



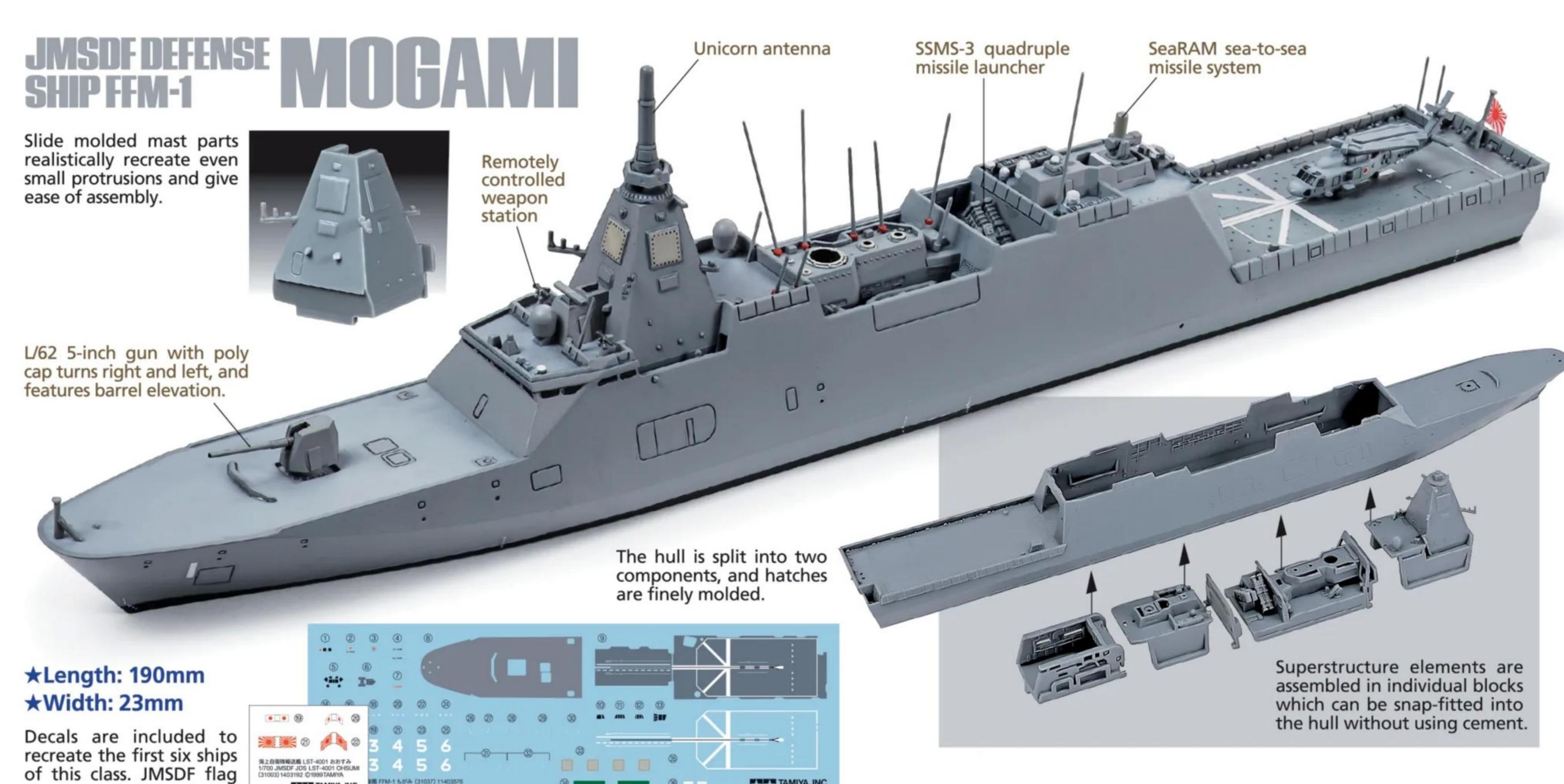
Cutting-Edge Defense on the Waves

1/700 Water Line Series

JMSDF Defense Ship FFM-1 Mogami (Item 31037)

The first ship of the revolutionary Mogami class, the FFM-1 Mogami was commissioned in April 2022, and the new FFM classification signified its ships' status as frigates (FF) with high stealth, and given a Multi-purpose brief including Mine-sweeping duties (M). Now, Tamiya welcomes this cutting-edge ship into the 1/700 Water Line Series. Its striking form featuring angular design and Unicorn antenna on the mast is authentically captured in style. The kit also features realistic depictions of missile launchers and antennas, and some components can be attached without the need for cement. Enjoy assembling this innovative defense ship which will surely be a key for the future coastal defense of Japan.





Painting the JMSDF Defense Ship FFM-1 Mogami -

■Hull: AS-7 Neutral Gray ■Upper deck: LP-14 IJN Gray (Maizuru Arsenal)

《Tamiya Color Spray Paints for Aircraft (AS) / Tamiya Color Lacquer Paints (LP)》

decals are also included.

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

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





6 AL MURRAY DROPS IN!

English comedian, actor and scale with TMMI



modeller Al Murray chats about tanks



Issue 341 March 2024

EDITOR Marcus Nicholls editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

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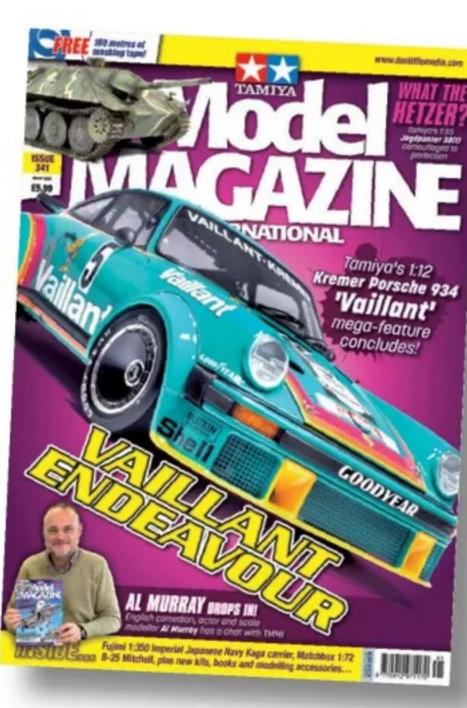
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Tamiya bring the Leopard MBT right





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Tamiya's 1:12 Kremer Porsche 934 'Vaillant' concludes!

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Subscription rates for 1 year (12 issues) are: Within UK: £55, Europe: £69, Worldwide/USA: £84

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EUSCESK

If you have news of forthcoming model, armour, aircraft or car events, changes of address or just interesting information to share, please write to:

TMMI Newsdesk, The Granary, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK Tel: +44(0)1525 222573 Email: editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

IN BRIEF...



- 1:16 M8 Greyhound andyshhq.com

AK INTERACTIVE

- 1:35 Breuer IV Rail Shunter ak-interactive.com

DAS WERK

- 1:16 Sd.Kfz.251/22 Pakwagen das-werk-models.com



GECKO MODELS

- 1:35 British Army Truck Driver Set
- 1:35 Dragon Teeth Anti-Tank Obstacle Set
- 1:16 7.5cm PaK40 Anti-tank Gun Early Production www.tigerhobbies.co.uk

GREAT WALL HOBBY - 1:48 A-10C Thunderbolt II













ICM

- 1:35 WWI US Ammunition Truck FWD Type B
- 1:35 'War Has No Gender' Female servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine
- 1:35 Type G4 with MG34 and German Staff Personnel
- 1:48 Junkers Ju88P-1 'Tank Buster'
- WWI US Vehicles acrylic paint set

icm.com.ua hannants.co.uk





MAGIC FACTORY

- 1:48 A-4M Skyhawk hannants.co.uk

MINIART

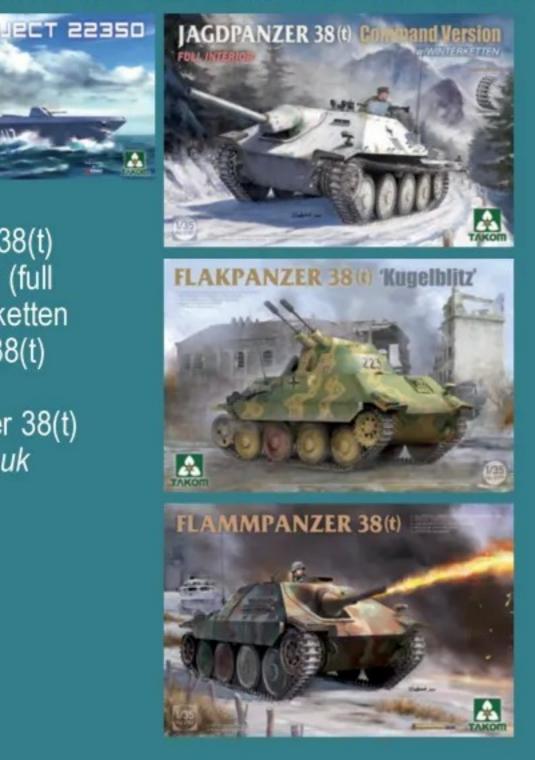
- 1:35 British Armoured Car Crew
- 1:35 Refugees Teachers Family

miniart-models.com creativemodels.co.uk





- 1:35 Jagdpanzer 38(t) command version (full interior) w/ winterketten
- 1:35 Flakpanzer 38(t) 'Kugelblitz'
- 1:35 Flammpanzer 38(t) www.bachmann.co.uk





1:12 Honda Dax 125 Tamiya Limited Edition (14142) new-tool

NUREMBERG NE

Tamiya's new items at the Nu





1:35 Leopard 2A7V metal barrel (12694) new-tool

Mercedes-Benz 300 SL

1:24 'Full-View' Mercedes-

Benz 300 SL (24366)



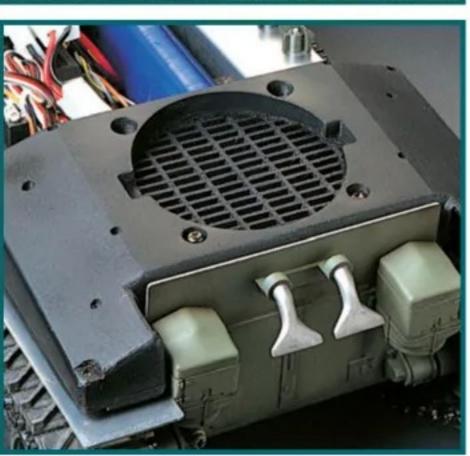


N RELEASES! remberg Toy Fair 2024

The world-famous Nuremberg Toy Fair took place a few weeks back and TMMI was there, of course! There will be a full show-report next issue, but in a change to the usual 'News Desk', here are Tamiya's main releases that were announced at the event. More details very soon!







1:16 RC M4 Sherman 105mm Howitzer Full-Option Kit (56014) upgraded re-release









1:10 RC Citroën DS MB-01 (58734) new design

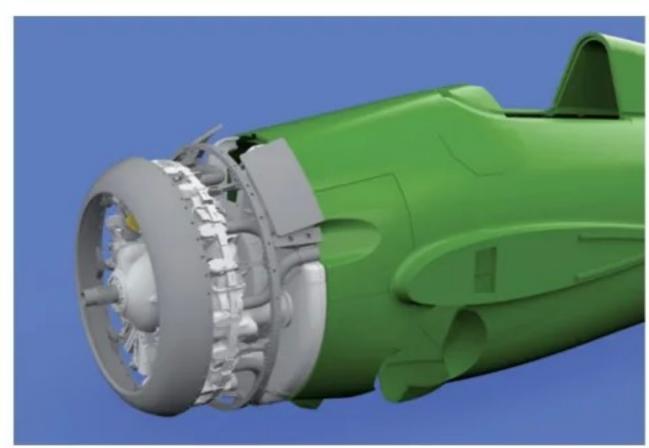


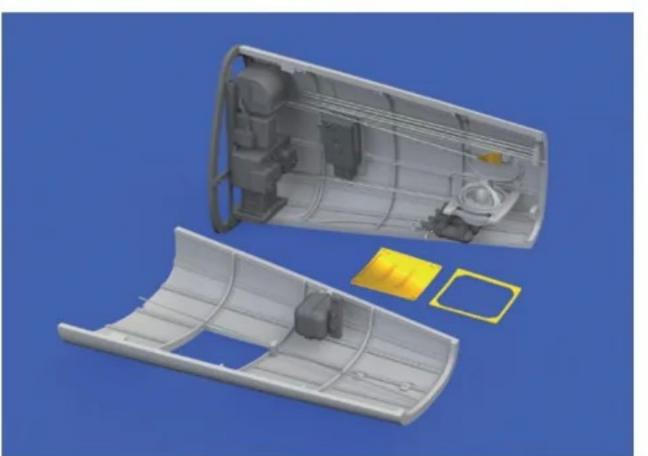
1:14 Volvo FH16 Globetrotter XL 750 4x2 Tractor (56375) new design

COMING SOON FROM EDUARD

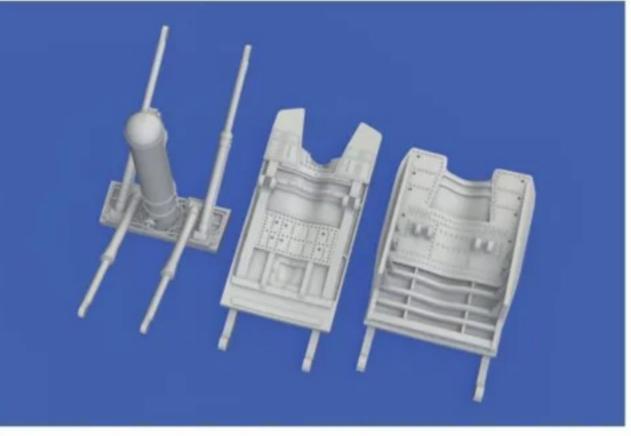
- 1:48 Brassin set engine for FM-2 (for Eduard)
- 1:48 Bf109K-4 radio compartment (for Eduard)
- 1:48 P-47D wheels cross tread Brassin (for MiniArt)
- 1:72 MiG-29 airbrakes 3D-Printed (for Great Wall Hobby)
- 1:72 Messerschmitt Bf109G-5/G-6 cockpit (for Eduard)
- 1:72 Messerschmitt Bf109G-5/G-6 wheels (for Eduard)
- 1:72 WGr.21 for Messerschmitt Bf109G (for Eduard)

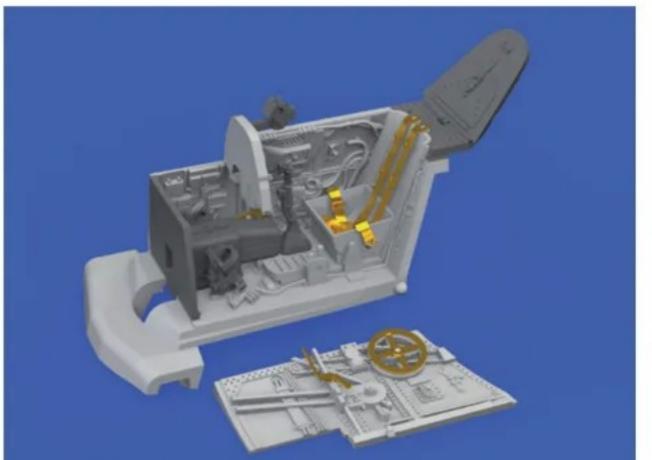
www.creativemodels.co.uk • www.eduard.com















Newsdesk Extra celebrity modeller al 'pub landlord' murray



Just before Christmas last year, Tamiya Model Magazine's Editor **Marcus Nicholls** had another, very pleasant meet-up with English comedian and actor **Al Murray**



l Murray is well known for his 'Pub Landlord' character who has been enjoyed by millions of fans for many years on television and on stage. But did you know Al is also an avid and well-informed historian and scale modeller? Along with esteemed author and historian James Holland plus guests, Al produces a wonderful podcast called 'We Have Ways of Making You Talk' covering military history and more, depending on which rabbit hole the hosts dive down each session! Check it out, it's very informative and entertaining (details below). Al and I met up at the end of December at the stunning Milton Keynes offices of Tamiya's UK importer and distributor, The Hobby Company Limited and while we were well looked after by Peter, Alistair and Anthony, we barely noticed their presence as we dived immediately into some serious model tank-talk! I brought along some of my built-up models which you may remember from previous issues of TMMI and my 'other' magazine, Military Illustrated Modeller and we enthusiastically discussed my painting and weathering techniques as our coffees went cold. All is extremely well informed on all things military and scale model-related and we could have chatted for many hours about paint colours, dioramas and how to represent dust and rust on tank tracks and exhaust boxes! In fact we did talk for a couple of hours until someone said "let's check out the warehouse". You didn't have to ask us twice with an offer like that. I have strolled the aisles of this Aladdin's cave many times but I'm still blown away by the stacks of Tamiya kits, as well as Dragon, Italeri, Belkits, Beemax and other brands and I think Al was too! So, I'll say a big 'thank you' to Al and all at The Hobby Company for a thoroughly enjoyable morning of modelling chatter. I will leave you with a few photos I shot that morning. Last orders at the bar please! ●



'We Have Ways of Making You Talk' Achtung! Achtung! Comedian Al Murray and historian James Holland discuss all matters Second World War. 'We Have Ways of Making You Talk' is a bi-weekly show exploring the war in close up. James and Al have a stunning knowledge of their subject, but don't expect a linear narrative. The boys love a tangent and a forgotten tale. 'We Have Ways of Making You Talk' roams down forgotten front lines, casts new villains and makes the case for unlikely heroes.

Send questions to James and Al via Twitter using #WeHaveWays or by email to: wehavewayspodcast@gmail.com Join the membership club for extra content, livestreams and ad-free listening: patreon.com/wehaveways Search Goalhanger Podcasts

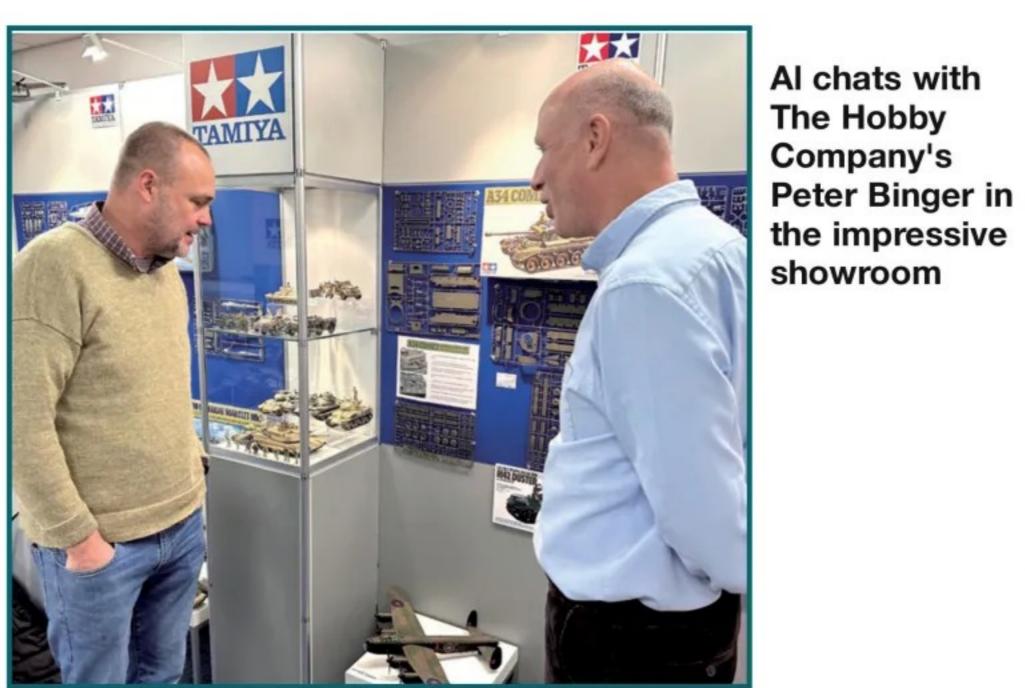
TMMI's Editor brought along a selection of his armour models for close inspection



TMMI's Editor has a cabinet at The Hobby Company Limited for his built-up Tamiya, Dragon and Italeri models



Well, it had to be done, didn't it? Al autographed a Tamiya 1:35 A34 Comet for the Editor!



Peter and Al discuss the merits - and enduring popularity - of Tamiya's 1968 Panther A kit, a perennial best seller



A cheeky Tamiya Spitfire for you sir? Coming right up!

Newsdesk Extra

A quick round-up of new and recent arrivals at Tamiya Model Magazine. Some of the kits here may also appear in more detailed previews



1:72 617 Sqn. Dambusters 80th Anniversary (A50191) New version
An inspirational combo in this pack, combining the iconic Lancaster and F-35B.
Lightning II

www.airfix.com

www.airfix.com





DRAGON MODELS

1:35 15cm s.IG.33/2 (Sf) auf Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer w/interior (6489) Re-issue Dragon's sublime 1:35 Jagdpanzer 38(t) is fitted with the powerful 15cm gun in this extremely interesting variant. www.hobbyco.net





AIRFIX

1:180 Vintage Classics Great Western (A08252V) Re-issue

With a 1966 original launch, this classic ship kit has the same vintage as TMMI's Editor! Lovely to see it back again.

www.airfix.com



DRAGON MODELS

1:35 Sd.Kfz.234/3 w/2cm Schwebelafette (6969) Re-issue

Dragon's WW2 German Sd.Kfz.234 is a stunningly well-detailed model and here it comes with the 2cm gun turret.

www.hobbyco.net

in the near future and others may receive the full-build treatment. Thank you to the manufacturers and suppliers for the review samples.



DRAGON MODELS

1:35 Sd.Kfz.251/2 Ausf.C Rivetted Version mit Wurfrahmen 40 (6966) Re-issue This is the early variant of the 'Stuka zu Fuß' (Stuka on foot) with the halftrack having a riveted, not welded construction.

www.hobbyco.net



EDUARD

1:48 Bf109E-1 ProfiPACK (8261) New version

Eduard's sublime 1:48 Messerschmitt Bf109 'Emil' is in 'profiPACK form here, with photo-etched parts included in the box.

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



EDUARD

1:48 F-6D/K ProfiPACK (82103) New version

Another stunning production from Eduard is their P-51D Mustang series and here we have the F-6D/K photo reconnaissance version.

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



EDUARD

1:48 Spitfire Mk.Vb late ProfiPACK (82156) New version

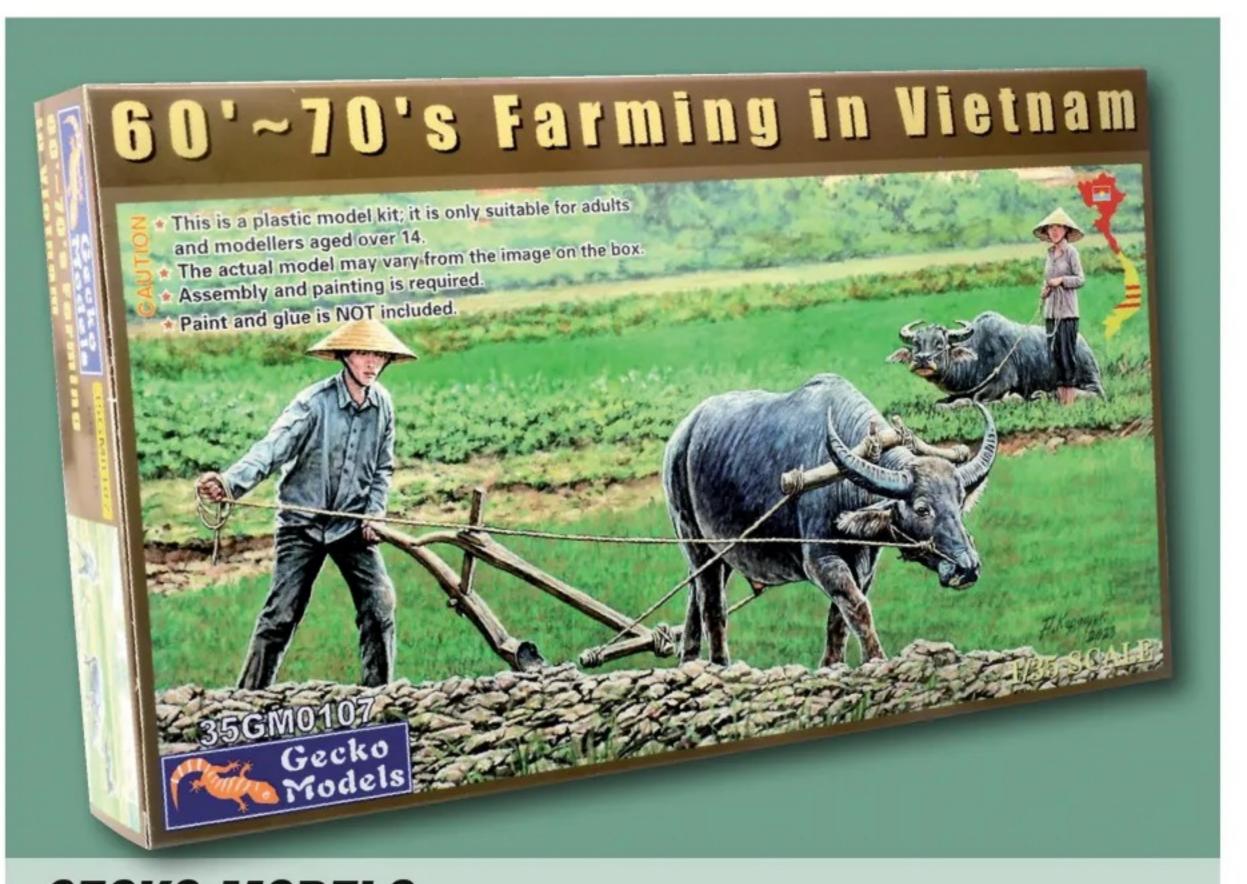
Who can resist a Spitfire? Particularly if it's one of Eduard's miniature masterpieces. This is the 'late' version with clipped wingtip option.

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



1:72 Wunderschöne Neue Maschinen Pt.1 Dual Combo (2142) New version In the box here we are treated to a pair of Bf109 'Friedrichs', specifically the F-1 and

F-4. Gorgeous models with very fine detail. www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



GECKO MODELS

1:35 60's -70's Farming in Vietnam (35GM0107) New tool

If you are planning a Vietnam War diorama, this set of a farmer, his plough and water buffalo will be the ideal, bucolic addition.

www.gecko-models.com www.tigerhobbies.co.uk

Newsdesk Extra

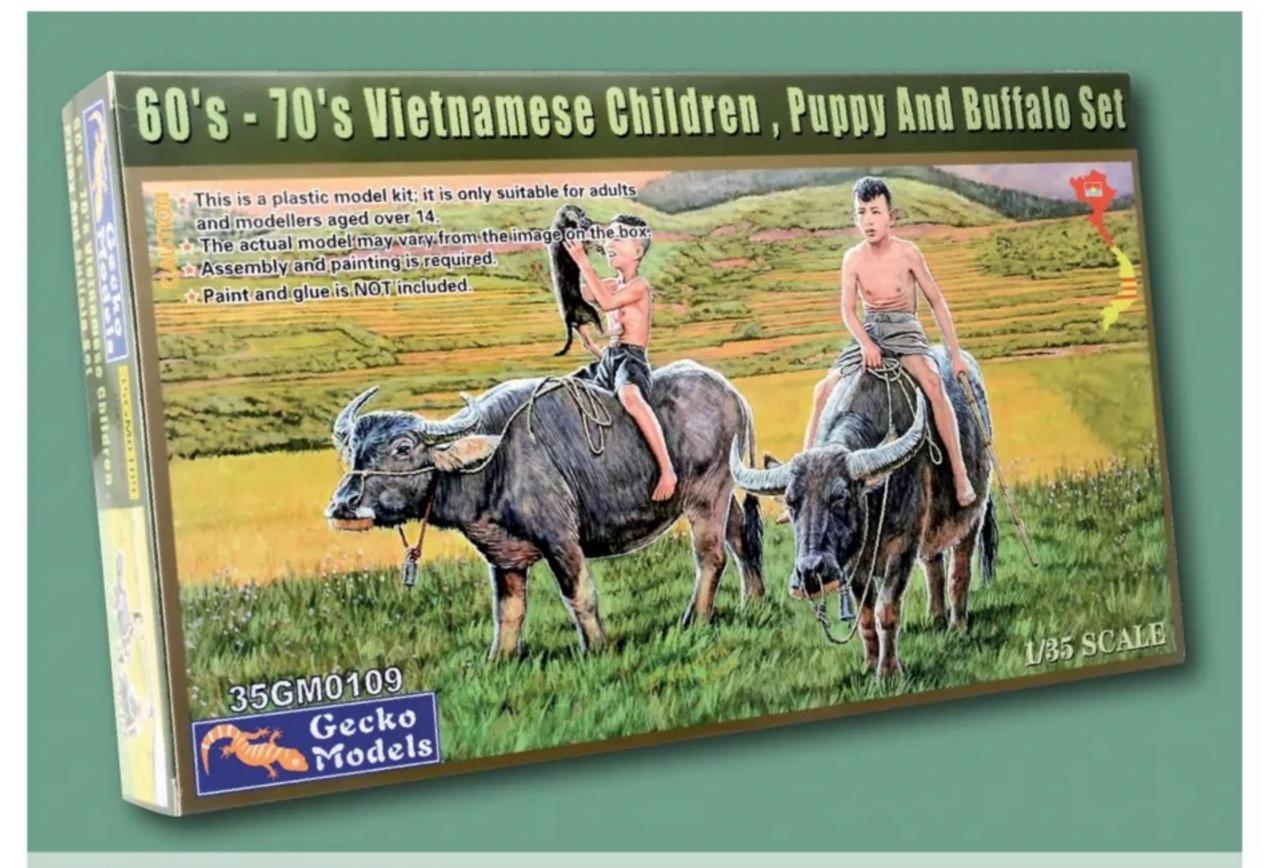


GECKO MODELS

1:35 60's -70's Southern Vietnam Buffalo Set (35GM0108) New tool

Here we have a pair of buffalo, one standing and one bathing, a female owner plus a
nice diorama base. Heron included!

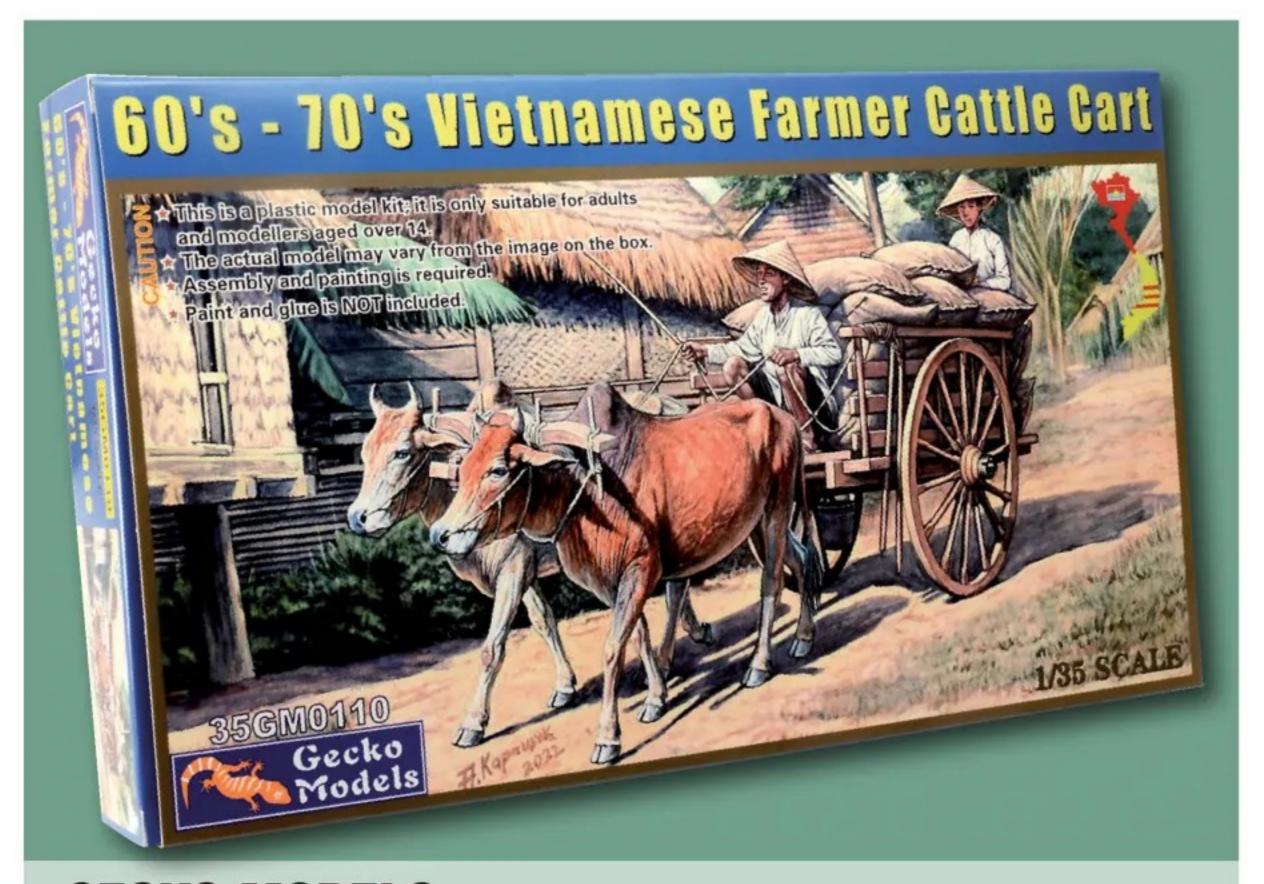
www.gecko-models.com www.tigerhobbies.co.uk



GECKO MODELS

1:35 60's -70's Vietnamese Children, Puppy and Buffalo Set (35GM0109) New tool
This is a vignette in a box! Two lads on buffalo-back, one holding a puppy, all
moulded crisply in grey polystyrene.

www.gecko-models.com www.tigerhobbies.co.uk



GECKO MODELS

1:35 60's -70's Vietnamese Farmer Cattle Cart (35GM0110) New tool
This is a beautiful 1:35 model of a farmer's cart, complete with a pair of cows, two
crew and big rice bags. Just add an M113 ACAV in the background?

