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extra details from Royal
Model and Aber

TAMIYA

Model MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL



QUEEN OF THE SKIES

Arma Hobby 1:72 P-51C Mustang in detail



Tamiya's classic
1:12 Ferrari 312T4

SCHECKTER'S SHIFTER

INSIDE

Resinscales 3D-printed 1:35 Centurion AX, Tamiya 1:24 Renault 5 Turbo and AHQ
1:16 M113 ACAV previewed, plus new kits, books and modelling accessories...

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Our legendary 1/48 Aircraft Series now has all F-35 variants! The F-35A conventional take-off and landing (CTOL) aircraft kit was the first released, and praised for excellent renderings of its form and details such as weapon bays, with unitized interior components for an ergonomic assembly experience. The F-35B short takeoff and vertical landing (STOVL) aircraft kit offers three assembly types: parked, short takeoff and vertical landing.

As the final variant, the F-35C kit depicts the distinctive F-35C form with the largest wings and stabilizers among the F-35 variants. This kit allows a choice of deployed or folded wingtip parts and faithfully recreates F-35C characteristics such as the reinforced nose landing gear with dual tires, rigid main landing gear and retractable fuel probe on the right side of the nose. Why not proceed with creating your own Joint Strike Fighter force in 1/48 scale?

A Hat Trick of Elite Aircraft

《All F-35 variants in the Tamiya line-up!》—1/48 Aircraft Series



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Arma Hobby 1:72 P-51C
Mustang in 1:72



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Tamiya's 1:35 'Wespe' SPH
gets extra detailing from
Royal Model and Aber



30 SCHECKTER'S SHIFTER

Tamiya's classic 1:12 Ferrari 312T4

Model MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL

Issue 355 May 2025

EDITOR Marcus Nicholls
editor@tamiyamodelmagazine.com

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IN BRIEF...



TAMIYA

- 1:10 RC TRF421 Aluminium Lower Deck
 - 1:10 RC XM-01 Carbon Damper Stays (Front & Rear)
 - 1:10 RC Honda City Turbo (WR-02C)
 - Walking Tyrannosaurus
 - Walking Triceratops
 - Sanding Cloth #300
 - Sanding Cloth #600
 - Sanding Cloth #1000
 - Sanding Cloth #1500
 - Sanding Cloth #2000
- tamiya.com hobbyco.net



AIRFIX

- 1:35 Alvis Stalwart Mk2
 - 1:72 Focke-Wulf Fw190 F-8 A-8
 - 1:48 Albion Three-Point Fueller
 - 1:48 WWII 15-CWT 4x2 GS Truck
 - 1:48 Supermarine Spitfire Mk.IXe
 - 1:48 SEPECAT Jaguar GR.1/GR.1A
- airfix.com

DRAGON

- 1:35 Pz.Kpfw.III Operation Seelöwe
- hobbyco.net



ICM

- 1:48 Conquerors of Europe's Sky
- icm.com.ua.com hobbyco.net and good retailers worldwide



REVELL

- 1:72 Model Set Fairey Gannet AS.1-AS4 Model Set
 - 1:72 Lockheed Martin F-35A Lightning II Model Set
 - 1:1200 Queen Elizabeth II Model Set
 - 1:32 Surtees TS16-03 Model Set
 - 1:32 Tyrrell P34-2 Model Set
- revell.de and from good retailers worldwide

SSR MODELS

- 1:16 3D-print Luke Skywalker - Tauntaun
 - 1:16 3D-print Tusken
 - 1:16 3D-print Chewie and Han Diorama
 - 1:16 3D-print Ewoks
 - 1:16 3D-print Jawas
 - 1:16 3D-print R2D2 and C3PO
 - 1:8 3D-print Ewok A
 - 1:8 3D-print Ewok B
 - 1:8 3D-print Ewok C
 - 1:4 3D-print Ewok
- tyrellmodels.co.uk

TAKOM

- 1:72 M911 C-HET
 - 1:35 Jagdpantier G2
- modelsforsale.com

WWP BOOKS

- NATO Air Force Exercise In Detail (book)
- wwpbooks.com/en/



COMING SOON FROM TAMIYA!

Tamiya 1:16 RC M4 Sherman 105mm Howitzer (Mechanical Steering System)

The 1:16 radio controlled M4 Sherman 105mm Howitzer was Tamiya's first RC model kit, released in 1974. Now, an updated version of it is on the way, featuring a new gearbox which uses a single Type 540 electric motor (two Type 380 motors powered the original kit) which recreates the controlled differential steering system of the actual tank; during WWII, most American tanks featured this steering system.

Model specs:

- Length: 376mm
- Width: 183mm
- Height: 205mm
- Updated gearbox with differential steering system
- Cast metal drive sprockets, suspension arms and idler-wheel bases
- Features full ball bearings
- Pre-assembled tracks use metal pins and connectors

www.tamiya.com www.hobbyco.net and from good retailers worldwide



NEW FROM AIRFIX

1:48 SEPECAT Jaguar GR.1/GR.1A

Airfix's all-new Jaguar in 1:48 has arrived at TMMI! It is an amazing production and we will be taking a close look inside the box next issue.

www.airfix.com and from good retailers worldwide



+ German 7.5cm Pak 40 Anti-Tank Gun Early Production



COMING SOON FROM GECKO MODELS

1:16 German 7.5cm Pak 40 anti-tank gun

One of the most tank-killing pieces of artillery from the Second World War is on the way in big 1:16, courtesy of Gecko Models.

www.tankmuseumshop.org and good retailers worldwide





Chris Ellis: 1937 - 2025

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Tamiya Model Magazine International's founding editor Chris Ellis who passed away earlier in the year. Chris was a prolific author and modeller with some of the modelling hobby's top titles including two stints at Airfix Magazine and other magazines such as Hornby Express and Model Trains. Chris helped launch TMMI in 1985 and edited it until 1991 during a time when the hobby was trying to find its feet again after the recessions of the 1970s. But it is perhaps his seminal work, 'How to go Plastic Modelling' (1968) that Chris will be best and most fondly remembered by generations of modellers. One of the first detailed books that concentrated solely on plastic kits, it ran for several editions and updates, such as its popularity. The last word really should go to Chris - he was a master at writing and influenced so many of today's modelling authors:

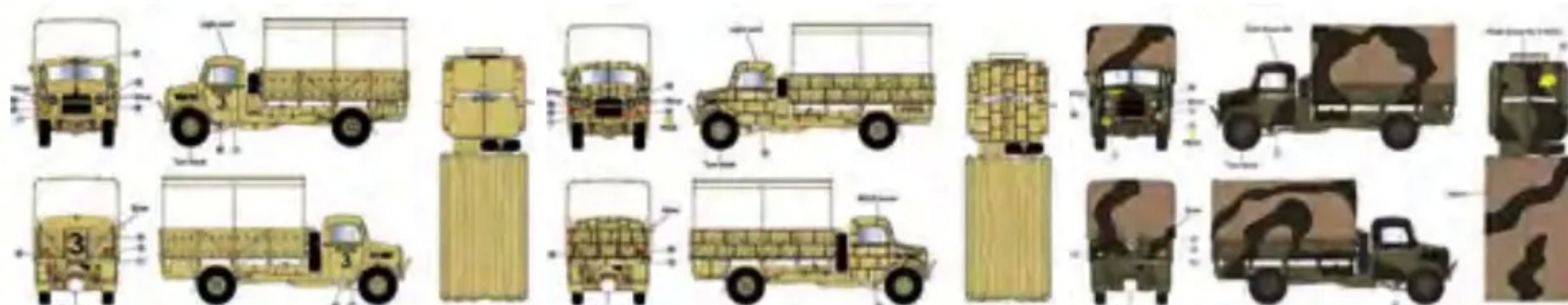
"The best modellers, and the best citizens in my experience, are those with the widest interests."

Jonathan Mock



COMING SOON FROM GECKO MODELS 1:35 Bedford OYD Truck 3t 4x2 GS

A World War Two British 'classic' in the form of the General Service Bedford OYD has been created by Gecko Models, the perfect partner of Tamiya's line of British tanks from the war. www.tankmuseumshop.org and good retailers worldwide



COMING SOON FROM KOTARE 1:32 Hurricane Mk.I Early

To follow their still-to-be-released 1:32 Bf109K-4, Kōtare from New Zealand have announced a new-tool Hurricane Mk.I in the same scale. Happy times for large-scale aircraft modellers!

www.kotare-models.com and good retailers worldwide



COMING SOON FROM TAKOM - 1:35 T57 & T58 heavy tanks

Developed from the M103/T43, the T57 was fitted with an 'oscillating' turret and also fitted an autoloading mechanism for its 120mm main gun. The T58 was designed in response to the need for a more powerful 155mm main gun. Thanks to Takom, you'll soon be able to build both in 1:35! www.modelsforsale.com

COMING SOON FROM REVELL 1:57 X-Wing Mandalorian

If you fancy building a glitzy, gold-coloured X-Wing, Revell has just the thing for you in the form of this 'Carson Teva's' machine from the TV series 'The Mandalorian'. www.revell.de/en



NEW FROM REVELL - 1:72 Tornado Twin Pack

One Tornado model in 1:72 not enough for you? Revell has the answer in the form of this twin-pack to mark the aircraft's 50th anniversary! Has it really been around that long? www.revell.de/en



COMING SOON FROM ITALERI

- 1:35 M1A1 Abrams WAR THUNDER
- 1:48 Tornado GR.1/IDS Gulf War WAR THUNDER
- 1:12 Bugatti Type 35B - Targa Florio '28/Monaco GP '30
- 1:48 Hurricane Mk.I Aces
- 1:35 M24 Chaffee
- 1:72 FIAT CR.42 CN 'Falco' Night Fighter
- 1:24 Scania S770 4x2 Normal Roof 'Grey Cab'



New Arrivals

A quick round-up of new and recent arrivals at Tamiya Model Magazine. Thank you to the manufacturers and suppliers for the review samples!



AIRFIX 1:72 Eurofighter Typhoon FGR.4 starterSET (A55016) new tool for 2025

This is a seriously nice 1:72 kit of the FGR.4 variant of the Eurofighter Typhoon, sporting some excellent airframe detail, on the underwing and lower fuselage areas in particular. It would be unfair to say the cockpit is basic – a little spartan perhaps, but with the instrument panel decal and ejector seat – and the pilot – in place it is perfectly adequate for the job. The undercarriage legs are nicely done and their doors are commendably thin. This 'starterSET' kit comes with six tubs of acrylic paint for the jet's main colours, plus a tube of cement and two very decent quality paint brushes. www.airfix.com and good retailers everywhere



AIRFIX 1:72 Gloster Meteor F.8/FR.9 (A04067) new version

Airfix's stunning 1:72 Meteor F.8 from 2022 provides the main structural parts for this new version, which includes the option to build it as the FR.9 photo-reconnaissance machine with a new nose featuring a pair of windows either side and a circular one in the tip. The detail incorporated within this model is fantastic, the cockpit alone being a little masterpiece. The refinement continues throughout the rest of the model with no areas left unattended to, topped off with a new decal sheet for one F.8 – as that version can still be built from the box – and another for the FR.9. Gorgeous. www.airfix.com and good retailers everywhere



AIRFIX 1:48 Messerschmitt Bf109E-3/E-4 (A05120C) new version

The Messerschmitt Bf109 is an evergreen scale modelling subject and every time a new kit is launched, it's worth taking a look at. This 1:48 kit was initially released back in 2010 as the Bf109E-1/E-3/E-4 and it's back once more with decals to finish one of two machines, a Bf109E-3 Wnr.1162 'White 4' as flown by Johann Böhm of 4./Jagdgeschwader 51, France, July 1940; painted RLM70 Schwarzgrün with an RLM02 Grau mottle, over RLM65 Hellblau undersurfaces and fuselage sides. The other scheme is a French-captured 'E-3 in RLM70/RLM71 Dunkelgrün over RLM65 Hellblau with French roundels. www.airfix.com and good retailers everywhere



BELKITS 1:24 Opel Ascona 400 (BEL-019) new tool

This is an all new kit from Belgian rally-masters Belkits which depicts the famous Opel Ascona 400 car as driven by Jochi Kleint and Gunter Wagner in the 1981 Rallye Monte-Carlo. The Ascona was a mid-sized saloon that began life in 1970 and whose production ran all the way to 1988. In rally service its 2.4 litre straight-four engine was upgraded to 260bhp and was a great success. The kit's main parts are moulded in white with just the clear frame for the windows and synthetic rubber tyres providing some relief. A 'curbside-kit' with superb detail; full build coming soon to TMMI. www.hobbyco.net and good retailers everywhere



DRAGON 1:35 Sd.Kfz.250/1 Neu (6476) re-release

This 'neu Art' version was the later variant of the Sd.Kfz.250 half-track with simplified flat-plate armour giving it a more utilitarian look. Dragon's superb but complex 1:35 Sd.Kfz.250/1 'neu Art' traces its roots back to 1998, arguably the golden era for this manufacturer when they were producing superb armour kits and that quality shows to this day. This is a 'Premium Edition' but with Dragon, it can be tricky to distinguish precisely what this means, but the box is heaving with hundreds of beautifully detailed parts that demand a patient approach to assembly. www.hobbyco.net and good retailers everywhere



ICM 1:48 I-153 with Pilots and Ground Personnel (48094) new version

It almost goes without saying that this is a fantastic 1:48 replica of the Polikarpov I-153 biplane fighter; the subtle airframe detail is exquisitely executed, with incredible simulations of the wing ribs and fuselage stringers, rendered to perfection in grey polystyrene. This is a 'Luftwaffe' boxing, so it comes with three markings-options in WW2 German air force colours and insignia. What really brings this release to life, however, is the sprue of seven pilot and ground-crew figures and they are absolutely brilliant, with convincing poses and amazingly sharp detail. www.hobbyco.net and good retailers everywhere



