic Scale Models of Bradford, UK have done by far the best job yet. They offer the figures in seated and standing forms, 3D-printed in grey resin. Fantastic stuff and a great way to enhance your Spinner.



3D-printed science-fiction figures

- 1:24 Blade Runner figures seated
- 1:24 Blade Runner figures standing



COPPER STATE MODELS, LATVIA

www.copperstatemodels.com

Copper State Models' 1:35 Lanchester armoured car kit is a stunning kit, full of fine detail and with a impressive fit of parts. The only limitation are the wheels, whose injection-moulded spokes were a little thick. That has been remedied now with this set of astonishing 3D-printed wheels that feature ultra fine spokes that will bring an eye-popping element of detail to the model.



3D-printed AFV accessory

- 1:35 Lanchester wire wheels 3D-print (A35-002)

Mecha Paints is a range from Zero Paints created to provide a range of pre-thinned airbrush paints for mecha, sci-fi and anime based modellers and kits. Our range is made up of some of the most iconic colours found from the most popular series out there such as Gundam, Macross/Robotech, Star Wars and Transformers.

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IF YOU'RE GONNA HAVE ONE, HAVE A BIG ONE!

The AHHQ 1:16 M4A3E8 Sherman 'Easy Eight' Sherman has arrived!

Andy Klein might already be known to you as the proprietor of the hugely successful 'Andy's Hobby Headquarters' model shop in Arizona, USA, along with his popular YouTube channel that shows him building up the latest models he has in stock. But Andy has recently branched out and released a kit of his own, in partnership with Takom.

And what a first model it is; a 1:16 replica of the WW2 American M4A3E8 'Easy Eight' Sherman, the late-war variant that was fitted with HVSS 'horizontal volute spring suspension'. It's a stunning kit with eye-popping detail and is priced quite reasonably at \$139 US dollars. We will be bringing you a full-build feature on this stunning kit soon in TMMI, so keep reading! ●

Availability;
www.andyshhq.com



www.creativemodels.co.uk

Model by Wayne Hui

Model by Jeremy Moore

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COPPER STATE MODELS

DER STRASSENPANZERWAGEN EHRHARDT E-V/4 M.1917

www.copperstatemodels.com

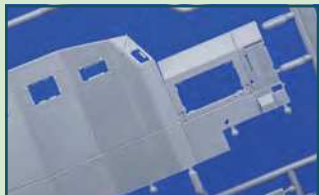
SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO: 35010

"German armoured vehicles attract attention with their unusual design, impressive dimensions and formidable appearance and the most interesting German armoured car of the First World War can be considered the Ehrhardt EV/4 M.1917.

At the beginning of 1917, the German military command made a belated decision to form ten more armoured ear platoons. They were supposed to be armed with new German vehicles. Since the Erhardt M.1915 armoured car turned out to be somewhat more reliable than others, an order for twelve new combat vehicles was given. The main theatre of war for the Erhardt 1917 was Ukraine and the Southern regions of Russia. In Italy and on the Western front they were doing not much. It is worth mentioning, that at least two Ehrhardt (1915 version and 1917) were captured by the Red Army and a third one by the Polish army" (www.copperstatemodels.com). Copper State Models have created a range of fabulous 1:35 kits depicting early armoured cars, including the Lanchester, Minerva, Romfell, Lancia, Russo-Balt and others. The models are absolutely stunning in detail and very precisely engineered, so when they announced they were developing a kit of the Ehrhardt Strassenwagen behemoth, it was an absolute must-have... We received a pre-production sample of this new kit and it looks fantastic from an inspection of the sprues. No engine is provided and interior is rudimentary, but that's just fine because all of the interest here lies on the outer surface and here, we are treated to some exceptional detail. The chassis and running gear are fully depicted and coupled with the extensively riveted body, it will be a dream to paint and weather-up. A photo-etched set will be released separately for the model (see photos) and there are likely to be other add-ons coming too. Keep reading for more information on this fantastic kit!

TMMI

-  Wonderful subject, phenomenal detail
-  Nothing significant



DRAGON, CHINA

T-34/76 MOD.1943 WITH COMMANDER'S CUPOLA, FACTORY 183 SMART KIT

www.hobbyco.net

SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS • ITEM NO: 6757

The T-34 is a tank that needs no introduction, and the 1943 version with the 'hexagonal' turret was the most widely produced version with the 76mm gun.