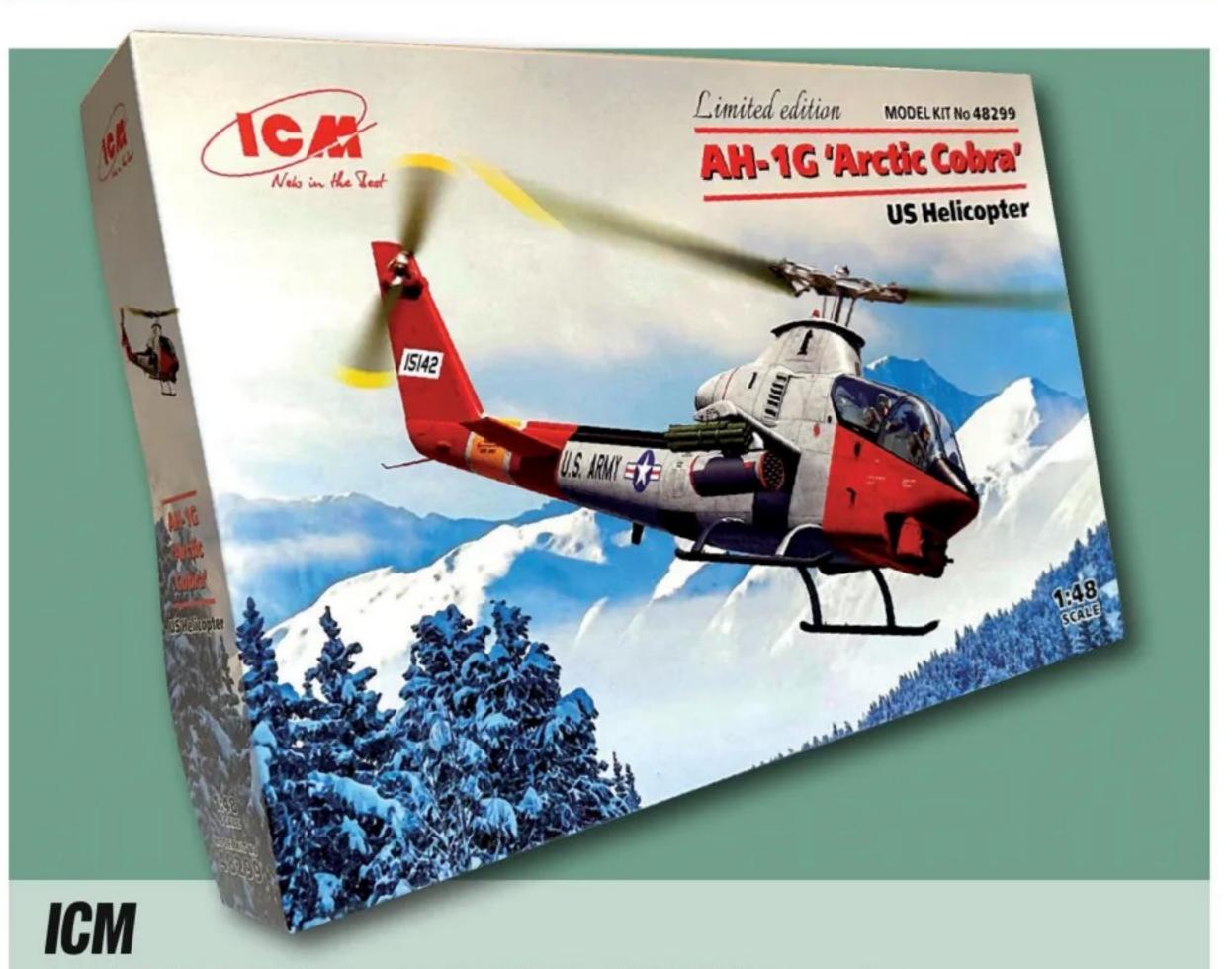
www.gecko-models.com www.tigerhobbies.co.uk



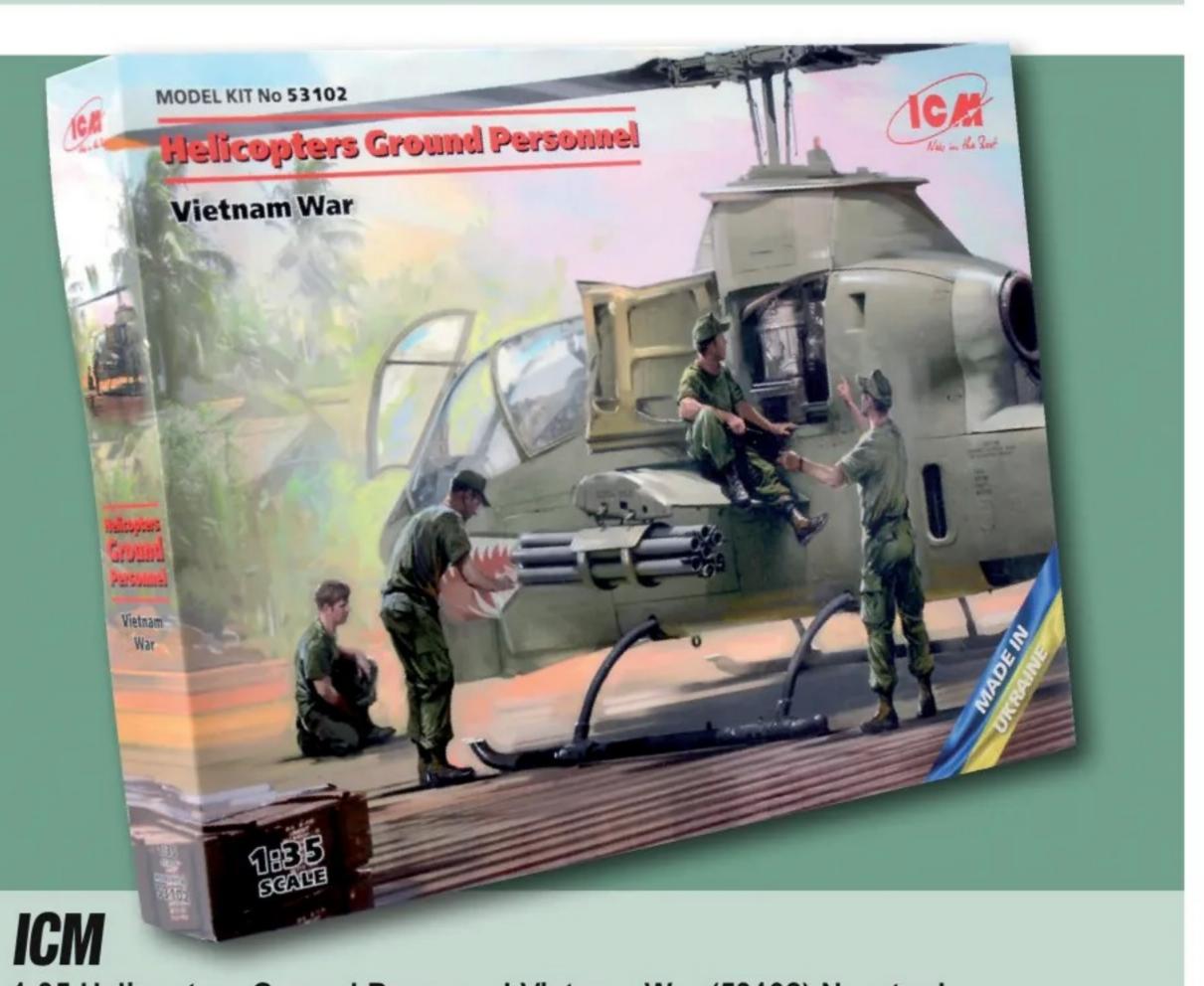
GECKO MODELS

1:16 Pz.Kpfw.ll (Sd.Kfz.121) Ausf.C A/B/C Modified (French Campaign) (16GM0007) New tool Gecko's big Pz.ll builds into a nicely-sized model that won't overwhelm the model bench - a good entry into 1:16 modelling.

www.gecko-models.com www.tigerhobbies.co.uk



1:48 AH-1G Arctic Cobra Limited Edition (48299) New version
Launched initially in 2022 as a Vietnam War guise, ICM's excellent 1:48 AH-1G Cobra
has now appeared as this US Army Arctic service version. Stunning in a white/red colour
scheme. www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk



1:35 Helicopters Ground Personnel Vietnam War (53102) New tool
These four US ground personnel figures are beautifully moulded and provide the
perfect accompaniment for ICM's Cobra and breathtaking CH-54A Tarhe models
www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk



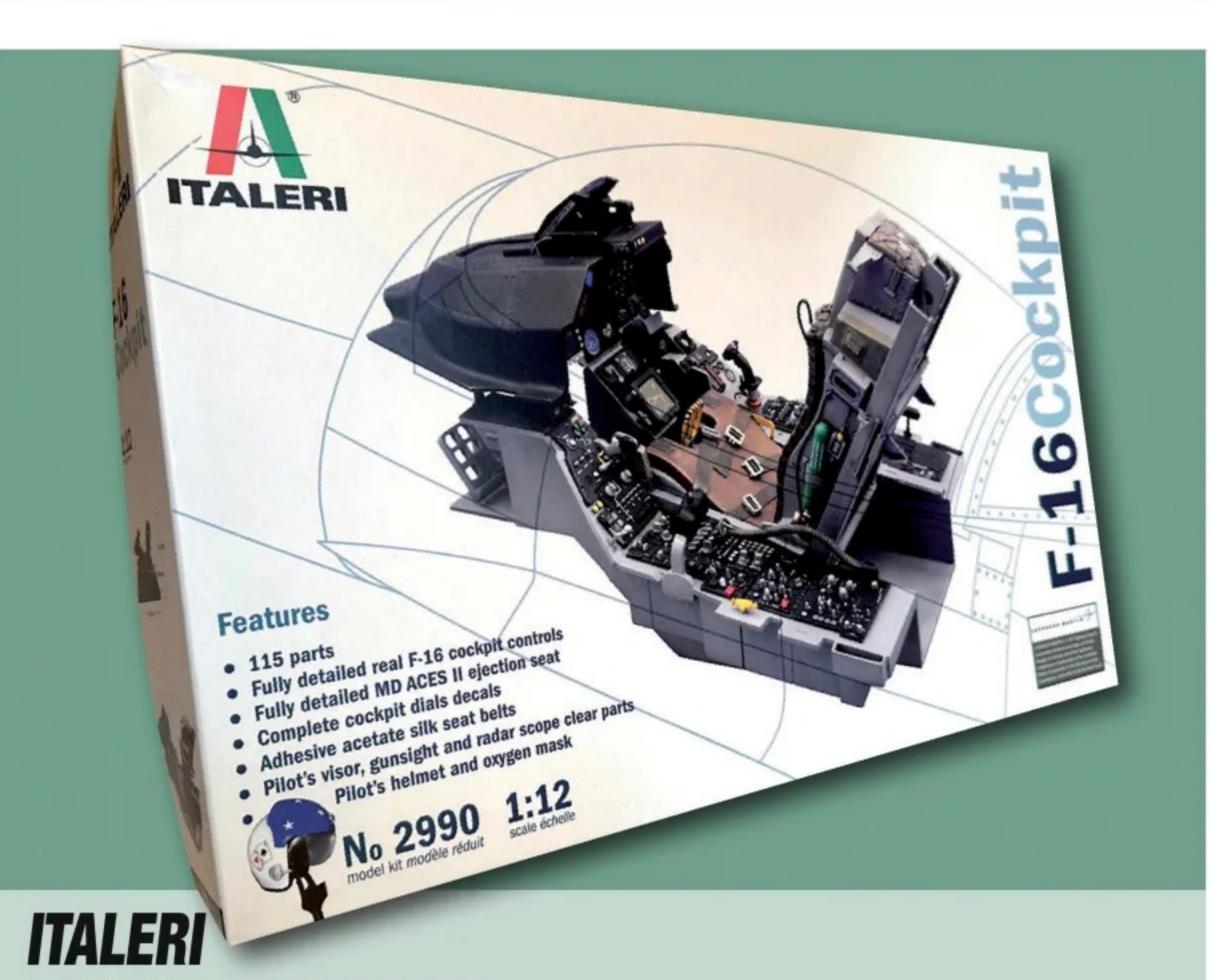
1:32 I-16 type 10 with Chinese pilots (32008) New version

ICM's Polikarpov fighter is a fantastic model and here it appears in Chinese air force colours, plus three excellent figures in standing poses. www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk

RAF Pilots in Tropical Uniforms (1941-1945) **ICM**

1:48 RAF Pilots in Tropical Uniforms (1941-1945) (48080) New tool

Designed to go with ICM's brilliant Beaufort Mk.la Trop, these charismatic and finely detailed chaps would work equally well with tropical Spits and Hurricanes. www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk



1:12 F-16 Cockpit (2990) Re-issue

An object of desire in its time, this kit depicts a 1:12 cockpit of a General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon, exact version unspecified. A wonderful project for the superdetailers. www.italeri.com www.hobbyco.net



1:144 KFK Kriegsfischkutter WWII German multi-purpose boat (S.012) New tool This is a tiny but very appealing kit of a World War Two 'Kriegsmarine' cutter that will be quick and easy to build. Waterline and full-hull options are included. www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk



1:35 US Helicopter Pilots (1960s-1970s) (53101) New tool

As with the ground crew opposite page, these four American helicopter crewmen are a perfect partners for the Vietnam War-era Cobra, Tarhe or a Huey. www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk



1:24 FIAT 131 Abarth 1977 Sanremo Rally Winner (3621) Re-issue

This kit began life in the 1970s under the now-defunct ESCI label, but it has stood the test of time well and has a great profile plus fab new livery. www.italeri.com www.hobbyco.net

Newsaesk Extra



ITALERI

1:24 Mercedes-Benz G230 Feuerwehr (3663) Re-issue

Based on the much-desired Mercedes-Benz 'Geländewagen' (G-Wagen) this fire service version is hardly an AMG G63 but it's still a cool-looking vehicle with fire-fighting gear. www.italeri.com www.hobbyco.net



ITALERI

1:24 Mercedes-Benz SK1844LSV8 (3956) Re-issue

Italeri's 1:24 truck models have a great reputation and are always packed with detail. Here we have the workaday MB SK1844 in funky retro markings.

www.italeri.com www.hobbyco.net



ITALERI

1:72 Stirling Mk.III (1462) Re-issue

The huge Short Stirling is tragically under-represented in model form, but Italeri's ten yearold 1:72 release (now as the Mk.III) does a decent job, even if the panel lines are a little heavy. www.italeri.com www.hobbyco.net



MINIART

1:35 Bakers (38074) New tool

MiniArt are incredibly prolific and their figure sets are full of charisma and charm. One of the newest is this baker's cart and two figures, ideal for a street-scene diorama. www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



1:35 Bakery Products

And to go with the bakers set above comes this pack of breads, covering baguettes, bloomers, pretzels, challah loaves, croissants and more, all baked, er, moulded, to

www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



MINIART

1:35 Cheese Sellers (38076) New tool

Perhaps designed to stand near the bakers set, this delightful pack provides a cart (same as in bakers, sans canopy), a barrow, two females figures and heaps of cheese! www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



MINIART

1:48 Field Workshop (49012) New tool

For modellers of 1:48 dioramas, this lovely set includes WW2 German oil drums, workbenches, gas cylinders, a welding cart, a step ladder, vice, tool boxes shovels, spaces, pick-axes and more. www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



MINIART

1:48 Plastic Barrels & Cans (49010) New tool

Further delights in 1:48 are on sale from MiniArt in the form of this set of modern-era plastic oil/fuel cans and chemical drums. Perfect for a post-apocalypse diorama! www.miniart-models.com www.creativemodels.co.uk



1:72 Eurocopter Tiger 007 Goldeneye (05654) New version

The base Eurocopter kit dates back to 2006 and it's very good - in a groovy James Bond 'Goldeneye' black finish it looks extra cool. Comes with six paint pots, Contacta cement and brush. www.revell.de



REVELL

1:106 Imperial Shuttle Tydirium (05657) Re-issue

The Empire's elegant yet sinister Tydirium three-winged shuttle craft is one of Star Wars' best-looking ships. Revell's model does it proud and is fun and easy to build. www.revell.de



1:35 10.5cm StuH42 Ausf.E/F (8016) New tool

This is the 10.5cm howitzer-equipped variant of the ubiquitous 'Sturmgeschütz' WW2 German assault gun and Takom's new kit is exquisitely well detailed from top to bottom. www.bachmann.co.uk



TAKOM

1:72 M60A1 w/ERA & M60A3 1+1 (5022) New tool

This pair of M60 main battle tanks was quietly issued by Takom without huge fanfare, but they deserve attention because they are absolutely beautiful little models of this brute: one with 'ERA' and one without. www.bachmann.co.uk



pon finishing the model, I was extremely surprised to learn that this kit was first released in 2007. Almost two decades later, it is still in many ways far superior to a lot newer Hetzer releases available on the market. Top quality of the parts is expected from Tamiya, but

a special mention deserves a very intelligent way in which the parts are designed, positioned, and connected to the sprues, which makes them super easy to cut and sand without any visible damage. After I went through many unnecessary and time-consuming repairs while working on kits

from other brands, this is something I truly appreciate. The pieces fit flawlessly, with no unpleasant surprises and no extra test-fitting or usage of putty. Also, the plastic itself is stiff and very easy to work with. All those factors combined make Tamiya a No.1 brand I look for when choosing my

future projects. Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer is a very simple design and that makes it probably one of the easiest kits to build with just a few sprues in the box. But due to its flat, wide surfaces, it also makes a perfect base for lots of interesting and complex camo schemes.



TAMIYA 1:35 JAGDPANZER 38(T) HETZER, MID PRODUCTION ● KIT NO.35285

• ASSEMBLING THE HETZER

The hull consists of only three major pieces, so the model was practically assembled right at the start. Moulded details such as hinges or clasps were scraped off and sanded, because they would later be replaced with PE ones from Voyager Model. The front fenders come in one piece with the upper hull, so those were carefully cut off and sanded. The exhaust (PIC 1) was also sanded in a few places to make it look dented and used and so, the plastic chapter was completed within a day. The rest of the build was all about metal and PE parts. Even though most of the 'magic' on a Hetzer happens on its back, I still wanted to break the surface even more by adding scratch-built engine covers, to depict them slightly opened and with a few subtle dents. I used the original

plastic covers to draw their outlines onto a piece of metal sheet, and then I cut it about half a millimetre away from the lines. That extra material was then sanded using a metal sanding stick. This may be a time-consuming method, but when scratchbuilding parts that need to fit very tightly into the openings on a model, it's better to go slow and constantly test-fit them (PIC 2).

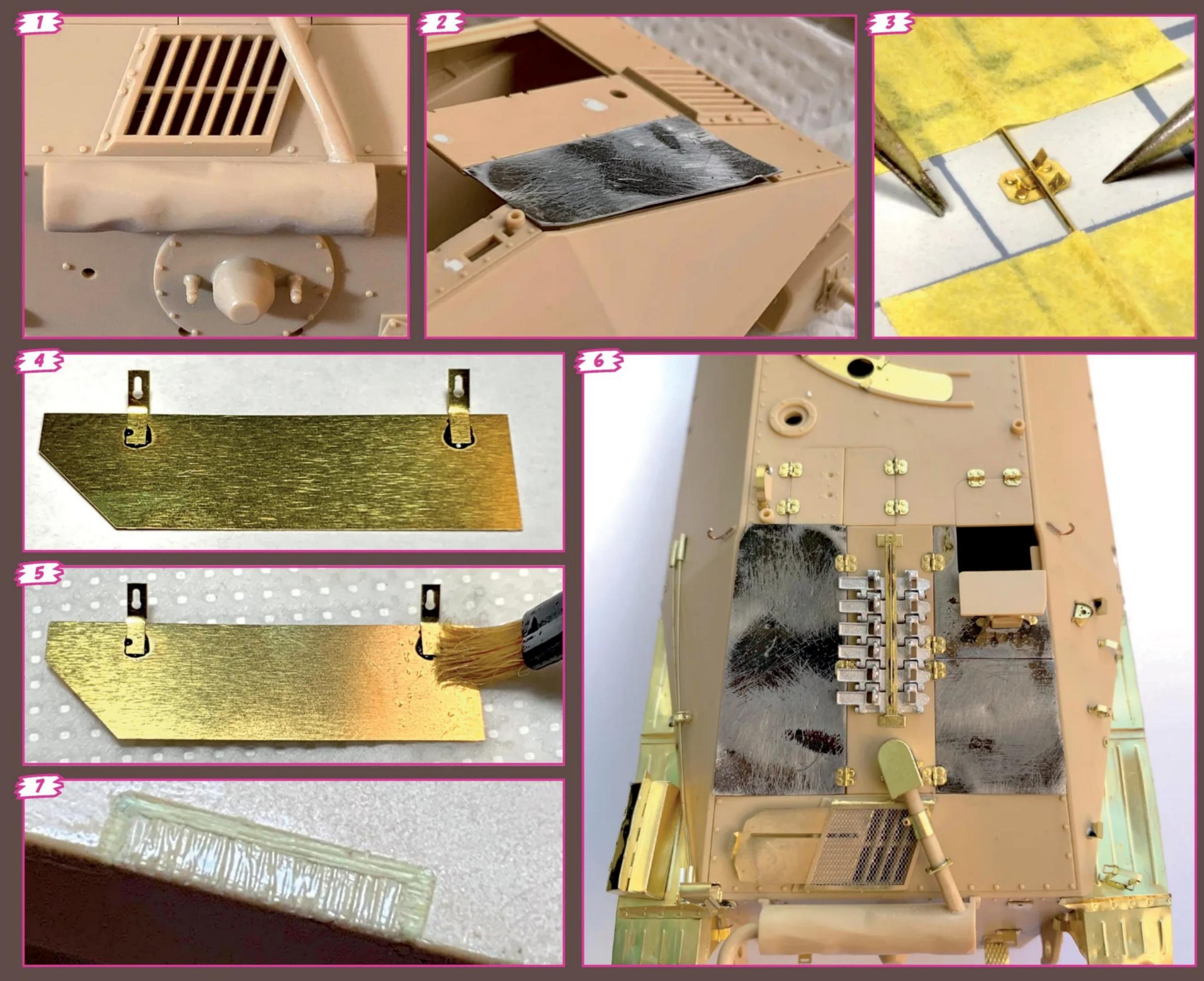
Making about fifteen hinges was the second most repetitive part of the build right after the Friulmodel track assembly, but small details like these contribute to the crisp look of the model. The wire that connects both parts of the hinge was fixed in place with a masking tape. Both parts of the hinge were placed under the wire and those small pins were bent around the wire with tweezers (PIC 3). Finally, the wire was cut on

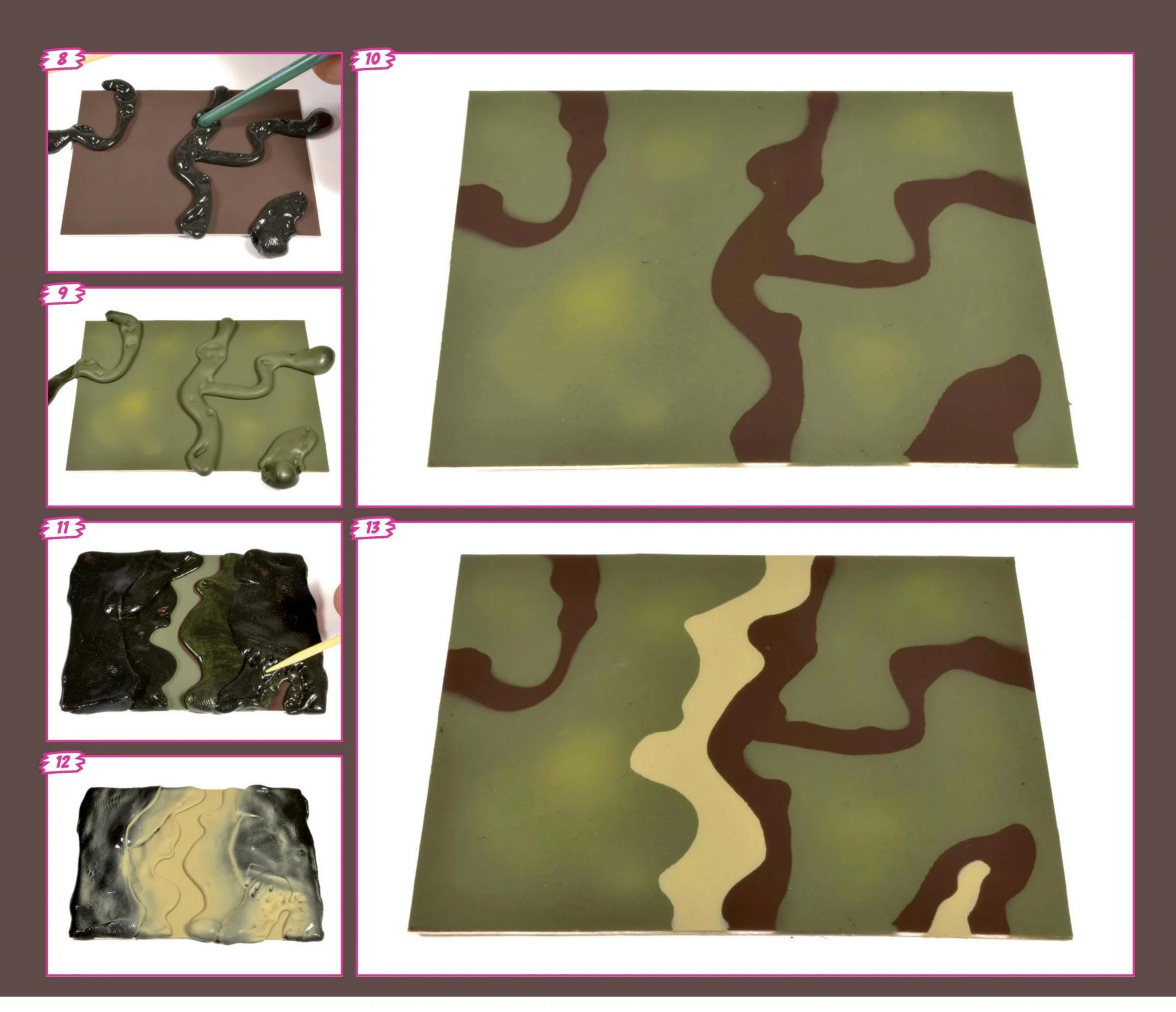
both ends of the hinge and just touched with CA glue to keep it from falling out.

To fix all the PE upgrades to the model I used VMS 'Flexi 5k CA Black' glue. Unlike transparent CA, the black colour makes it easy to see so you know exactly how much of the excess you need to clean up after fixing the piece in place (PIC 4). For cleaning the excess, a VMS Glue-remove Super Glue Debonder was used. It is important not to flood the surface with the debonder, but to use it in very small amounts to prevent it from flowing under the fixed piece and weakening the bond. So, I used a flat brush dipped in the debonder, wiped onto a paper towel to let it soak most of the debonder in and softly brushed around every PE detail until the excess glue had completely disappeared (PIC 5). The same procedure followed for every

other PE part on the model (PIC 6).

The final step before the painting process began was correcting the weld seams where the two front armour plates join. Tamiya did the common C-shaped weld patterns, but pictures of a real Hetzer show these in a horizontal pattern, so they were remade using Tamiya Epoxy Putty. First, I made very thin 'noodles' and carefully pressed them into the original weald seams using a wet toothpick: epoxy putty is sticky, so it helps a lot if you keep both the tools and the putty slightly wet when working with them. Then I used a square-shaped scalpel to gently press the horizontal lines into the putty while it was still soft. Also, the excess of putty was carefully removed with a scalpel. With these final touches done, the model was now ready for paint. (PIC 7)





PAINTING THE MODEL

Of course, the model was first cleaned using a flat brush, soap, and water, to wash off any remains of the (greasy) debonder and fingerprints. Also, all metal upgrades were brushed with a coat of VMS 'Metal Prep 4k' to ensure better adhesion of paint. Because the camo would be made by applying and removing lots of AK elastic camouflage putty, the smallest and most fragile parts such as handles, clasps or spare track holders were not fixed to the model yet. These would be fixed using transparent CA only after the paint job was done, and then painted with a brush.

CAMO COLOURS:

Red-brown: after studying some references and colour charts, I decided to mix this

colour using XF-7 Flat Red and a drop or two of XF-8 Flat Blue, because I wanted to capture that specific purplish tone of the colour. I had no exact ratio, but let's say it's about 90% red to 10% blue.

Green: the base of this mix was XF-89 Dark Green 2, lightened with a drop of XF-4 Yellow-Green and XF-55 Deck Tan.

Dark yellow: the references show this colour in a very light tone, and in great contrast with other colours, so it was mixed using only a few drops of XF-60 Dark Yellow and then heavily lightened with XF-55 Deck Tan, and XF-2 Flat White. All three mixes were thinned with Mr. Color Leveling Thinner.

Before applying such camouflage, it is important

to research and study one's references. Factory-applied camo like these might look random, but they do have their own set of rules to be followed.

CAMOUFLAGE PROCESS (DEMONSTRATED HERE ON A TEST PIECE FOR CLARITY)

- Steps 1 and 2: An overall coat of red-brown mix. Then, AK Elastic Putty was rolled into 'noodles' that were placed on the surface. They were then further shaped adding some smaller curves using different tools like toothpicks or brush handles (PIC 8). It's easy to get carried away and accidentally make an over-scaled pattern, so studying the references visually is crucial, for example: counting the number of curves on a line,

or comparing the width of each line relative to some parts of the vehicle, etc.)

- layer of the green mix plus a cloudy, transparent layer of the same mix but lightened with a few drops of XF-4 Yellow Green. The masking putty was removed afterwards (PICS 9, 10).
- - Step 4: Painting the yellow parts of the camo was the most difficult and stressful phase because those lines had to be masked from the outside and airbrushed on a 90% completed paint job (PICS 11, 12).
- - Step 5: Removing the putty and sealing the paint job with a coat of VMS Satin Varnish (PIC 13). •

FULLBUILD: WORLD WAR TWO AXIS ARMOUR

TAMIYA 1:35 JAGDPANZER 38(T) HETZER, MID PRODUCTION ● KIT NO.35285

Of course, while painting this camo on a model, I was way more careful than on this test piece. Because the colours are in such a big contrast with each other, even the smallest mistakes are very noticeable. So, I would go back and forward applying and removing the putty many times until I was happy with the positions, curves, and edges. If some of the lines turned out sloppy after airbrushing, I would mask those again and re-do them, going a step back. Also, to prevent airflow from swirling and paint from the airbrush not reaching the surface, the putty noodles had to be extra thin and the paint was then airbrushed from all possible angles in multiple thin layers, to ensure smooth, hard-edged lines (PIC 14).





WORKING WITH OILS

Each colour was then given some more precise treatment with oils, to add more depth and tonal variations to them, using the belonging colours but in different shades. A palette of oils was prepared and left for about an hour to sit and let the cardboard soak the oil from the colours in. By doing so, the oils dry to a matt finish (PIC 15).

I started with the green areas, as it is the most dominant colour on the vehicle. I used a variety of thin brushes, from 000 to 1, or even some old ones, because each brings a different effect. First, I would apply a few very small dots of a lighter green tone, using no thinner at all, and then I'd spread them around in a random pattern with a brush dipped

in thinner and wiped on a paper towel. Then, I'd repeat the same procedure using a darker green tone but in different places.

The only thing here to have in mind is to keep it subtle. If I wasn't happy with the results, I would use a clean brush dipped in thinner to wipe the oils off and start over. I went back and forward like that until I was pleased with the results. I then did the same with brown and yellow areas using brown and yellow shades of oils.

With the camo colours enriched, the next step was to add dust and dirt tones to the surfaces via speckling or streaking. I mostly used buff, mixed with a little light brown or green, heavily diluted with thinner, almost like a filter, and speckled or



streaked it in multiple subtle, transparent layers. (Each layer was then given some time to dry to avoid making a mess and reactivating the oils beneath). Then, some darker speckles using different shades of browns or dark greens (with different

ratios of colour to thinner) were added. Finally, the last step was to dry-brush the edges with dark browns and add some graphite along the sharp angles. The lower hull, suspension and wheels were given the same treatment, but more intense.



TAMIYA 1:35 JAGDPANZER 38(T) HETZER, MID PRODUCTION ● KIT NO.35285



BREAKING THE SURFACE

washes, and speckling.

links were highlighted

from darker to lighter tones.

Then, some individual track

using lighter or darker oils,

On simple-shaped models such as the Hetzer, there is a high chance of a monotonous overall appearance, so, wherever I could, I would visually break the surfaces into smaller ones by adding strong contrast to the panels, hatches, or engine covers: light/dust tones on one side against the dark browns/ dark greens on the other. This step is something like a 'colour modulation technique but done with oils and in a weathering manner.

CONCLUSION

It would be a lie to say that the whole process went as planned. I must mention that the model was, in fact, completely stripped of paint and repainted three times! Each time the stress level would rise higher as I've learned where the potential dangers lurk. But in the end that struggle only made me cherish this model even more, because of all that we've been through together.

TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:35 JAGDPANZER 38(t) HETZER, **MID PRODUCTION KIT NO.35285** Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide decals

Paints used:

Tamiya Acrylics: XF-2 Flat White, XF-3 Flat Yellow, XF-4 Yellow Green, XF-7 Flat Red, XF-8 Flat Blue, XF-9 Hull Red, XF-55 Deck Tan, XF-60 Dark Yellow, XF-69 NATO Black, XF-84 Dark Iron, XF-85 Rubber Black, XF-89 Dark Green 2

Other materials used:

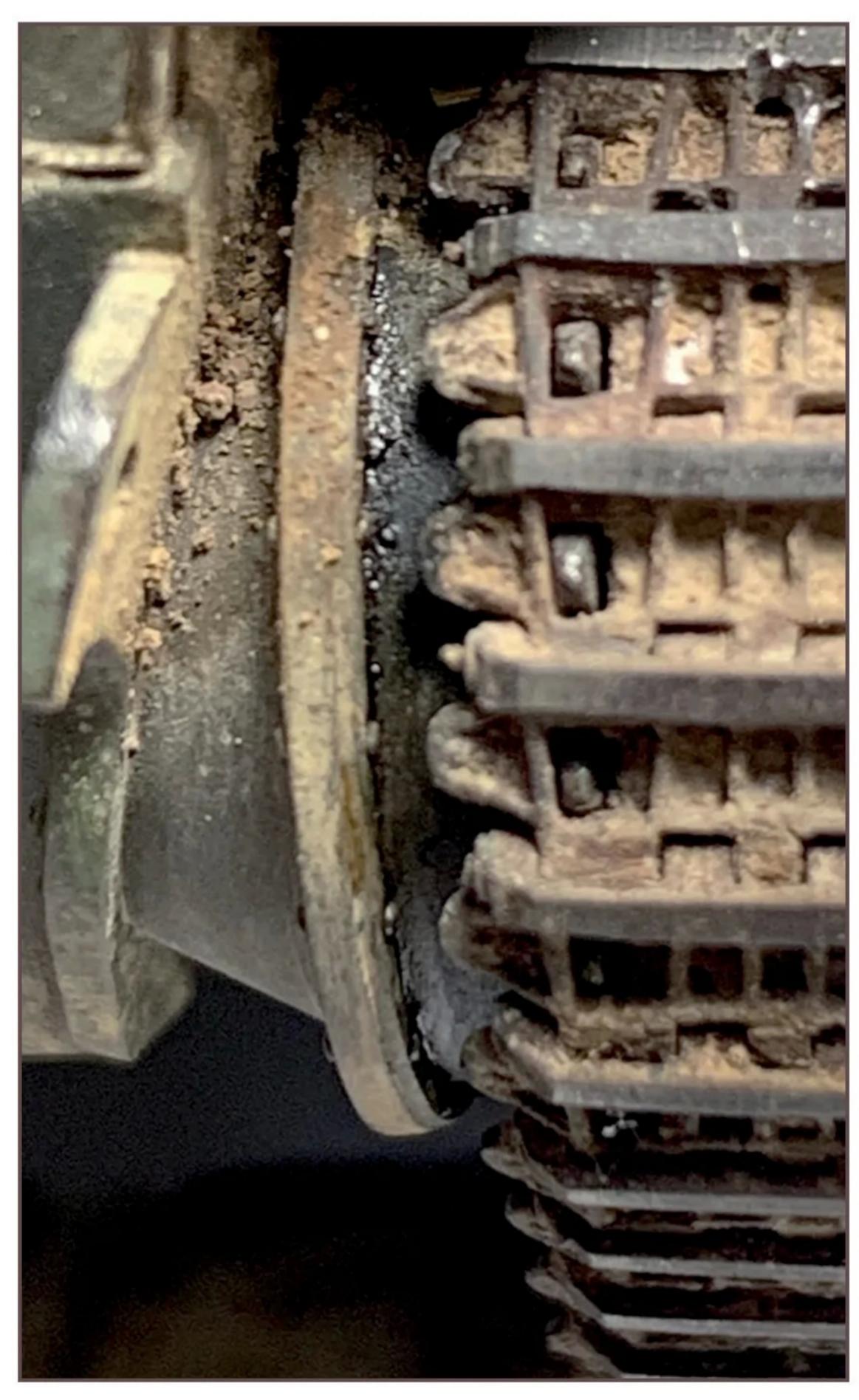
VMS: Satin Varnish, Glue-remove Super Glue Debonder, Metal Prep 4k

Accessories used:

- Voyager Model: WWII Hetzer Mittlere Produktion PE 35176 (for Tamiya 35285)
- Eduard: German Crosses 1 early
- Eureka XXL: Scale Metal Tow Cables for AFV Models 0,6 mm
- Friulmodel: ATL-93 Jagdpanzer 38 Hetzer Winterketten

Availability:

- Tamiya models, paints, materials and accessories are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net
- Eduard: www.creativemodels.co.uk www. eduard.com
- Friulmodel: www.friulmodel.hu
- VMS: www.vms-supplies.com
- Voyager Model: www.voyagermodel.com www.wildcatsmodels.com







Truong Sa superdetails Fujimi's 1:350 IJN 'Kaga' carrier as she appeared before the Battle of Midway, 1942

he Battle of Midway was a major naval battle in the Pacific Theatre of in World War II that took place on 4th to 7th June 1942, six months after the Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and one month after the Battle of the Coral Sea. The US Navy under Admirals Chester W. Nimitz, Frank J. Fletcher and Raymond A. Spruance defeated an attacking fleet of the Imperial Japanese Navy under Admirals Isoroku Yamamoto, Chūichi Nagumo, and Nobutake Kondō north of Midway Atoll, inflicting devastating damage on the Japanese fleet. Military

historian John Keegan called it "the most stunning and decisive blow in the history of naval warfare", while naval historian Craig Symonds called it "one of the most consequential naval engagements in world history, ranking alongside Salamis, Trafalgar, and Tsushima Strait, as both tactically decisive and strategically influential" (Source: Wikipedia).

SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY

I have always found Japanese warships during World War II have a special charm and beauty and even though a lot

of people have built the Kaga I wanted my model to be a little different. And since the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Midway was coming (at the time of building) I decided to construct the ship as she was preparing for the first attack-wave of the battle. This proved to be a challenge since there is no reliable guidance of how the preparation phase on Japanese aircraft carriers happened, so it took me hundred of hours and after a lot of time researching, digging through old historical footage and pictures to find a suitable or acceptable reference for the build.



THE SHIP

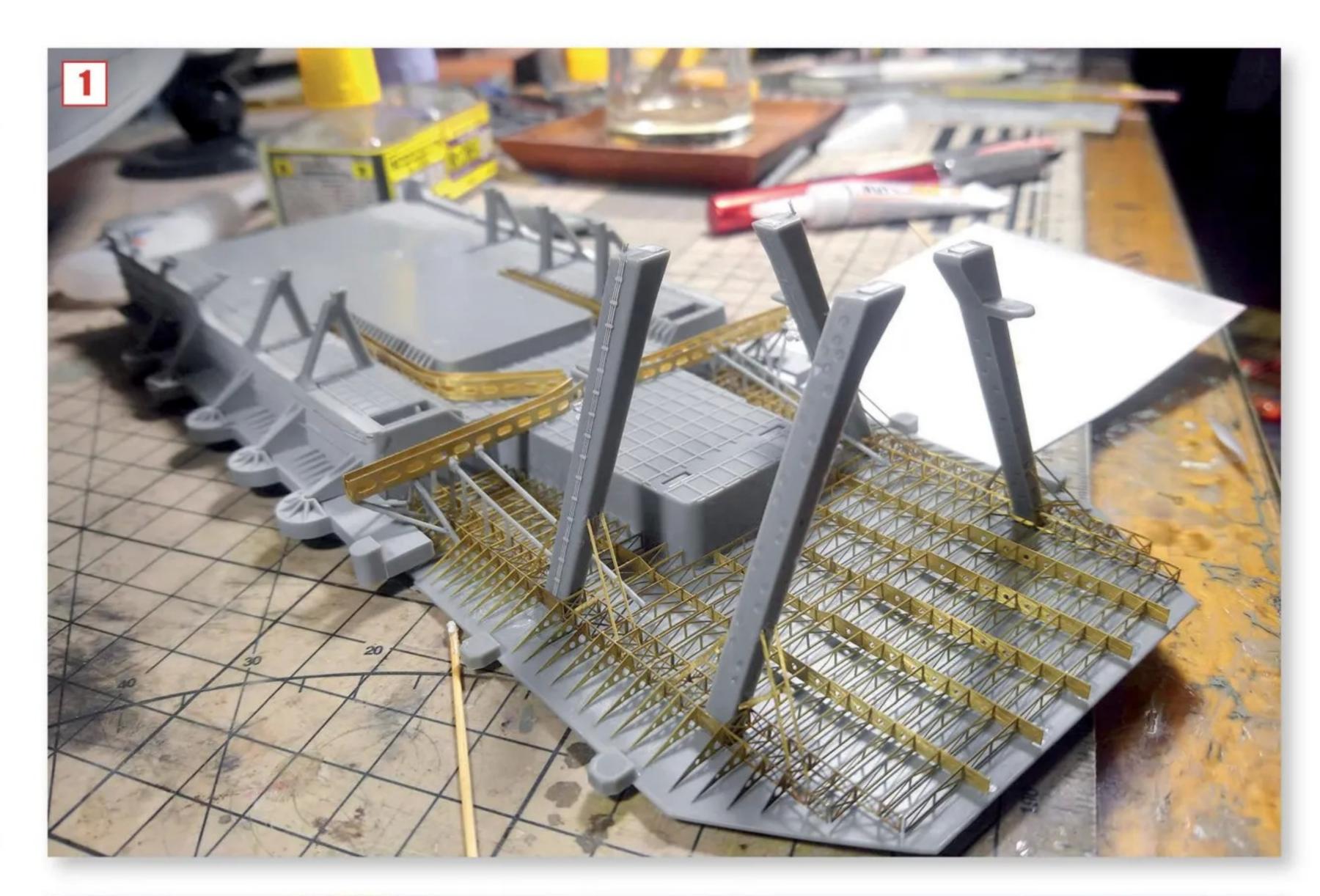
The kit is made by Fujimi and since they have a lot of experience of making Japanese warships, they did a really good job recreating the steel lines and welds of the ship hull. I also used their own upgrade PE sets for the extra details, mainly for the under-deck support-beams and railings. I first sanded the surfaces of each of the PE sheets carefully with sandpaper to make the metallic surface easier to paint, followed by a layer of Mr Metal Primer. After spray painting with the diluted primer, I let the PE frames dry then proceeded to fit them to the ship. With these kinds of details I use superglue and a good tweezers for the precise work (pics 1 to 8).

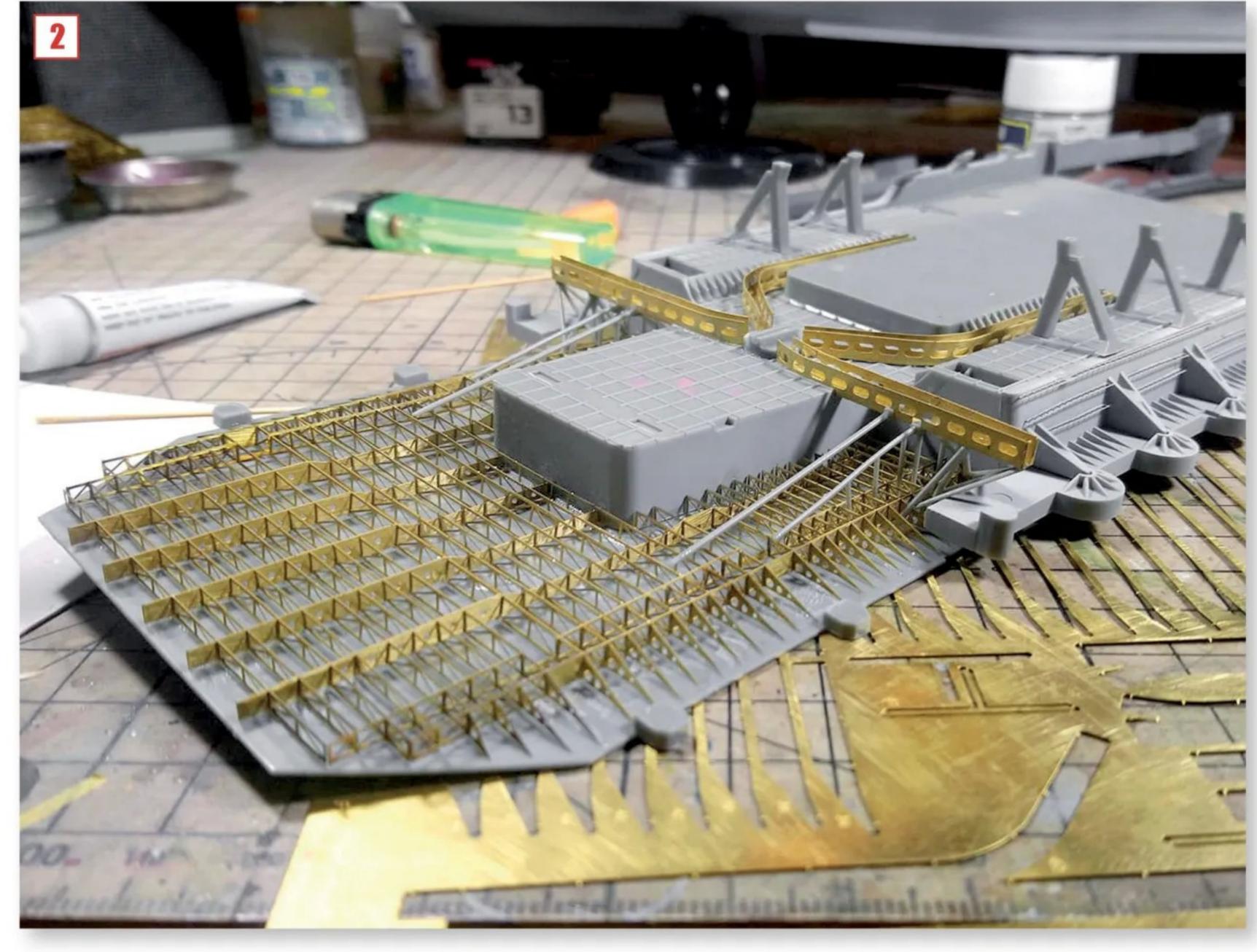
THE SHIP MAIN BRIDGE AFTER ADDING PE UPGRADES

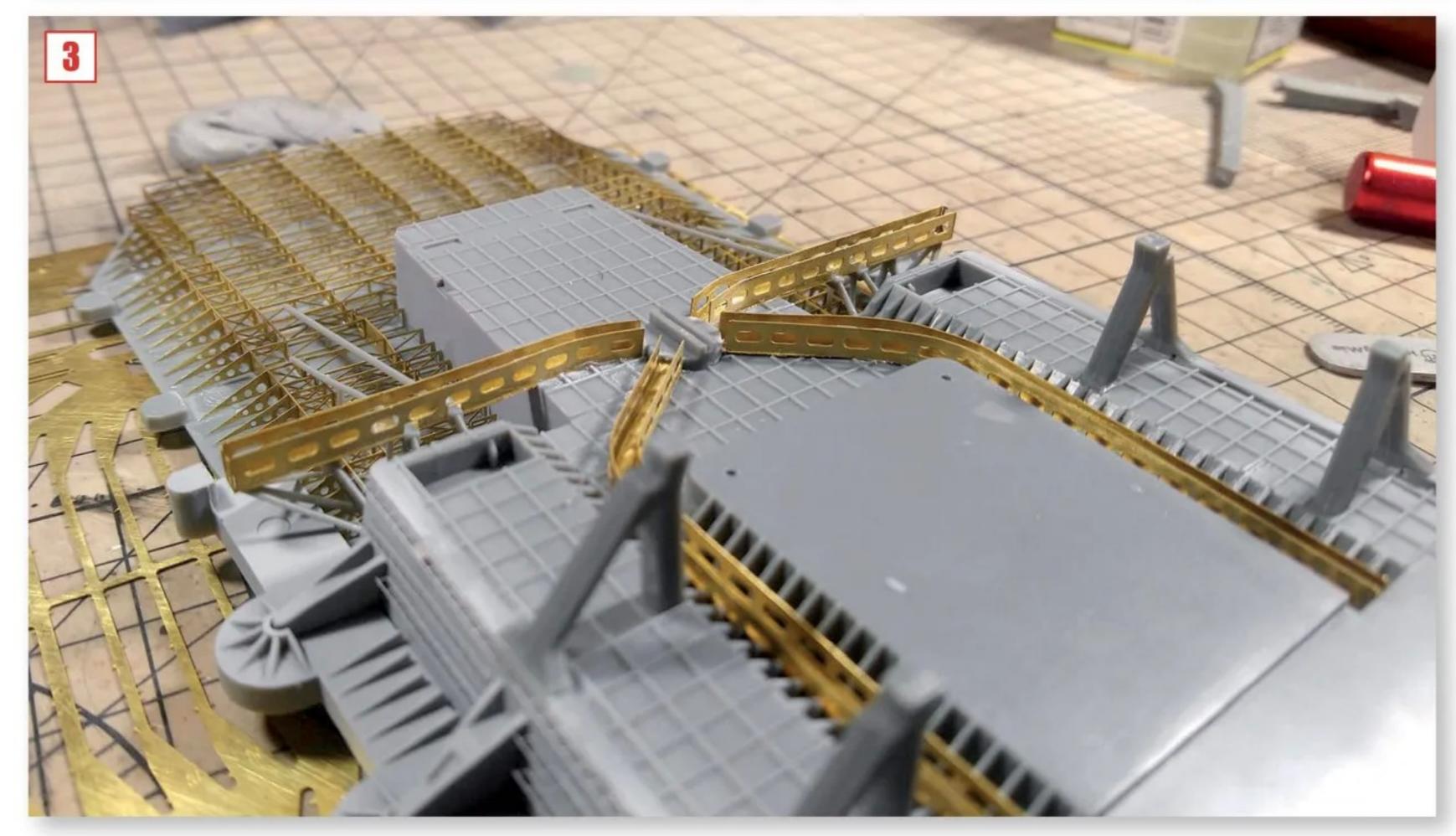
Building the ship was very straightforward, with all parts coming together easily. The PE upgrades by Fujimi do have some shortcomings, since the steps where they are fitted are scattered throughout the instructions, so you will have to do a lot of back-tracking just to make sure that you don't miss anything out. After all of the details for the ship were in place, I primed the model with Mr Surfacer Primer 1000. Since the ship has a lot of PE details, this provided a good base for painting the main colours and for masking off the deck. For the hull bottom I first pre-shaded the joint between the steel surface horizontally with Mr Hobby C4 Yellow then used C81 Russet for the vertical lines on the surface. After that I sprayed the top coat of the lower hull with C29 Hull Red to form the main shade (pics 9, 10).

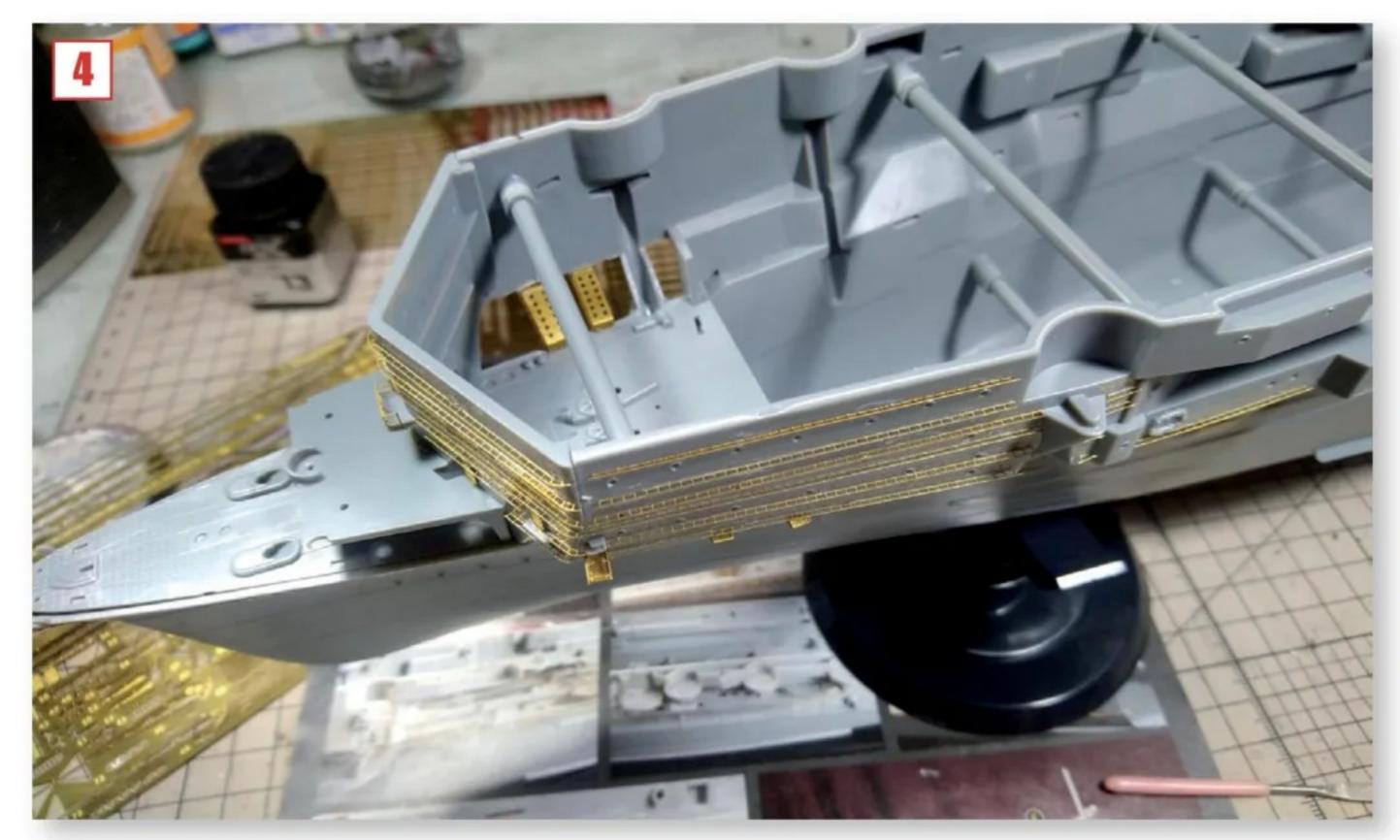
The upper hull was pre-shaded with C33 Flat Black and since the ship was built in Yokosuka, I picked Tamiya Lacquer Paint LP-15 IJN Grey (Yokosuka Arsenal) as the main shade. With all the main colours done I sprayed everything with a semi-gloss clear coat and began the weathering process.

66 Building the ship was very straightforward, with all parts coming together easily...99

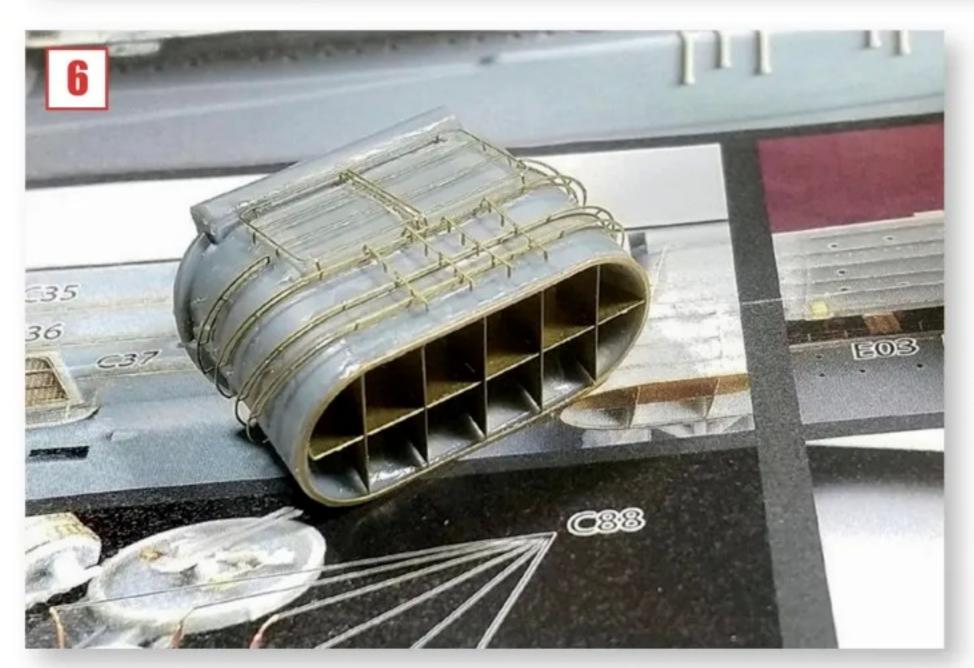
















First the under hull and waterline: since I wanted to recreate the exposure of the ship in the high seas I colour-washed them first with Tamiya Panel Line Accent Color Dark Brown, then adding the sea salt, streaking grime and algae effects to the ship's waterline. I used the combination of AK Interactive AK306 Salt Streaks for

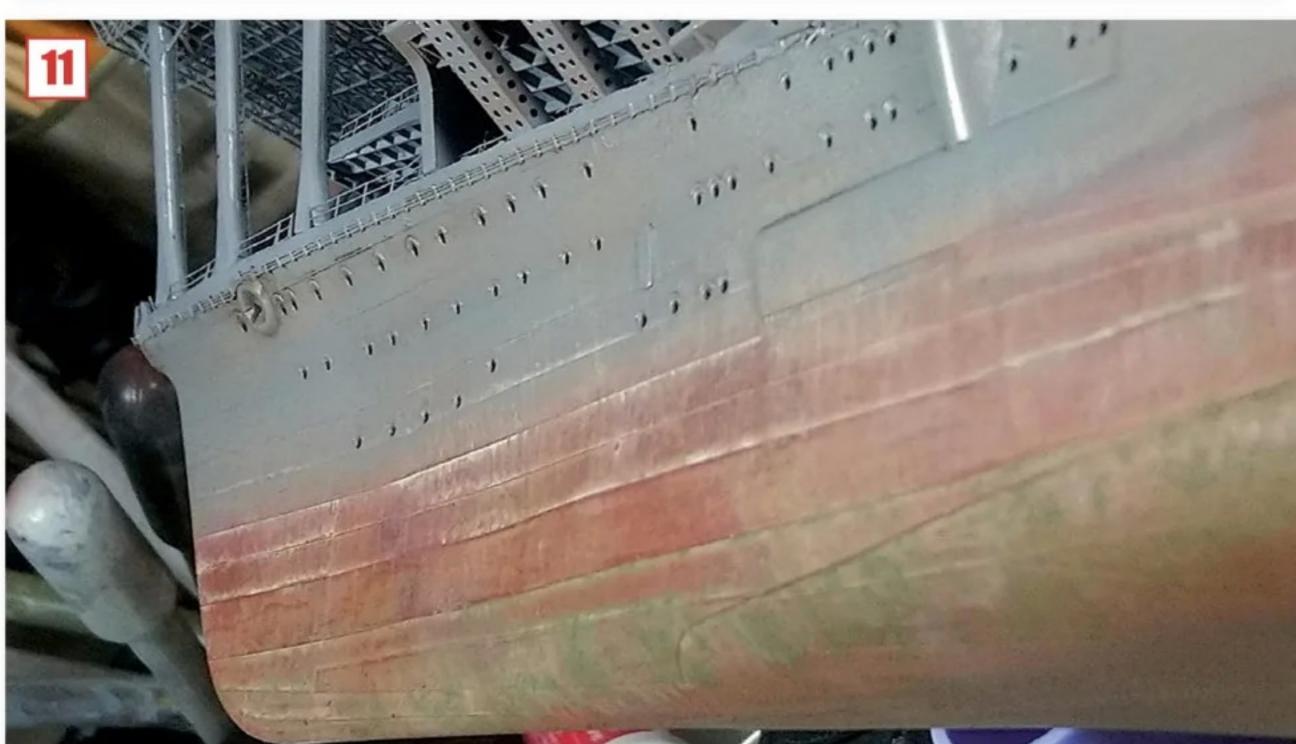
Ships, AK304 Brown Streaking Grime for Red Hulls, MIG-1411 Slimy Grime Light effect and MIG-1410 Slimy Grime Dark effect. The result was a very convincing weathered under hull [pic 11].

For the upper structure I also used AK304 Brown Streaking Grime for Red Hulls for the portholes and other hull details, but this was limited since I

didn't want to overdo it. For the flight deck I used Shipyard 1:350 wooden set. I picked this over the Fujimi option because on top of the wooden deck it also provides fully upgraded PE deck surface details, wind breakers and pre-cut masking line for the ship [pic 12]. This makes the whole painting process much easier.