ITALERI 1:48 P-47D Thunderbolt (2835) new boxing

The P-47 Thunderbolt lends itself perfectly to scale model reproduction and there have been many kits of it created over the years. Here we have Italeri's re-box of Academy's basically sound 1998 kit of the P-47D and it makes an attractive presentation, with an ordnance load of bombs, droptanks and rockets and a stunning decal sheet. The kit is not without its issues but the basics are all there and there are some nice features like recessed panel lines across the airframe, openable wing gun bays plus well detailed engine and cockpit. www.hobbyco.net and good retailers everywhere



MINIART 1:35 Sd.Kfz.234 with MG151 Drilling (40014) new version

Incredibly, this is the ninth variant of the Sd.Kfz.234 issued by MiniArt since its launch in Puma-form in 2024, with previous iterations taking the form of the '234/4 Schwerer Panzerspähwagen', '234/3 2cm Schwebelafette 38 and '234/3 Schwerer Panzerspähwagen 'Stummel' to name but three. The kits are all extensively detailed – even the Puma without interior – with thorough representations of the eight-wheeled suspension, steering and drivetrain, an area of the model that will keep the builder fully engaged for some while. This version comes with the three-MG151 'Drilling' (triplet) turret and looks fantastic. www.creativemodels.co.uk www.miniart-models.com and good retailers everywhere



NUNU 1:24 BMW 320si (E90) WTCC Brands Hatch 2008 Winner (PN24037) new version

The World Touring Car Championship features some very cool-looking cars, adaptations (to say the least) from the standard, commercially available vehicles that are transformed by the addition of sponsors' logos and much more. The BMW 320si (E90) depicted in this kit comes with an accurate-looking bodyshell that sits over the typically spartan interior, replicated to perfection here. This is a very 'German' colour scheme with a huge black/red/yellow flag across the roof and along the shoulders, looking fantastic. Detail throughout is excellent and whilst no engine is provided, the bonnet is moulded separately should you wish to add an aftermarket item. www.hobbyco.net and good retailers everywhere



REVELL 1:32 Bae Hawk T.1A RAF Red Arrows (04284) new decals

Revell's 1:32 Bae Hawk T.1A was launched originally back in 2010 and was received well by the modelling community. Sadly, Eduard's photo-etched sets and canopy masks are discontinued but if you can find them online somewhere, they will add an extra touch of refinement to this already excellent model. 2024 marked the sixtieth anniversary of the Royal Air Force Red Arrows Aerobatic Team and this latest edition comes with a stunning decal sheet that carries the special commemorative markings, along with codes for to depict any one of the aircraft that took part in the 2024 season. Thankfully, the kit plastic is now neutral grey, not red! www.revell.de and good retailers everywhere



REVELL 1:24 Corvette C8 Coupé (07714) 2024 new tool

Revel released this all-new kit of the stunning Chevrolet Corvette C8 Coupé back in 2024 and it looks amazing. It is a full-engine release with a very impressive 1:24 replica of the real car's 6.2 litre V8 engine. When everything is moulded in slightly translucent white plastic, it can be tricky to observe the finer details, but under a bright light it is clear that this kit is superbly well detailed, from the crisp bodyshell to the super low-profile tyres. It's a terrific production and all that sharp-edge detail is topped off with decals for USA, Netherlands, UK, Germany, Belgium, France, Austria, Switzerland and Italy-based cars! www.revell.de and good retailers everywhere



REVELL 1:24 Porsche (Cabriolet) 50 Years of the G Model (05646) new version

Using the 2021-released Porsche 911 Carrera 3.2 Coupe as a base for the same year's launch of the Targa was an obvious – and inspired – choice and now that we have the full Cabriolet from Revell, the holy trinity of the G-Model 911 can be built to perfection in 1:24. As with Revell's Corvette, the kit comes with a full representation of its engine, in this case a 3.2 litre flat-six, naturally. Detail throughout is wonderful and Revell's designers have really captured the familiar lines of this motoring icon impressively well. Cement and paints included. www.revell.de and good retailers everywhere

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GIMME A HIGH FIVE!

Tamiya's Renault 5 Turbo Rally is back again, for everyone to enjoy!

Marcus Nicholls investigates...

Renault recently re-imagined its iconic '5' in the form of a fully electric car, so Tamiya's re-issue of the equally venerated 1:24 Renault 5 Turbo Rally is perfectly timed and very welcome. The kit first saw the light of day in 1982 and was re-issued back in 2011, so to have the chance to build this brilliant little kit again is wonderful. Last

issue I waxed lyrical about the model, remarking how it makes me smile when I see one and now I actually have the kit in front of me, I am beaming like the proverbial Cheshire cat.

The kit now comes with updated decals and instructions making the assembly and painting processes very easy to follow, although you will need to focus your masking

skills when it comes to painting the body. Tamiya does provide decals for the black and silver pin-striped 'shoulders' of the bodyshell, but the modeller must still apply the main white, yellow and black zones themselves, so get ready with the Tamiya Masking Tape and a fresh scalpel blade to get the sharpest possible result. Areas that in more modern kits would probably be

moulded as individual parts – the rear wheel-arch grilles for example – are formed integrally with the shell, so extra care will be needed here to achieve a neat finish.

As I mentioned last month, the inclusion of driver and co-driver figures really brings the model to life, as well showing just how small the car was in reality. Some skills in painting faces and fabrics





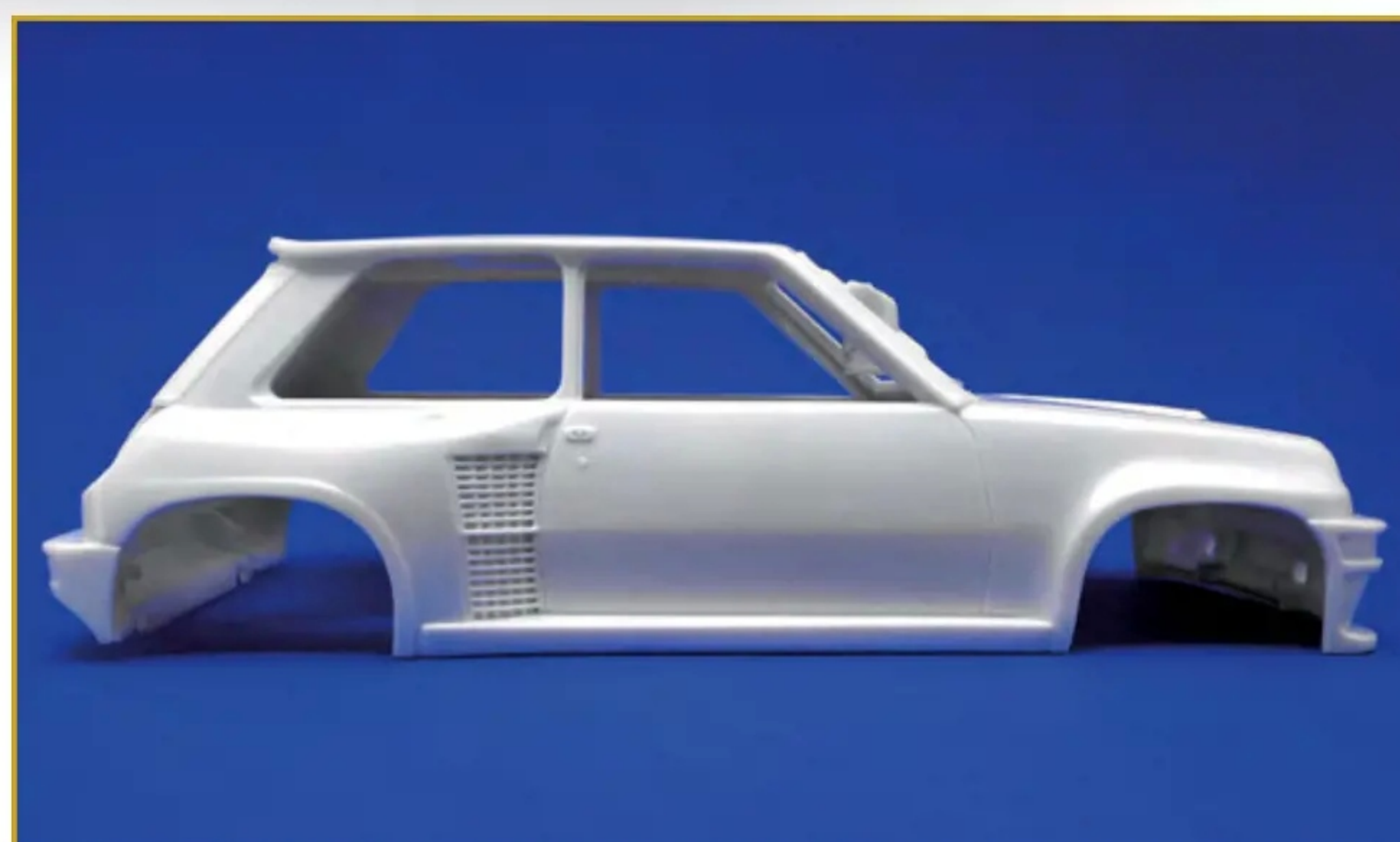
will be an advantage but it's worth the practice. With prices currently very reasonable for this model, scoop up a pair and have some retro rally-modelling fun in 1:24! ●

Model specs:

- Length: 156mm
- Width: 74mm
- Height: 57mm
- Cibie spotlights
- Roll cage
- Satin-chrome wheels
- Synthetic rubber tyres
- Steerable front wheels
- Driver and co-driver figures

Availability;

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

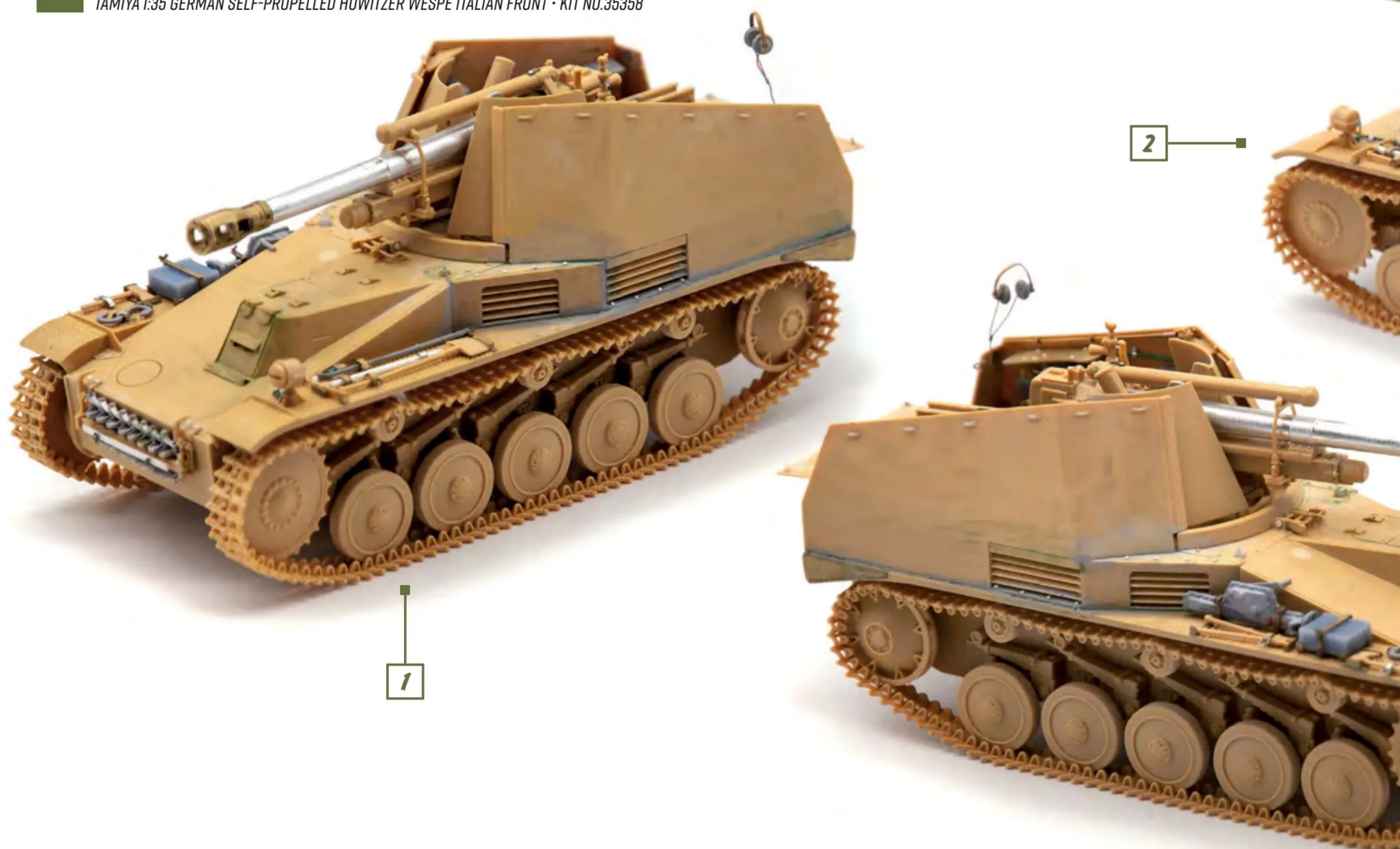




POWERFUL STING IN THE TAIL!

Costantino Sanna adds some extra detailing from Royal Model and Aber to Tamiya's 1:35 German self-propelled howitzer 'Wespe'





The Wespe, the German word for 'wasp' due to its compact size and nasty sting (firepower), was developed by Krupp as a modified version of the Panzer II. Entering service in 1942, the Wespe's primary purpose was to provide artillery support to front-line forces in a rapid and mobile manner. Equipped with a 10.5cm howitzer, the Wespe could fire effectively against armoured forces and ground targets. This vehicle was notable for its versatility and the fact that it could be used in a wide range of operational scenarios. The vehicle was designed with a lightly armoured structure, but with armour thick enough to withstand small-arms fire and small-calibre projectiles. Although it was relatively vulnerable to more powerful rounds, its hull capable of housing a 10.5cm howitzer made it an important asset on the battlefield.