Indeed, these tanks were still widely seen at the end of the war, despite grievous losses on the battlefield. The 1943 version from Factory (Zavod) 183 had wheels with ribs and holes, making them very distinctive. Dragon kits of this tank are extremely high quality, and are very straightforward to build. Aside from the driver's hatch being very slightly (2mm) off the centre line, these kits are regarded as highly accurate and fully detailed. This particular boxing has several important features. The kit provided alternative turret roofs, so that the model can be made with the cupola or with two plain hatches. In addition, being a Smart Kit, the kit comes with superb individual track links which need nothing more than a light sand to remove moulding marks before assembly. The kit also includes etched parts for the rear engine mesh, plus sundry straps and fittings, all intended to improve the accuracy and detail of this excellent kit. As with most Dragon kits, the box contains a vast number of unused parts on sprues, and it is vital to keep a close eye on which parts to use, to avoid making errors. The resulting model is absolutely first-rate, with everything the modeller could ask for. Dragon have selected decals for a number of tanks which had attractive markings and slogans which were applied as the war situation improved for the Soviets. **CLS**

-  Very accurate and impressive kit of an iconic tank, typical of mid to late WW2
-  A correction part for the glacis hatch position would be very useful



- ❌ The folded canvas hood and doors are represented very stiffly and could be replaced.

 The figures and accessories are not as impressive as the rest of the kit

POLYSTYRENE PIRATE

John 'Tigger' Wilkes builds the incredible new 1:48 Blackburn Buccaneer S.2C/D from Airfix



In the early days of the Cold War the Admiralty issued a requirement for a low level nuclear armed bomber capable of 550 knots and a range of 400 miles, also capable of being stowed within the relatively small carrier decks. This meant that design was limited to specific sizes and weights. The result of the Blackburn submission to specification was NA.39 and by 1958 the

first aircraft left the ground. After development the Mk.1 entered service in 1963.

Engine upgrades from the Mk.1 to Spey engines marked the introduction of the S.2. All units had converted to the more powerful Spey engined Buccaneers by 1966. The last Buccaneer left Royal Navy service for the Royal Air Force in 1978 along with new built airframes

and retired navy birds. The swan song of the Buccaneer now S.2B left service in 1994 having served well in the first Gulf war of 1991.

CONTENTS

The strong, top-opening box with a fabulous artwork of a Buccaneer having just launched is surprisingly full. Total parts-count is 288 in a medium grey plastic which is some of the best I've

seen from this manufacturer. Panel lines are nicely recessed with rivets as divots where appropriate. Some strengthening plates are also on the surfaces and the detail is so much more restrained than some of Airfix recent offerings making this a league above the rest.

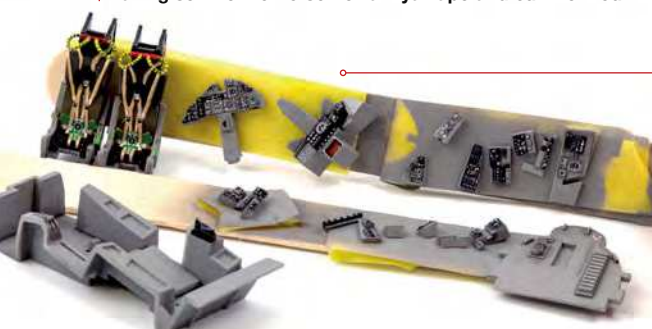


Although the seats are fairly basic they do build easily, I chose to apply the decal for the belts having set them onto some Tamiya Tape and cut them out

All of the parts for the cockpit in readiness for installation, most was a simple paint job covered with a decal. It then received a round of oil paint applied with a pin to represent the instructions



Everything you see is from the box and the details and breakdown of the cockpit means that there would be some difficulty in getting things wrongly placed. Instrument decals fitted well over the detail which could have easily been painted instead



In order to get the familiar yellow and black ejector seat pull handles I painted yellow then went over them with a black permanent marker pen. This worked as a simple and swift solution



As with the Vulcan a nose weight is needed and an enclosed capsule is provided, this later attached to the inside of one fuselage section and was nice and snug. I used Air rifle shot to make the weight



Clear parts offer alternative canopies and windscreens and this means that there could be one used whilst painting to protect the cockpit. A 36 page instruction manual is included which is in the new style of Airfix showing each part in the sequence displayed in position and highlighted after each step. Colour call-outs are of course to Humbrol being from the same stable as Airfix.

Two decal and markings sheets are included as is a separate stencil application guide. A single large decal sheet is well printed with good solid colours and plenty of room around each marking which aids cutting them out.

Markings are for four machines as follows;

1. XN981 S.2D No. 809 Naval Air Squadron, HMS Ark Royal, August 1978.
2. XV162 S.2C No. 801 Naval Air Squadron, HMS Hermes, 1969.
3. XV340 S.2C No. 809 Naval Air Squadron, Royal Naval Air Station Lossiemouth, Scotland, 1970.
4. XV867 S.2C No. 803 Naval Air Squadron, Royal Naval Air Station Lossiemouth, Scotland, 1969.

All are in overall Extra Dark Sea Grey with pale blue serials and squadron markings. Four complete weapons loads are options as are folded wings and airbrake

open, a detailed cockpit is visible with the canopy open and with the ladders installed allows for a nice display option as does the engine blanks and exhaust covers, finally there is an option to have the port upper engine bay opened. So far this has to be the best Airfix kit I have ever seen!