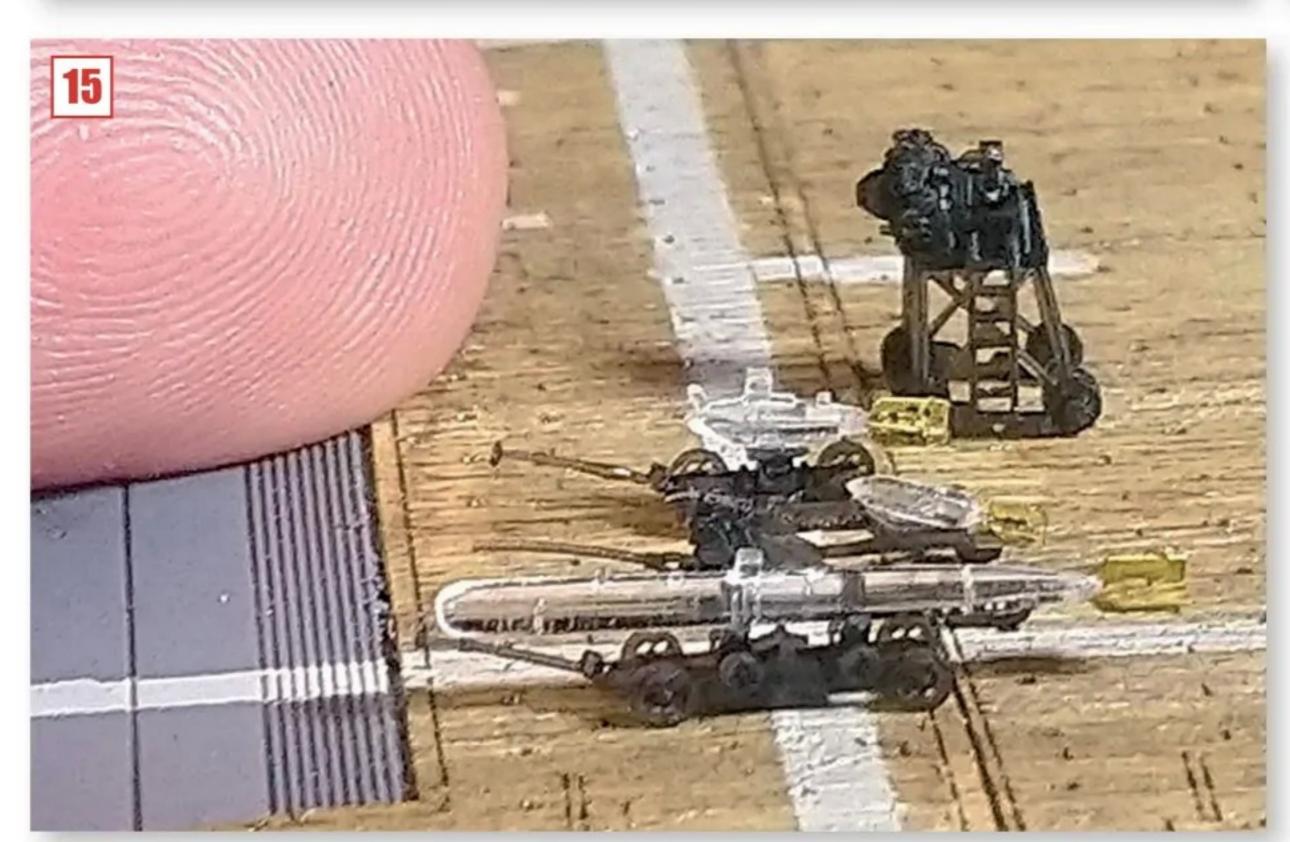


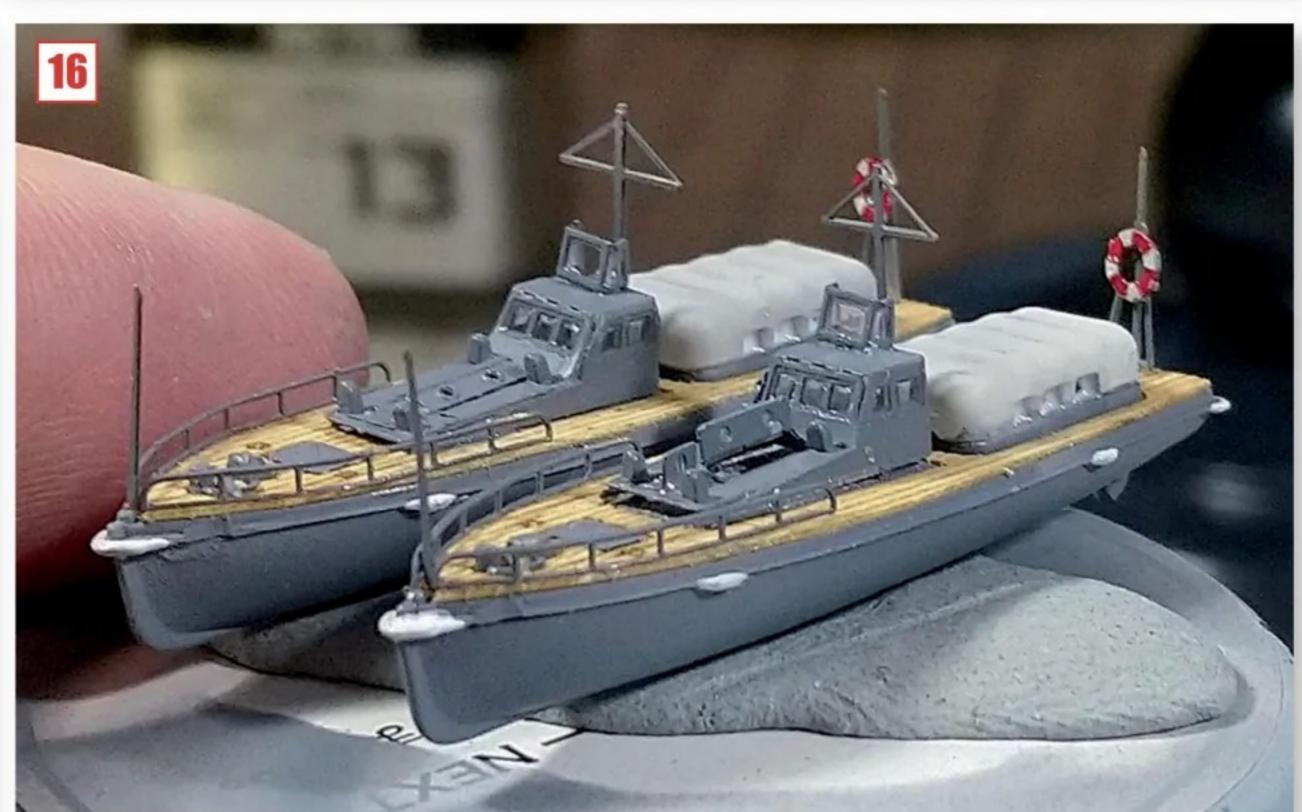
FULL-BUILD: WORLD WAR TWO AXIS SHIPPING

FUJIMI 1:350 IJN AIRCRAFT CARRIER KAGA SPECIAL VERSION (OPERATION MI/BATTLE OF MIDWAY) ● KIT NO.60072









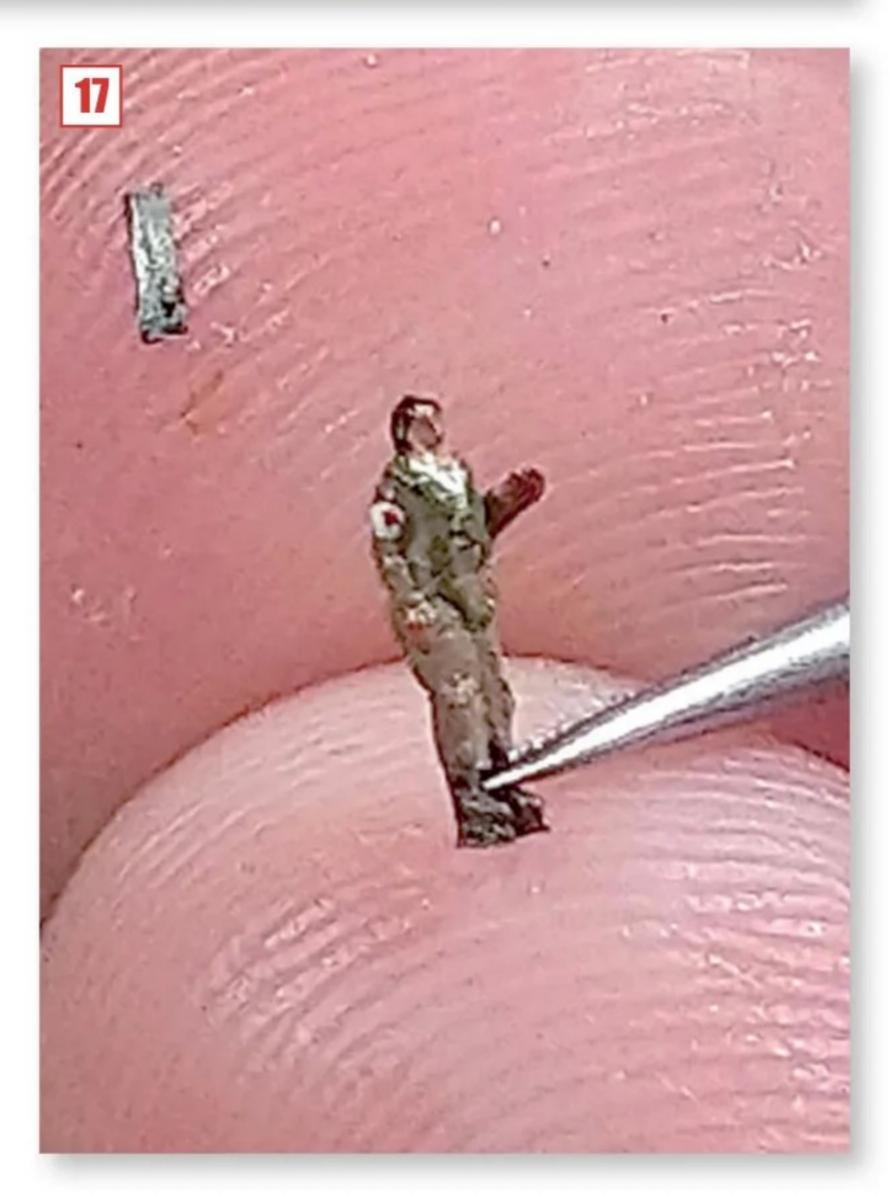
• RECREATING THE HISTORY

As mentioned, since I was going to recreate the preparation stages of the aircraft carrier before the first attack wave of the Battle of Midway, a lot of time and effort was put into researching how and what the Imperial Japanese Navy prepare the flight deck.

After a lot of digging through documents and rare historical film I finally had a general idea of the set-up on deck. One of my respectful seniors used to say: "the soul of the aircraft carrier is the winged guns placed on it", so I decided to give the aircraft the best detail I could possibly make.

The first thing was to find a suitable set of the aircraft for this project and I chose the Hasegawa 1:350 IJN carrier aircraft set since they have the most detail for this scale. The only downside is that the sets only provide three A6M2 Zero, three Aichi D3A1 Val and six B6N2 Kate, so I had to

buy five more of this set making the total of thirty aircraft. I also picked up the Infini Model IJN Carrier Aircraft Detail Set A for the extra details on the aircraft. During the Battle of Midway, all the dive bombers and torpedo bombers were painted green, so I used Mr Hobby C5 Dark Green and C35 Grey for both the Val and Kate camo, with some chipping effects using a silver colour. Then the aircraft service mechanics, pilots and sailors were added. Since I wanted to make the whole scene to look alive, I bought a lot of resin figures from many sources. For the sailors and pilots, I used North Star Model resin figures. For the aircraft service mechanics and bomb trolley I used 3D-printed figures from Grapefruit Models. For me these figures are the best I have seen in the 1:350 and I will definitely buy products by them again (pics 13 to 17). •





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Bf 109G-5, WNr. 27119, Uffz. Gerhard Kroll, Ofw. Friedrich Ungar, Fw. Emil Hecker 9./JG 54, Ludwigsluft, Germany, February 1944



Bf 109G-5/U2, WNr. 27112, Maj. Walther Dahl, CO of III./JG 3, Bad Wörishofen, Germany, December 1943



Bf 109G-6, WNr. 18107, Uffz. Georg Amon, 7./JG 53, Torazzo, Sicily, June 1943



Bf 109G-6, WNr.18502 or 18503, Hptm. Horst Carganico, CO of II./JG 5, Pskov-South, the Soviet Union, early 1944



Bf 109G-6, WNr. 20499, Lt. Erich Hartmann, CO of 9./JG 52, New Zaporozhye, the Soviet Union, October 1943



Bf 109G-5, WNr. 26082, Flg. Victor Widmaier, 7./JG 11, Oldenburg, Germany, October 1943



Bf 109G-5, WNr. 110047, Ofw. Hanns-Werner Gross, 1./JG 300, Bonn-Hangelar, Germany, March 1944



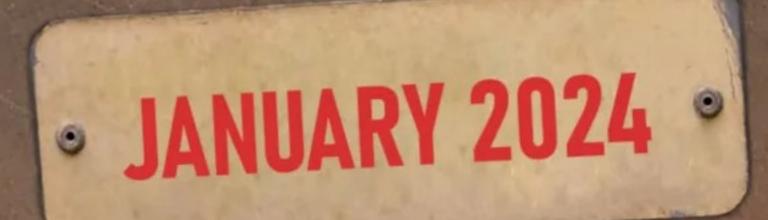
Bf 109G-6, WNr. 20272, Oblt. Heinrich Klöpper, CO of 7./JG 1, Rheine, Germany, November 1943



Bf 109G-6, WNr. 163627, ylikersantti Leo Ahokas, 3/ HLeLv 24, Lappeenranta, Finland, June 1944



Bf 109G-6 Trop, WNr. 27169, Fw. Heinrich Bartels, 11./JG 27, Kalamaki, Greece, November 1943





Bf 109G-6 Trop, Oblt. Alfred Grislawski, CO of 1./JG 50, Wiesbaden-Erbenheim, Germany, September 1943



Bf 109G-6, WNr. 19456, Oberst Hannes Trautloft, Stab General der Jagdflieger, the Soviet Union, August 1943

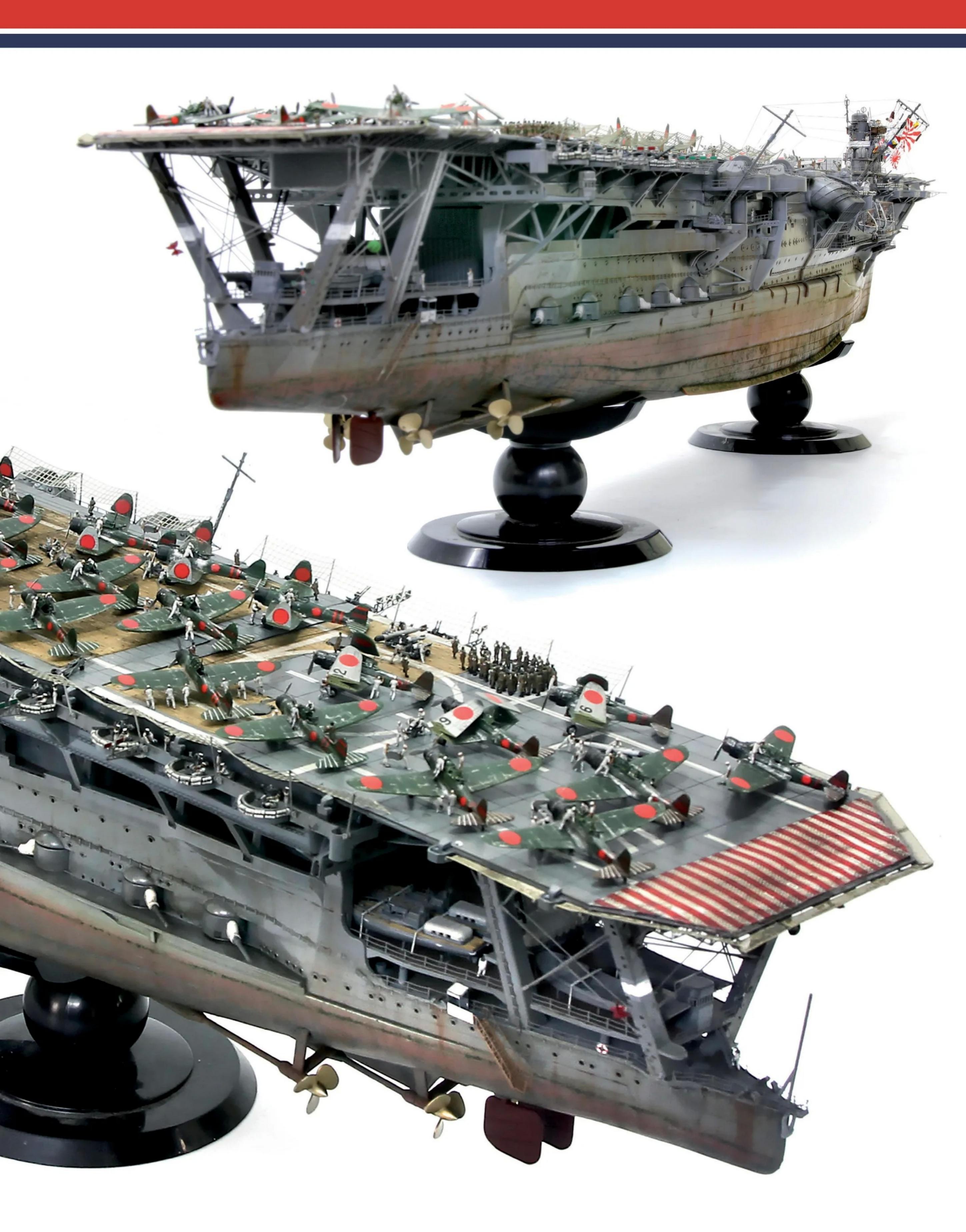


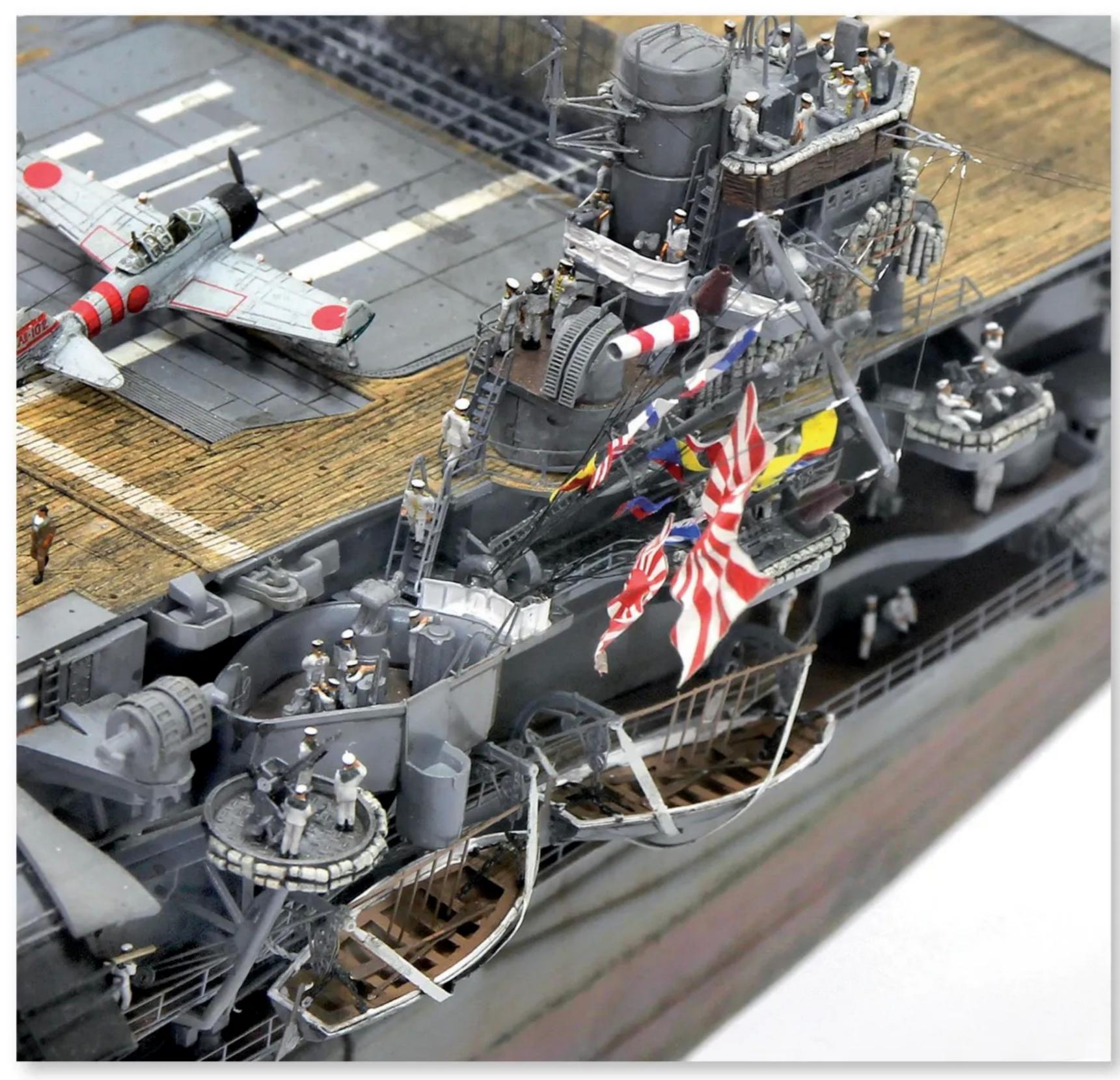
Bf 109G-6, WNr. 163162, 2a Squadriglia, 2o Gruppo Caccia, Verona-Villafranca, Italy, October 1944



Bf 109G-6, WNr. 161742, Rtk. Rudolf Božik, Combined Flight, Slovak National Uprising, Tri Duby airflield, Slovakia, September 1944







30 March 2024 TMMI 341

CONCLUSION

This was a very fun and challenging build for me since this was uncharted territories, with many new things to learn and discover along the way. The Fujimi kit was excellent and the PE provided a lot of details. With the new age of 3D-printed products I can see the future of many builds will have details that only we can dream of. I really enjoyed making this historical ship and it is a great honour for me that many readers of TMMI can enjoy my works. •

TECHSPEC...

FUJIMI 1:350 IJN AIRCRAFT CARRIER KAGA SPECIAL VERSION (OPERATION MI/BATTLE OF MIDWAY) KIT NO.60072 Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, photo-etched brass, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Mr Hobby: Mr Surfacer Primer 1000, C4 Yellow, C81
 Russet, C29 Hull Red, C33 Flat Black,
- Tamiya: Lacquer Paint LP-15 IJN Grey (Yokosuka Arsenal),
 Panel Line Accent Color Dark Brown
- AK Interactive: AK306 Salt Streaks for Ships, AK304 Brown Streaking Grime for Red Hulls
- AMMO-Mig: 1411 Slimy Grime Light effect and MIG-1410 Slimy Grime Dark effect.

Accessories used:

- Fujimi: IJN Aircraft Carrier Kaga photo-etch (114576)
- Shipyard: 1:350 Wood Deck IJN Kaga for Fujimi (350020)
- Hasegawa: QG56 IJN Carrier-Based Aircraft Set (72156)

 Availability:
- Fujimi: various sources, search online
- North Star Model: search online
- Grapetrut Models: search online

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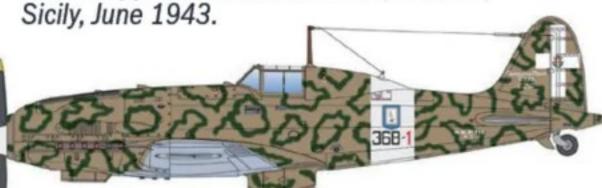




E. Serie XI (Breda), MM 9691, 353rd Squadriglia,



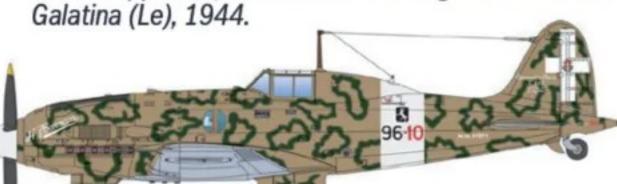
F. Serie XIII (Macchi), MM 91981, 356th Squadriglia, XXIst Gruppo Aut. Caccia Terrestri, Sciacca,



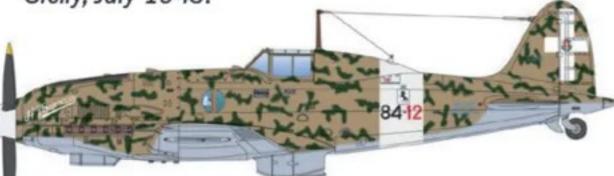
G. Serie XIII (Macchi), MM 91956, Capt. Mario Ferrero (?), 368th Squadriglia, 151st Gruppo, 53rd Stormo,



H. Serie XI (Breda), MM 6599, 90th Squadriglia, 10th Gruppo C.T., 4th Stormo Co-belligerant Italian Air Force,



A. Serie XIII (Macchi), MM 91971, Ten. Emanuele Annoni, 96ma Squadriglia, 9th Gruppo, 4th Stormo, Sicily, July 1943.



B. Serie XII (Breda), MM 91815, Ten. Luigi Giannella, 84ma Squadriglia, 10th gruppo, 4th Stormo, Sicily, July 1943.



C. Serie XII (Breda), MM 91865 (?), 70th Squadriglia, 23rd Gruppo., 3rd Stormo, Cerveteri (Roma), August 1943.



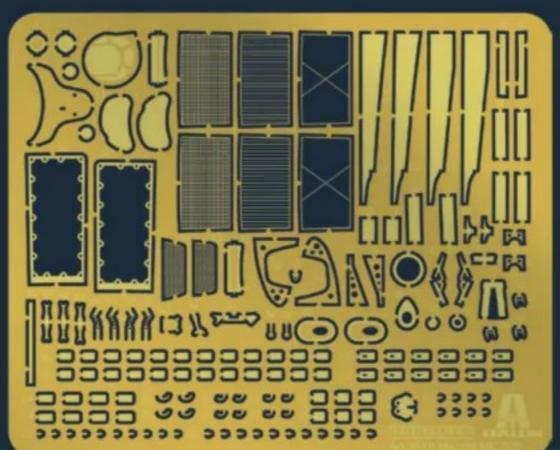
D. Serie IX (Macchi)", MM 9454, Serg. Gualberto Benzi, 96th Squadriglia, 154th Gr. Aut. C.T. Rodi, Gadurrà, summer 1943.



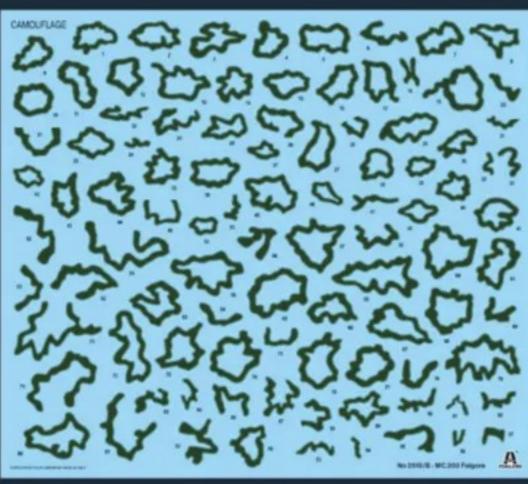
Super Decals Sheet for 8 versions



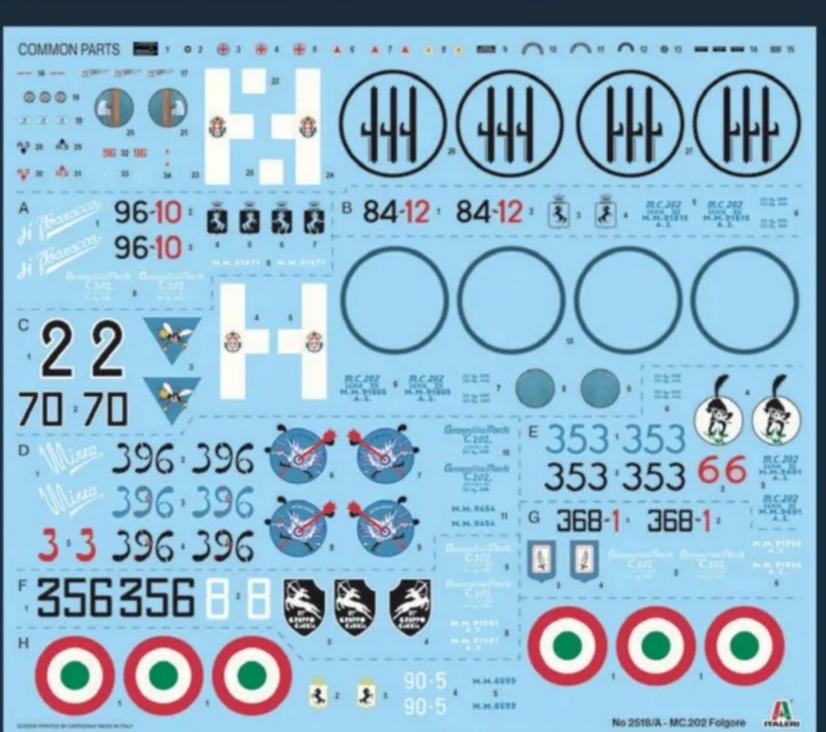
3D cockpit decals



PE parts for engine, flaps, cockpit and overall detailing



Realistic smoke rings decals with application guide



Model Kit Features

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- Finely detailed engine and nose gun bay
- Detailed landing gear with optionals wells covers
- PE parts for engine, flaps, cockpit and overall detailing
- Realistic panel lines and rivets
- Moveable wings and tail ailerons
- Open or closed flaps
- Two types of tail ailerons
- Realistic smoke rings decals with application guide
- Colored painting and decals guide



In volo verso il futuro

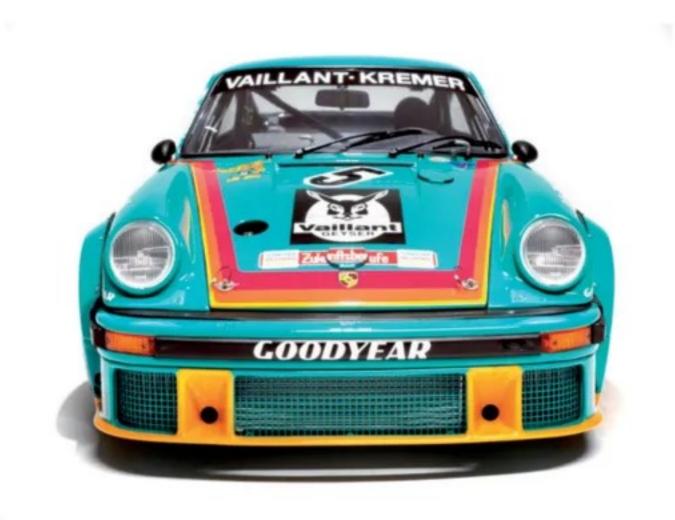
1:72 AMX Ghibli N°1460

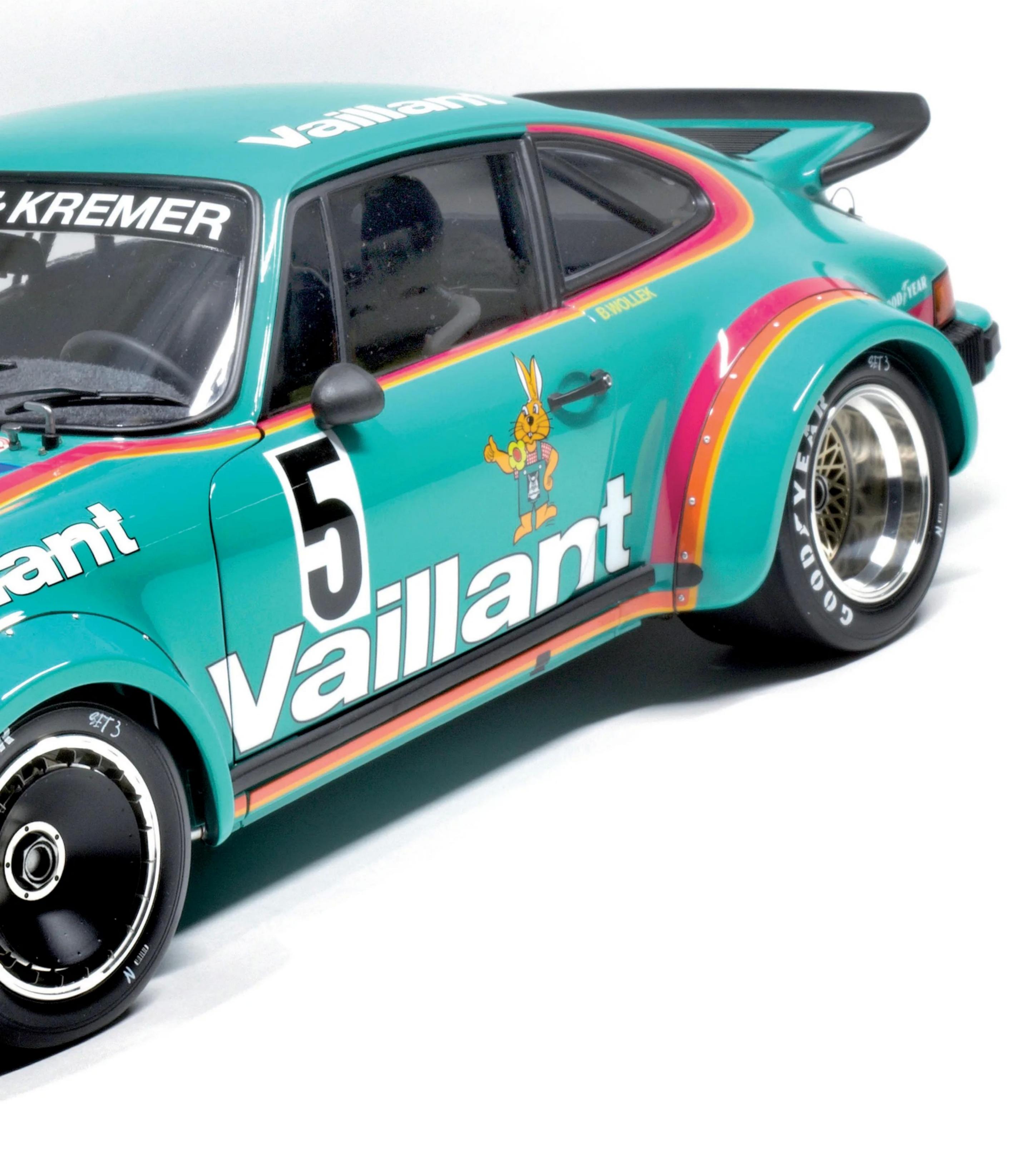
- Detailed cockpit and ejection seat
- Fine engraved lines
- Landing gears accurately reproduced
- Alternative parts for early and late ACOL versions
- Photoetched parts
- Super Decal Sheets for 4 versions











i folks, so here is the last instalment of my mega Porsche project! Once the running gear had been secured in place it was time to shove in that huge engine. The engine bay sundries were fitted first: reworked electrical parts, starter motor, ignition panel, water reserve tank and oil catch-tank. These were all connected up and plumbed in accordingly first as once the engine goes in, there wouldn't be much room for manoeuvre later. At first, I couldn't see how the engine would all fit in as it was just so large and I'd pre-fitted the rear seat panel already, deliberately. But with a little jiggering and nervous jolting around, she slipped in. Once in situ, the block is secured in place by four screws and connected up to its surrounding components: things are beginning to shape up! I'd definitely advise fitting the engine block first before the fuel cell area and internal parts, as it's a safer approach lessening the risk of damaging any components during the build process.

Now it was the turn of the fuel cell area and the steady build-up of previously constructed parts. Firstly the smaller sundries needed to be added so they could be easily wired into their respective areas. Then the oil tank with all its many braided hosing cables followed by the heater unit. The interior dashboard was located permanently which gave me a better chance to locate the steering column and connect it all up. The large frontal oil cooling radiator was located and then plumbed into the oil tank. Note at this point, Tamiya instruct us to plumb the box supplied hosing into two prongs which sit on the rear panel behind the radiator to represent plumbing. In a previous stage and using real-time reference, I actually bored-out the lower corner just enough to accommodate two A/N fittings which had already been fitted to the lower back of the radiator. This gave a more aesthetically pleasing finish with a genuine connection point of the oil lines. After



Humble beginnings with the bodywork. Superb in its shape already, but there is much to do



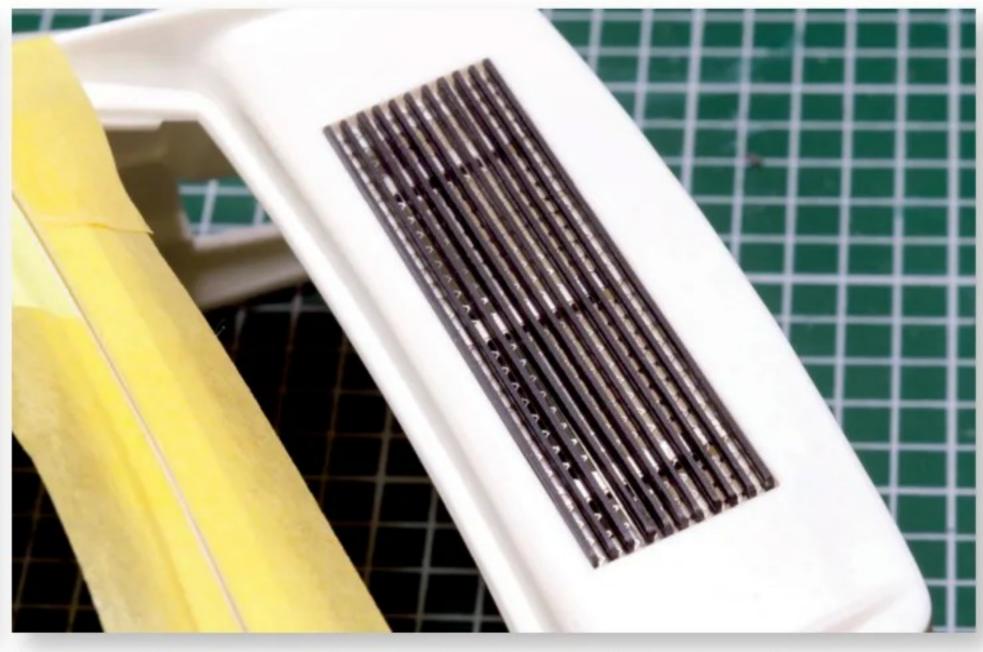
Opening up the rear vent panel that sits above the rear window. Mesh will be placed to the rear of the vent at a later point



Now the vent panel is in place, the edges will be filled and sealed in giving a more uniform finish



For a more aesthetic spoiler vent, I remodelled the original parts using a mixture of the Scalelab24 etched base and plastic fins



The meticulous work now looks much better. You can just about see the mesh pattern backing up the fins. This will be applied on the larger vent too

finalising more cabling lines, hosing and any other important parts, the large fuel cell is slotted into place. There was still a fair few braided fuel lines to locate, some other minor plumbing points to follow and add on the cross-member strut brace, but essentially another stage is complete!