The Wespe was based on a Panzer II, but with significant modifications to accommodate the main weapon. The hull was open, with little protection for the crew, making it vulnerable to enemy attacks. With a length of 4.7 metres, a width of 2.2 metres and a height of 1.6 metres, the Wespe weighed about 8.5 tons, a size that allowed it to move easily on the battlefield, while maintaining good firepower.

The engine, a six-cylinder Daimler-Benz of 140hp, gave the Wespe a maximum speed of about 40km/h, sufficient to maintain mobility in operations. The rate of fire was quite fast, with the ability to fire about ten rounds per minute.

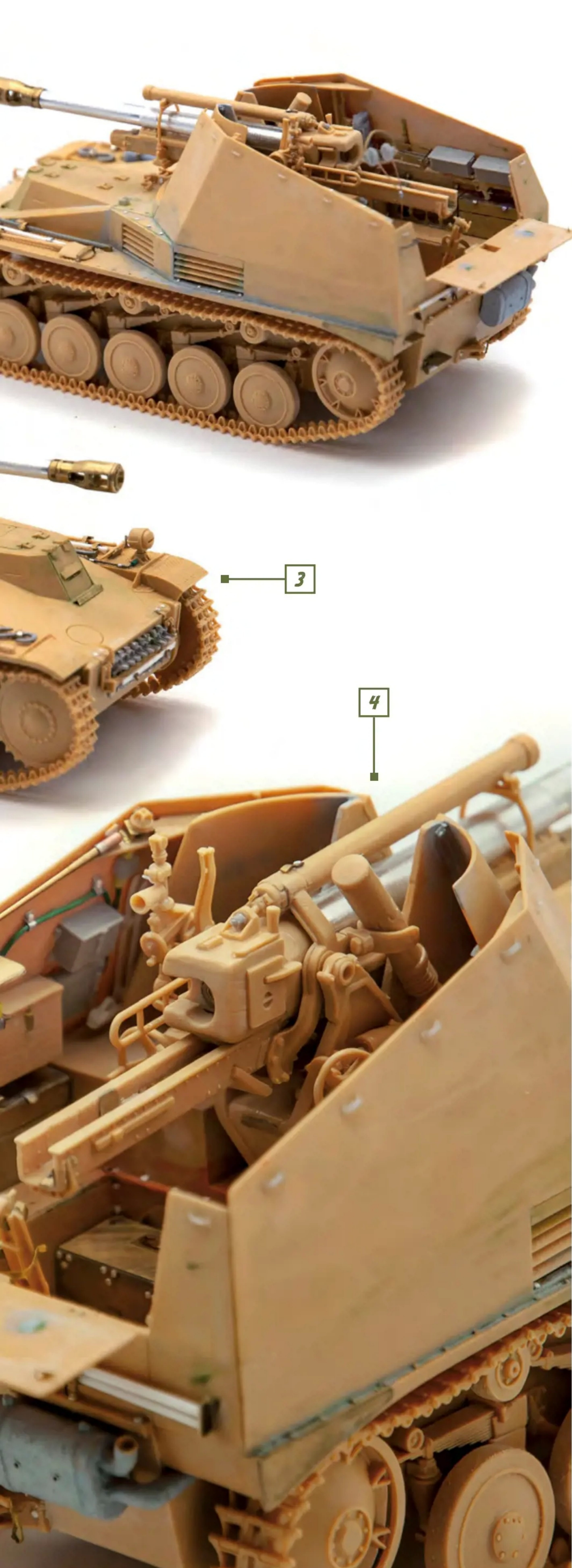
CONSTRUCTION

For this project, I chose the Tamiya kit as the main base, integrating it with the Royal Model's upgrade set and the Aber turned aluminium

barrel, high quality elements that enhance the level of detail and precision. As often happens when opting for the use of improvement sets, it is essential to carefully compare the assembly instructions of the original kit with those provided in the upgrade set, in this case by Royal Model. This step is crucial to identify the parts that need to be replaced or enhanced, thus ensuring a final result of superior quality.

Furthermore, to ensure accuracy, it is always advisable to have adequate references available. For this project, I consulted the 'Achtung Panzer N°7', a volume dedicated to the Panzer I and II. This publication, full of line drawings, proved indispensable during the detailing phase of the vehicle's radio system, offering me all the information necessary for accurate and realistic work (pics 1 to 4). ▶

“ it is essential to carefully compare the assembly instructions of the original kit with those provided in the upgrade set... ”



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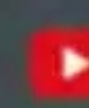
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PAINTING AND WEATHERING

As usual, I always start with a coat of primer applied with an airbrush, this time I used Mr Oxide Red Surfacer 1000 (PIC 5).

For the classic German yellow-sand, I created a mix of colours from the AK Real Color series. After adding white to the base colour, I lightened the areas most exposed to sunlight. Next, I applied the decals provided in the kit (PIC 6). Using an AK Interactive product, I started the aging process, starting with a filter (PIC 7) and I then applied a first colour-wash with oil-based Cassel Earth (PIC 8).

With oil paints, I applied highlights to the vehicle to emphasize some key areas (PIC 9). With an acrylic paint lighter than the base colour, I highlighted details such as rivets, hinges and hooks (PIC 10). To simulate chipping and wear, I first used a sponge and then a 00 brush (PIC 11). To create a base for the mud, which always characterizes the lower parts of real vehicles, I airbrushed a light coat of Tamiya XF-52 + XF-57. ▶







On this base, I applied various earth-coloured enamels from AMMO. To accentuate some of the more humid or oily areas, I used specific products from Mig and AK (*pic 12*). After painting the tracks with a dark brown, I spread a mix of pigments, to make the areas subject to rubbing shiny I used the graphite of a pencil. And there it is, Tamiya's classic 1:35 Wespe, a wasp on the Italian front! ●

TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:35 GERMAN SELF-PROPELLED HOWITZER WESPE ITALIAN FRONT KIT NO.35358

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya Acrylics: XF-52 Flat Earth, XF-57 Buff
- Mr Hobby: Mr Oxide Red Surfacer 1000,
- AK Real Color: various

Accessories used:

- Royal Model: Wespe Part 1 (135), Wespe Interior Details (137)
- Aber: German 105mm LeFH 18M/2 L/28 Barrel (Wespe Sd.Kfz. 124) (35 L-011n)

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
- Royal Model: www.royalmodel.eu
- Aber: www.abermodels.com



Bugatti Type 35B



Decal for two versions
Steering wheels
Opening cowling
Highly detailed engine
Rubber tyres
2 spare wheels

Chromed parts
Photoetched parts
Screws and tubes
Artificial leather
Die-cut masking sheet

1:12
ScalaScale **NEW PARTS**

No 4716 model kit
modèle réduit

Version A.
Targa Florio 1928
#58 Eliška Junková
(Elisabeth Junek)



Version B.
1930 Monaco GP
#22 René Dreyfus
winner



Targa Florio 1928 / Monaco GP 1930



Lancia Stratos HF Gr.4

Monte Carlo 1977

1:12
ScalaScale **100% NEW MOULDS**

Model Kit Features

- Highly detailed frame, interiors and engine
- Opening doors and front/rear bonnets
- Super decals sheet
- Photo-etched fret
- Chromed parts
- Hoses, screws and springs
- Rubber sheet for mudguards
- Working suspensions
- Realistic rubber tyres
- Steering Wheels



Lancia Stratos HF Gr.4
#1, Sandro Munari - Silvio Maiga,
45th Monte Carlo Rallye, 1977,
1st Classified.

No 4714 model kit
modèle réduit



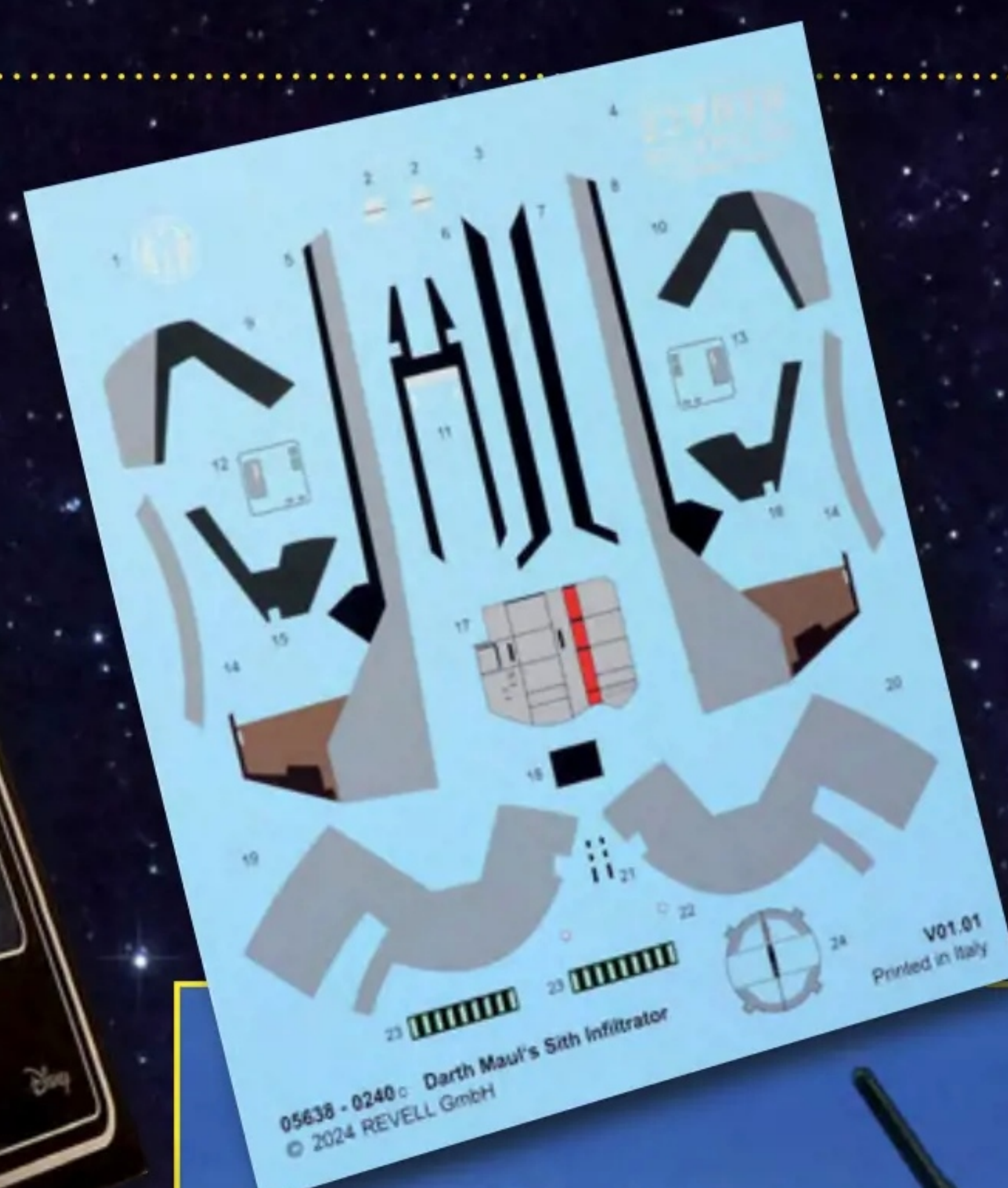
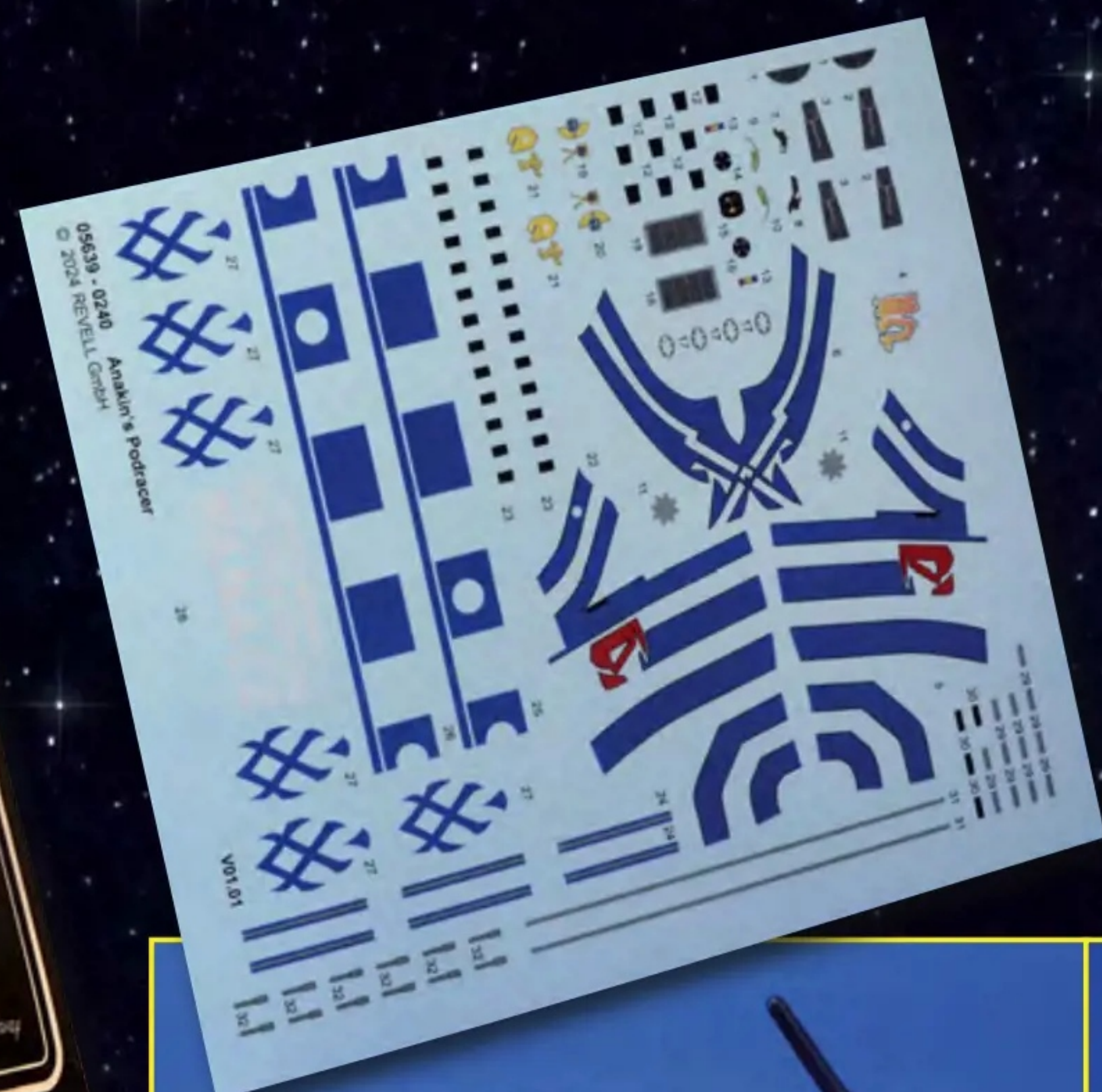
Celebrate the
50th Anniversary
of the 1975
World Rally victory
with our Stratos

KIT PREVIEW

REVELL STAR WARS EPISODE I THE PHANTOM MENACE 25TH ANNIVERSARY KITS

THE PHANTOM MENACE

Last year, Revell celebrated the 25th Anniversary of 'Star Wars Episode I, The Phantom Menace' with the re-release of two excellent replicas of key hardware from the film. **Marcus Nicholls** takes a look inside the boxes...