Let's get into the build and see how we fare? An on line video of the designer of this kit is on an internet video hosting platform where some explanations are given into some of the idiosyncrasies of plastic injection moulding. Right from the outset decisions will need to be made as to the configuration and unit to match the decal options. Convenient half

deep holes are provided and just need to be drilled through. All of the detail is supplied in the instructions as to which holes to use for each version.

COCKPIT

Buccaneer cockpits always look cluttered and full of switches and gizmos. I have to commend the manufacturers as they have achieved a suitably busy cockpit. Individual instrument panels and side panels are provided all being clearly shown in the diagrams provided. Decals are provided for the dials but the rest is down to the modeller to paint.

I found that running a colour-wash around the

Some subtle weathering was applied and in this case I used Tamiya Panel Line Accent Color (black). Any excess was removed with a brush with white spirit



In swift time the nose section is closed and there was no need for any filler. I always seal joints after assembly with thin superglue to avoid any shrinkage later on

FULL-BUILD: GOLD WAR NATO AVIATION

AIRFIX 1:48 BLACKBURN BUCCANEER S.2C/D ● KIT NO.A12012

Exhaust and wheel bay bulkheads make the construction a breeze, the only thing that could be done wrong being the inner wheel bay sidewalls placed in the wrong side so the detail will not be visible



Gear bays and exhaust dropped in and there was plenty of alignment points to ensure correct fitment



A single engine top section is included and this is added to the forward bulkhead which includes the compressor faces. Once more this is a nice simple and effective solution. I did apply cellulose thinners to the inside of the intakes to smooth out the joint



Cast into the inside of the engine cover are depressions which can easily be used to chain drill out then cut the panel from the upper fuselage. I simply used a single sided razor blade to cut through then cleaned the edge up with files



Top and bottom Fuselages joined and the fit was very good, Airfix has provided a drop in section to cover the exposed engine during painting and its conveniently labelled as Mask

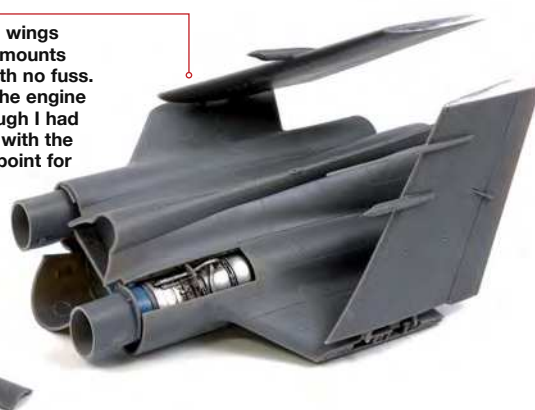


Some of the flying surfaces that were thin had some ejector pin marks on the inside, they were sanded back to aid fitment I marked them with a permanent marker then this when sanded disappeared showing me the area had been removed



Wings were assembled and the folded sections dropped into the inner part. Wing tips are clear plastic and this means there is a natural seam on a real joint eliminating the issue of worrying about attaching small tip lights

Outer folded wings slid onto the mounts and fitted with no fuss. Here too is the engine visible although I had a little issue with the attachment point for the top pipe



Details aided in my painting of each panel. Individual switches were picked out with oil paint applied with a small pin, the same was done to create some instructions and labelling around the cockpit. There is little in the way of colour in the cockpit and a little

artistic licence was used to colour some switches.

Being as this was the first chance to use the decals supplied they settled down over the details with some proprietary solutions and a little heat from a hair dryer. Further decisions are needed at the construction of the

commendable ejector seats and this is due to one in the back having splayed leg side guards to accommodate specific equipment.

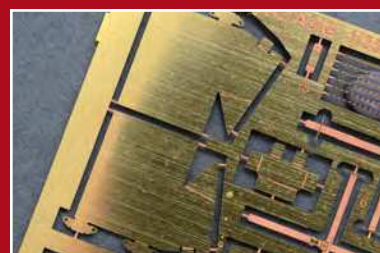
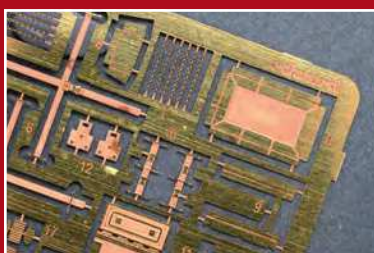
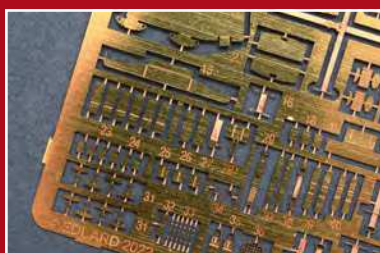
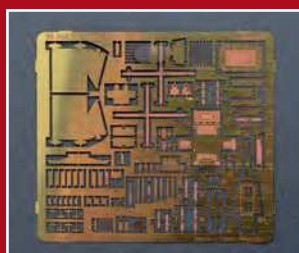
Once each seat is built and painted then there is an option to use a decal for the seat belts. I went a slightly different route thinking they

would not represent the 3d feel adequately. I applied the decals to some Tamiya masking tape then cut them out and applied them using some Mig Ammo Ultra glue. With the visible overhead pull handles I painted yellow then simply ran a black marker over them to

MINI REVIEW...