To finish the whole chassis work, all interior parts were located permanently including the large roll cage. The final plumbing stages could now be addressed around the cabin and any

loose ends could be tied up in the engine bay. We are good to park the chassis and head to the next big stage with the body shell.

SHAPING UP THE BODY

To ensure everything fits and as it should, a good trial run session of all parts here is a must! At first glance I noticed the door shut gaps all around seemed to be off, the bonnet fitment needed addressing once it was located in place and it was missing the rain gutters that run along the upper

part of the body shell. The wheel arch extensions needed correcting, as I felt with the way they were moulded it looked as though the body fitted to them rather than the extensions were fitted to the body. Some other areas I wanted to improve on were replacing those moulded-in fuel filler flaps on the hood for a more three-dimensional look, open up the air vents on the scuttle panel and air vents to the upper rear window along with improving the overall look of the upper spoiler grill detailing.



The arch re-work begins with masking stencils being made, then the moulded in wheel arch joining lip is sanded down and smoothed off on all four corners



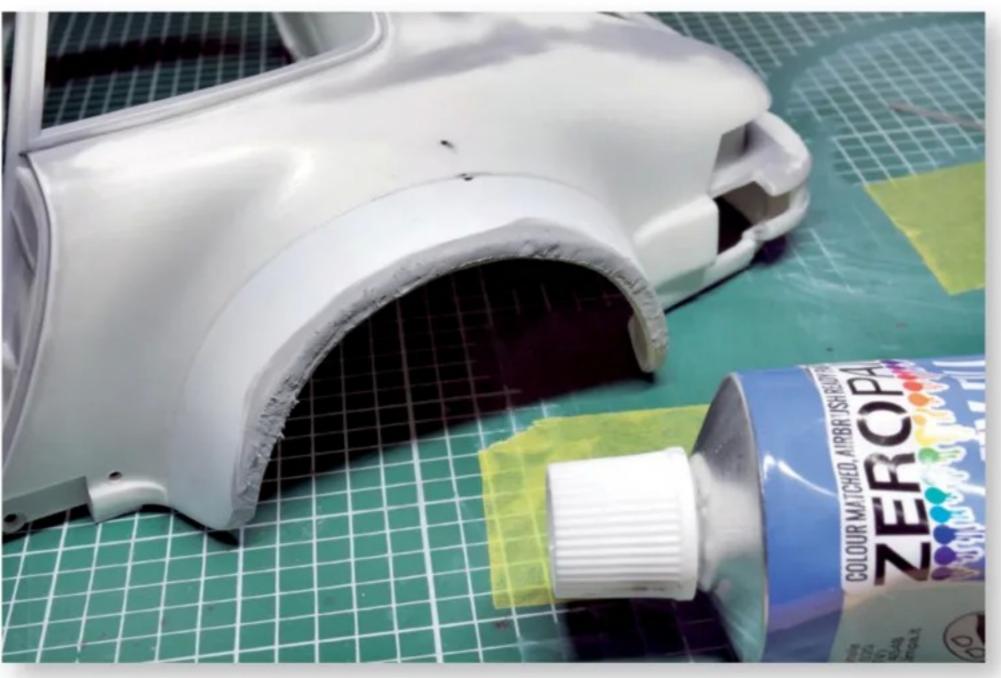
A new arch lift panel is made from thin styrene. Both rear arches are wider than the front. The front wheel arch lifts will take a little more work as they are tighter and thinner



Once the reworked arches are affixed into place, they can be trimmed to size and the clean up can begin

The main body had all its seem lines sanded away and any imperfections ironed out before the filler work started. Tamiya's Epoxy Putty 'Smooth Finish' was used to fill the larger gaps surrounding each door and boot shut where required, swiftly followed by Zero Paints Fine Grey Model Filler to tidy up the work. This was all sanded smooth then airbrushed in primer to check for any imperfections that I may have missed along the way. The sanding, filler and airbrush primer method was repeated until I was totally happy to move on to the next stage. Pay attention to the panel insert that fits underneath the large rear spoiler as this will need some filling to hide those nasty join lines.

Enhancing the wheel arch extensions all around proved to be quite tricky. I wanted them to have a better visual fit that followed the contours of the body shape much better than they started out. This would involve lifting the moulded-in arch



Filling the gaps between the old and new require quite a bit of work. Zero-filler was applied liberally to ensure no join lines would be seen



Once the filler was sanded smooth, primer was applied, mainly for a cleaner visual check. The filler/ primer steps would be repeated many times until the job was complete

extensions by adding a depth increase using a styrene sheet. Starting from the rears first, the moulded in join line detail was reduced down with sanding and two new wheel arch covers cut to shape using 0.4mm styrene sheet. They were glued into place, left to cure then the edges carefully trimmed back to meet the existing wheel arch edges: remember I'm increasing the depth, not the thickness. The extension edges were next filled with Zero Paints filler, left to cure

and carefully reshaped with various sanding methods. Primer was airbrushed to check for imperfections and if any issues were found, re-filled and prep work repeated where necessary. The front arches were a little more difficult to improve as they were thinner and tighter to depth increase, but nonetheless the same method as the rear ones was followed.

For the rain gutters, 'Plastruct' styrene strip (item No 90721) was used following

the real car as a guide for fitment. A refreshingly easy enhancement to do considering all of the previous work up to this point. New fuel flaps on the hood were made, again out of styrene. Two sizes were cut per flap using the DSPIAE circular cutter: one being the rubber seal behind the main flap and of course the main flap itself. The original ones needed sanding away from the hood paying attention to their original location along the way.



For the missing rain gutters, I opted for Plastruct No 90721 due to its thin edge and depth



The styrene strip is actually really easy to apply. Working a section a time using Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement, the plastic melts onto the surface in no time at all



The phrase "sand, filler, primer, sand, filler, primer and repeat" will be etched into my mind forever. But the result after all of that work has been totally worth the time taken

TAMIYA 1:12 BIG SERIES PORSCHE 934 VAILLANT 1976 DRM SERIES ENTRANT ● KIT NO.12056

O COLOUR WORK

Now all the prep was complete the final run was ahead. Mr Finishing Surfacer 1500 White Primer was applied in all areas then sanded smooth, followed by several colour build passes of Zero Paints Vaillant Green. The colour work was sealed in using Zero's Diamond Gloss 2-pack Clear, left to cure then sanded smooth in all areas. Tamiya's large decal sheet was pulled out and then attacked with scissors. Applying them as directed, they went down really nicely with no issues to report. Even applying them around the lower section of the front bumper was a steady affair, using decal softener and mild heat they did exactly what I needed them to do. Once the livery was cured, I went back in again with Zero Paints Diamond Gloss 2-Pack Clear to seal them in.

After another couple of days of curing, the clear-coat was sanded smooth for a final time paying attention to any imperfections found along the way. The body gloss was returned using a Dremel power tool and three stages of the fantastic 'Scholl concepts' compound system. A reliable high quality brand I'd used for several years in the bodyshop trade. S3 Gold for stage one, S17+ for stage two and S40 finishing compound for a final gloss. To top off the work, a healthy dose Autoglym's Super Resin polish was applied. Once the outer body work was complete, the interior was



For this larger scale operation and to ensure the decal work had no application issues, I applied the Zero Paints body colour followed by 2k gloss clear first



All panels were sanded smooth, to a certain point.

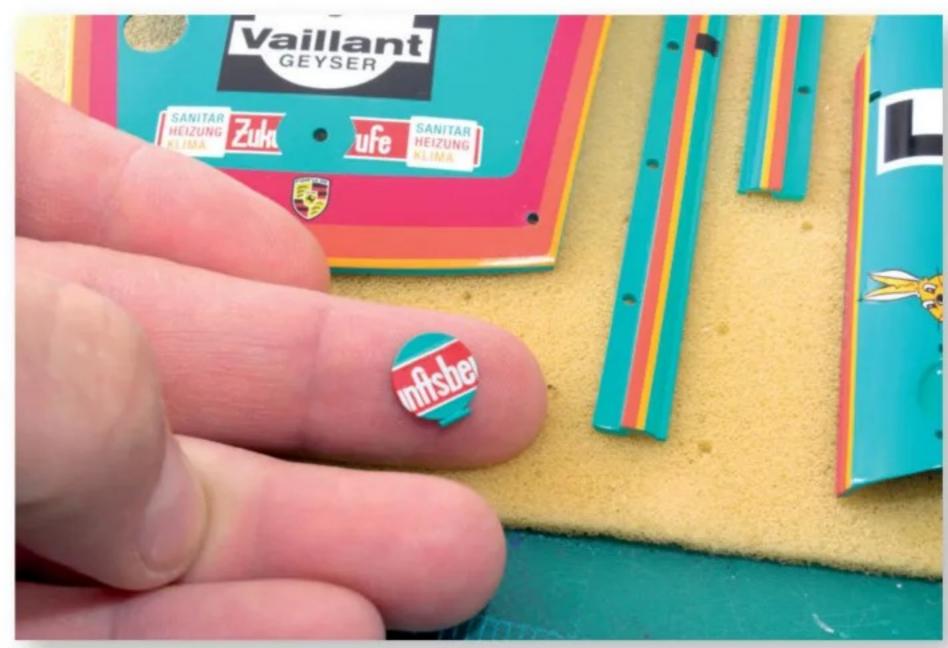
Sanding perfection wasn't necessary here, as that's not required at this stage. Perfection can be chased at the end



You'll notice both moulded-in fuel flaps have been removed. I didn't really like the moulded in ones. Instead, opting in to make new ones for a more three-dimensional finish



Applying the thirteen lower front bumper decals weren't as difficult as I thought they could be. The decals behaved well to softener and gentle heat bonding to the surface superbly



The central front fuel flap decal needed trimming out as per previous image, this needed lining up once the main decal was applied to ensure continuity



After decal application the main body was 2k gloss lacquered, followed by a full wet sand to smooth the surface prior to the compound work

leaving the window rubbers and door-shut rubbers exposed



These are the pods that fit behind the front bumper. They guide the air through to cool the front brakes. Photo-etch mesh is supplied with the Tamiya kit: they will be painted body colour





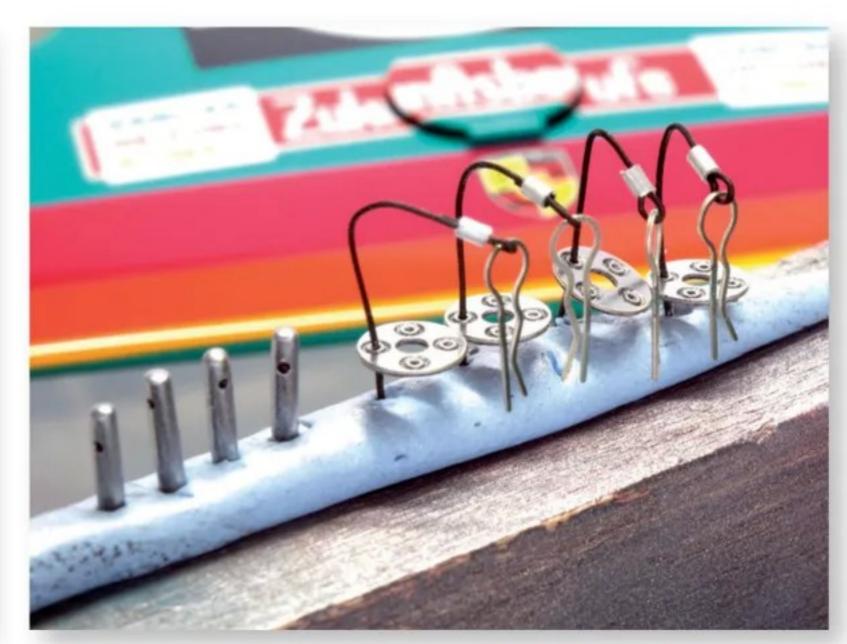
airbrushed in semi-gloss black along with the window seals. Now the main shell could be built up with all its components and carefully located to the chassis, this was also secured with box-supplied screws which are nicely hidden under the side skirts. The box-supplied wheels were replaced with Studio Rosso turned aluminium rings and resin centrepieces. They fit snugly into the supplied tyres and look fabulous once located and the area detailed. •



Light lens work. The black edging around the red panel was personal choice and not instructed. This is however on the real deal so I opted for reference over description



Engine bay detail. Logos supplied in the kit box, boot shut detailed with aftermarket bolts and careful paintwork



Quick release safety catch items made from different upgrade sets and added wire to simulate pin strap







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TAMIYA 1:12 BIG SERIES PORSCHE 934 VAILLANT 1976 DRM SERIES ENTRANT ● KIT NO.12056

Porsche teardrop seat. This seat is also used on the 935 kit and that has different seat subframe supports. So those holes needed filling in along with the head rest join

The base support is a separate part which is very handy in the paint process. These will be painted independently to ensure smoother paint control



I didn't like the fit of the box-supplied rubber door cards. They seemed chunky and off colour and had big holes where screws would go through them. So I chose to remake them



The original parts destined for the box-stock part were instead used for the new door card. The top pad of each door card will need trimming off and fixing to the new one



Thick styrene was cut out according to size using the original part as a stencil

What's a late '70s race seat without some lived-in wear? I paid attention to seat edges, where the legs rub on entry and the most points of contact. Various drab shades were airbrushed lightly to those areas



All door card parts will be airbrushed according to preference using Rubber Black and Semi-Gloss Black



A brand new set of wheels will replace the box supplied items. Studio Rosso offer up turned aluminium rings, resin centres and a set of turbo fans that fit snuggly into the box stock tyres



The resin centres were cleaned up, set in primer then airbrushed in Mr Color's Super Metallic 2 'Super Rich Gold'



Wheel centres mounted with bolt

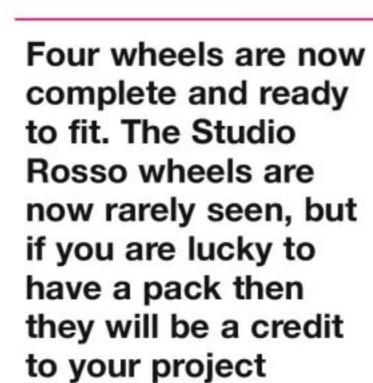
Apart from the Goodyear logo, I

also applied tyre markings using



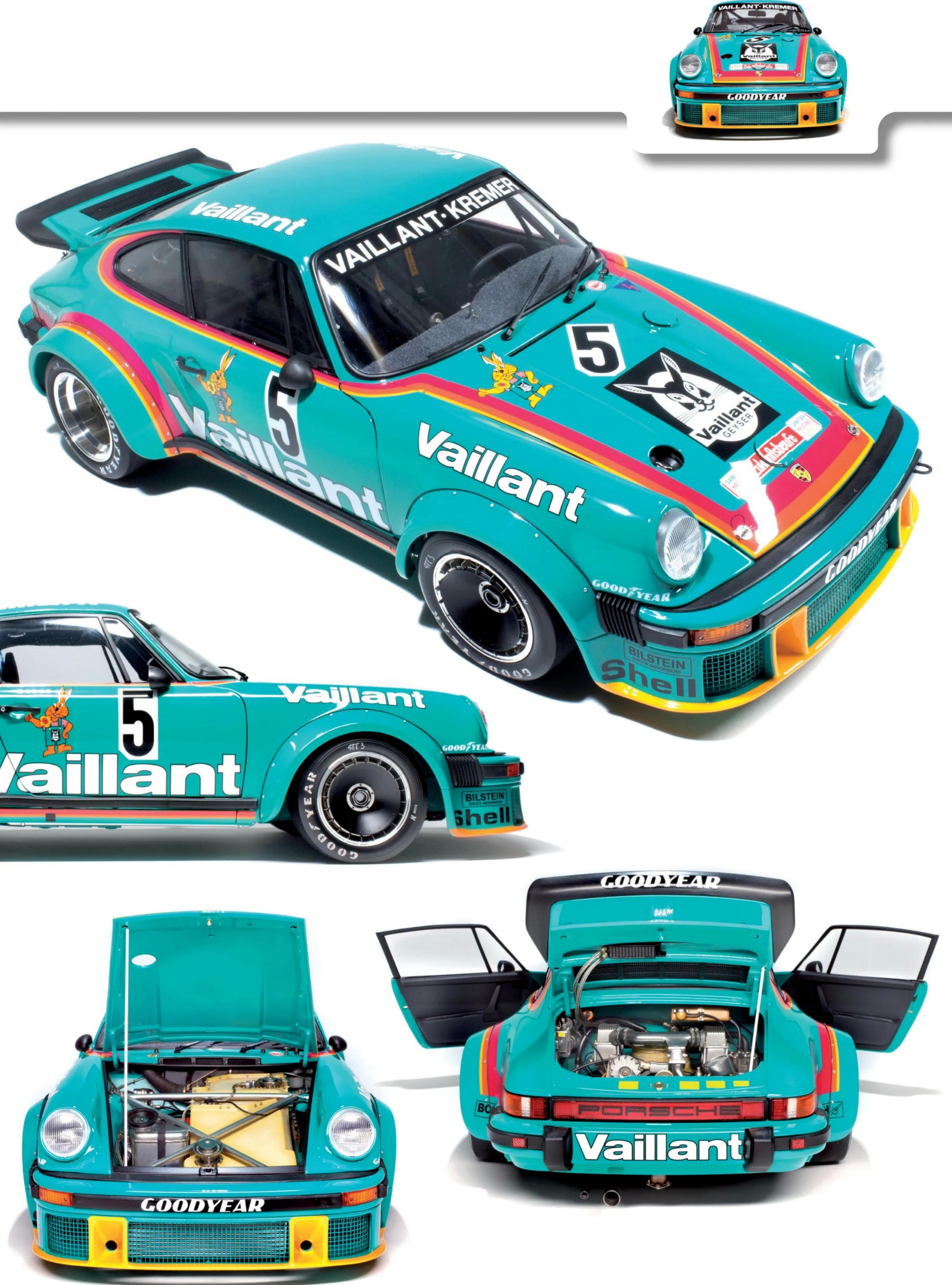
chose to loosely mount the fans to the front wheels instead of permanently to give the option to display them on or off

The turbo fans are resin items with photo-etched rings to hold them to the wheel. The fins on the etched ring need turning 90 degrees then mounting to the back of the fan











• CHEQUERED FLAG

Considering is a 1976 mould using old design processes, you'd be forgiven to think the Big Scale 934 would show its age: a fair question given its forty-seven year old design, but in all honesty that's so far from the truth. This really is still a timeless, high-quality model to have in your collection. Yes okay, there are inevitably going to be some areas that will have you raising an eyebrow, but let those moments spur you on to get creative and get knuckle deep with some good old fashioned modelling techniques. With opening doors, an accessible, fully detailed engine bay and front fuel bay, this really does finish up to be a superb

display piece, the only real issue is finding a quality display case big enough to take care of the car that doesn't cost the earth! If I

told my wife how much mine cost for it no doubt I'd be in the doghouse by now. Best keep that information to myself then!



It has been Porsche pandemonium for our author, Rob Riley!

TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:12 BIG SERIES PORSCHE 934 VAILLANT 1976 DRM SERIES ENTRANT **KIT NO.12056**

Materials:

Injection moulded polystyrene, syntheticrubber parts, smaller details and tyres, two bags of metal screws, photo-etched sheet, vinyl tubing, black cable, coated wire, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya: Lacquer paints and standard acrylic range
- Tamiya: Panel Line Accent Colors
- Mr Hobby: Super Metallic 2 range plus clear coats
- Mr Hobby: Mr Finishing Surfacer 1500 white, grey and black
- Zero Paints: 'Vaillant green' 60ml (ZP-1276)
- Zero Paints: 2-pack Clear-coat system diamond finish
- Lifecolor: paint pigments

Accessories used:

- Scalelab24: 1:12 Porsche 934 Detail Set (SL02-027)
- MFH: 1:12 Seat belt set (P-1039)
- Prime-Miniatures: A huge variety of brass threaded Hex bolts, nuts, washers in many different sizes
- DECALCAS and Top Studio: hose joints in a variety of sizes and styles
- Geronimo Works: rivets in a variety of sizes and styles
- Top Studio: Braided Line black and silver in all sizes
- Tamiya: black cable in all sizes plus a variety of other tubing
- TABU DESIGN: 1:12 Vaillant option decal sheet for missing decals

Availabilities:

- Tamiya models, paints, materials and accessories are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net
- DECALCAS: www.spotmodel.com
- Lifecolor: www.airbrushes.com
- MFH: www.hiroboy.com
- Mr Hobby: www.hiroboy.com
- Prime-Miniatures: www.prime-miniatures.co.uk
- Scalelab24: www.spotmodel.com
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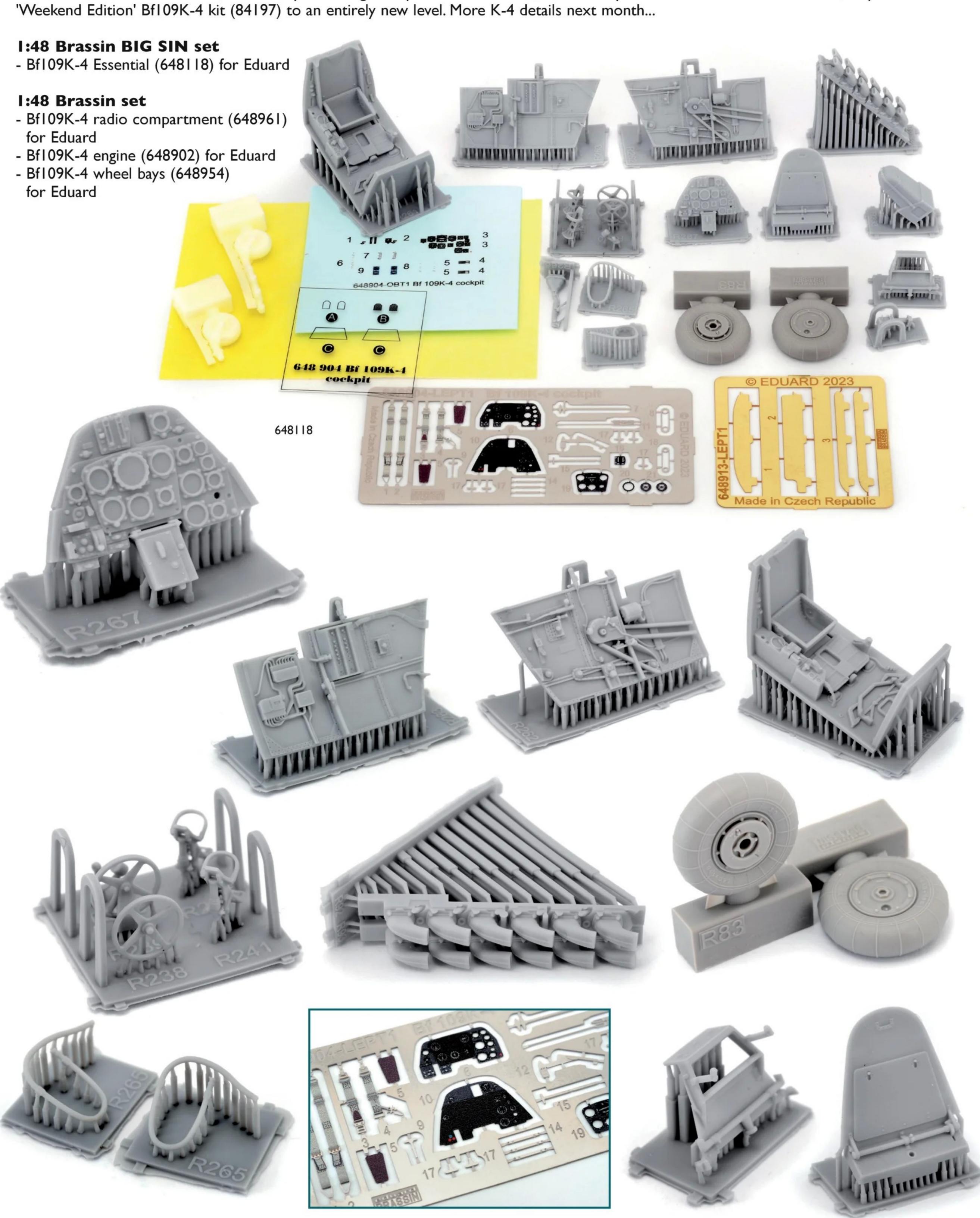
New Releases

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

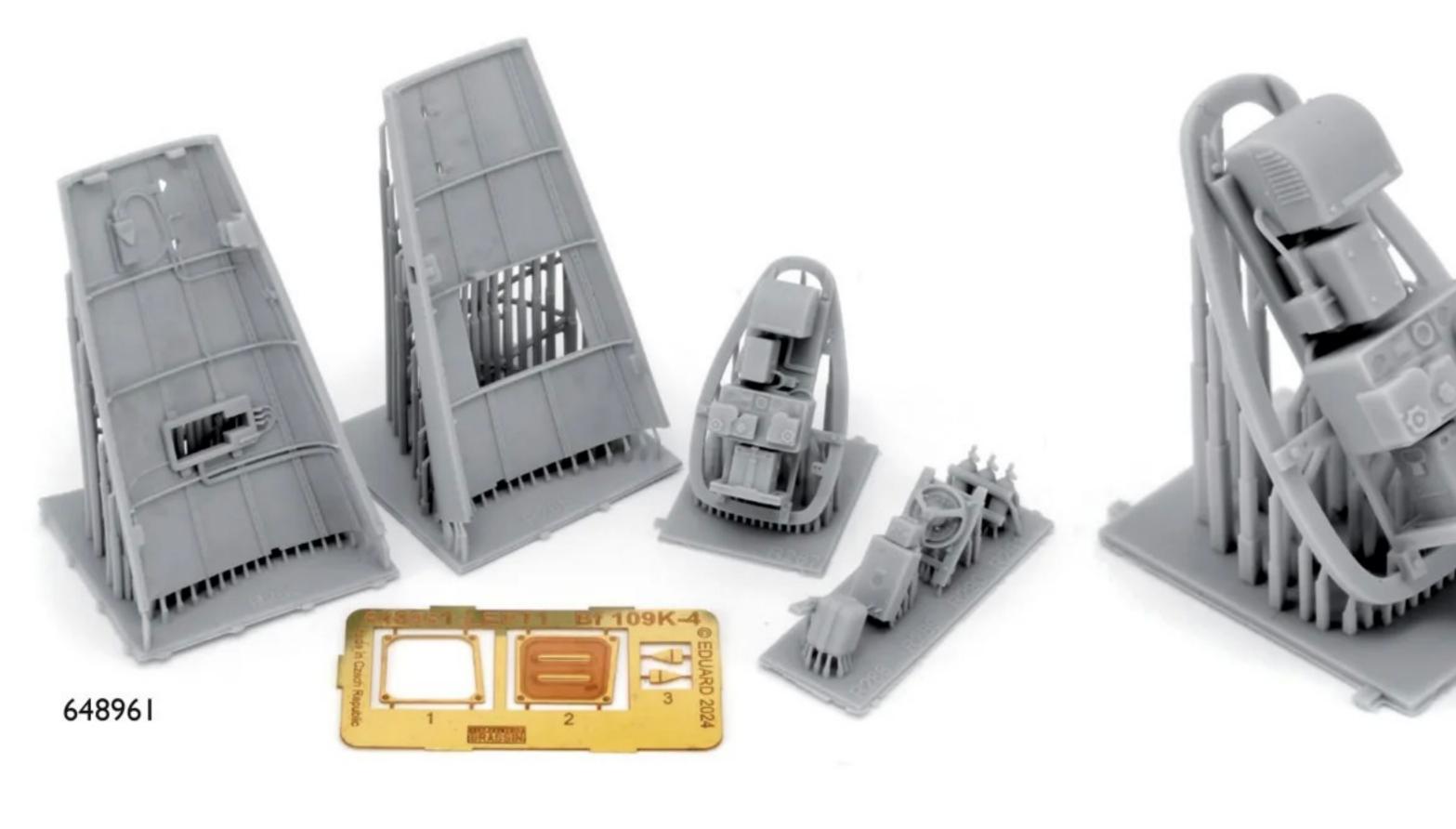
EDUARD, CZECH REPUBLIC

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

Eduard's 1:48 late-war Messerschmitt Bf109K-4 kit seems to have sparked the imagination of aircraft modellers worldwide and Eduard have backed it up with host of upgrades, from a whole new engine, cockpit and wheels to a radio compartment and main undercarriage bay 'liners'. The sets contain 3D-mastered, resin-cast parts along with photo-etched brass, decals and printed-acetate details. Combined, they will take the 'Weekend Edition' Bf109K-4 kit (84197) to an entirely new level. More K-4 details next month...