Availability:

Revell models are widely available from good model shops and online. www.revell.de/en

FACE RETURNS...

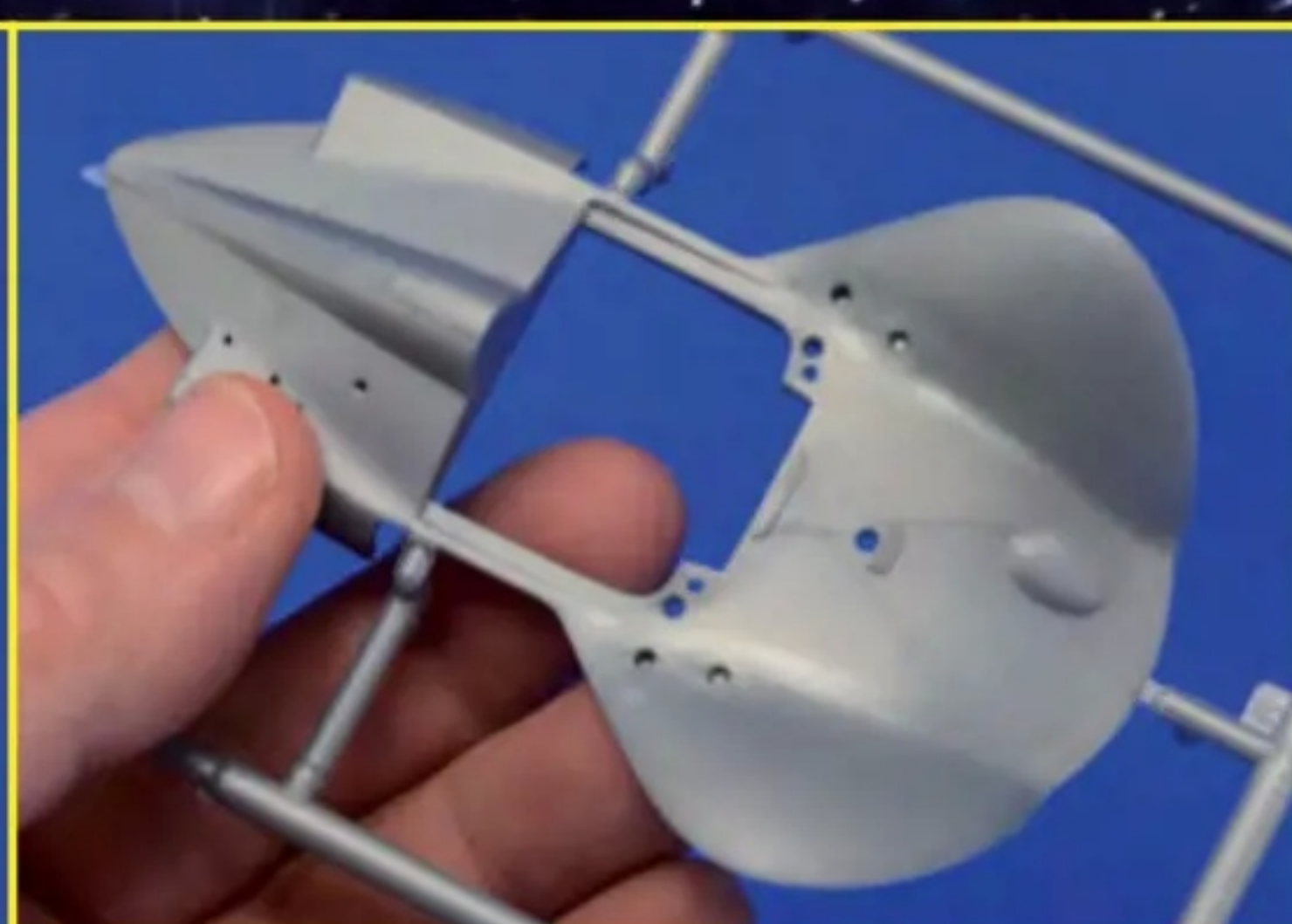
ANAKIN'S PODRACER 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF STAR WARS EPISODE I, THE PHANTOM MENACE (05639)

It's quite something to think 'The Phantom Menace' was released in cinemas over a quarter of a century ago, but time flies and here we are, with numerous other Star Wars productions having come along in the intervening years. The 'new' Star Wars films (from Episode I) were met with mixed receptions from the Star Wars cognoscenti but my sons loved them when we got them on DVD and they do feature some extraordinary hardware. Two notable examples were the young Anakin Skywalker's 'Podracer' (spoiler alert; he became Darth Vader) and Darth Maul's 'Sith Infiltrator' and both a striking designs that translate brilliantly into model kits. Revell originally launched Anakin Skywalker's Podracer in their 'easykit' range in 2012 and very welcomingly, they have brought it back for the anniversary. The 'vehicle' (speeder? ground-effect aircraft?) really stood out and the oddly-scaled 1:31 model, whilst 'only' an 'easykit' is actually very nicely done with lots of potential for super-detailing with the addition of 'greeblies' on the engines,

using parts from the spares box. The little figure of Anakin is nice touch and the 'plasma coupling' is moulded in clear, ready for a coat of transparent purple to zhoosh it up. The control vanes are positionable and the box includes basic acrylic paints, Revell's excellent Contacta Professional Mini cement, paint brush and movie poster. A very attractive package that will build into a very cool Phantom Menace scene for your Star Wars display cabinet. ●

Key features

- Movable blades for dynamic display options
- Detailed pilot figure of Anakin Skywalker
- Display stand to present the finished model
- Cement (Revell Contacta Professional Mini)
- Episode I 25th Anniversary Special Edition Poster
- Includes base paint colours (Revell Aqua Color)
- Paint brush



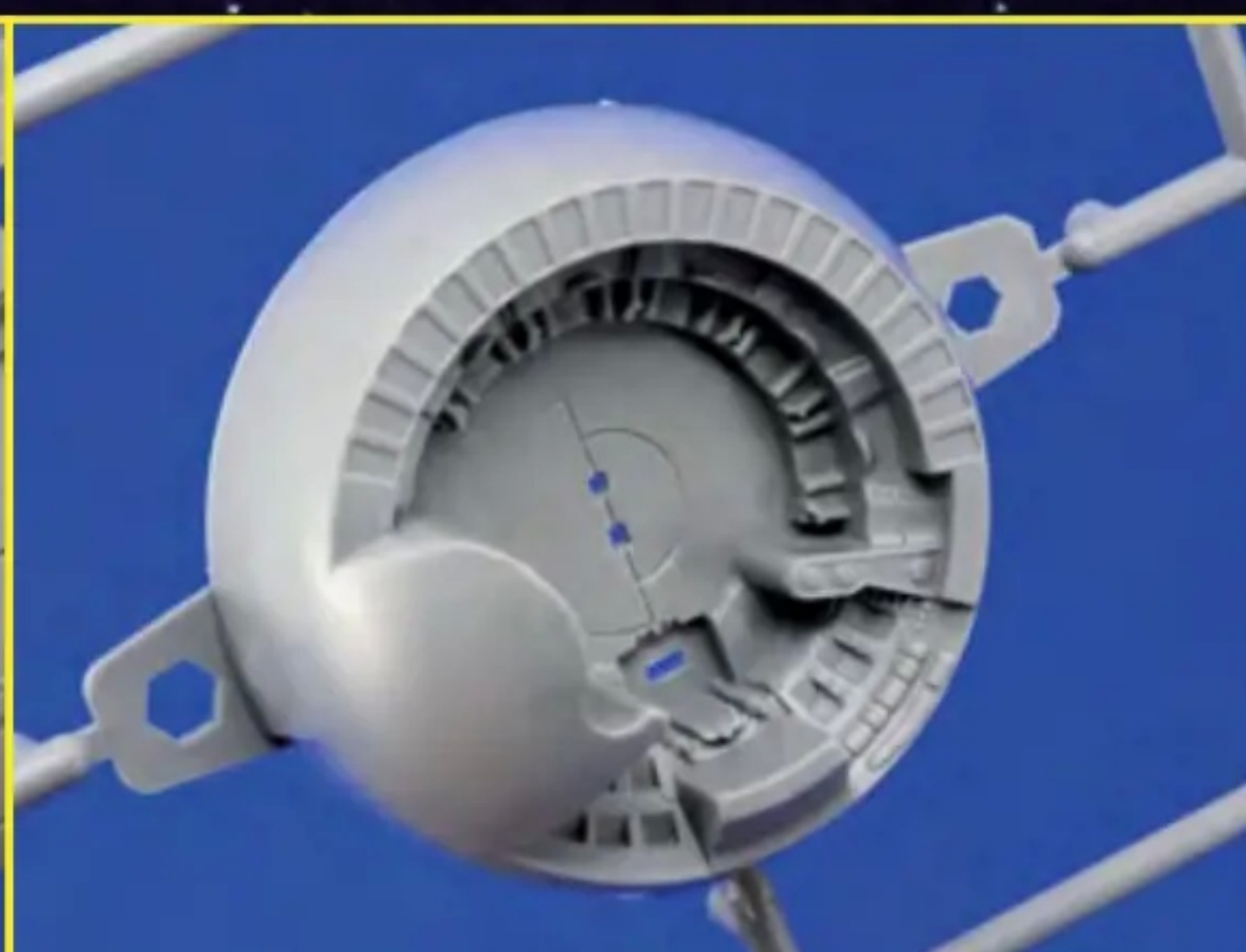
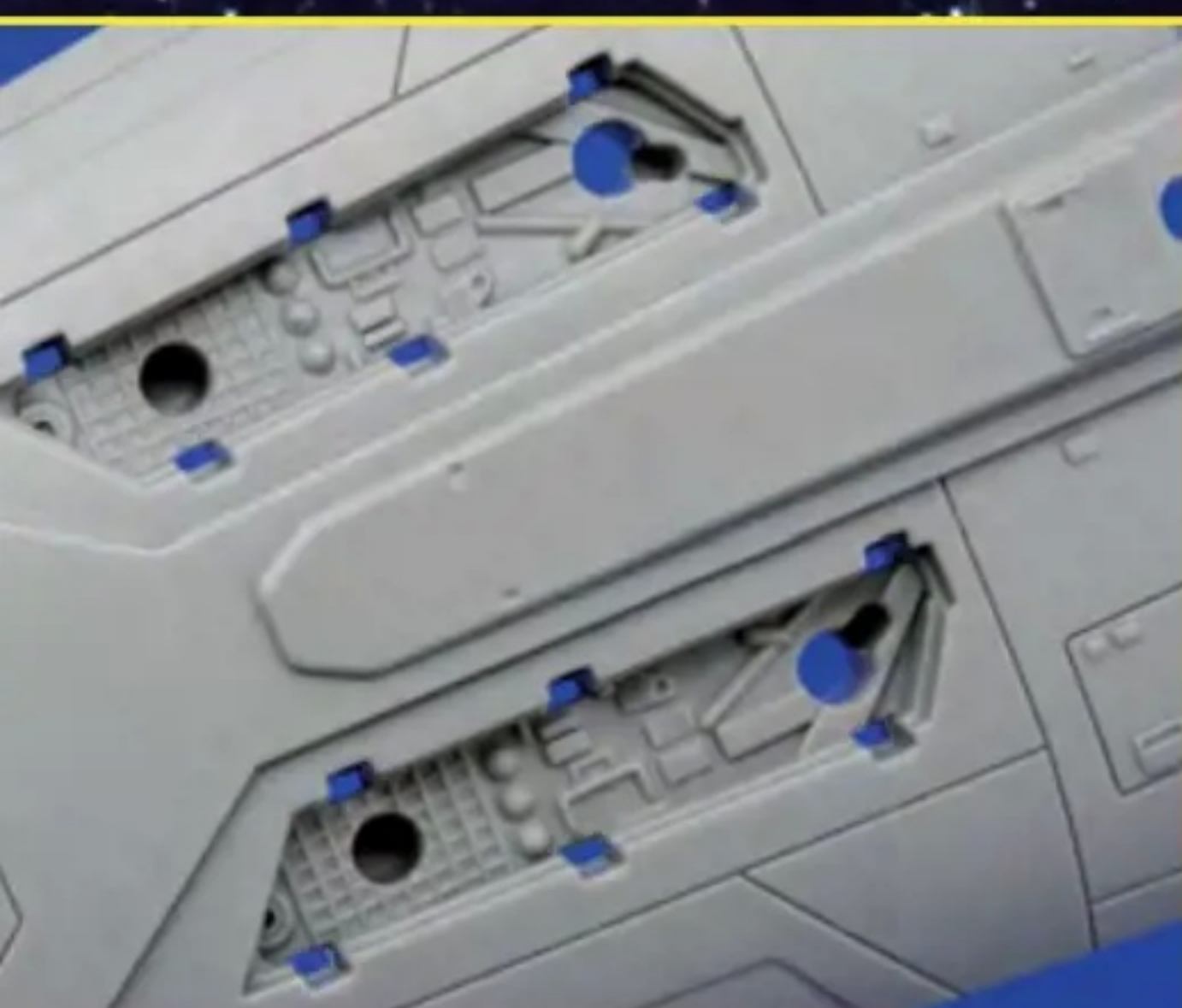
DARTH MAUL'S SITH INFILTRATOR 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF STAR WARS EPISODE I, THE PHANTOM MENACE (05638)