M109A2/A3/G (36484) for Italeri
www.creativemodels.co.uk
www.eduard.com

As mentioned this issue, Eduard no longer offer as many etched sets for armoured vehicle models as they used to, but the latest to arrive contain some useful parts that would look a little too hefty if moulded in kit plastic. This set for the Italeri M109A2/A3/G provides some nice parts to sharpen up the kit's detail.





Similar issues to the ailerons on the elevator with ejector pin marks, in a matter of a couple of minutes this problem was eliminated using a micro Chisel and sanding stick

Assembly of the tail section was simplicity. With the arrestor hook being a separate part added after assembly. The tail bumper skid was also dropped in later

Within the tail assembly there are strong mounts for the airbrake to be displayed open, once again it's worth noting that joints will predominantly be along natural panel lines

simulate the stripes.

Some light weathering was applied and with the cockpit bathtub assembled they were dropped in along with all of the side panels and bulkheads. Interestingly the rear bulkhead appears to have heavy connecting tenons but this aids fitment later on. As with the Vulcan thought has been made for the installation of a suitable nose weight to avoid a tail sitter.

An enclosed capsule is provided and I simply filled it with slightly more than recommended weight. This was air rifle shot, crushed to get as many as needed in. Heavy alignment slots are provided in the fuselage nose where this sub assembly neatly fits with no fuss. Further holes

need drilling if you intend to use the ladders and as such again they are positioned and provided as a shallow divot on the inside just needing drilling through.

Once everything is ready then the cockpit tub does actually click into place. I am not sure this would handle dry fitting so I simply went ahead and applied glue to the joint once in place. Adding the other side of the fuselage was just as good a fit with no real need to add filler. I went ahead and dropped in the instrument cover but not the sight until later on to avoid damage.

GEAR BAYS

Within the main gear bays there is some trunking of the engines and also various pipes. What Airfix has done is to make logical breakdown of these bays, several parts make the engine exhaust to

which are added bulkheads which form the main gear bays. This sub assembly is then dropped into the lower fuselage and everything becomes quite rigid. I left this overnight to harden whilst it was clamped up. The next day I could add the forward section of the engines with their associated intakes and here I applied several brush strokes of cellulose thinners to melt the plastic seam and when hardened a light sanding cleaned this up.

Painting of the upper section of the exposed engine was done at this stage and a couple of small hoses were added, I found that the long hose didn't sit quite right and needed a little superglue to fit into the slots for it. Wing tip Radar warning

Major sub assemblies ready to be joined. This was a section I was thinking was likely to cause problems, in the end some careful thinking and planning prevented any issues

receivers are next and once more a choice is to be had. As I was building scheme A I followed the instructions and everything is easy to identify and assemble. ▶



Major joints were coated with Mr Surfacer and excess removed with alcohol. This assists in disguising any possible issues, to be honest there weren't any!



The lightest of sanding between the tail and fuselage eliminated any possible step although this may have been caused by modellers error! I tend to do belt and braces approach to these sections

Wing outer panels with the aileron actuator and RWR fairings applied. There was no real need to add any filler as the fit was really that good. One of the wing vortex generator vanes was removed as per the instructions

Main parts of the familiar Buccaneer Airbrake, there were alternative parts as seen in the image. Follow the instructions and you should be pointed to the correct number and appropriate parts



All of the gear comes with two part vertical split so some care will be needed here to eliminate any seams after construction. A nice weighted flat spot tyre is provided for each undercarriage

FULL-BUILD: GOLD WAR NATO AVIATION

AIRFIX 1:48 BLACKBURN BUCCANEER S.2C/D ● KIT NO.A12012

All assembled and any snags checked before a scrub with a Scotchbrite pad readies the model for paint. For the first round of paint, I have already applied some Dark Sea Grey to the tail to test its colour on the model

On the open airbrake section I have applied some Mr Surfacer to hide any edge joints before the final round of paint

One final check for the fitment of everything including the ladders which I used the fuselage as a jig to set the positions on the model is finally ready for paint

❏ CLOSING UP THE FUSELAGE

Holes are to be drilled for the correct areal fit for the particular aircraft you are building and once again Airfix has this covered by providing part recessed holes. Also the section for the open Port engine bay is clearly marked on the inside and after chain drilling the recessed holes I cut through with a razor blade.

The edge was cleaned up and the inner support part dropped in. In quick order the top fuselage was added and clamped up to rest overnight. I am pleased to say that everything fitted without any need to trim the bulkheads or any other part. I sealed all of the seams with a smear of thin superglue and then polished them back.

I went with the wings folded and there are sections of the instructions to be skipped if you choose to extend them. A clever drop in section makes the wing angles setting easy as well as providing a strong joint. Up to the final assembly I left the outer wings loose and they could be left like that if you wanted.