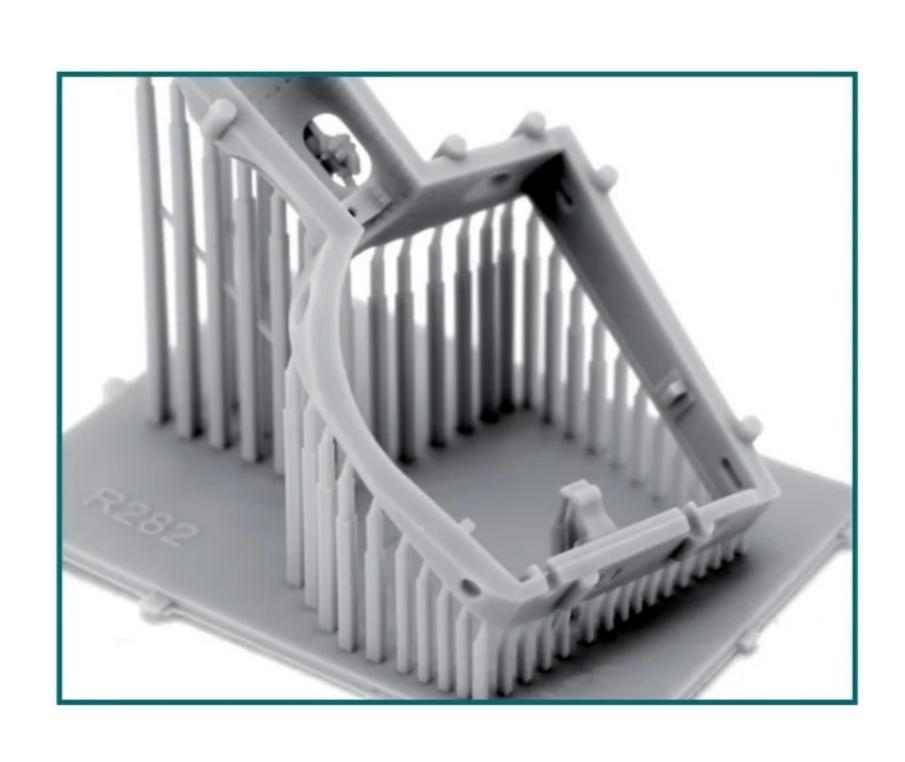


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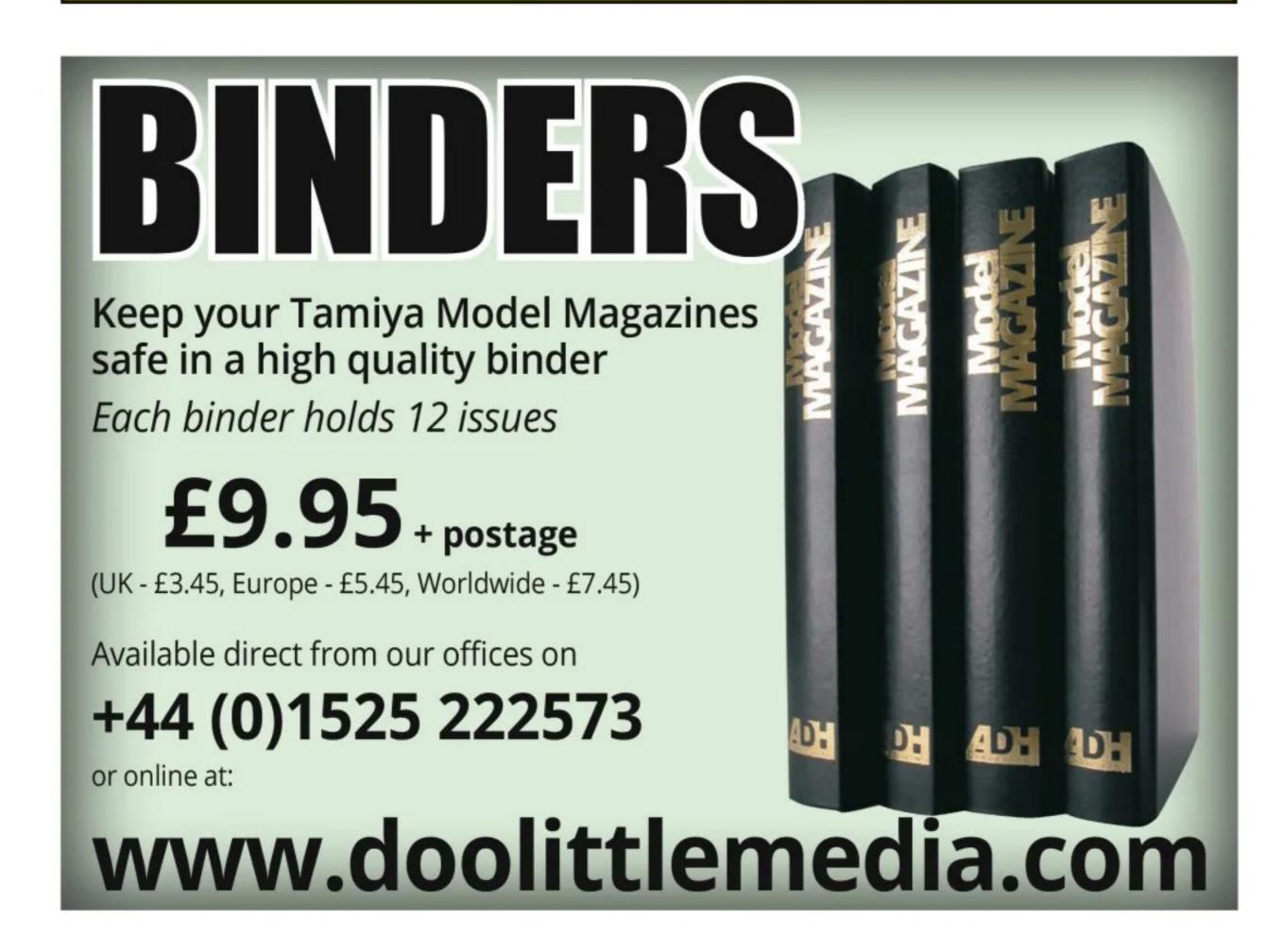
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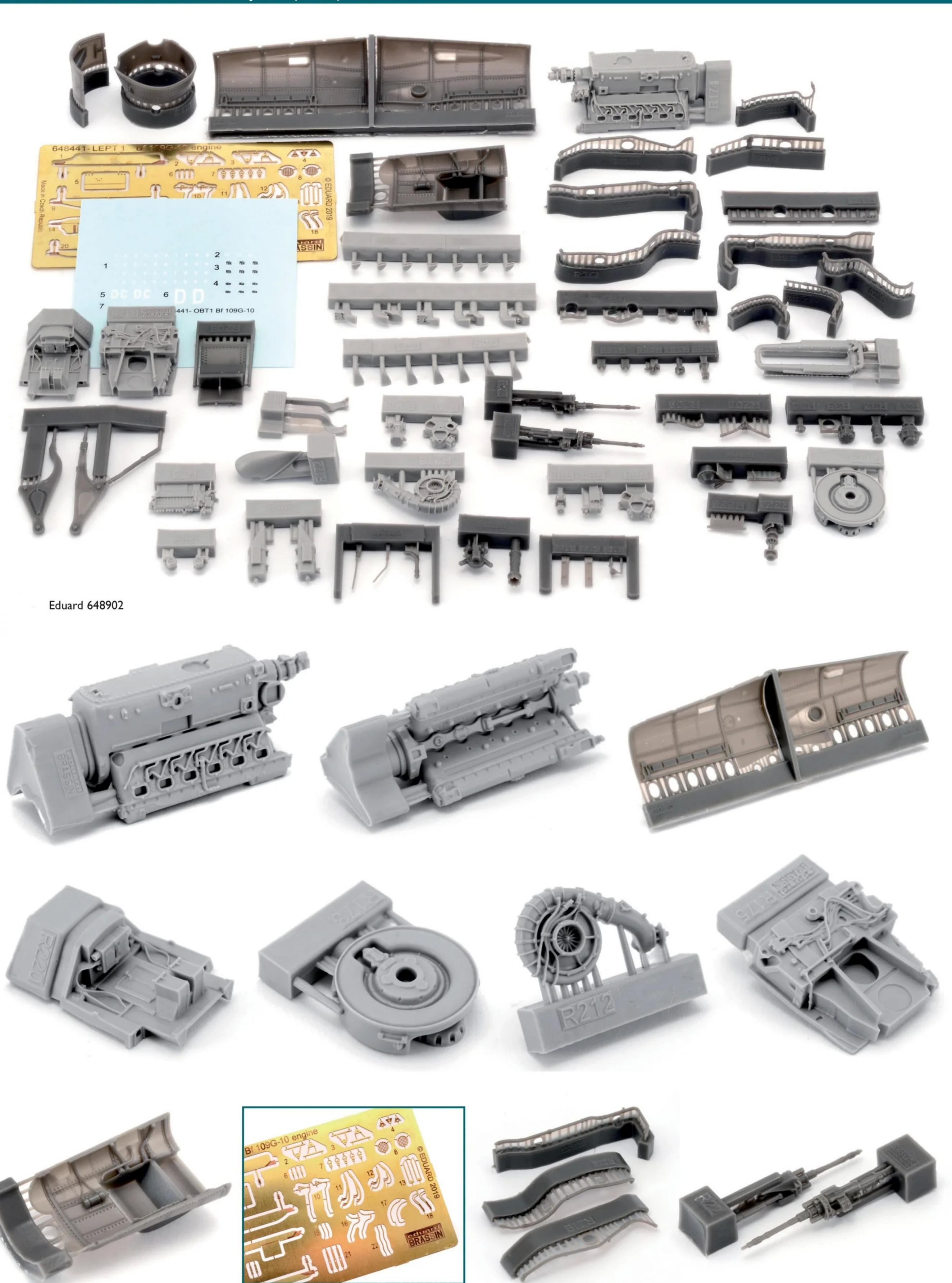
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New Releases Accessories

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











Kit is best to be used with ICM acrylic paint set #3021

342 mm



471 mm



265 parts

1:48 SCALE

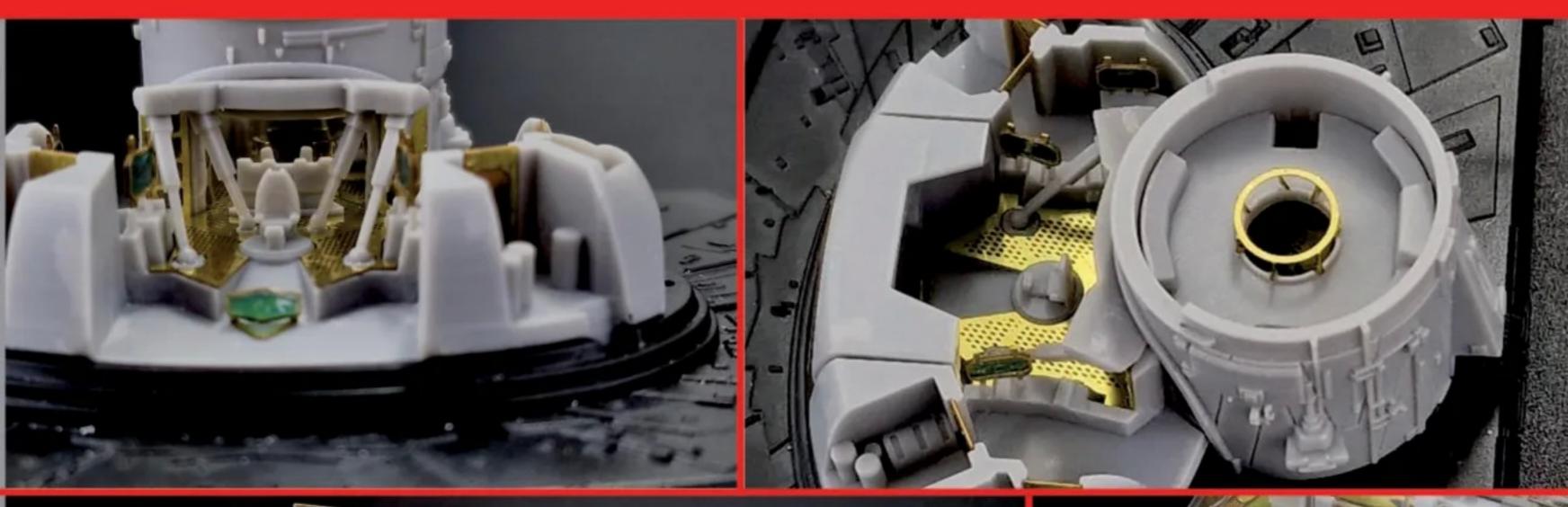
Available

Japanese Heavy Bomber

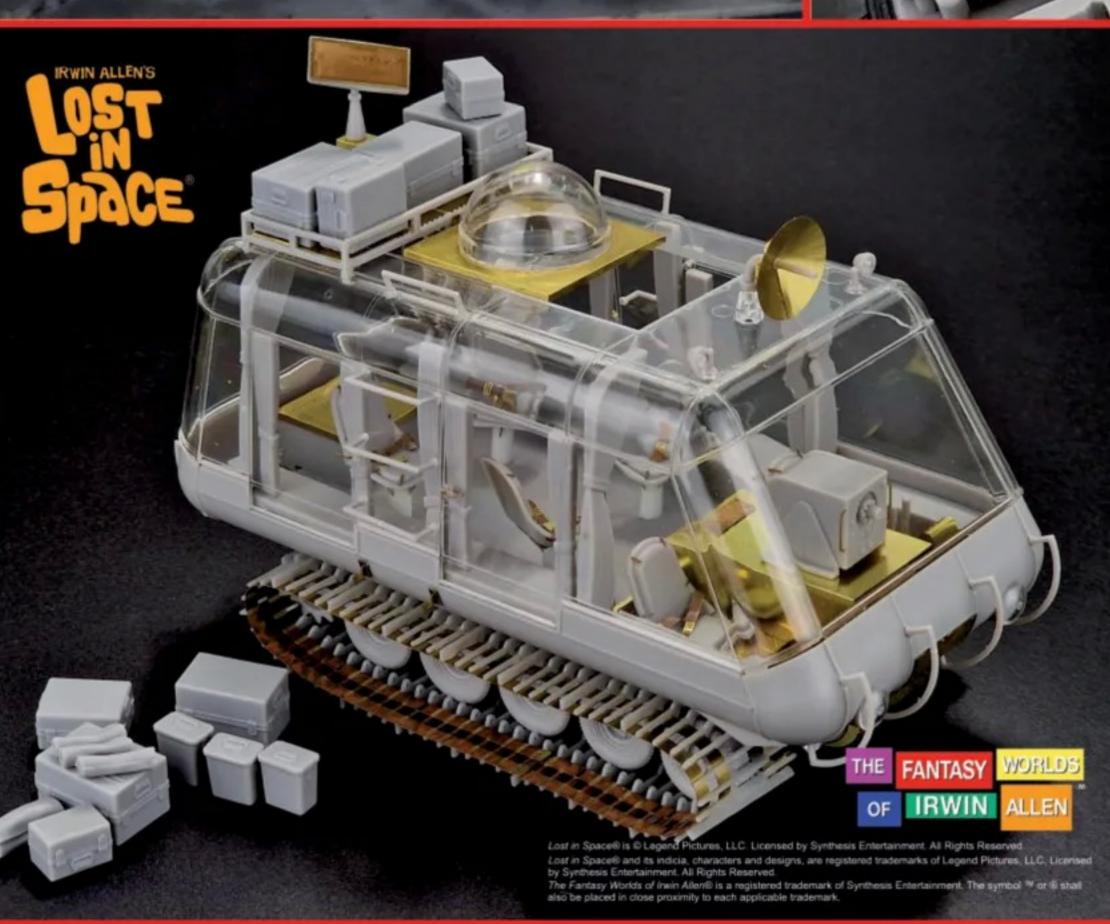


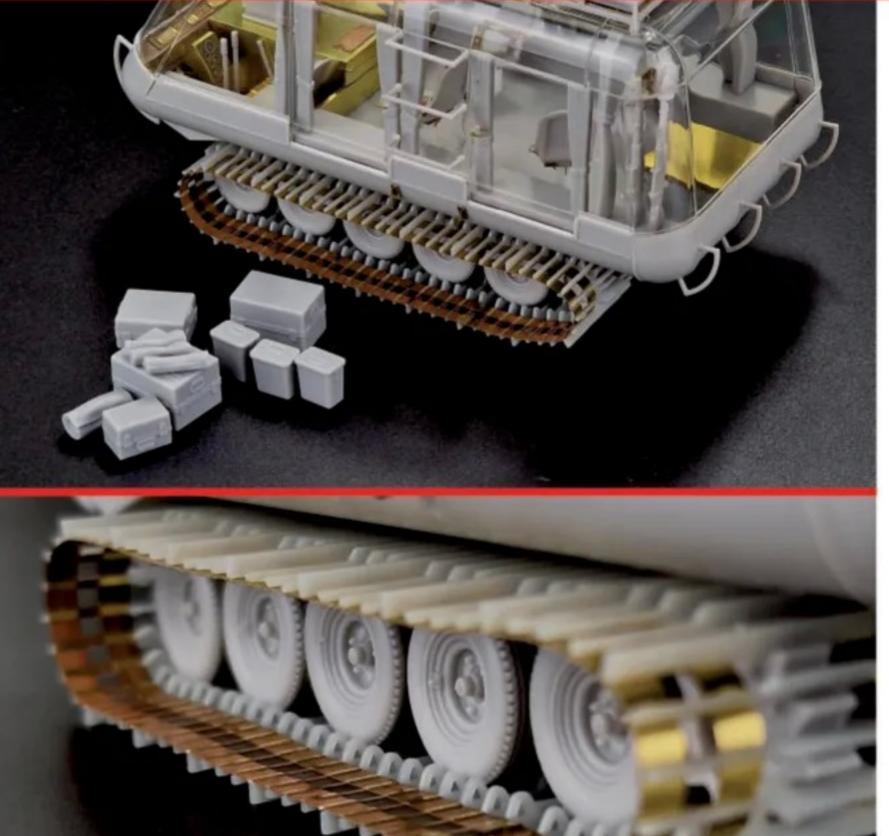


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New Releases Accessories

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

DEF MODEL, KOREA

www.defmodel.com

For Airfix's recently released 1:35 Ferret Armoured Car Mk.2 (full-build feature coming to TMMI), DEF Model's weighted wheel/tyre set will add a great deal of realism: separate hubs and painting masks are included, along with greatly uprated levels of sidewall and tread detail. Also new is a set of superb engine cooling-grilles for Tamiya's superlative 1:35 KV-1 and KV-2 kits (new generation) in 3D-print and they will greatly enhance the appearance of this area of the models. You may just be able to see in the photos that a degree of 'sag' has been incorporated in the mesh areas, a wonderful touch of observation. A pair of horns with open 'mouths' is also provided with this set.

1:35 resin detail sets

- Ferret Scout Car Mk.2 sagged wheel set (DW35167) for Airfix



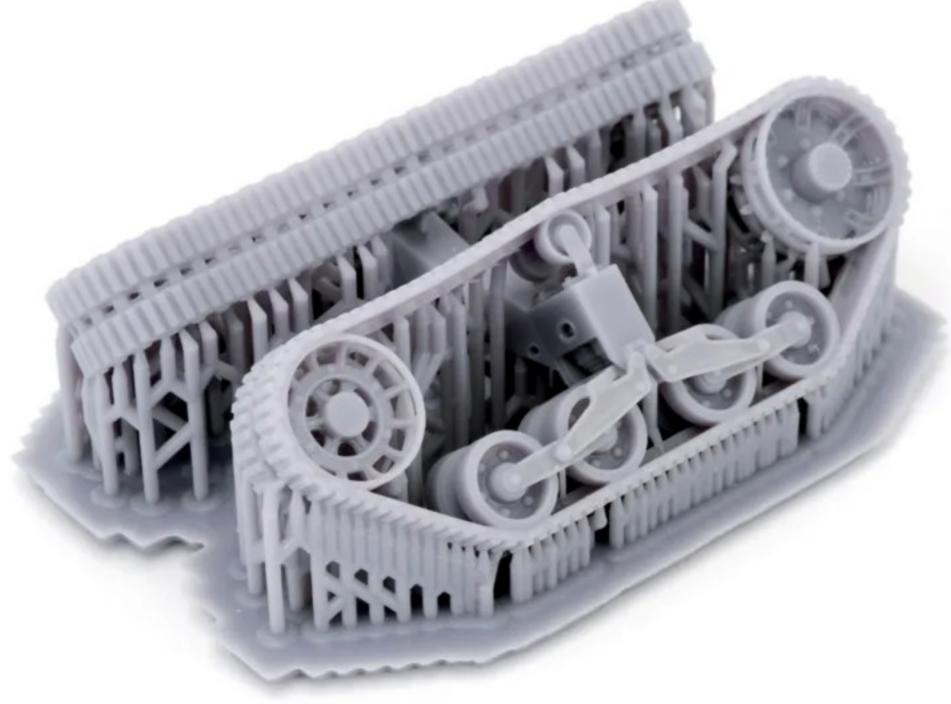
FC MODEL TREND, SPAIN

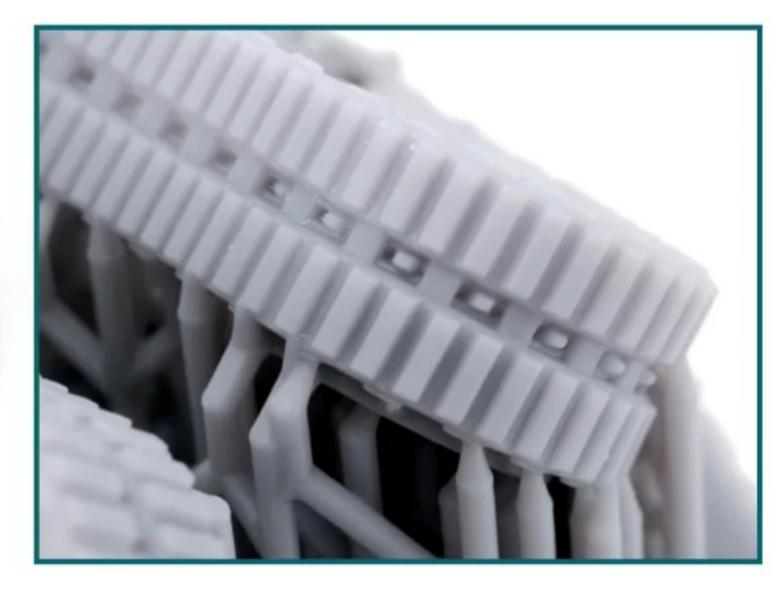
www.fcmodeltrend.com

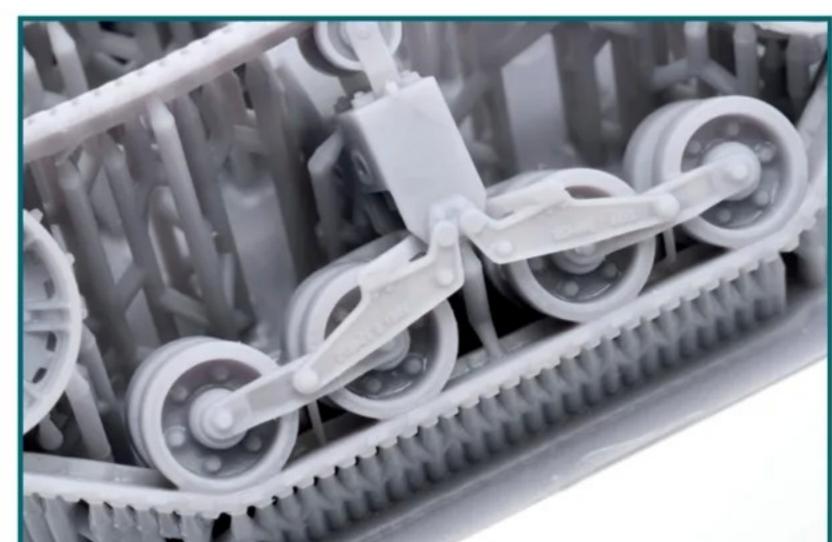
Tamiya's 1:35 M21, M16 and M3A2 US WWII halftrack kits were re-issued on a limited basis last year and we hope there will be another run of re-issues soon. To give these wonderful models a significant upgrade, FC Model Trend have created a set of 3D-printed tracks/suspension units with running gear printed integrally that simply plug into the kits' chassis. They are impressively detailed and obviate the need to secure the springy vinyl tracks - included in the kit box - around the wheels. The slight spelling error on the packaging that says 'boogies' instead of 'bogies' gave us a chuckle too!

1:35 3D-print detail set

- M2/3 Halftrack bogies (37068) for Tamiya











Website: www.mjrmodelsandhobbies.co.uk







DESERT WAR IN THE

he Pz.IV Ausf.F was the final, short-barrelled variant of the long-serving Panzerkampfwagen IV. Fitted with the 7.5cm gun and endowed with greater survivability than the preceding Ausf.E, it was also given wider tracks to offset its extra weight. Around 470 were manufactured between April 1941 and May of the following year and most were sent to the Eastern Front or to North Africa. Those sent to the latter fought hard against heavily-armoured opponents such as the British Matilda, earning the trust of their crews.

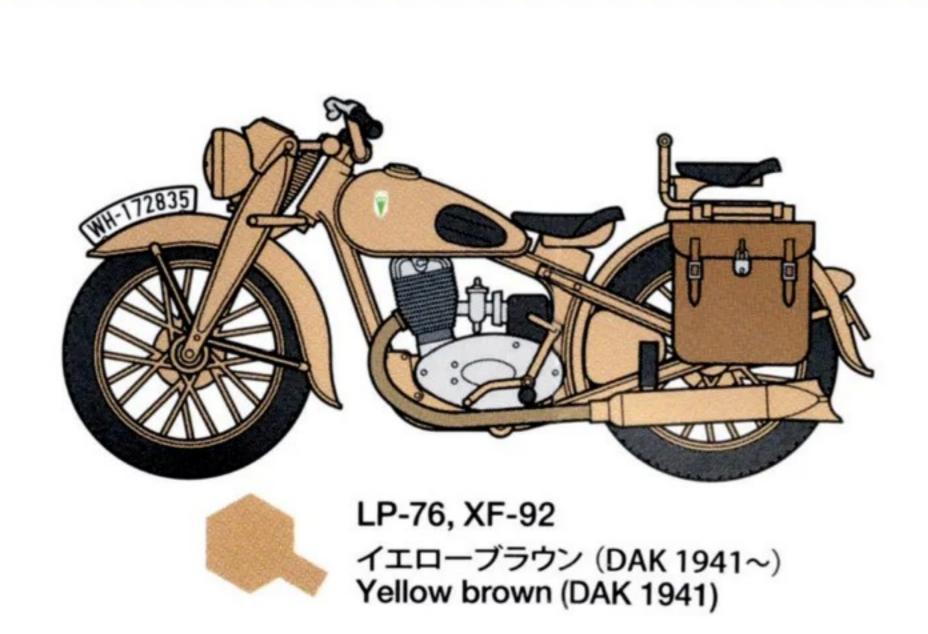
On sale now is Tamiya's excellent 1:35 German Tank Panzerkampfwagen IV Ausf.F

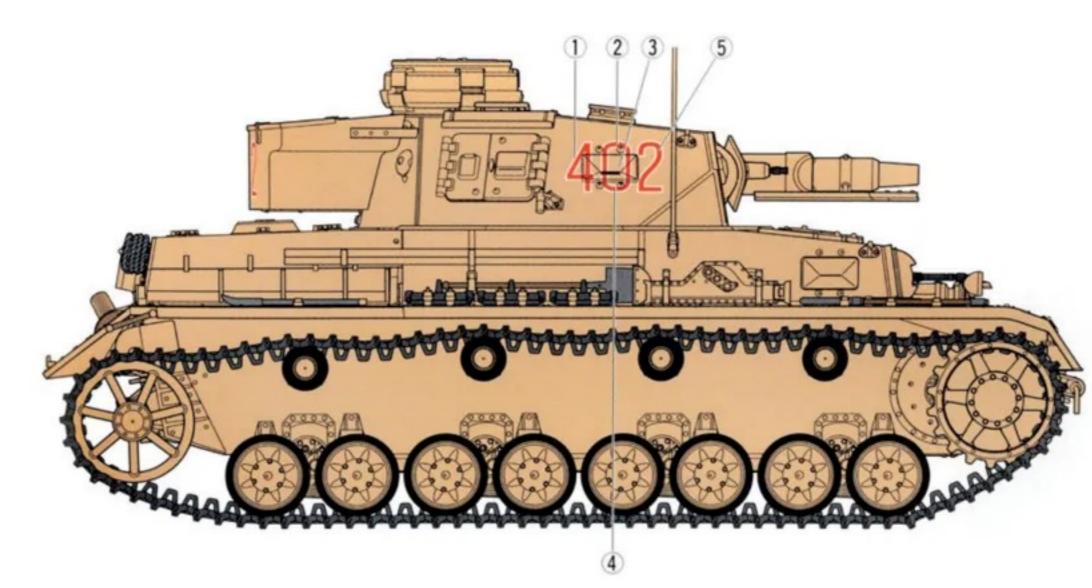
& Motorcycle Set 'North Africa' which features the almost entirely new (2020) Pz.IV Ausf.F (35374), five figures from set 35378 and new decals, plus two figures and motorcycle from the set 35286. It's a wonderful combination and it presents the modeller with everything they need to start an Afrikakorps diorama, all in the box: just add palm trees!

Availability;

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



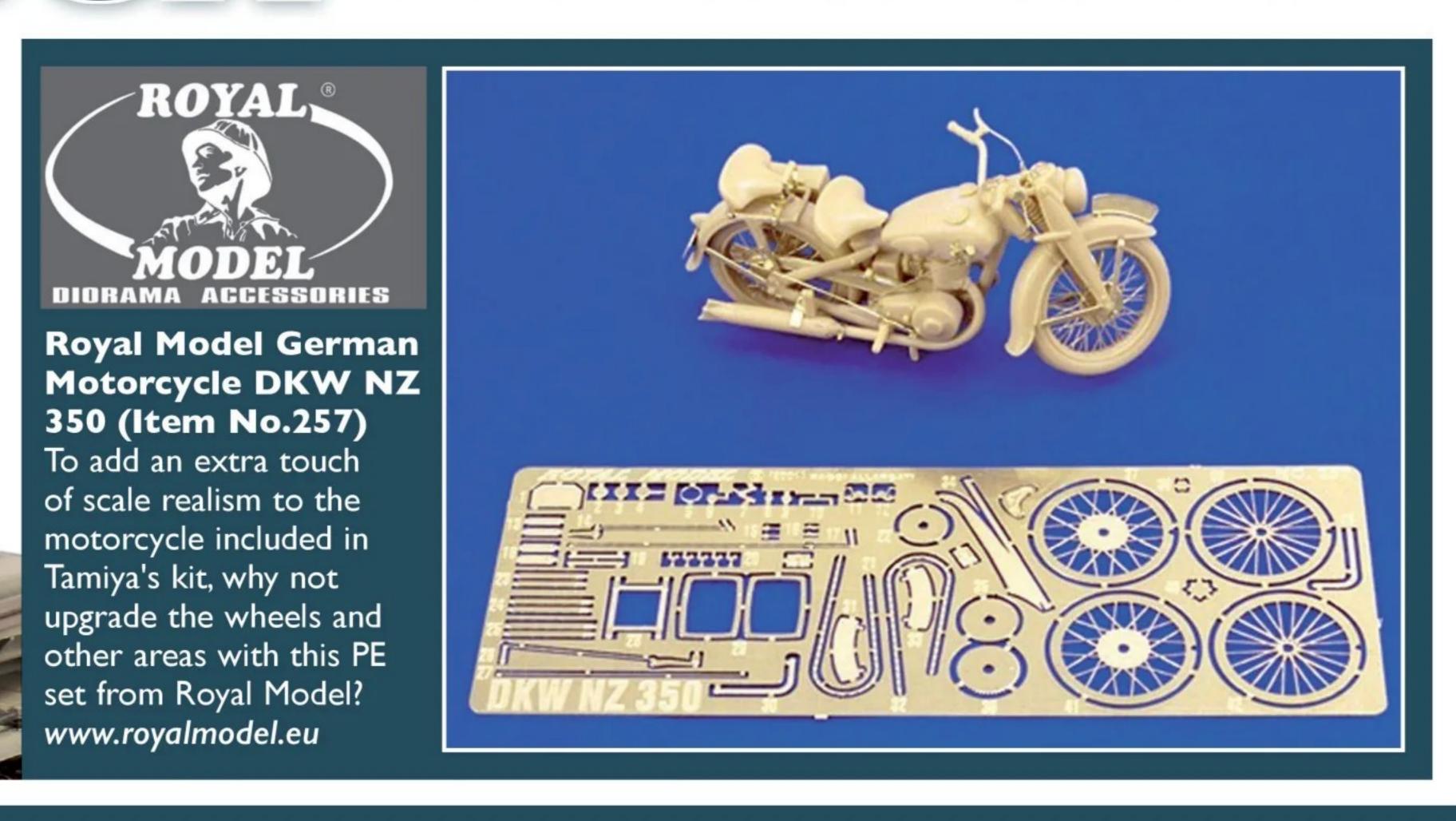


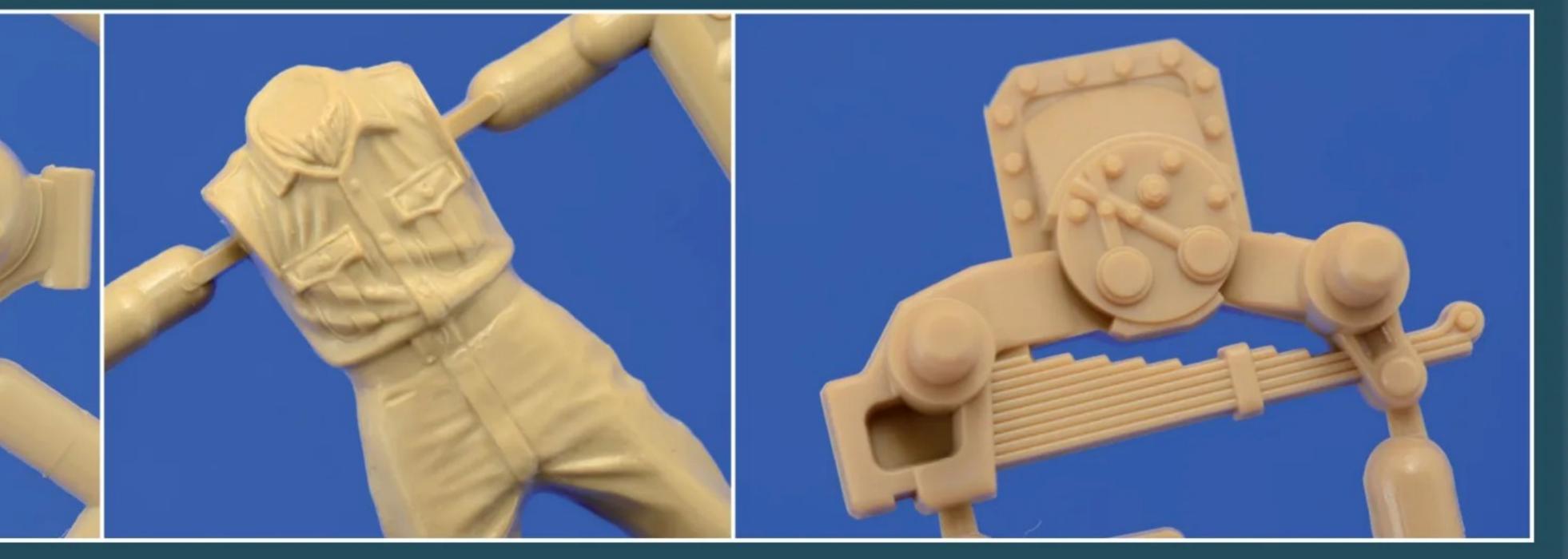






Tamiya's 1:35 Pz.IV Ausf.F and motorcycle and figures have been combined to create this excellent set









Neil McConnachie goes back to his youth and builds the classic 1975 Matchbox kit of the B-25 Mitchell in 1:72

f you are a modeller of a certain 'vintage' you may hark back to a golden age of the hobby, and when I mean 'golden age' I mean the number of outlets that stocked model kits. During my early years of model making late – '70s early '80s I had within one mile of my house several stockists of models: two newsagents that stocked a few Matchbox and Airfix offerings, the Post office with a twirly rack of Airfix blister packed kits and the local hardware store stocked the entire range of ESCI's armour and bizarrely a smattering of AMT Star Trek kits. Not to mention the dedicated model shops in the local town and the city.

Okay, maybe not all that 'golden' because we do not have the range and quality of kits we have these days but there is something to be said for simpler times when your pocket money could be spent that afternoon on a newsagent's visit and in flames the next day, another victim of the endless back garden wars of a schoolboys' imagination that only came to a cessation when you were

called in for your tea.

So we come to my occasional habit or returning to a kit, usually a Matchbox offering that I have built in my past and wish to attempt again putting my experience gained over the last forty years into a classic kit. I do use every part in the kit and do not add any additional detail at all with the exception of stretched-sprue for aerials.

Todays effort is the 1:72 B-25 Mitchell from Matchbox a kit that I must have originally built when Kajagoogoo were Number 1. It' not hard to see what attracted an adolescent to this model, the Roy Huxley box-art sells the kit on its own, depicting the bomber in a strafing run over some Pacific anchorage, nose packed full of guns spitting flame, bombs dropping and flames aplenty. Enough action for a whole bank holiday weekend.

STRAIGHT FROM THE BOX

The kits parts are spread out over four sprues, three in coloured plastic and one in clear. The instructions are



well printed, clear and easy to follow. There are twelve steps and along the way the options for the bomber version and the gunship version are well set out. The sprues are typical Matchbox, simple yet well moulded and build up quickly with out much trouble. Again, in keeping with the principle I did not use any filler and didn't stress too much about panel lines and the like and to be fair, there are no real fit issues.

The crew figures were painted along with the interior and they were sealed in their plastic home. The rest built up quickly, not forgetting the all important

nose weight. As stated, I did go for the heavily armed H version which did cut down on the canopy masking but I think it is the most attractive version. I used Tamiya Masking Tape for all masking of the glass work which was then installed with Micro Krystal Klear, a quick flash over with grey automotive primer and we were ready for the first coat of paint.