As with the Podracer, Darth Maul's Sith Infiltrator was initially released in 2012 as an 'easykit' production, and as with Anakin's machine, it's an impressive kit with some nice detail touches. Again it is at the slightly unusual scale of 1:120, not that it really matters, because it's the ideal size for a display case of modest proportions. The parts are carried on four frames of grey polystyrene, plus one in clear, a very nice decal sheet, six tubs of acrylic paints of the subject's basic shades, Revell Contacta Professional cement, a paint brush and a film poster. For such a small-scale kit, the interior of Mr Maul's cockpit is remarkably busy and once painted purple-red with the Sith Lord in his seat, it will look great, although mostly

hidden with the dome in place. Great detail all round that will come to life with some suitably creative painting and light weathering treatments. ●

Key features

- Movable wings for a variety of modes
- Extendable landing legs (optional)
- 1:120 pilot figure of Darth Maul
- Cement (Revell Contacta Professional Mini)
- Episode I 25th Anniversary Special Edition Poster
- Includes base paint colours (Revell Aqua Color)
- Paint brush





Kris Sieber builds Arma Hobby's exquisite 1:72 P-51C Mustang as the tribute aircraft to the young Princess Elizabeth, later Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II...

Early 1944 saw the 352nd Fighter Group undertaking a new role escorting bombers returning from missions over Europe. Flying P-47 Thunderbolts, the 352nd managed some success, however, the limited range of the aircraft hampered their efforts. By March 1944, senior leadership, looking to give the 352nd's pilots

an edge, equipped them with newer P-51 Mustangs. While most pilots enjoy the license to name their own aircraft, Lt. Bill Whisner — now flying P-51B 42-106449 — was 'compelled' by a command decision to name his Princess Elizabeth in honour of an anticipated visit to RAF Bodney by the young royal. 42-106449 would wear the moniker until it was lost

to flak on a D-Day strafing run while being piloted by Robert Butler.

THE BUILD

In a stroke of luck, a request I received for a P-51 built as Princess Elizabeth coincided with Arma Hobby's release of their new P-51B/C Mustang kits. Though I was already familiar and impressed, with Arma's kits, once the

Mustangs were in hand it was clear the company had outdone themselves.

Moulded in grey plastic, the main parts have a satiny smooth feel and smaller parts are crisply moulded with legible print/logos moulded on the tyres and rudder pedals. The kit plastic was supplemented with a small PE fret, a masking sheet and thin,

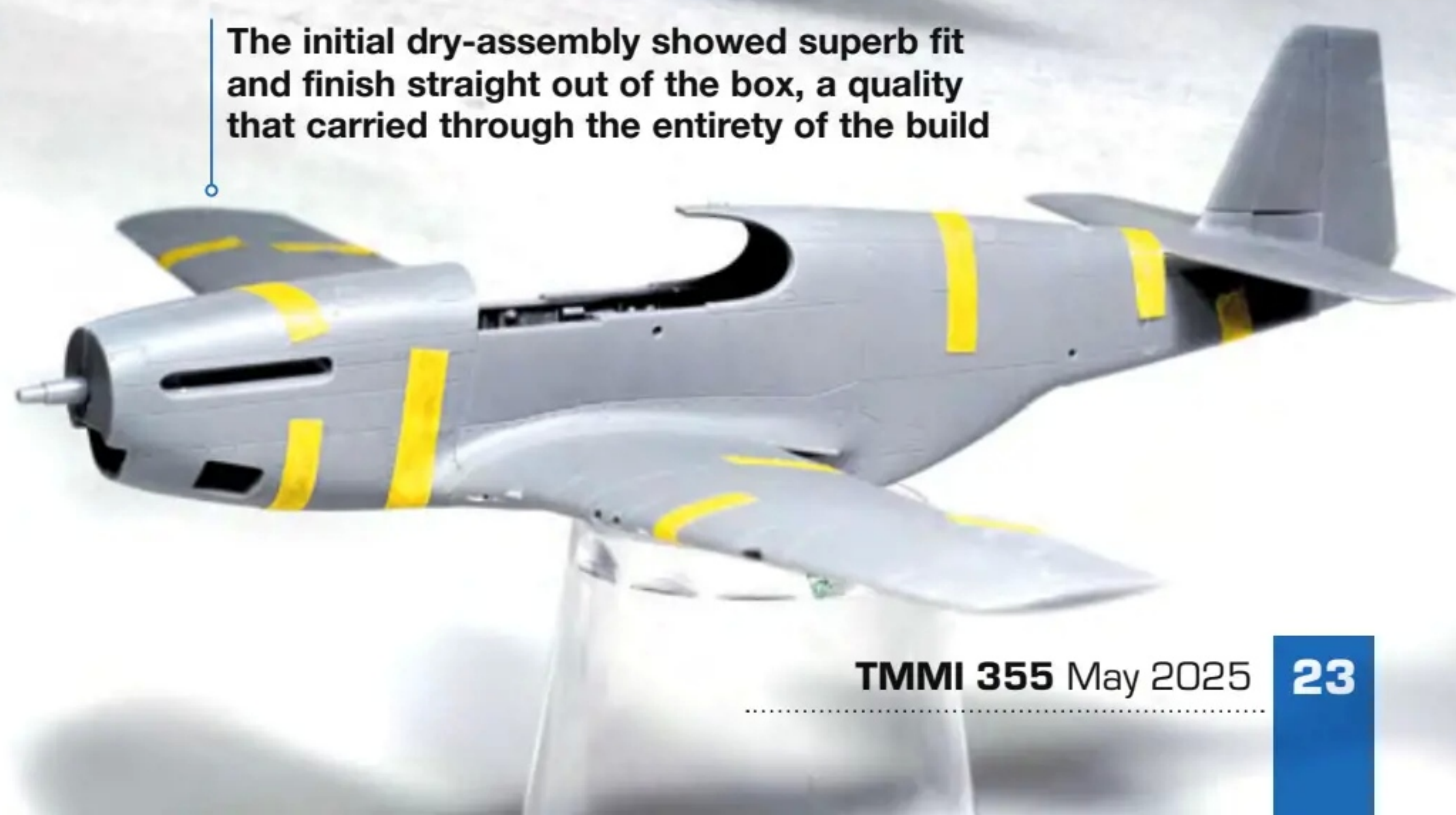
QUEEN OF THE SKIES



well-registered decals from Techmod. To the kit contents, I added Eduard resin exhausts to replace the simpler, solid kit parts; Eduard resin wheels were substituted to correct a design flaw in the kit wheels; and lastly, a DRAW Decals set was used for details specific to Princess Elizabeth, though it should be noted that as 42-106449 was lost in

the war, this set is designed to realize P-51 43-25147, a hybrid P-51B/D warbird that wears the markings of the original Princess Elizabeth. Finally, while this was not intended to be a weathered build, the starkness of some areas of colour prompted me to add some low-key patina effects to soften the overall look. ▶

The initial dry-assembly showed superb fit and finish straight out of the box, a quality that carried through the entirety of the build

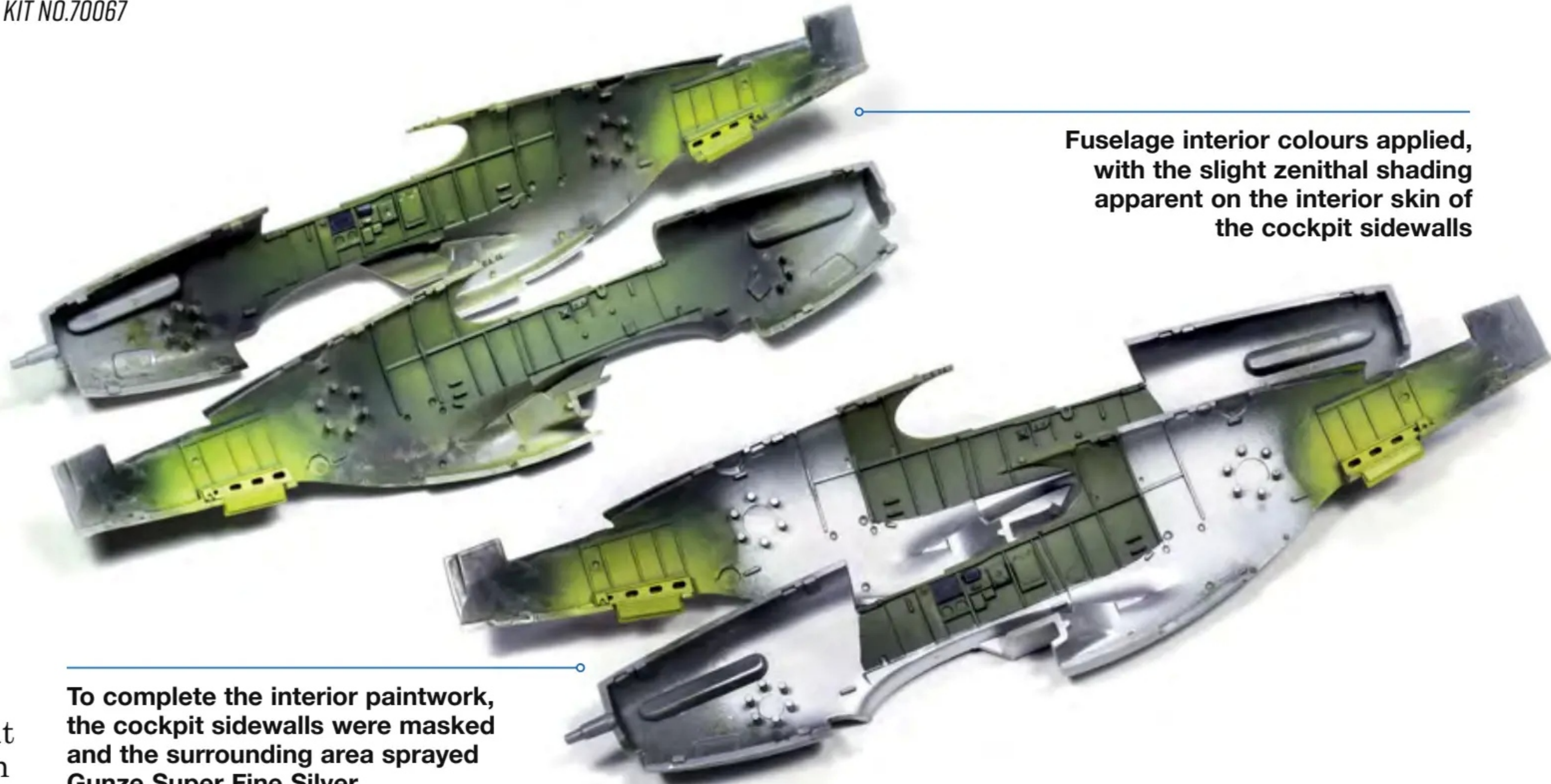


GETTING FIT

It's become habit for me to start every aircraft build with a full dry-fitting of the major airframe components — fuselage, wing and empennage. Not only is it an early boost to see the full form of the aircraft, it also allows me to identify and address any fit issues early, while enthusiasm is running high. In the case of the Mustang, fit issues were few and far between. Panel lines moulded across joins lined up perfectly and many parts came together with a very positive fit. That being said, I still devoted an hour or two to clean up any slight machining artefacts on mating surfaces with either a scalpel edge or rigid sanding block. Ultimately, it would prove to be time well-spent as no more than a few small dabs of CA were required to fill any joins.