WINGS

Once more attention to detail has meant that options are available for the wings vortex generators which for the version I was building needed one removed from each run. This was simply achieved with a Micro Chisel. A light sanding cleaned up any small scratches. Unfortunately as a consequence of injection moulding there was some remnants of ejector pin marks on the inside off he ailerons and these needed

to be removed to get a good fit, this is not a difficult thing to deal with and within a few minutes they were removed and the parts joined. Wingtips are provided as a single clear part and this means that any joints which are on panel lines are disguised neatly. If displaying the wings unfolded then there are different inserts and a small tab to be removed.

One small item which has been well considered is that the Port upper engine panel which I built open, has a separate, drop-in part to act as a mask. This is clearly marked as such. At this stage the tail is built and there were no issues

with this construction. Mating the tail to the mid fuselage did not present any issues although a little light sanding was done in order to get a smooth transition between the two. No filler was needed. A similar situation happened with the nose and in order to get things lined up I started with the top seam and set that first. Then when I looked at the bottom one it appeared to be slightly out, no need to worry as some light clamping bought the parts in alignment.

Once glued I left the model overnight to set, as previously I used a weld action glue reinforced by superglue. I had been a little concerned that the intake lips and exhaust were going to be troublesome but quite the contrary they dropped into place with no fuss, a smear of Mr surfacer and they were blended in. For

After painting the wingtip lights with Tamiya Clear Masking applied and ready for the paint. I went with a light coat of Mr Surfacer to check for any areas I had missed in preparation

After painting the wingtip lights with Tamiya Clear paints a further round of masking and then onto the AK real Colours Dark Sea Grey RC296

Any small areas of other colour were applied and then the whole model coated with Tamiya X-22 Gloss clear in preparation for the decals



Decals applied and a sealing coat of Gloss clear before a round of a wash using Humbrol Matt 32 Dark Grey thinned with White Spirits. Any excess was removed after an hour with a damp kitchen towel, stubborn spots were removed with a brush loaded with white spirit

the flying surfaces there are alternative actuators and they enable them to be positioned, again praise where praise is due the instructions are clear as to the setting angles of them.

Further options are presented as the tip of the RWR fairing on the elevator, I had some doubts that this setup would work without awkward seams to fill, I needed have been worried as in the end things fitted far better than I have given credit for. Further alternative parts are available for later versions of the buccaneer distinctive airbrake, with this kit only one version is used if displayed open. Its pleasing to report no issues with fit or placement with this kit so far!

A small panel drops into the lower fuselage and into that goes a clear part for the anti collision beacon on the belly. The way this is made means there is no way to get it wrong. At this stage there are options to have the bomb bay open or closed. As I was going to use a heavy external load I chose to close the bay and this needed just the slightest sanding at the rear end to be a drop in fit. If the bay is displayed open, then there are several parts which add interest and detail, similarly the wheel bays have pipes added at this juncture and they were in need of a little fiddling and feeding up and over a bulkhead to fit. Once more the instructions show these parts clearly just study before committing to glue.

LANDING GEAR

A clever touch with the gear is that the wheels are shown within the instructions with the diameters of the hubs so this makes cutting masks a simple task. All three wheels are shown as too are the individual gear legs which all drop into clever one way only slots. Everything lines up with no concerns over



After a coat of Semi flat varnish this allows for oil paints to be scrubbed into the surface

positions. Providing the small holes have not been fouled then the doors also drop in nice and snugly. In order to have this as strong as possible I left it overnight to harden with no weight on the gear.

Small areas and peripheral details are now added as are the windscreen and canopy. I went with the screen without wiper as when I masked it up there was some really awkward corners which meant that the wiper got in the way a little. With the modern Airfix kits there has been considerable thought that has gone into the positioning of various items and the

refuelling probe was no exception. Here there is a recess which the probe drops into and providing you use a weld action glue this almost sets itself into position remembering that it is offset to starboard at an angle.

WEAPONS

A choice of weapons is provided with the version I was building needing Martel and the data link pod. These were probably the weakest part of the model as the fit wasn't too bad apart from the drop in fin sections. These left slight seams and they were difficult to access and clean up. I managed with Mr Surfacer which was

cleaned up with cotton buds soaked with alcohol.

Care will need to be taken when adding the clear noses and the holes for the pin was a little tight. Alternatives are available as Matra Rockets, Slipper tanks or 1000Lb bombs. All appropriate pylons are provided and some are handed so just make sure the correct is used where appropriate. Final parts to add were the ladders and intake and engine covers. I chose to only add one for visual interest and to demonstrate what is in the model. Those outer wing panels were left off until after painting. ▶

All of the final parts ready to be assembled. I had gone ahead and painted the ladders and intake cover red over a white base to get the vivid bright colour I wanted over the grey plastic



Plenty of detail on the underside which will be dirtied up with leaks and stains using oil paints

CONCLUSIONS

Well, this has to be one of the best Airfix kits I have ever had the chance to build and over the years there have been quite a few. Detail is good throughout and there was nothing I could find to catch modellers out. Several clever ideas have been used to aid the fitment and placement of parts. I cannot remember the last time that I was able to say I thoroughly enjoyed this model from start to finish and it was complete within a couple of weeks.