The base colours were mixed from various Revell enamels thinned with cellulose thinners then highlights and shadows were applied using various mixes of Tamiya Acrylics. I was trying to replicate something







five white stripes around the centre of the fuselage were carefully masked by eye and a steady-ish hand using Tamiya Masking Tape then airbrushed on with Tamiya Acrylics. The tape was carefully removed and any blemishes touched in with the appropriate colour. The kit is a 1975 production so I was dubious about the decals but I need not have worried, they went down with no fuss and reacted well to a splash of Micro Set and Sol.

A LITTLE WEATHERING?

I tied all the colours together with oil-paint washes and some targeted drybrushing with oil paints. Detail work was picked out using Vallejo acrylics and selected 'washes were using thinned Citadel shades such as Nulin oil

randomly applied in heavily worn areas to add more interest and emphasise the worn, weather-beaten effect. When I was happy with the overall appearance, a few light coats of matt varnish from Vallejo settled it all down, masks removed from the glazing and the glass panels had some gloss varnish applied to give them a little sparkle.

And there we have it, one nostalgia trip and a nod to Matchbox. The Matchbox range was the gateway into modelling for many a schoolboy (like me! Ed). The exciting box-art, the generally well moulded and engineered kits meant that they could be completed and did not end up in a gluey frustrated mess in the bin. Easy to follow instructions and painting guides gave beginner modellers valuable

more complicated and difficult kits from other manufacturers: looking at you 1970s Airfix. This worked for me and I did revisit the local newsagent and bought the 1:144 Apollo Saturn V kit from Airfix with my birthday money and it did get built and stood proudly in my bedroom windowsill for years to come.

I say to my fellow modellers of a certain age, what kits started you off and inspired you? I urge you to revisit one of them and build it again straight from the box and see what you can achieve. For me Matchbox was that spark all those years ago that gave me the bug to continue in this hobby and it has given me so much pleasure, so I say to all to that had anything to do with Matchbox, thank you.

TECHSPEC ...

MATCHBOX 1:72 NORTH AMERICAN B-25 MITCHELL KIT NO.40411

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene,

waterslide decals

Paints used:

Tamiya Acrylics

Accessories used:

None Availability:

Out of production. Please check online auction websites for secondhand availability.



New Reases

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

What's in the box?

AD; ACETATE DIALS, AP; ACRYLIC PAINT, 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 SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED EPS; EX



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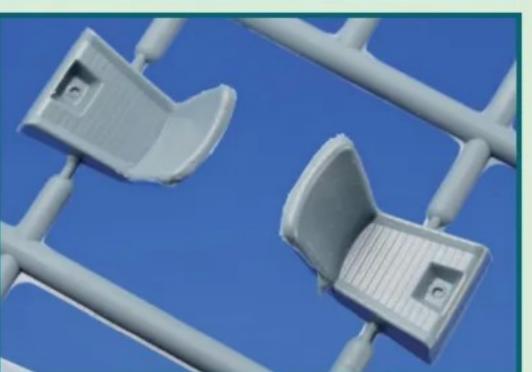
www.brengun.cz

SCALE: 1:48 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO.BRP48009

The 'Extra' in all its incarnations is arguably the best-known aerobatic aircraft in the world and has won many competitions. The company was established in 1980 as 'Extra Flugzeugbau' in Germany by Walter Extra, an aerobatic pilot, to design and develop his own aerobatic aircraft. The company is located at Dinslaken airfield in Hünxe, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. Worldwide production of aircraft is about three units per month with a six-month backlog due to high

demand. This is a nice little shortrun kit by Czech maker Brengun and it arrives in an end-opening box containing two sprues of blue-grey polystyrene plus one in clear that carries the characteristically huge canopy. The waterslide decal sheet is rather spectacular, offering markings to build one of three aircraft, the most eye-catching of which (to this reviewer's eyes at least) being the yellow machine with purple stripes of Rolf Nagel, but the other two red/white/blue aircraft are appealing too. Being a short-run model, the plastic parts will need a thorough clean-up plus plentiful test-fitting to ensure everything lines up properly prior to assembly and painting, but it's not beyond the stretch of any modeller with a few builds under their belt, plenty of patience and some good quality sanding-sticks. The kit's cockpit, much like the real thing, is quite spartan, but the instrument panel is nicely moulded, as are the seats with their ribbed patterns: they just need some harnesses to come to life (Brengun PE set No.BRL48155). The most challenging stage of the model might well be the undercarriage, both when attaining the correct angles as well as making the legs strong enough to hold the model up (tiny contact areas and minimal location pins don't help in both cases). But these challenges are what modelling is all about, surely?

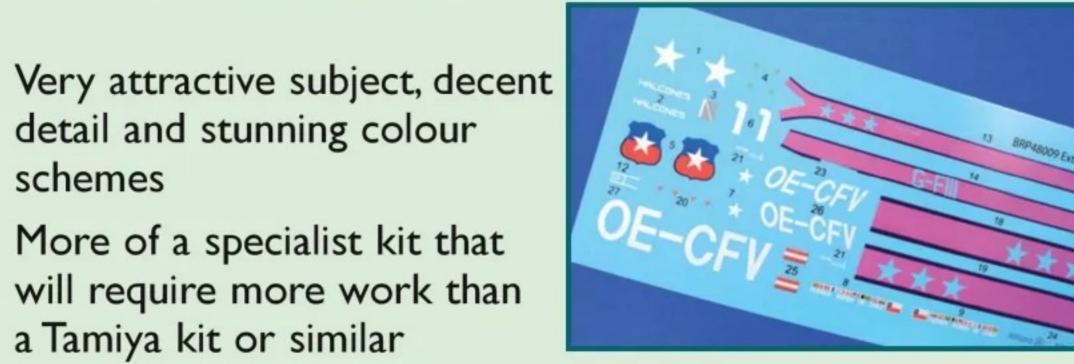














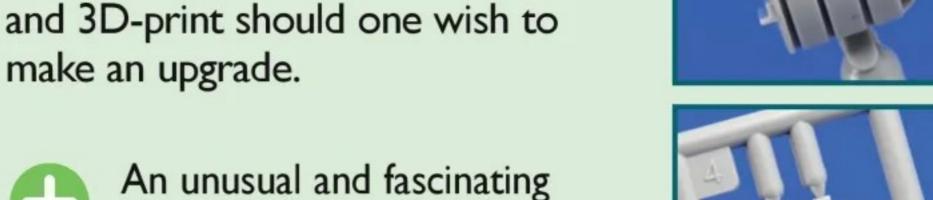


DRAGON, HONG KONG BERGEPANZER 38(t) HETZER MIT 2CM FLAK38 2INI SMART KIT

www.hobbyco.net

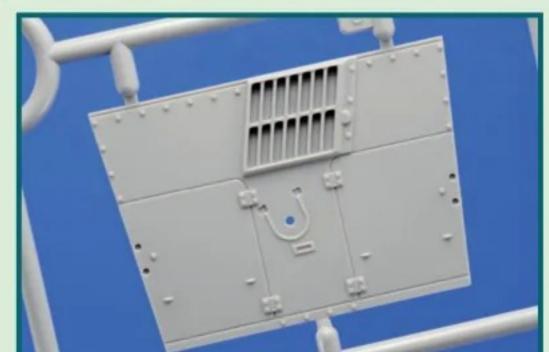
SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS • ITEM NO.6399 The Jagdpanzer 38(t) 'Hetzer' is one of the best-known armoured fighting vehicles of the Third Reich and is a perennial favourite with scale modellers. Perhaps one of the reasons for this subject's popularity as a modelling subject is the variety of versions that were based on the standard 'tank hunter' hull and running gear, from a flame-thrower to this, the 'bergepanzer' recovery vehicle converted to anti-aircraft machine. In this iteration we have a 2cm Flak38 anti-

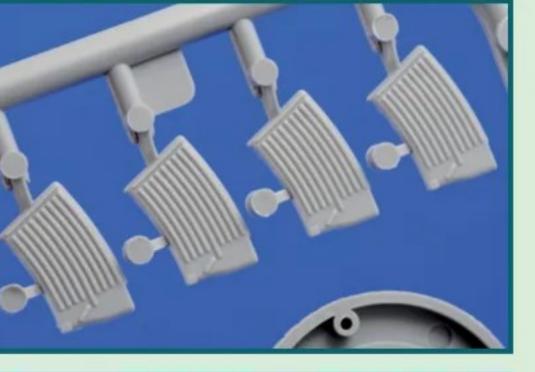
aircraft gun dropped into the open hull to create a compact and speedy air defence vehicle. Records don't tell us how many of these were made (possibly only one), but it certainly makes a change from the standard version. Dragon first released this kit in 2016, with the original Hetzer dating back to 1994, but don't forget, that was the 'golden era' for Dragon and their armour kits were arguably the best-detailed injection-moulded models then available. So, we have extremely well done Hetzer basics: hull, suspension, tracks and more. Add the mix the 2cm Flak38 weapon - another beautifully detailed model from Dragon's glory days – and just like that, we have the 'Bergepanzer 2cm Flak! As is often the case with Dragon 1:35 models, the modeller will want to spend some time studying the instructions and assessing for themselves which parts go where, and more importantly, when. The instructions do at least highlight the components not needed for this version, so that's a start. To make up for the sometimes tricky-to-follow instructions, the moulded detail is of a very high standard and there's plenty of it spread across the fourteen sprues that fill the box. The tracks come in link-and-length form and look pretty good, but there are plenty of aftermarket alternatives in cast metal and 3D-print should one wish to

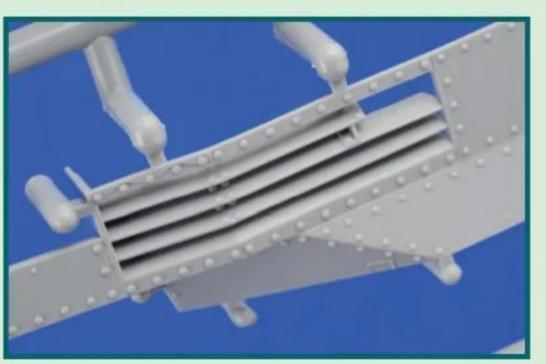


Study the instructions thoroughly before beginning assembly

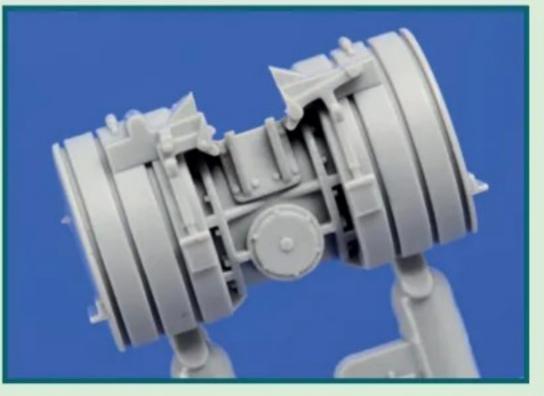
Great detail everywhere



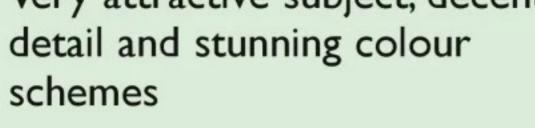














At Reviews

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



EDUARD, CZECH REPUBLIC **WUNDERSCHÖNE NEUE MASCHINEN BF109F-2 &** BF109F-4 LIMITED DUAL COMBO

www.eduard.com www.creativemodels.co.uk SCALE: 1:72 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS • ITEM NO.2 142 Eduard's 1:72 Messerschmitt Bf109 kits are joyful little things but sadly are often overlooked (in TMMI at least) in favour of their bigger and perhaps more 'glamorous' 1:48 cousins. But there's a huge following for the smaller scale and Eduard have gone to significant lengths to offer a top quality model to those folks: the Bf109F 'Friedrich' being the latest. In the boxing reviewed here, we have a 'Dual Combo' that contains

two whole Bf109s – an F-2 and an F-4 – with an extraordinary fifteen markings-options covering both aircraft. Although not labelled as such, this is also a 'profiPACK' release, so it includes a suite of photo-etched parts and a set of precut canopy-frame masks, the latter an absolutely essential inclusion for such a tiny canopy! Also provided in pre-coloured photo-etch is a pair of double-layer instrument panels (you need extremely good eyesight and tweezers for these) as well as seat harnesses and other minuscule cockpit fittings. In terms of overall complexity, there's not a lot of difference from the aforementioned 1:48 models: very highly detailed cockpits with high parts-counts, individually-formed control surfaces, photo-etched wing-radiator faces, dropped-flaps options, photo-etched brake lines for the undercarriage legs, separatelymoulded leading-edge slats, open or closed canopy and more – you get the picture. What's even more impressive is that this is only 'Part I' in the 'Wunderschöne Neue Maschinen' (Beautiful New Machines) series from Eduard, with Part 2 now available (Item No.2143) This also provides a brace of '109s, this time focusing on the Bf109G-2 and G-4 variants, presented in a similarly slick fashion with multiple decal options, photoetched parts, canopy masks and heaps of tiny details. This really is an amazing time for fans of Messerschmitt's most (in)famous product and Eduard



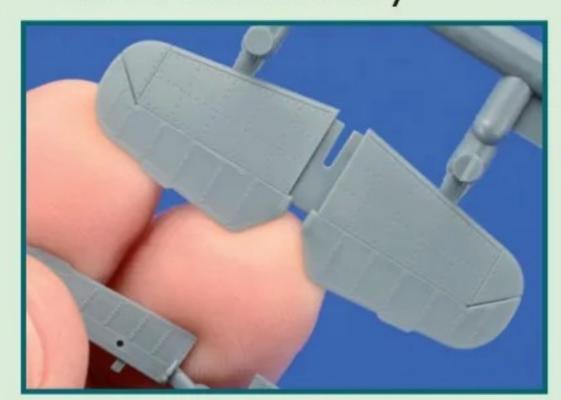
Brilliant little kits of the 'Friedrich' with extraordinary detail

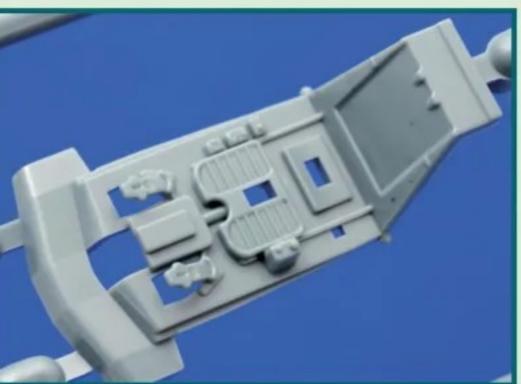
in creating such exquisite kits, and at

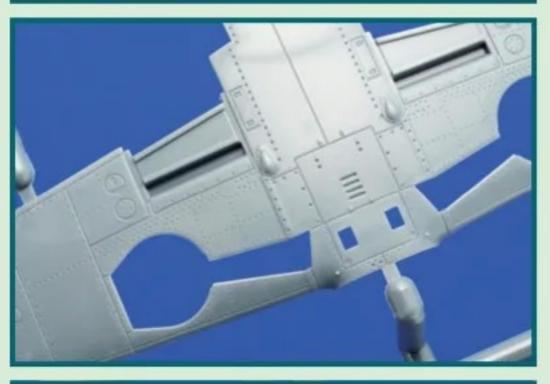
very attractive prices too.



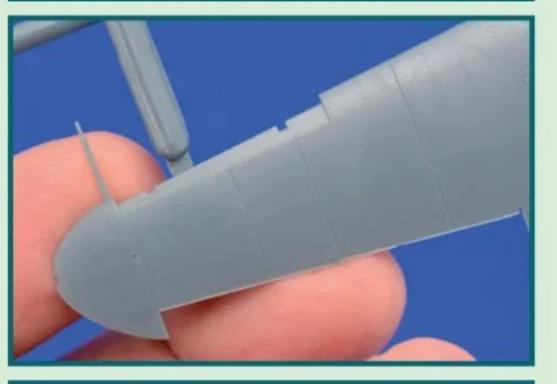
Optical magnifiers and needletipped tweezers at the ready!

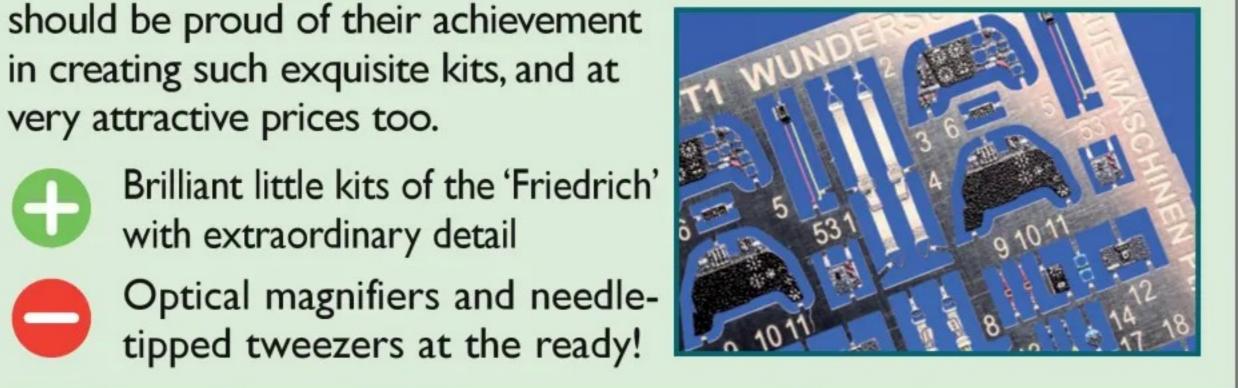














GECKO MODEL, HONG KONG RAM BADGER FLAMETHROWER K.II (LATE PRODUCTION)

www.gecko-models.com www.tigerhobbies.co.uk SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS • ITEM NO.35GM0086 'Tank, Cruiser, Ram' was designed and built by Canada in the Second World War, based on the US M3 Medium tank chassis. Due to overall standardisation to the M4 Sherman tank for frontline units, the Ram was used exclusively for training purposes and was never deployed in combat as a gun-tank. The chassis, however, was put to use in several other combat roles, such an observation post, armoured personnel carrier and flamethrower tank. The latter variant, known as the 'Badger'

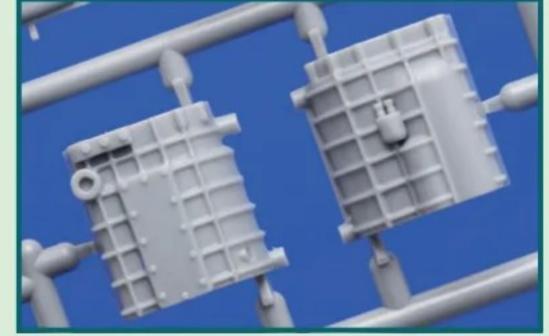
is the subject of this new model from Gecko Model, based on their 2023 Ram 'Kangaroo' armoured personnel carrier, kit No.35GM0085. The first Badgers were converted Ram Kangaroos with the 'Wasp II' flame-throwing equipment (as used on the Universal Carrier) installed in place of the bow machine gun. Later models were turreted Rams with the flame equipment in place of the main gun. Gecko Model has chosen the converted Kangaroo option and as such, the kit comes with a large, circular 'plug' for the turret aperture, within which sits a small turret mounting a close-support M1919 .30cal machine gun. But the real changes from the Badger's marsupial origins lie within the hull, with a pair of large napalm tanks, their cylinders of propellent and associated plumbing plus the Wasp II flame-projector nozzle itself, poking out from a bulged hull front. Anyone who built the Kangaroo kit will know that it comes with a complete interior comprising radial engine, gearbox, fuel tanks, driver and radio-operator's stations and the Badger has this too. It's somewhat of a shame, therefore, that it will be almost completely hidden once the aforementioned 'plug' is in place and as it fits from below, it'll need quite a rework to make it removable from above to show off all that amazing flame-throwing gear once the model is complete. The design of the upper hull does appear to allow it to be fitted without glue though, so all is not lost!



An amazingly well-detailed kit with full interior and flamethrower gear, engine and driver's controls



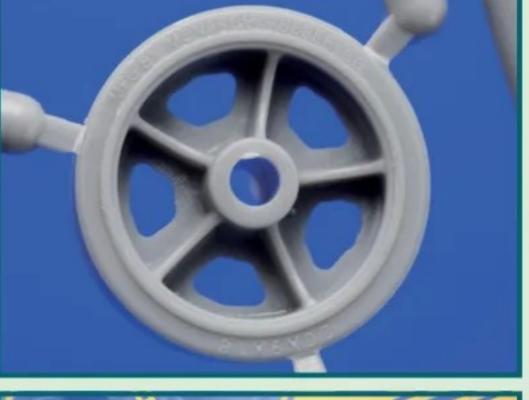
Leave the upper hull unglued so you can still see all that detail!













New Releases

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

What's in the box?

AD; ACETATE DIALS, AP; ACRYLIC PAINT, 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 SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC SHEET, DT; DRY TRANSFER (DECALS), EM: ELECTRIC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED EPS; EX



ICM, UKRAINE

GULASCHKANONE WWII MOBILE FIELD KITCHEN LKW AHN

www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, SVT, WS • ITEM NO.35415 Tamiya released the Gulaschkanone German Field Kitchen with horses (35103) back in 1978 and it became one of the most enduringly popular kits in the 1:35 Military Miniatures Series. It was very pleasing, therefore, to see ICM create their own, all-new kit of this World War Two German field kitchen, albeit just the 'hot' portion of the rig, and place it within their stunning, pre-existing kit of the French-designed/German repurposed Renault AHN truck. This vehicle was first launched ten years ago by ICM and it was a stroke of genius

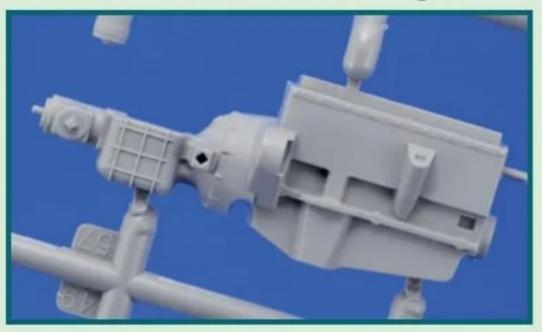
because its idiosyncratic, flat-faced looks gave it instant sprue-appeal as well as having myriad versions to kit at a later stage. The truck is a little masterpiece that is based on a part-by-part ladder chassis, a lovely miniature replica of the original's 4.05litre inline-six petrol engine, leaf-spring suspension, detailed steering linkages (fixed position) and a dual-wheel, rear-drive axle. The cabin builds up panel-by-panel and comes with rather natty bucket seats on bar-stool-like columns instead of conventional frames. The AHN is a cabover design so much of that straight-six is hidden, but some does remain on show when the model is viewed from below. The rear deck builds up from seven lateral struts that slot into a pair of longitudinal runners to form a space-frame structure and it looks incredible. Over this goes a flat decking panel and side-boards, creating a neat cargo-deck unit that simply drops onto the completed chassis, along with the assembled cabin. The Gulaschkanone is a superb little kit by itself (don't be surprised if it is released in the future as a standalone model) with all the character of the Tamiya kit, but forty-six years more modern. The only puzzle is how the Gulaschkanone is held in place on the deck: perhaps chains and wheel-chocks should be added by the modeller. But overall, a wonderful new release from ICM.



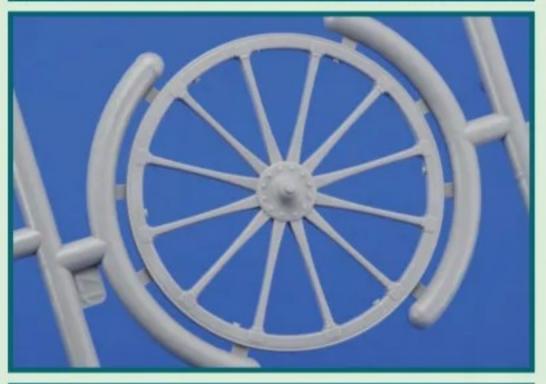
Superb detail from top to bottom and a very engaging project

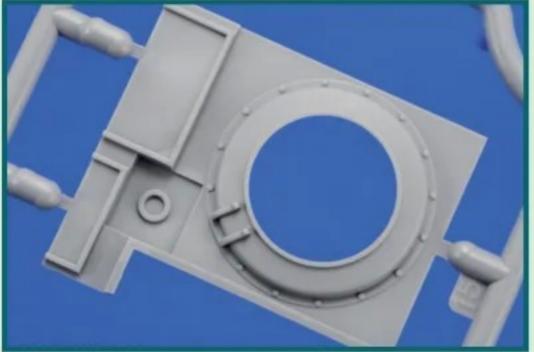


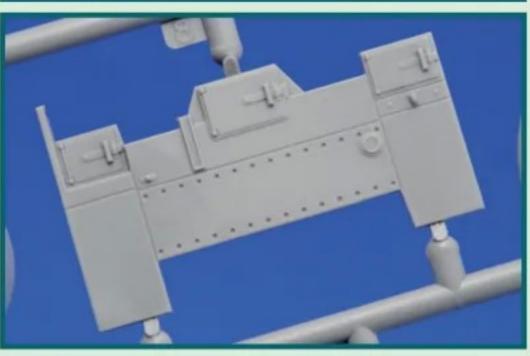
The Gulaschkanone unit will need securing to the cargo deck somehow!



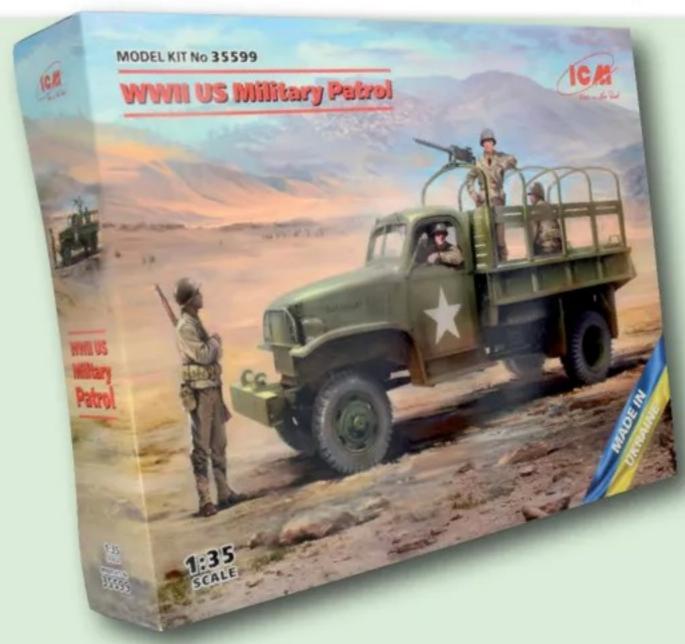












ICM, UKRAINE **WWII US MILITARY PATROL**

www.icm.com.ua www.hannants.co.uk SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO.35599

Ukrainian model kit manufacturer ICM is certainly getting its money's worth from the 2021-issued Chevrolet US truck moulds, with this 'Military Patrol' being the eighth release that uses the base parts from kit No.35593, with at least two more versions planned for the immediate future and almost certainly others to come. And good for them! In reality, a military vehicle rarely existed solely in its original format and ICM are simply following full-sized practice by coming out with numerous variants based on an existing design. Having said that, the kit reviewed here is closest

to the original release, differing only by the inclusion of an M1919 .30cal machine gun to be mounted to the front-most cargo deck rib, plus four US GI figures in standing and sitting poses. The slimline box provides six sprues of polystyrene in light grey, plus one in clear for the cabin windows and headlight lenses. There are no vinyl tyres here: they are moulded integrally with their wheels in kit plastic and while this does mean some careful hand-painting (or masking and spraying) will be needed, the hard plastic allows the modeller to file flat-spots into the tyres' ground contact-points so they don't look like they're made from incompressible granite. ICM has treated us to some lovely truck kits over the years and this four-wheel drive Chevy is no exception. The kit comes with a super little straight-six petrol engine with gearbox, fan-belt, fan, radiator, fuel tank, drivetrain and leaf-springs, all assembling to the chassis in an orderly manner. If you love traditional truck design, you'll want to build this model over and over. The rear deck is standard US Army frame type with 'fence' slats and five hoops for the tarpaulin cover. The four GIs are extremely well detailed and animated naturally



Stunning miniature truck details from ICM, something they are very good at

and the .30cal MG is neat addition.



You might want to source a 3D-printed or PE brass radiator grille for a more scale-like look







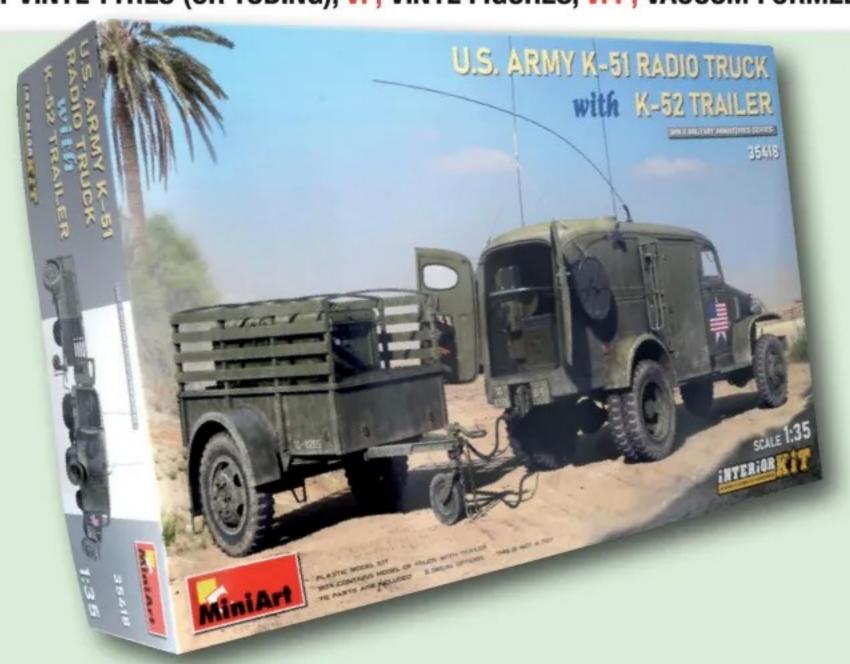






AT REVIEWS

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



MINIART, UKRAINE

US ARMY K-51 RADIO TRUCK WITH K-52 TRAILER

www.icm.com.ua

SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS • ITEM NO.35418 MiniArt, as with ICM, are masters of the model truck art, something they have proved amply with their line of WW2-era US Army trucks. The newest to arrive is the G7105 1.5t panel van and quicker than a flash, MiniArt have issued a second version of this kit – the K-51 radio truck –that includes a K-52 trailer carrying a PE-95 generator (powered by a Willys Jeep engine, not included) plus a new interior for the van that's packed with a suite of radio equipment and seating. It's an incredible combination that will keep the modeller busy for weeks, if not months! The Chevrolet van is a delightful model that is

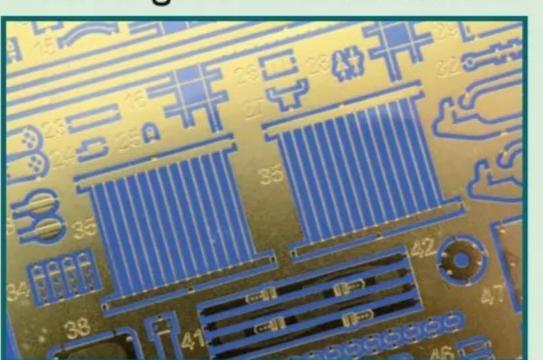
fully detailed from top to bottom, coming with a highly detailed sixcylinder engine that builds up from at least thirty-two individual mouldings and a comprehensive chassis whose crossmembers are all formed separately for optimum rendition of their profile and detail. The fuel tank is moulded in two halves and for the most scale-like appearance, it has photo-etched brass brackets to depict the thin-section steel used in the real thing. Don't be put off by the presence of photo-etched parts, they are formed from malleable brass which is quite forgiving and once folded to shape (if necessary) are then fixed to the kit plastic with cyanoacrylate glue (superglue). The twin 'bumpers' on the rear ends of the chassis rails are in brass and MiniArt provide a former in kit plastic around which they must be shaped (quite a straightforward operation) and done properly, nothing else will look as convincing. The radio sets for the van's interior are beautifully detailed and will be a real buzz to paint, perhaps with some cabling added if you can find the references. A nice touch by the manufacturer is the option of a moulded radiator grille (easier, but thicker) and one in photo-etch which will be more challenging to build but potentially more in-scale. Overall, a brilliant kit with huge amounts of detail, plus attractive markings options.