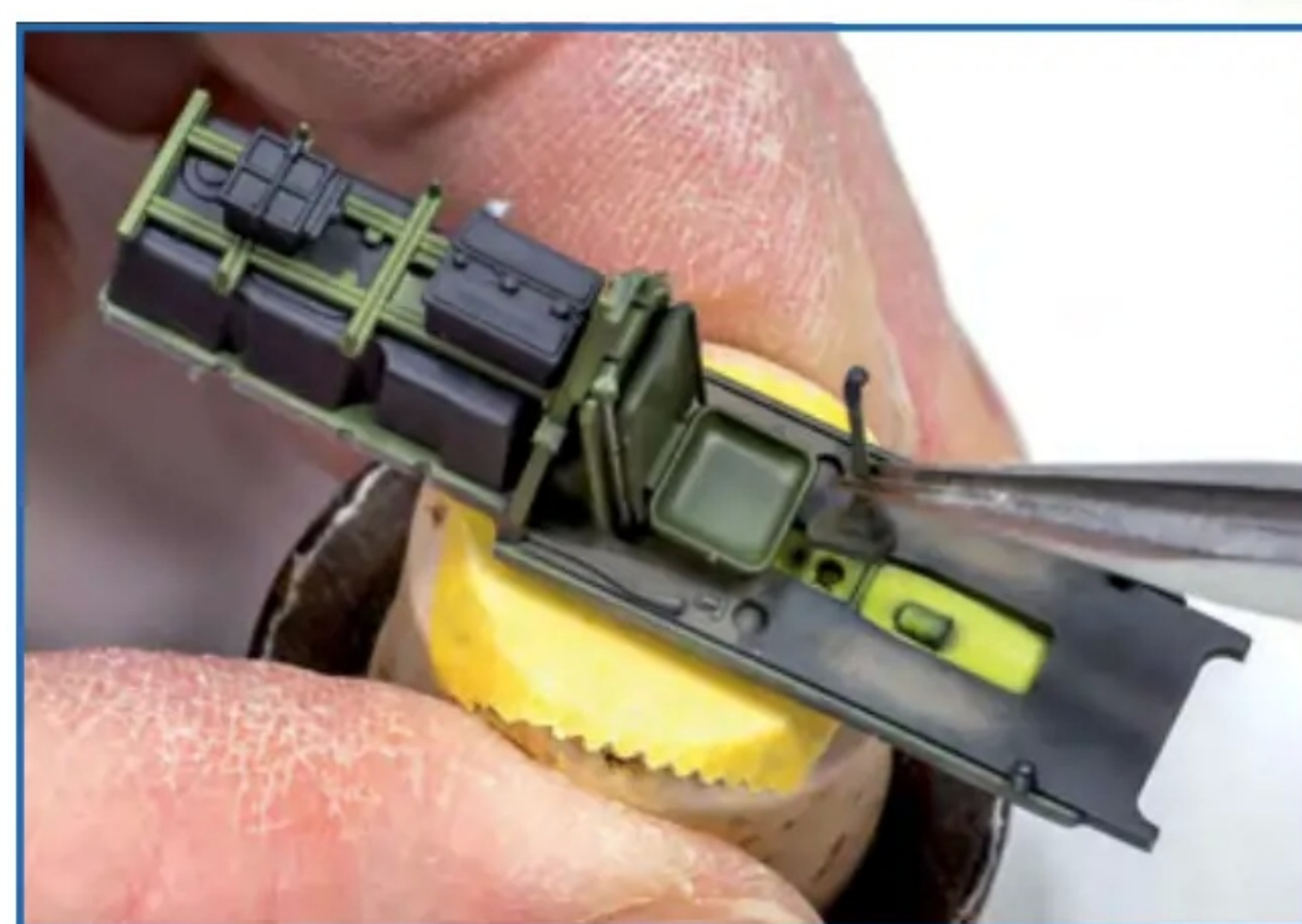
INTO THE 'PIT

Between plastic and photo-etch, the Mustang's cockpit boasts in impressive parts-count of almost thirty pieces, depending on which aircraft you build. I jumped in by removing virtually all the interior parts from their sprues — aside from very smallest or those which benefited from being attached to the sprue to protect their integrity — cleaning each up as needed and grouping by colour. Once sorted, they were all primed with Mr Surfacer 1500 Black along with the fuselage interiors. The interior components were

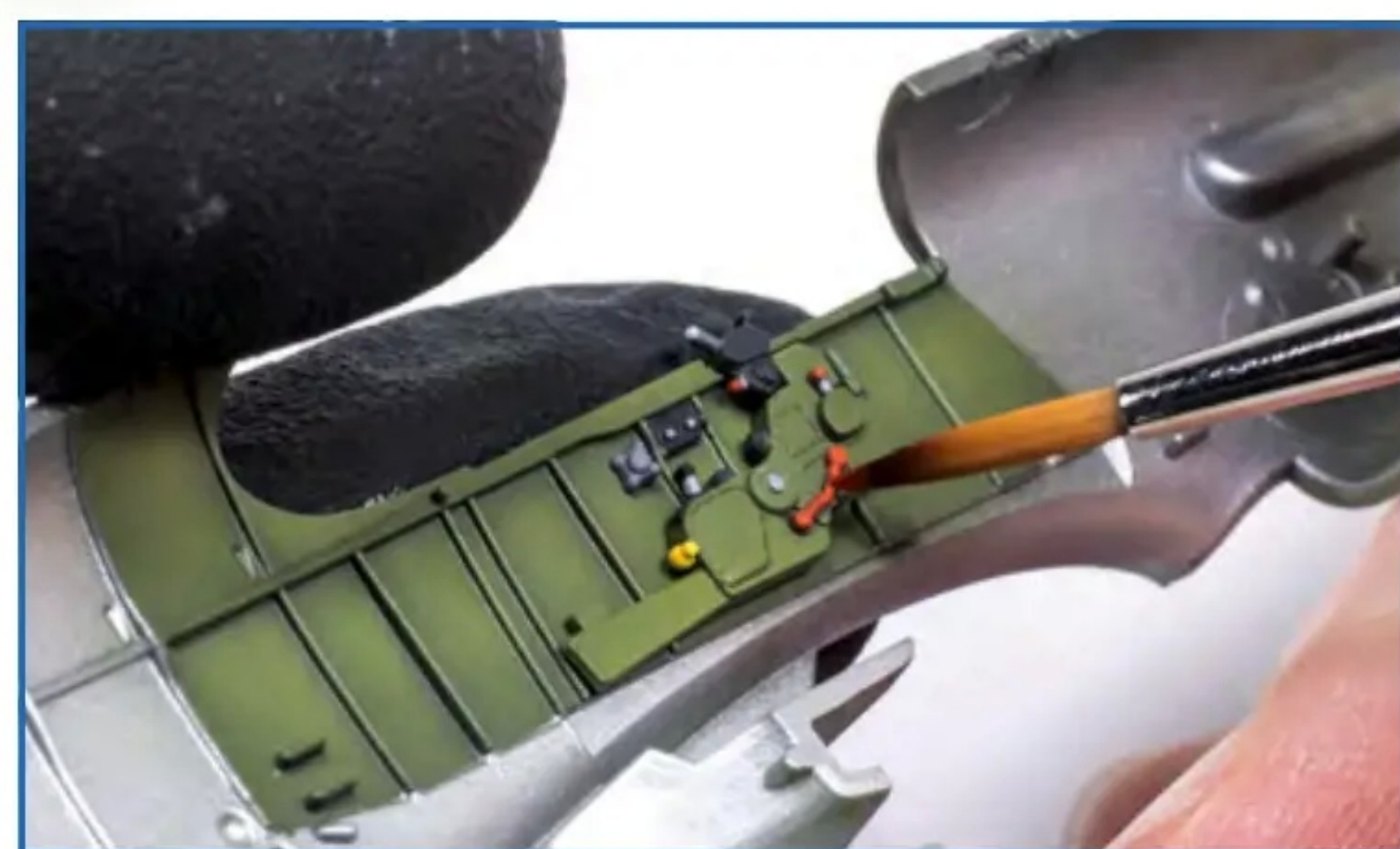


Fuselage interior colours applied, with the slight zenithal shading apparent on the interior skin of the cockpit sidewalls

To complete the interior paintwork, the cockpit sidewalls were masked and the surrounding area sprayed Gunze Super Fine Silver



The cockpit is built up from an impressive number of parts for a 1:72 kit and it was a joy making the most of the detail Arma Hobby designed into the space



Details were picked out with water-based acrylics, with all colours custom mixed by eye, followed by a dark oil pin-wash to enhance definition

painted their respective colours, working from custom mixes I prepared, spraying as many as possible to preserve surface and moulding quality. Details too small to airbrush were picked out by brush using colours mixed from AK3G acrylics and set aside.

Prior to painting the cockpit sidewalls, each

interior panel was sprayed with light grey, following a rough zenithal pattern radiating from the cockpit opening/glazing. Interior Green was sprayed over the sidewalls until I had a balance of good colour density while preserving the panel shading. Once dry, the sidewalls were masked off and Tamiya LP-38

Aluminium sprayed per the instructions.

I opted for the Warren McArthur seat type, assembling the pan, backrest and frame/armour plate to the cockpit floor. With the assembly securely glued, I annealed the provided three-part photo-etch harness and worked it into the contours of the seat.



The interior decal count matches the impressive parts count of the cockpit with over two dozen interior decals providing complexity and interest to the finished pit



The included photo-etch harness was annealed and formed to the seat prior to its installation, then painted and given a pin-wash



While nigh impossible to see once installed, legible moulded text on the rudder pedals is impressive, nonetheless

Once satisfied with the shape, I primed the belts with Mr. Primer Surfer, followed by a light tan colour for the belts and a light grey brushed on the buckles. Definition and contour was enhanced with a brown oil wash and the belts set aside. The characteristic wear of the wooden cockpit floor was rendered with a combination of sponge chipping and dry brushing using wood-coloured acrylics.

The interior decal count is equally noteworthy, with around thirty separate placards, dials, labels and panels depending on the version modelled. Trimmed of their surrounding decal film, each was dipped each in warm water, then applied using Microset and Sol. All conformed perfectly and once under a mist-coat of Mr Hobby GX113 flat varnish, add wonderful complexity and interest to the cockpit.

To finish, the cockpit was built into sub-assemblies, a dark brown-green pin-wash applied to all recesses and details and any excess cleaned away with odourless mineral spirits. While there was no intention to weather the cockpit per se, a light application of dust-coloured oils to the equipment and fuel cell sitting aft of the pilot helped prevent it looking being a black hole through the rear glazings.

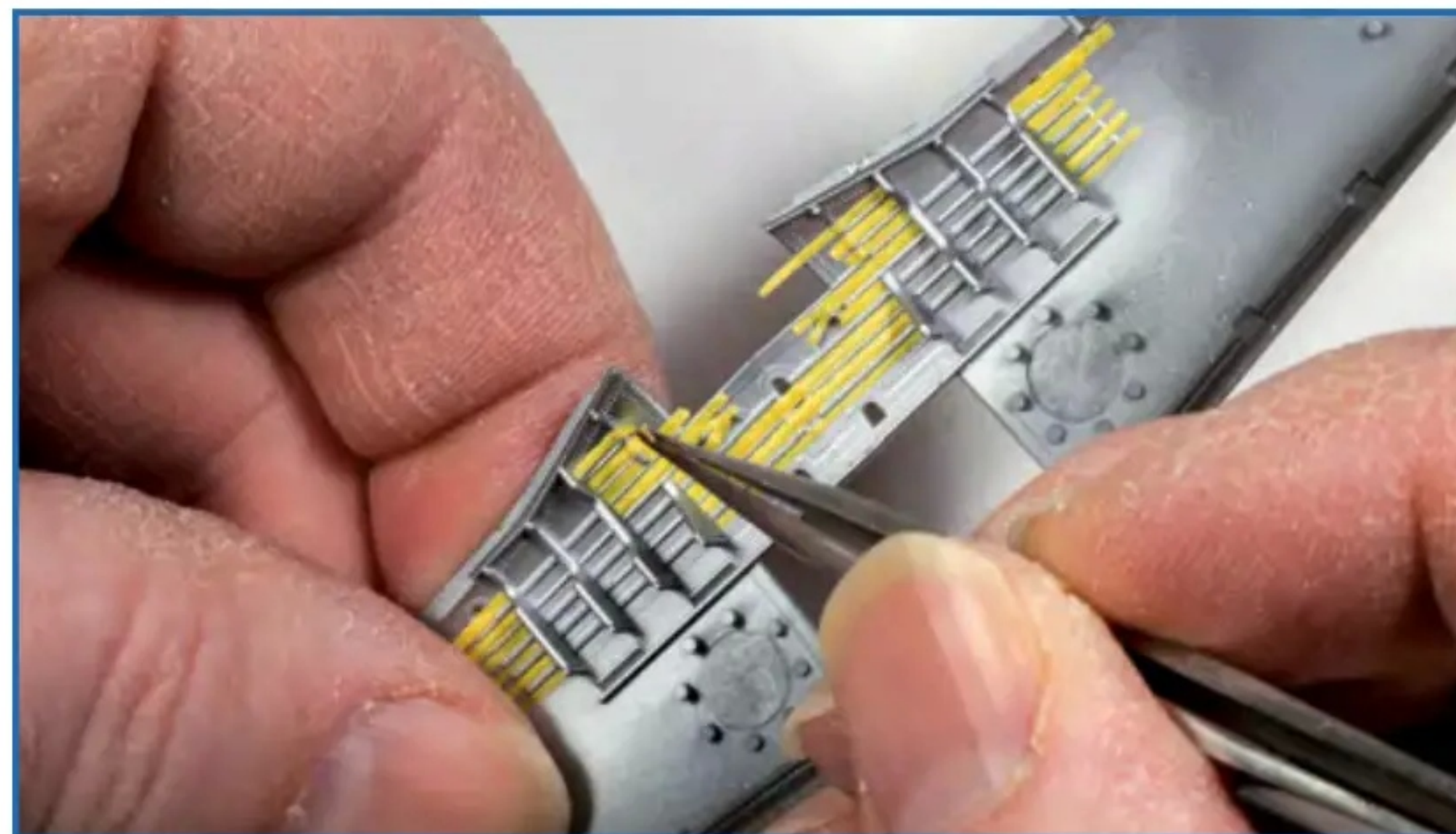
With the cockpit complete, the balance of interior components were finished as directed in the instructions and the fuselage closed up. With the fit-work done at the project outset, the majority of seams self-filled with styrene melted by the Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement, with any gaps touched up with a small

beads of CA applied off the tip of a surplus airbrush needle. The joins were given time to harden up, the excess plastic and CA trimmed away and the join finished with abrasives.

WINGING IT

Work on the wing starts with the main gear well. While nowhere near as high in parts-count as the cockpit, there is still an appreciable level of detail moulded into the sidewalls and stringers — and of course, there's the characteristic silver/ zinc chromate yellow ceiling common to many Mustangs.