I had an issue with the decal bands for the weapons not being long enough but within the kit there were enough to cut and fill the gaps. This is not aimed at the first time modeller and the price reflects this as the detail included elevates this above the pocket money kit. I cannot wait for the inevitable RAF versions of the Brick to appear although I have a couple of the 1:72 kits in my stash to build, perhaps I ought to have a go at one of those as there will inevitably be similarities.

I can only hope that this is the way forward for this company and if their products remain at this level they will no doubt sell loads of this kit. I have the original 1:48 kit in my stash and the difference between that and this is a million miles apart. May Airfix go from strength to strength. Well done Airfix and the individual designer Paramjit for his efforts. ●

TECHSPEC...

AIRFIX 1:48 BLACKBURN BUCCANEER
S.2C/D KIT NO.A12012

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decals

Paints used:

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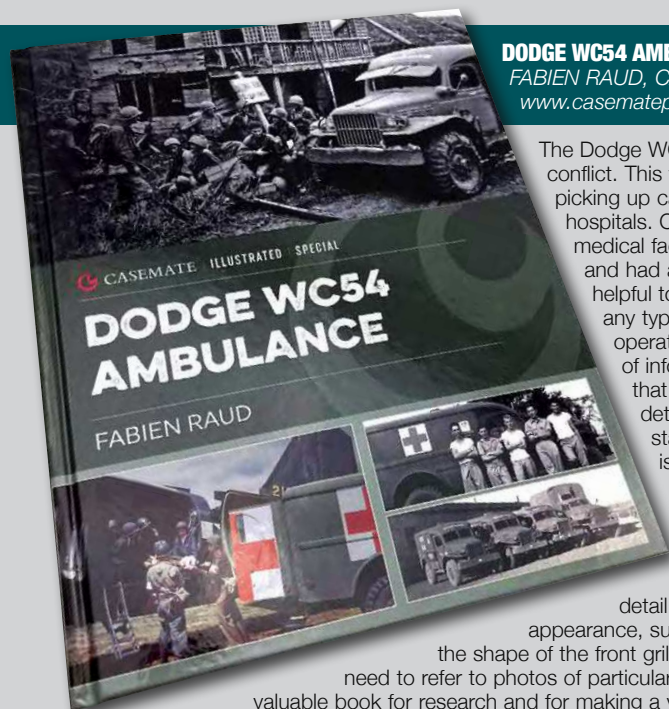
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The Dodge WC54 is the iconic American field ambulance for most of WW2 and into the Korean conflict. This vehicle, with a decent off-road capability, was to be found close to the front-line, picking up casualties from Aid Posts and Dressing Stations, and ferrying the wounded to field hospitals. On airfields, the WC54 would collect injured aircrew from the plane, and drive to medical facilities. The vehicle could accommodate four stretchers or seven sitting patients, and had a crew of two. This book by Fabien Raud provides a lot of intricate detail of fittings, helpful to anyone restoring an ambulance, and a good part of the book is beyond what any typical modeller could use. However, there are many pictures of the ambulances in

operation, and many snippets of information would provide that last piece of super-detail that brings up the standard of a model. This is a hardback book with over 150 pages jammed full of information, and the photos are very useful. The book does not cover in

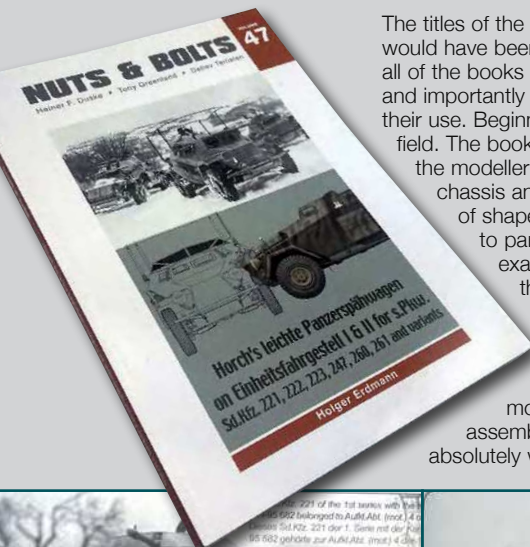
detail the changes in external appearance, such as the petrol filler and the shape of the front grille, and modellers will need to refer to photos of particular vehicles. Overall, a very valuable book for research and for making a very detailed model. **CLS**



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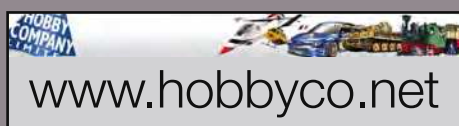


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NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of TMMI is February 2023 (No.328),
on sale 19th January



LIGHTNING LAUNCHES!