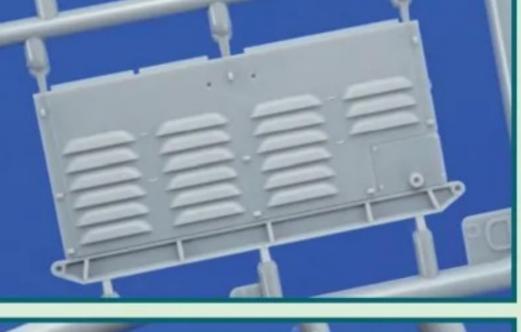


A wonderful choice of subject and a box packed with lot of parts



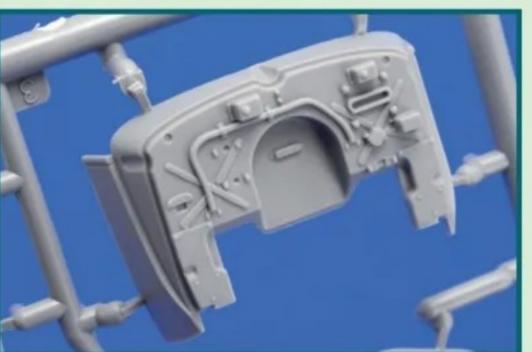
PE brass not for everyone but the results are worth the extra effort required















MINIART, UKRAINE

STUG.III AUSF.G FEB 1943 ALKETT PROD.

www.icm.com.ua www.creativemodels.co.uk SCALE: 1:72 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, S • ITEM NO.72101 In 2023, MiniArt launched an all-new series of 1:72 armour models and the first in the line-up is the Sturmgeschütz III Ausf.G, specifically an example built during February 1943 by the German manufacturer 'Alkett' (Altmärkische Kettenwerk: Altmark Track Works). As a little background, the Alkett factory was based in the Berlin suburbs and was involved in the development, production and modification of the Pz.Kpfw II, Pz.Kpfw. III Ausf. F, G, H, J, L, Pz.Kpfw.VIII Maus, Flakpanzer I, StuG III, Ausf. C, D, E, F, G, StuH 42, Sturm-Infanteriegeschütz 33B, Sturmpanzer VI 'Brummbär',

Sd.Kfz. 164 'Nashorn', Panzerjäger Renault R35(f), Jagdpanzer IV/70(A), Sturmpanzer IV, Sd.Kfz.164 Hummel and Sd.Kfz. I 24 Wespe. So, rather a lot of significant machines, to say the least. Anyway, back to MiniArt's kit. It's a little beauty! It arrives in a modestly-sized box containing nine sprues of light grey plastic plus one in clear for the ring of vision blocks in the commander's cupola, driver's vision block, binocular sight and convoy light, the latter being microscopic. A small fret of photoetched brass carries the engine-deck grilles and jerrycan/stowage frame (for one version). The tracks are, as we so often say here, the link-andlength type, which means there are one-piece mouldings for the upper and lower runs, short sections of made-up links for the front and rear 'uplifts' plus individual links to build up around the drive sprocket and idler wheels. As you might imagine, the separate links are absolutely tiny in this scale and will require very careful removal from the sprue, clean-up and assembly in order to not be flooded with cement (or lost to the 'Carpet Monster'), but the potential finished effect is supremely realistic and well worth the time and concentration needed. As somewhat of a relief, the suspension arms are moulded integrally with the lower hull side panels!

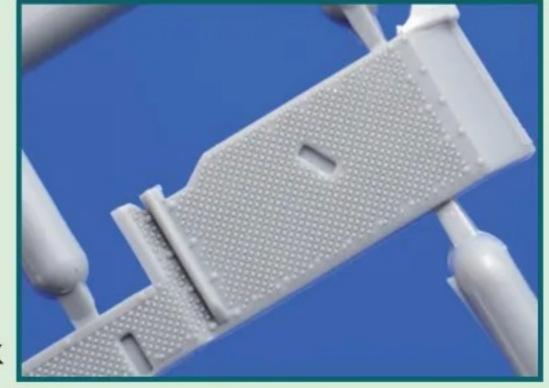


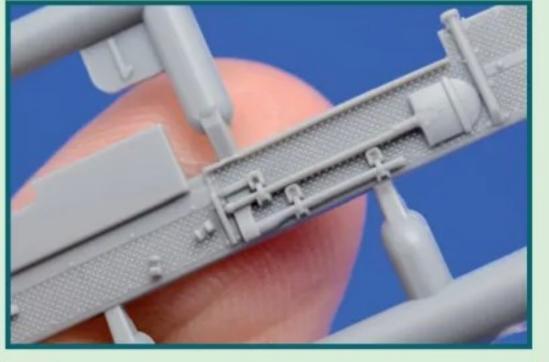
An excellent first release for this new 1:72 series from MiniArt, bring on the rest!

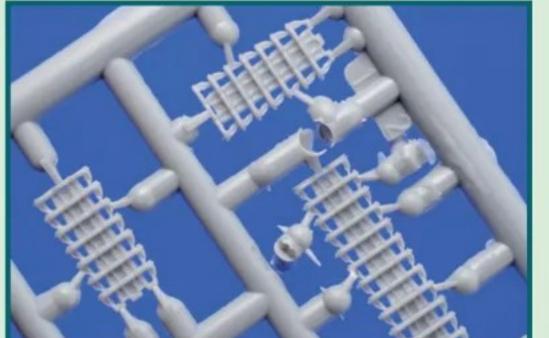


Some exceptionally small parts here

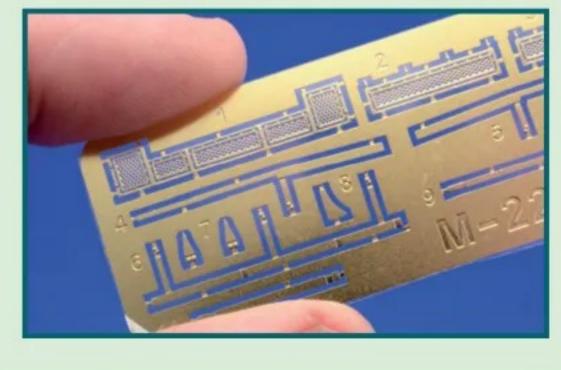












New Releases

At Reviews

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



REVELL, GERMANY

LAND ROVER SERIES III LWB COMMERCIAL

www.revell.de

SCALE: 1:24 • MATERIALS: IM, SVT, WS • ITEM NO.07056 Revell's latest 1:24 Land Rover kit has arrived and once again they have taken an iconic motoring subject and done an absolutely marvellous job of depicting it in miniature. This time it's the long wheelbase Series III that is the subject and as ever, the most important aspect to get right is the bodyshell's profile. How did Revell do? Extremely well! The large body moulding is a triumph of injectionmoulding art, capturing all the subtleties of the Landy's form from its flat side-panels to the radii of the front wings' edges. This is a full-detail model so it comes with a complete engine and chassis and it's surprising quite how big the latter is in 1:24, a substantial

item for sure. As well as the vehicle's underpinnings, the cabin is comprehensively detailed too, with the full complement of four-wheeldrive selection levers provided, the colours of the various knobs indicated in the instruction booklet. The kit can be built in left or righthand-drive form and this is reflected in these levers, as well as the more obvious dashboard, steering wheel and foot pedal positions. The LHD/RHD options are actually quite extensive and include differing locations of the brake master-cylinder, heater pipe and rear light layout: a laudable level of observation by Revell. All window panels are moulded as individual parts that fit from the exterior of the model, potentially making their installation very straightforward, not to mention easing the masking process for the side windows which had rubber surrounds in reality. The tyres come moulded in flexible black plastic and have decent enough tread detail, but in this reviewer's opinion would have been better if formed from hard kit plastic. The only other notable criticism of this kit relates to the headlight guards which are moulded in kit plastic and thus a little too chunky to look truly convincing. Revell have done their best with them, but photo-etched or 3D-printed replacements would greatly improve the model's final appearance.



A classic subject, superbly well done by Revell in 1:24



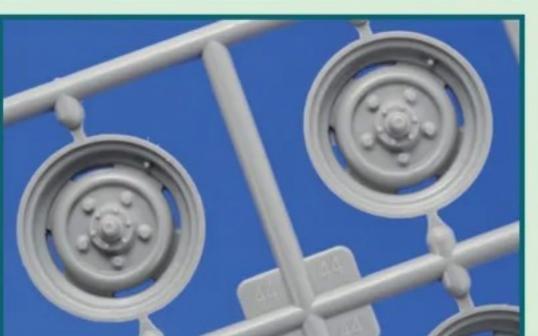
Aftermarket resin tyres plus PE or 3D headlight guards would make a lot of difference to the model's look

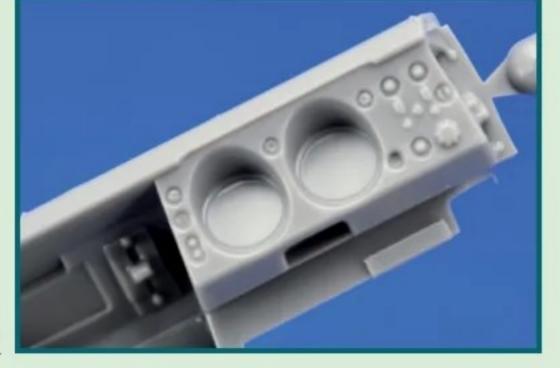


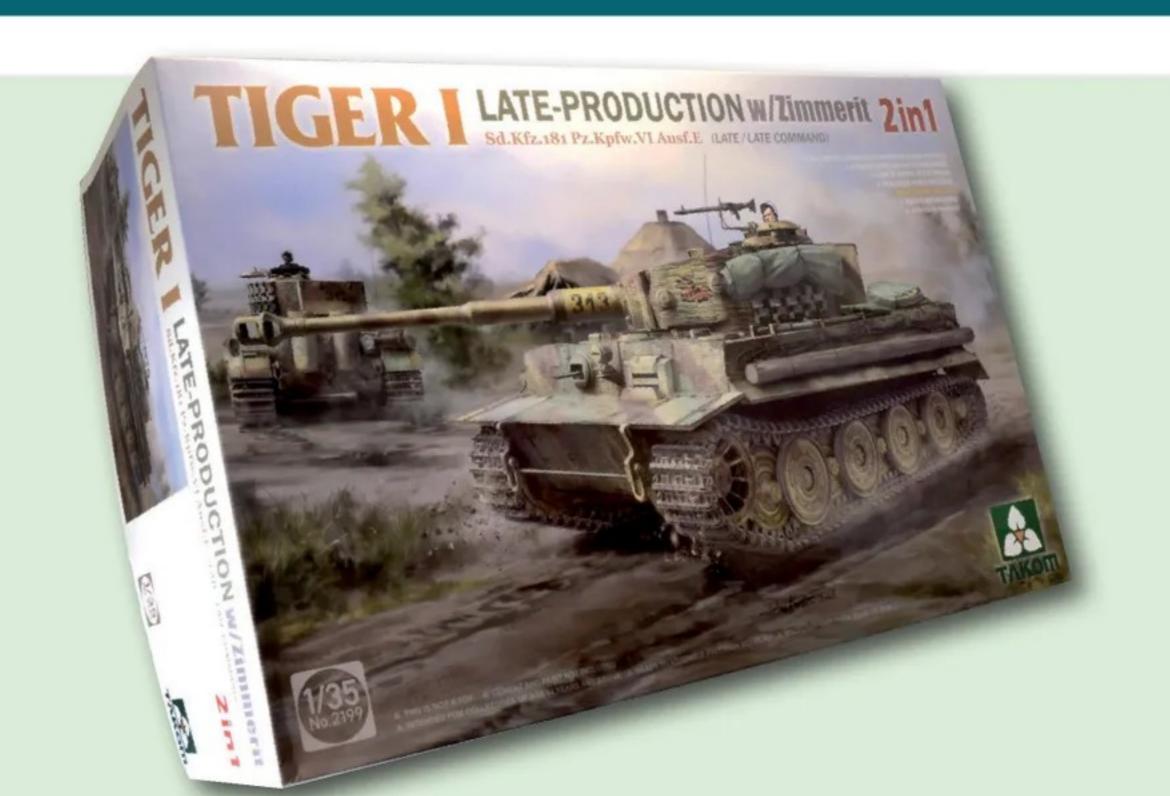












TAKOM, HONG KONG TIGER I LATE PRODUCTION W/ZIMMERIT 2INI

www.bachmann.co.uk

SCALE: 1:35 • MATERIALS: IM, PE, WS • ITEM NO.2199 Tigers, Tigers, Tigers, we hear you say, and yes, there have been a fair few kits of this iconic World War Two beast released over the years. So with a lot of miniature replicas of the Tiger I across all the major modelling scales for modellers to choose from, any new kit must really offer something special to grab the limelight, right? Takom launched their offering – already examined and dissected by the Sd.Kfz.181 cognoscenti – in 2023 in the form of a mid-production vehicle with Zimmerit moulded into the appropriate areas on the hull and turret exterior (Kit No.2198).

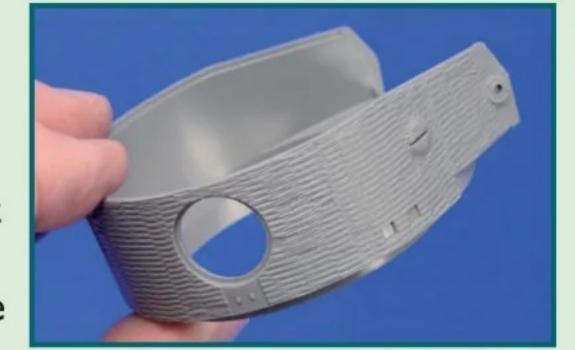
The second release is reviewed here, a late-production Tiger I with steel-wheels and also, Zimmerit 'pre-applied' in all the right places. It's a non-interior detail kit with just the engine radiators and fuel tanks provided for the engine bay, as these items can just be made out (barely) when looking down through the engine deck grilles. The tracks are link-and-length (TMMI passim) and come with a handy semi-jig around which the leading sections of each side are formed so they acquire the correct degree of 'sag' as they are pulled and lifted onto the drive sprockets, a nice inclusion. The tracks themselves are very nicely done with individually-moulded guide-horns for detail fidelity. This may sound like a nightmare but the guides come moulded in runs on sub-sprues and thus can be fixed en masse to the relevant track sections whilst still on their sprues, massively speeding up assembly, not to mention keeping them all in line. CA/superglue might be the way to fix them for maximum strength and resistance to subsequent weathering materials. Moulded-in Zimmerit can be a troublesome feature in a kit because if it's less than perfect it will ruin the overall effect, but it's fair to say Takom have nailed it here. It has just the right amount of relief and the pattern is nicely uneven in areas for a natural-looking effect.

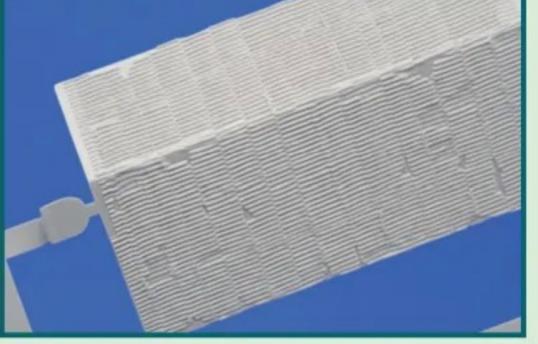


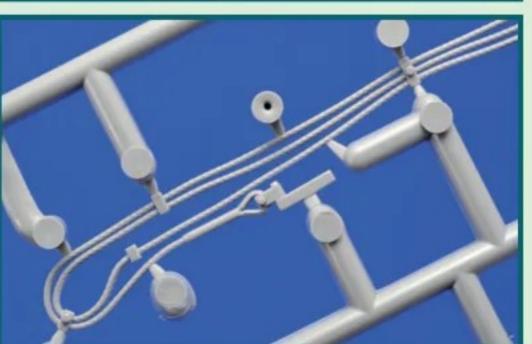
Another Tiger I? You betcha! And it's a stunning production

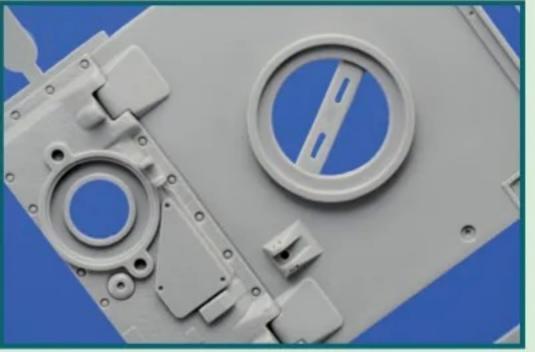


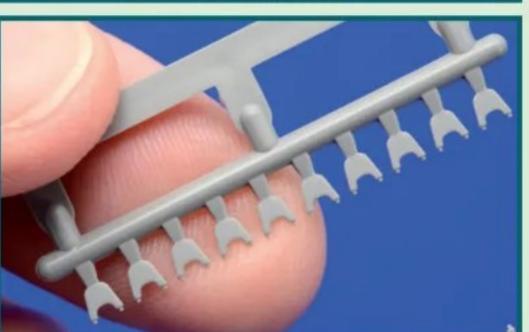
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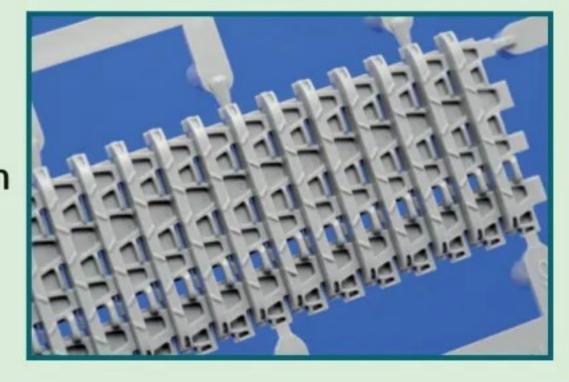


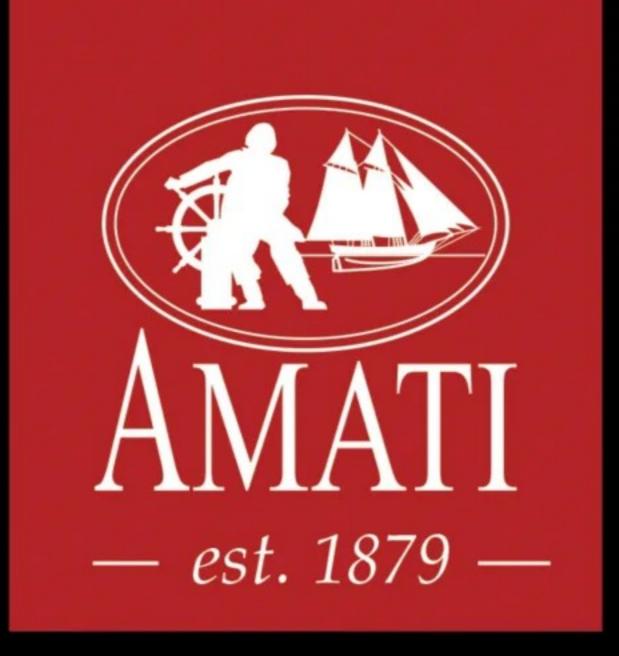








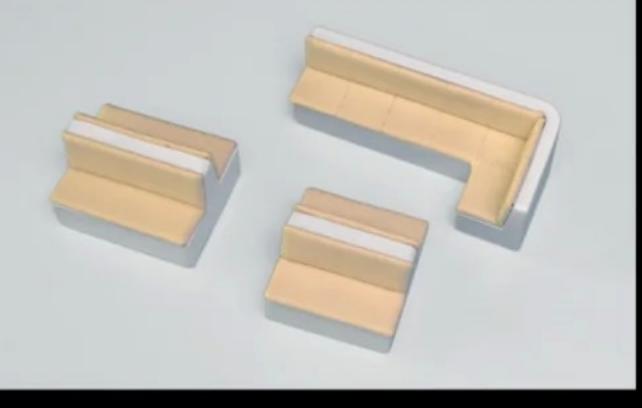


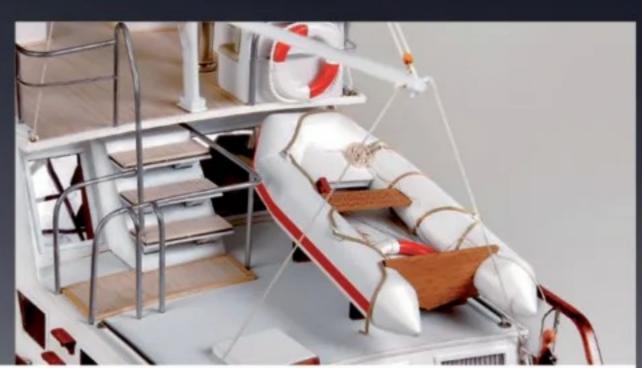


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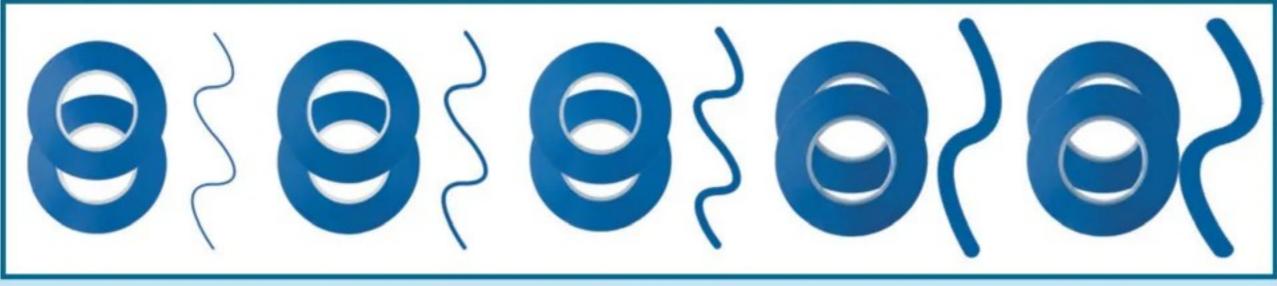
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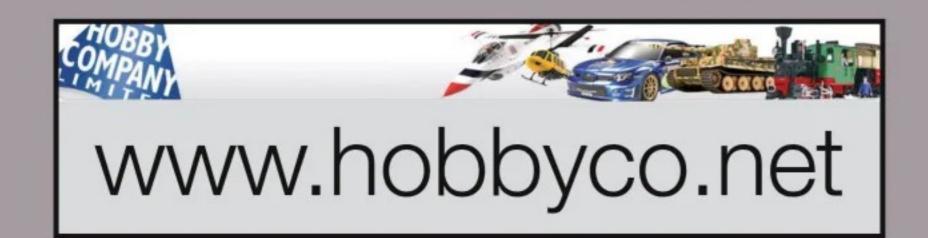




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TMMI reports from the 2024 Nuremberg Toy Fair with photos of all the new releases from Tamiya!



The next issue of TMMI is April 2024 (No.342), on sale 21st March



RETRO RIDER

Keith Bristow returns to TMMI with his flawless build of Tamiya's 1:12 KTM250 off-roader



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Distributed by; Seymour Distribution, 2 East Poultry Avenue, London, EC1A 9PT Tel; 020 7429 4000

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Tamiya Model Magazine is published on the third Thursday of each month by Doolittle Media Ltd. **Editorial enquiries**; <u>editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com</u> **All other enquiries to**; <u>enquiries@doolittlemedia.com</u> Tamiya Model Magazine, The Granary, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK. **Telephone**; +44 (0)1525 222573 **Back Issues**; From £5.25 Inc. P&P. are available from the UK address below, or online at <u>www.tamiyamodelmagazine.com</u>

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The Editor's Page...

Tamiya's Leopard Main Battle Tank is a star at Nuremberg!

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Announced back at the Nuremberg Toy Fair last month, Tamiya's big AFV release at the show is the Leopard 2A7V in 1:35, the newest version of arguably the best tank in the world, in service with the German Army...



This image above shows a prototype

LEOPHIEL, MODERNISED,

t's a significant update from the Leopard 2A6, with the additional frontal armour being the most immediate visual clue of the A7V. The turret-rear has been modernised to the new spec too, and the kit will come with new, snap-together tracks that will be quick and easy to 'deploy'. Photo-etched parts are included in the box for the engine-deck grilles

and turret stowage bins and it comes with new markings. Tamiya have also created an aluminium barrel for this kit, (Item No.12694) and it can be purchased as an upgrade to the model.

Seeing the model 'in the plastic' myself at the Toy Fair, I realised how big it is and how much of an impression it will make in one's display cabinet. The detail is absolutely

stunning and it will be a lot of fun to paint and weather, which is exactly what we will be doing as soon as possible in TMMI...

Next issue we will have a lot more imagery of this and Tamiya's other new releases at the Toy Fair, so keep reading TMMI for more details!

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FEDITOR'S CHOICE VMS VARNISHES

Finding a reliable, consistent varnish for scale modelling can be trickier than one might think. Tamiya's Lacquer Paints range offers Gloss (LP-9), Semi-Gloss Clear (LP-24) and Flat (LP-23) but these require the use of lacquer (nitro-cellulose) thinners and the spraying process creates quite strong fumes. A good alternative is the range of varnishes from VMS and these are water-based and less smelly, although you will still need a mask and thorough ventilation to protect yourself from airborne particles. I have tried the VMS XXL Matt so far and it creates an extremely flat finish, ideal for fabrics and subjects that need a very non-reflective lustre. I will be trying the XXL Satin soon and think this will be more suitable for aircraft airframes. I'll let you know! I ordered mine from Scale Model Shed and the service was excellent. www.scalemodelshed.co.uk





TAMIYA'S LIGHTNING II: A SPARK OF GENIUS

Carl Robertshaw has built Tamiya's amazing new 1:48 Lockheed Martin F-35B Lightning II and he finished as a machine in RAF service

lighty years since the creation of the Dambusters' 617 Squadron, we are in the era of the 5th Generation air superiority fighter aircraft, with the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II (in its various versions) standing on the shoulders of all that has gone before it and ordered by a long list of countries: UK, USA, Italy, The Netherlands, Australia, Norway, Isreal, Japan, Republic of Korea, Denmark, Singapore, Belgium and Poland. This is undoubtedly a remarkable feat of engineering design, being able to hover motionless like an alien craft from the future and punch through the sound barrier at Mach 1.6.

Not all F-35s are the same. The 'A' version was the first to enter service. This is the conventional jet, and the Tamiya 1:48 kit of the 'A' has been out for some time, is a delight to build, and rave reviews abound for good reason.

Then there is the model here, 'B', which is the STOVL (Short Take Off and Vertical Landing). The UK, amongst other countries, operates this type and if you search for reference images, these aircraft display some subtle weathering opportunities, as well as the option in this Tamiya release to have all the doors open, displayed in its distinctive hover. The 'B' is distinguishable by its broad 'neck' behind the cockpit canopy to accommodate the lift fan.

Add some the dirt build-up along the spine of the RAF aircraft I've been intrigued by on Youtube flying through the 'Mach Loop' the detail Tamiya has modelled on the rear of the Pratt & Whitney F135 turbofan nozzle and the fact it can be displayed on a stand like the 1:32 WW2 'uber kits', makes it an attractive proposition!

Tamiya's F-35B Lightning II in 1:48 is

easy enough for a beginner to get their teeth into, yet it is involved and detailed enough to more than satisfy the hungry expert scale modeller. Being able to display this on the stand gives it that little extra something, too!

Kit features:

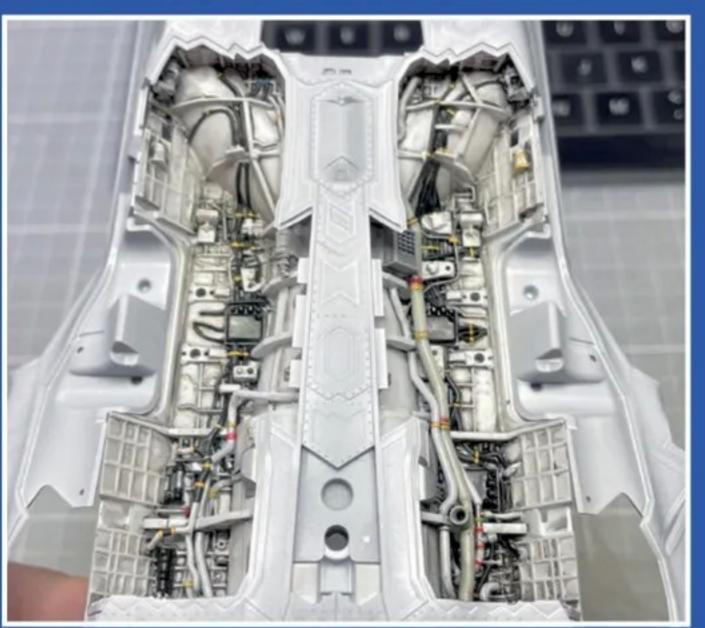
- The modeller can choose one of three configurations to assemble: parked, short-distance takeoff, or vertical landing
- All hatches can be posed open or closed and three different modes can be reproduced exactly as in the actual machine
- The weapon bay is shorter in overall length than the F-35A and is a newly developed part, exclusively for the F-35B
- Seven markings-options are provided for three countries, including aircraft assigned to the US Marine Corps plus masks for clear parts such as the canopy
- The cockpit precisely reproduces the differences between the F-35A and F-35B, right down to the smallest details
- A pilot figure equipped with a Gen III HMD (helmet mount display) is included
- The rotating engine duct/nozzle can be assembled by selecting one from three types of angles: 0° (parked state), 30° (short takeoff state), and 84° (vertical landing state).
- The leading edge flaps, trailing edge flaperon and 'taileron' can be assembled in the raised or lowered positions

Availability:

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

















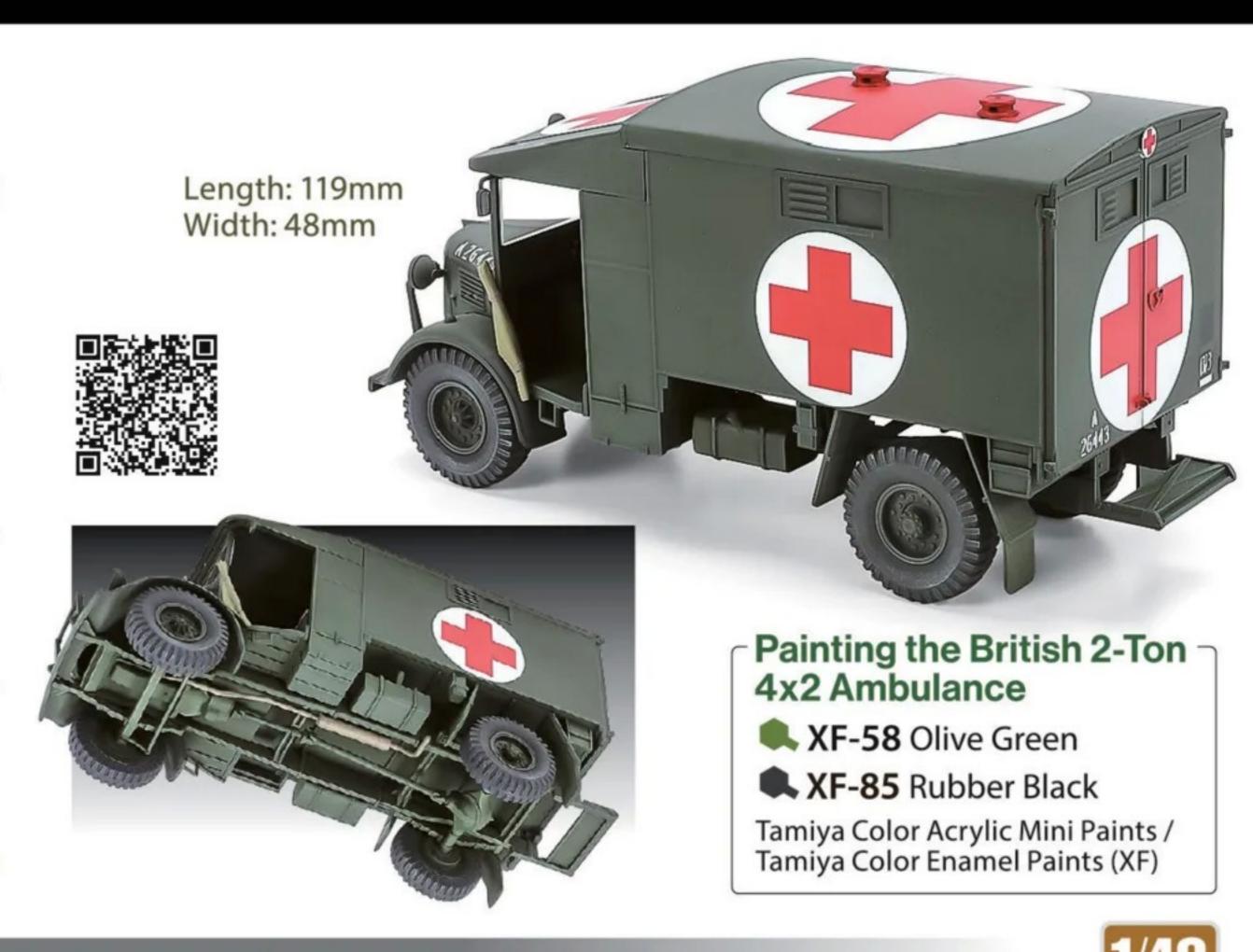
An Unsung Royal Air Force Hero

1/48 Military Miniature Series

British 2-Ton 4x2 Ambulance (Item 32605)

From 1942 to the end of WWII, the British bomber aircraft Avro Lancaster flew to the mainland of Germany 107,085 times and dropped 608,612 tons of bombs, which contributed to the German surrender. On the other hand, the Royal Air Force lost over 3,000 aircraft, and many Lancasters came back with injured crew, who were often welcomed back by the British 2-Ton 4x2 Ambulance which served on Royal Air Force bases with the Medical Corps. Now, Tamiya welcomes this ambulance into the extensive 1/48 Military Miniature Series! Dioramas with 1/48 kits such as the Avro Lancaster B Mk.I/III and the Cromwell Mk.IV Cruiser Tank will expand your modeling world.

★The truck-based form is authentically captured. ★Comes with a driver figure and two marking options. ★Features succinctly and realistically depicted suspension. ★Clear parts recreate headlights and windshield.



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Cromwell Mk.IV British Cruiser Tank Mk.VIII, A27M (Item 32528)



British Sherman IC Firefly (Item 32532)



British Tank Churchill Mk.VII Crocodile (Item 32594)



British Light Utility Car 10HP (Item 32562)



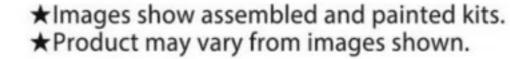
WWII British Infantry Set (European Campaign) (Item 32526)



Supermarine Spitfire Mk.I (Item 61119)



De Haviland Mosquito FB Mk.VI/NF Mk.II (Item 61062)



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