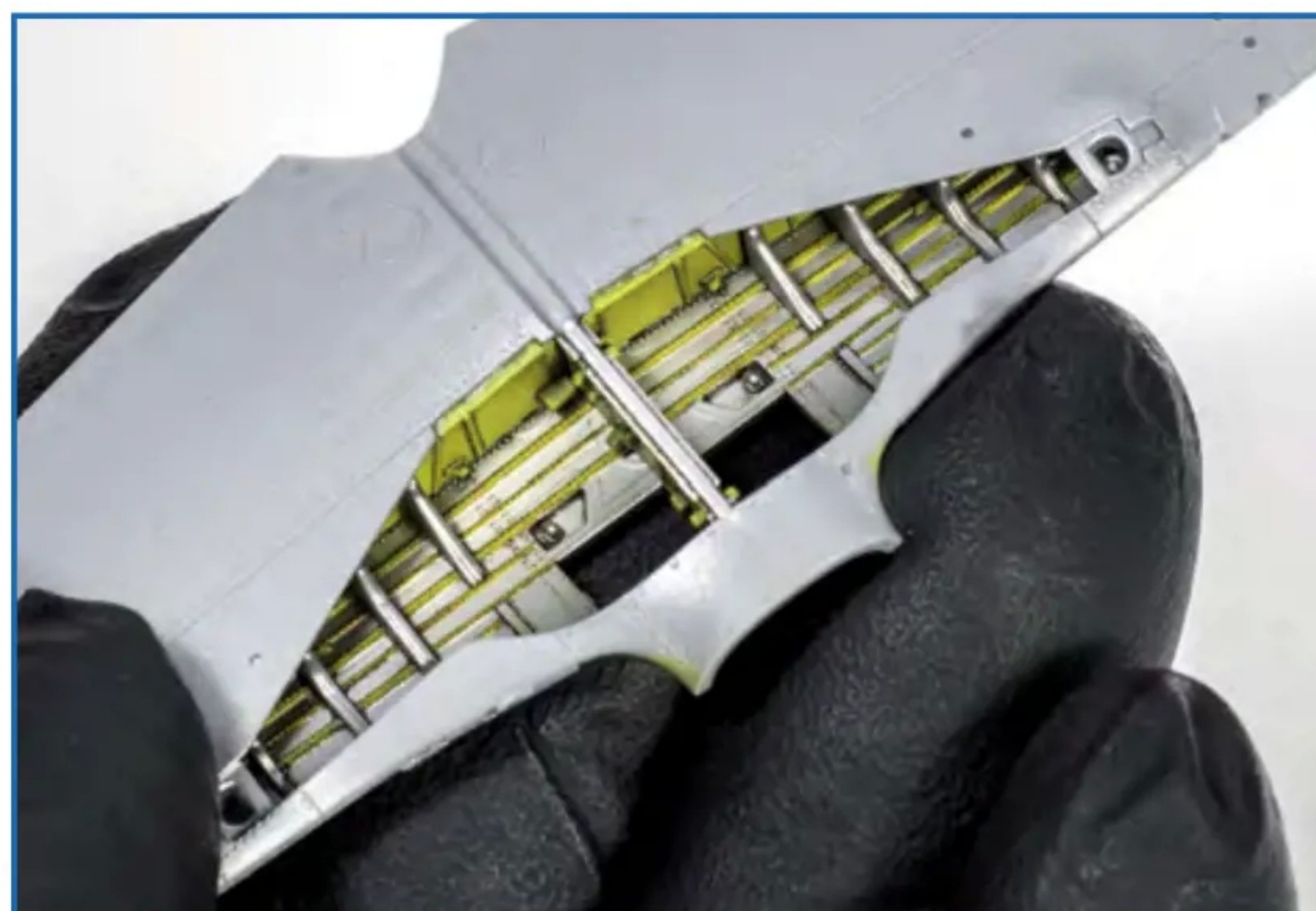
Deciding that a masked and sprayed approach would provide the most consistent results, I started with a base-coat of Mr Hobby SM201 Super Fine Silver. The Infini cutting template Type A was ideal for slicing strips of Tamiya masking tape to the correct widths, which I then cut into appropriate lengths and applied. Any gaps were touched-up with VMS liquid mask and surrounding areas blocked out with tape and Mr Masking Sol Neo. Together with the sidewalls, these were sprayed with my Zinc Chromate Yellow mix and the masks removed. Acrylics were used for details and corrections and the gear well then sealed with flat varnish. A thin dark brown oil wash was brushed in and around the detail and in certain areas, allowed to permeate into the matte coating to portray an accumulated film of fluid and dust. ▶



Masking up the stringers in the main gear well. While tedious, airbrushing is the optimal approach to preserving the fine rivet detail Arma Hobby included here



Effective masking takes a variety of materials — tape for sharp, straight lines, low viscosity masking fluid for sealing any gaps and high viscosity for wider coverage



Time-consuming, however, the end justifies the means. Grime-coloured oils accentuate detail and over a thin matte varnish impart some light surface staining and fluid/dust build-up.

All internals complete, the fuselage was closed up, with most joins self-filling with melted plastic. Dry-fit here, the wings would be left separate until fully finished.





The iconic blue nose of the 352nd Fighter Group was a custom lacquer mix



The full area of the invasion stripes was sprayed overall white, then the black stripes were masked and sprayed with Rubber Black



Subtle fading and tonal variation was applied to the black by spraying dark grey thinned with Mr. Rapid Thinner through a thin slice of packing foam

❶ Turning to the exterior surfaces of the wing, while it's well known the Mustang had the majority of its wing panel joins sanded to improve airflow, I opted to not fill the lines Arma Hobby included. The upper and lower wing halves were simply glued in the same manner as the fuselage, letting melted styrene assume the gap-filling duties and sanded to a smooth finish.

PAINT IT BLACK

While the instructions would have the fuselage and wing joined at step twenty, early dry fitting showed the potential to manage each of these as separate sub-assemblies, joining them once each was fully painted and decalled. The only caveat would be the need to dress a join crossing a small panel immediately ahead of the wing root. Easily worth it in my mind. I quickly practiced the movements I believed would be needed to fix the join and finding it more than manageable, made the decision to blaze my own trail.

Both assemblies were primed in Mr. Surfacer 1500 Black and once all joins were found to be in good shape, the primer was sanded to a smooth, dull gloss finish using Godhand sanding sponges (4,000 up to 10,000 grit). The plot starts to go off the track somewhat at this point. Long story short, I proceeded to apply Alclad metallics across the fuselage, masked up and sprayed the invasion stripes, then started removing the masking only to have everything short of the primer coming up with it. Grrr!



The finished result of the invasion stripes on the wings, dry-fit with the fuselage to gauge the effect prior to applying to the vertical surfaces



I opted to design and cut my own masks for the fuselage and tail codes using a Silhouette cutter and Oramask vinyl



While the finished result is not perfect, there's no substitute for painted markings on a natural metal finish, where decal edges can stand out like a sore thumb



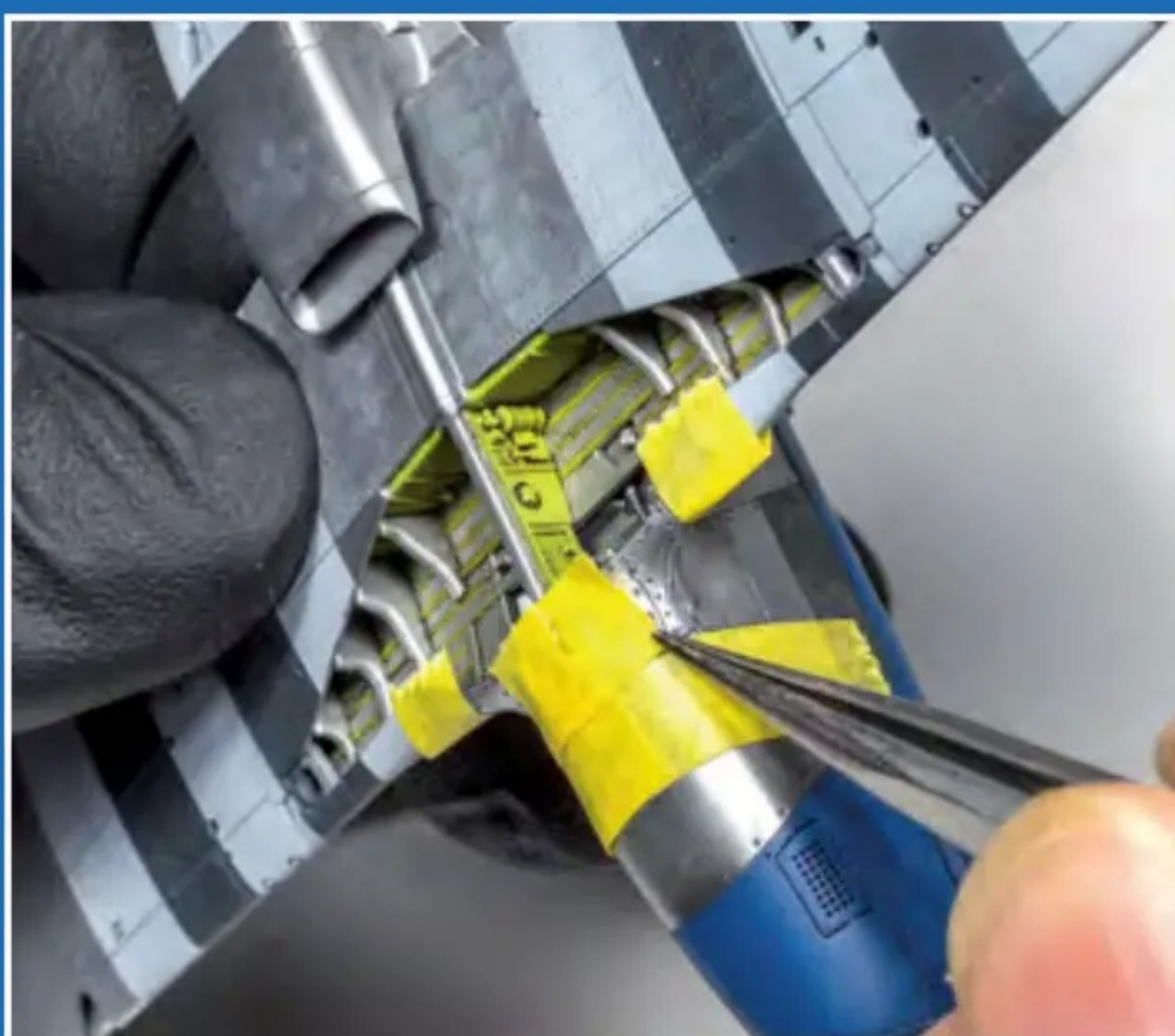
The flaps part way through an oil pin-wash to define the rivets along the trailing edge – the flap on the left has been finished while the other awaits its turn



The sizeable air scoop on the Mustang's underside, combined with Arma Hobby's kit design make it a cinch to completely paint and decal the fuselage and wings as separate sub-assemblies



Trimming away excess styrene and superglue. A single, short join per side is all that needs addressing once the wing and fuselage are mated



The panel containing the join was then isolated with masking tape to protect the surrounding surface area



Infini Model's indispensable elastic sanding films, were used first over a rigid round profile to finish the seam, then over a make-up sponge to feather the surrounding paint



The right-side panel filled and blended, or so I thought...



Until a coat of primer revealed a small seam still in evidence, requiring an application of thickened primer to fill. This was then re-sanded until fully flush



Properly filled, a fresh application of primer revealed no indication of the join and the panel was polished to a dull gloss

With the fuselage down and out while being stripped and repainted, I shifted my focus to the wings. The majority of the wing surfaces were painted in Tamiya LP-38 Aluminium, the exceptions being the ailerons, flaps and the large fuel cell access panels on the underside, along with a couple centreline panels and the gear doors themselves. Forewarned by my

experience on the fuselage, I instead sprayed these with Super Fine Silver. Fortunately, this proved to be a far more durable finish.

The entirety of the invasion stripe area was masked off and sprayed white, followed by Tamiya XF-86 Rubber Black stripes. To soften the contrast, I added a touch of fading and patina to the black. This involved using thin slices of

polyurethane packing foam, which were held by tweezers just off the model's surface. Through these, Tamiya XF-19 Medium Grey highly diluted with Mr. Rapid Thinner, was sprayed at low pressure. Constantly moving and turning the foam mask as you spray gradually builds a diffuse pattern of lighter colour.

By this point, the fuselage was back on track, having

been re-primed and sprayed an overall coat of Super Fine Silver, with other panels masked and sprayed varying shades from the Super Metalics line. The invasion stripes were similarly masked — remembering this time to mask off the area occupied by the large stars and bars that overlays the stripes — and finished in the same manner as described for the wings. ▶

The finished panel with a coat of Gunze Super Fine Silver. The shine visible here would later be toned down with a highly-thinned application of Gunze GX113 flat varnish



“From the moment I opened the box, this felt like an exceptional kit and even now, I still feel it’s my favourite project...”



❶ HO, HO, HO-W

It was at this point that I had to start planning how markings were going to be handled. The production process used by DRAW Decals imparts a slightly textured finish to their ink so I was reluctant to use any more of their decals than was necessary. While the kit-supplied decals would cover most of what I need, there still remained the HO-W fuselage/tail code. As it happens, we had recently purchased a Silhouette cutter, so I figured this was the ideal opportunity to put it through its paces. Working from the existing decals, I created new art on Adobe Illustrator and sent it to the cutter. With a few tweaks I soon had a usable file. These were then cut from Oramask, applied to the surface and sprayed Rubber Black. There’s a few slight wobbles — as I would much later find, our machine had a loose fitting — but they’re apparent only on very close inspection.