Work begins on
Tamiya's 1:48
F-35A Lightning II



THE FINAL PUSH

A spectacular Battle
of the Bulge diorama
using Tamiya AFV kits

SMILE FOR THE CAMERA

Tamiya's wonderful
PACHI model photo
competition returns



...AND MUCH MORE, OF COURSE!

Due to the many factors that can influence the appearance (or non-appearance) of a model in TMMI, the items shown above are shown on a provisional basis. We endeavour to bring you these articles, but please be patient if they do not feature! Thank you for your understanding.

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Editor; Marcus Nicholls Publisher; Alan Harman Graphic Design; Alex Hall

TMMI Website; The Doolittle Media web team Advertising Manager; Alan Harman

Administration; Gordon Angus Oldest Groover in the Office; Izolda Van E. Luchs

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CONTACT INFO:

Tel: +44(0)1525 222 573

Advertising enquiries:

alan@doolittlemedia.com

The Granary, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe,

Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK

www.tamiyamodelmagazine.com

Editorial email: editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

Other enquiries: enquiries@doolittlemedia.com

www.tamiyamodelmagazine.com

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The Editor's Page...

A magnificent Dambusters diorama was the Telford highlight

Sponsored by
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UPKEEP AT SMW

Telford this year was a fun event for me. It was back to its full size and despite the absence of a few key traders, it felt like 'business as usual'...

The showt always flies by and it's over before I can blink, leaving many conversations unfinished and meetings unmet. It was wonderful to meet up with some American friends – John Bonnani, Jackson Stanton and John Everett to name but three – and I'll just say a big 'sorry' to all those who wanted to chat but didn't get a chance. Scale Modelworld should run for the whole week!

There were hundreds of astonishing models this year and the one stand-out was the amazing Lancaster 'Dambuster' you see here, making a practice run over a British lake. This jaw-dropping presentation is by none other than TMMI's own Carl Robertshaw and it features Border Model's 1:32 Lancaster, converted to a 617 Squadron machine, flying dangerously low over the water as it drops its 'Upkeep' bouncing-bomb. The diorama will form the subject of an in-depth feature in TMMI in 2023 and I cannot wait to get it into print. ●

See you all again in Telford next year!



EDITOR'S CHOICE

AK INTERACTIVE ENGINE OIL FRESH FINISH AK084

www.ak-interactive.com

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

You will see plenty of greasy stains on my Comet tank this issue and they were made with this extremely useful product. The photo shows my actual bottle – I've had it years and it's well weathered in itself – and it forms a key part of my armour model weathering armoury. It can be diluted with white spirit to vary the intensity and dries with a slight gloss sheen. It is now called 'Engine Oil Fresh Finish' but it's the same stuff and I recommend it highly. editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com





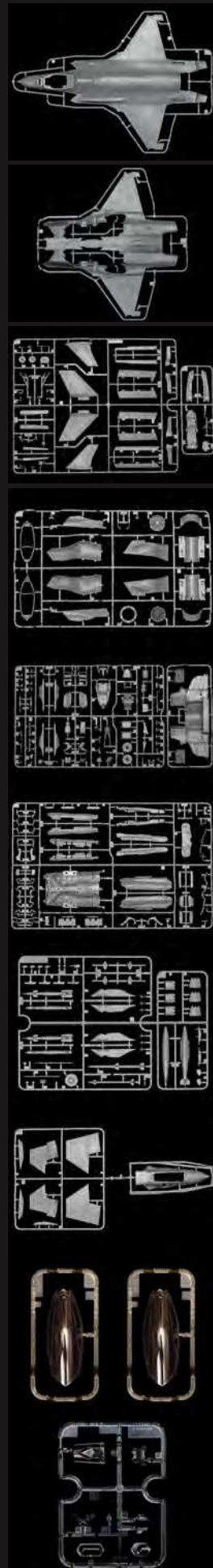
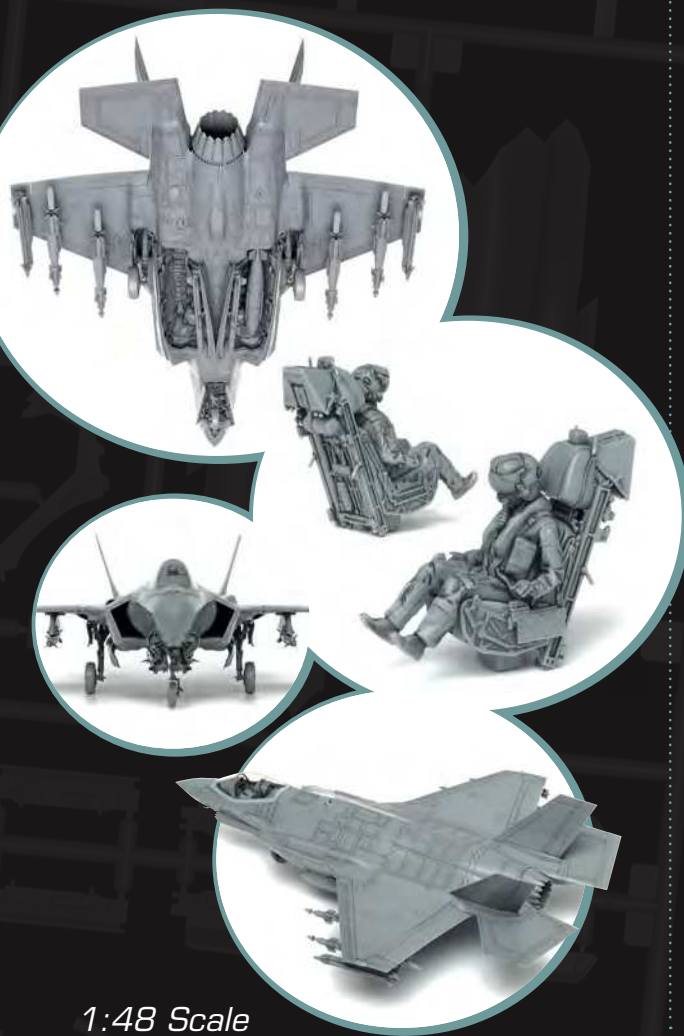
LIGHTNING

Model Kit No. 61124

Thanks to extensive research, the A variant of the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II comes to modellers workbenches

Model Kit Features

- Wingspan: 222mm
- Fuselage length: 326mm
- Realistically depicted Radar absorbent material (RAM) sections
- This kit can be-assembled with one choice of the three ordnance patterns - stealth mode, air-to-air mode, and beast mode. Ordnance parts can be-attached under wing
- Features realistic renderings of the following sections:
 - Weapons bay inside details including depictions of wiring
 - Engine nozzle, cockpit, and landing gear bays
 - Martin-Baker US16E ejection seat (multiple-piece design)
 - Ladder which extends from nose left side
 - Nose under surface side details
 - Y- shaped air intakes
 - Engine nozzle (5-piece design)
 - RCS (radar cross section) enhancers affixed to top and bottom sections (two for each, four in total) during basic training exercises
 - Boxes stored in nose landing gear bay
- Choose from open or closed weapons bay covers and canopy (the latter is interchangeable), up or down flaps, and extended or retracted boarding ladder
- Includes a realistically recreated seated pilot figure with Helmet-Mounted Display (HMD) and various kinds of ordnance:
 - AIM-9X Sidewinder x2
 - AIM-120C AMRAAM x2
 - GBU-12 Paveway II x4
 - GBU-31 JDAM x2
- Transparent parts capture sensor windows
- Comes with nine marking options:
 - U.S. Air Force
 - Japan Air Self-Defence Force
 - Royal Norwegian Air Force
 - Royal Danish Air Force,
 - Royal Australian Air Force
 - Israeli Air Force
 - Italian Air Force
 - Republic of Korea Air Force
 - Royal Netherlands Air Force
 (Also, drag chute fairing component is-included only for the Royal Norwegian Air Force.)
- Includes canopy masking stickers and a full-colour painting guide



1:48 Scale



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Nissan Fairlady 240ZG
(Item 24360)

1/24
SCALE



Japan spec

NISSAN Z

Traditional Yet Cutting-edge Sports Car

1/24 Sports Car Series Nissan Z (Item 24363)

Nissan's Z-Car has been a global hit since the 1969 introduction of the first generation S30 model, and the new Nissan Z - which has the model designation RZ34 - was announced as the U.S. spec Z in New York in August 2021 and then as the Japan spec Fairlady Z the next January, a new design incorporating traditional Z-Car features. Under the hood lies a powerful 3-liter V6 twin-turbo engine which is capable of an impressive 405hp and has no need of an electric motor. The rear-wheel drive system features a choice of a 6-speed manual transmission or 9-speed automatic transmission. Now, check out the attractive form inheriting traditional Nissan Z-Car features in Tamiya 1/24 scale!

- Four-piece split seats allow ease of painting.
- Chassis underside is authentically recreated with separate components such as transmission and front/rear suspension arms.
- Metal transfers depict side mirror surfaces and emblems.
- Choose from Japan spec or U.S. spec.



Sporty interior is realistically rendered with separate instrument panel underside and door trim parts for easier painting.

Features four-piece split seats to depict color scheme of the actual car.



U.S. spec



Separate parts depict outer panels of body and roof.



Roof edge silver color sections are separate components.

Length: 183mm, width: 84mm.

1/24
SCALE

Legendary Nissan Fairlady Z models from the 1/24 Sports Car Series

Our 1/24 Sports Car Series has a wealth of Nissan Fairlady Z models including the top grade of the initial model S30 type - Fairlady 240ZG. Enjoy exploring the Z-Car's evolution with our kits.



Nissan Fairlady 300ZX Turbo (Item 24087)



Nissan 370Z (Item 24315)



Nissan 370Z Heritage edition (Item 24348)

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★ Product may vary from images shown.
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