The balance of the markings were then applied. The DRAW Decals set ultimately provided the

Princess Elizabeth moniker, the aircraft codes on the tail and the kill markings, while the kit-supplied Techmod decals covered everything else. Both decal brands are very thin and settle down extremely well with MicroSet and Sol, to the point where any decal edge is barely perceptible over the metal finish.

COMING TOGETHER

Ahead of the finishing touches, the final major hurdle is to join the finished fuselage and wing. As expected, they come together wither without drama, leaving a short 0.5cm join on each side to fill in. Again, melted sprue filled most of the join, with a small application of CA filling any remaining gaps. Any excess was shaved away and the join finished with Infini elastic film abrasives. Once completely smooth, the panel was sprayed Super Fine Silver.

FINISHING TOUCHES

Approaching the end of the build, the outstanding elements were now dealt with. My foam masking

technique was again used to impart some subtle tonality to both the prop blades and the tires — the former with a medium grey and the latter an earth brown, providing some variation to the black base colours; the resin exhausts were base-coated in black, then given a coat of Gunze Mr. Metal Color MC214 Dark Iron; and, the canopy components were masked inside and out and sprayed the appropriate colours. Once complete, the various details were added to the model over the course of

several days to allow parts to fully bond before adding the next.

FINAL WORDS

From the moment I opened the box, this felt like an exceptional kit and even now, I still feel it’s my favourite project. Full of detail and free of stress — aside from that which I added — it builds into a fine rendition of the iconic P-51. With myriad aftermarket decals available, in addition to Arma Hobby’s supplied schemes, I can see myself coming back to this kit frequently. ●





LEVEL 4

NEW TOOL

03799 Lockheed Martin® F-35®A Lightning II®, 1:72
Additional "Beast Mode" weapons included

LEVEL 5

04284 BAe Hawk T.1A "RAF Red Arrows", 1:32
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LEVEL 4

03782 Grumman F-14A Tomcat, 1:144

LEVEL 4

03783 Panavia Tornado IDS/GR.1, 1:144

LEVEL 4

07737 Mercedes-Benz SSKL, 1:32

Available from all good model stockists and online from

hobbycraft.co.uk/brand/revell



SHECKTER'S SHIFTER

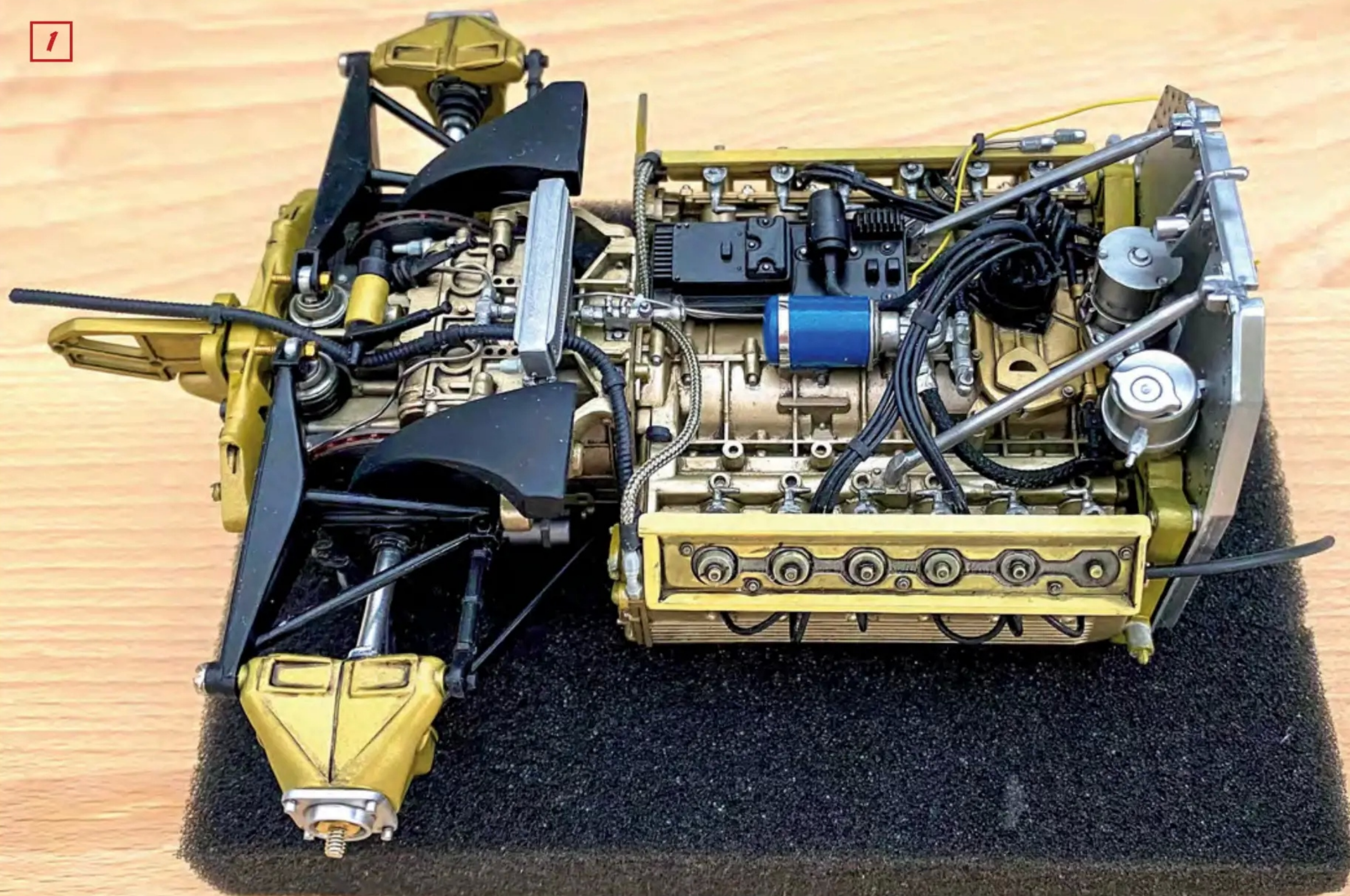




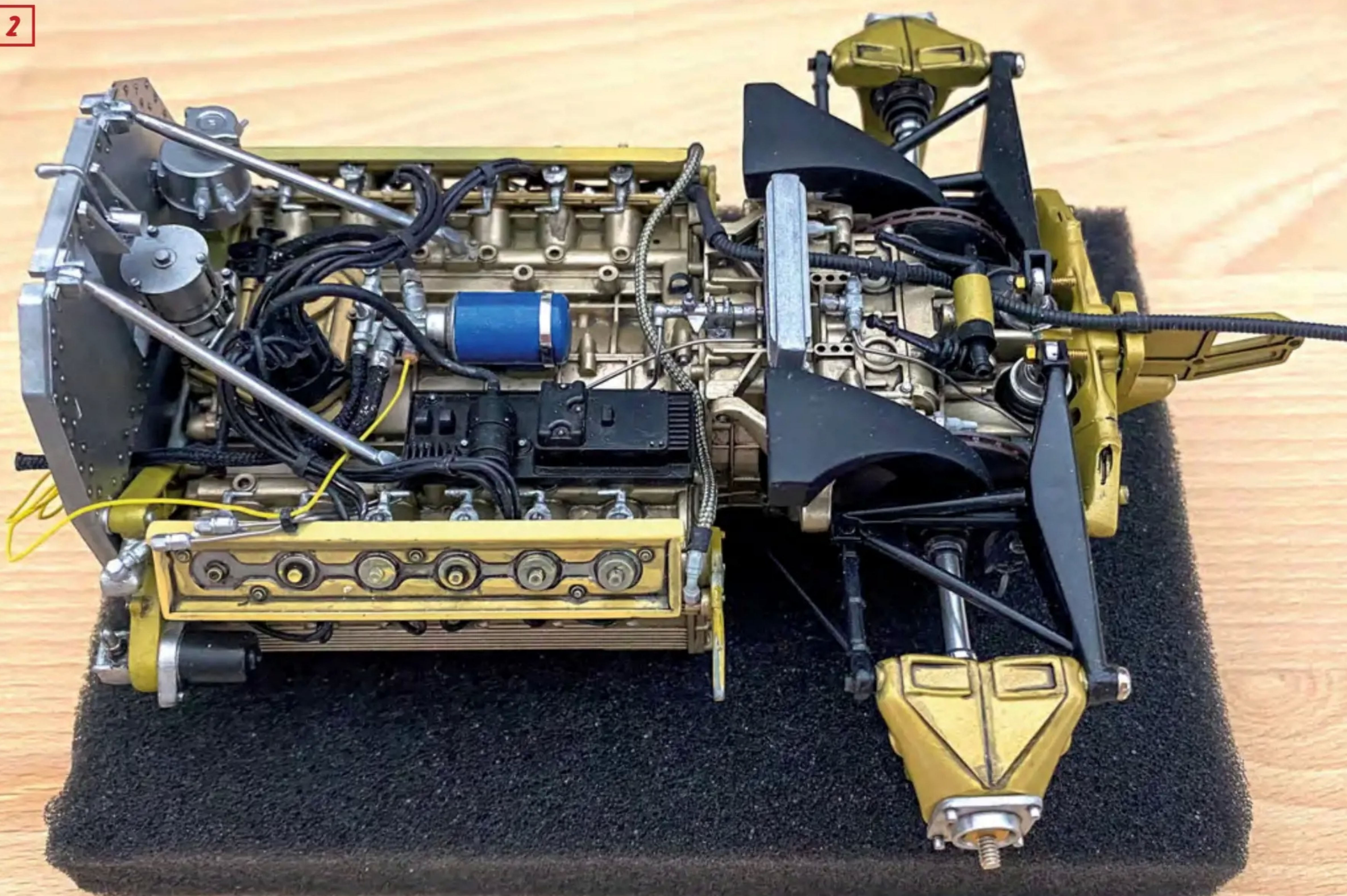
Miloslav J. Hraban
makes a switch from his
usual aircraft models and
takes on Tamiya's classic
1:12 Ferrari 312T4

After a break of many years, I returned to building racing cars. Over the past seven years, I have built 172 model aircraft in 1:32 and I must say that my favourite is the F4U-1 Corsair in 1:32 by Tamiya, but after this summer I decided to build model cars, especially Formula 1 from Tamiya. I chose Tamiya's 1:12 Ferrari 312T4 Jody Scheckter because he was my favourite driver when I watched F1 on TV so it was a bit of nostalgia and memories of my youth. The truth is that some of these kits are quite old, which can cause a problems with the decals. Fortunately, there are many companies that produce new decals, so you can replace the old ones. 🎮

1



2



ENGINE AND GEARBOX

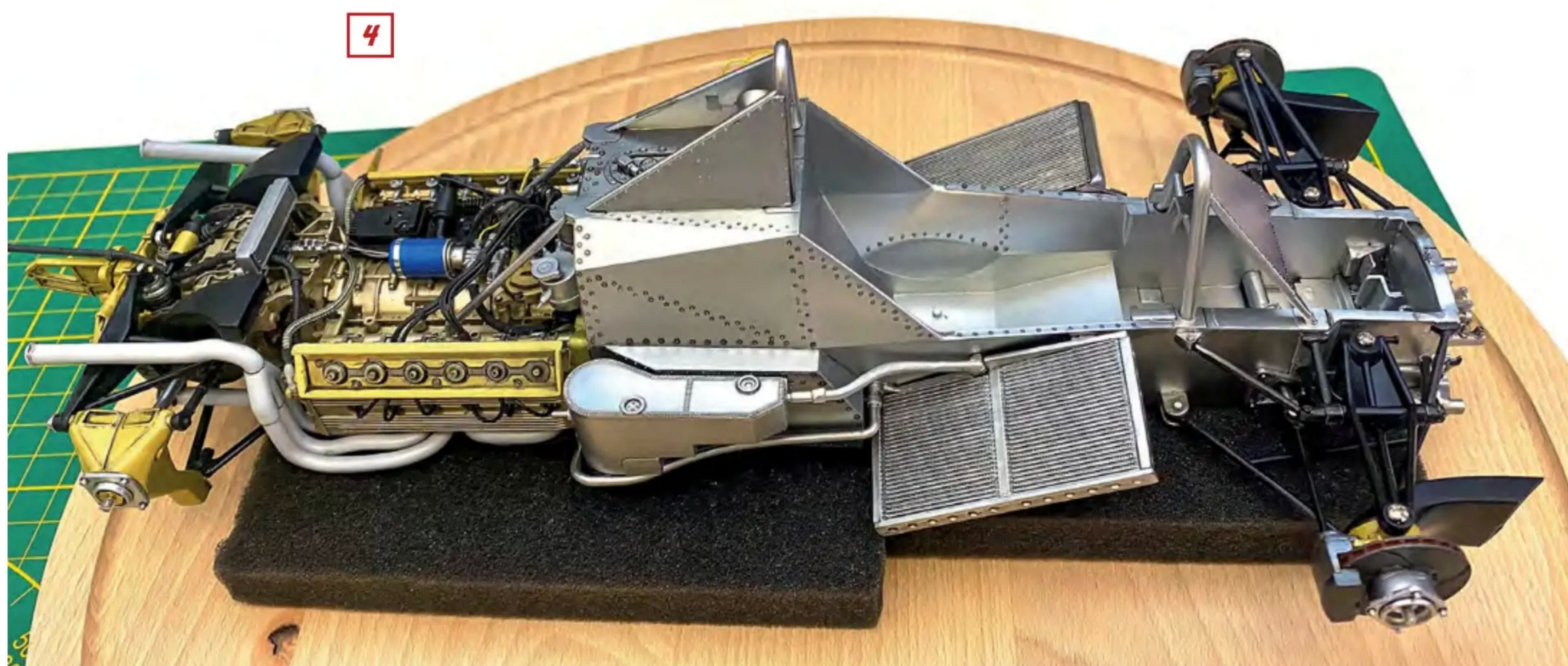
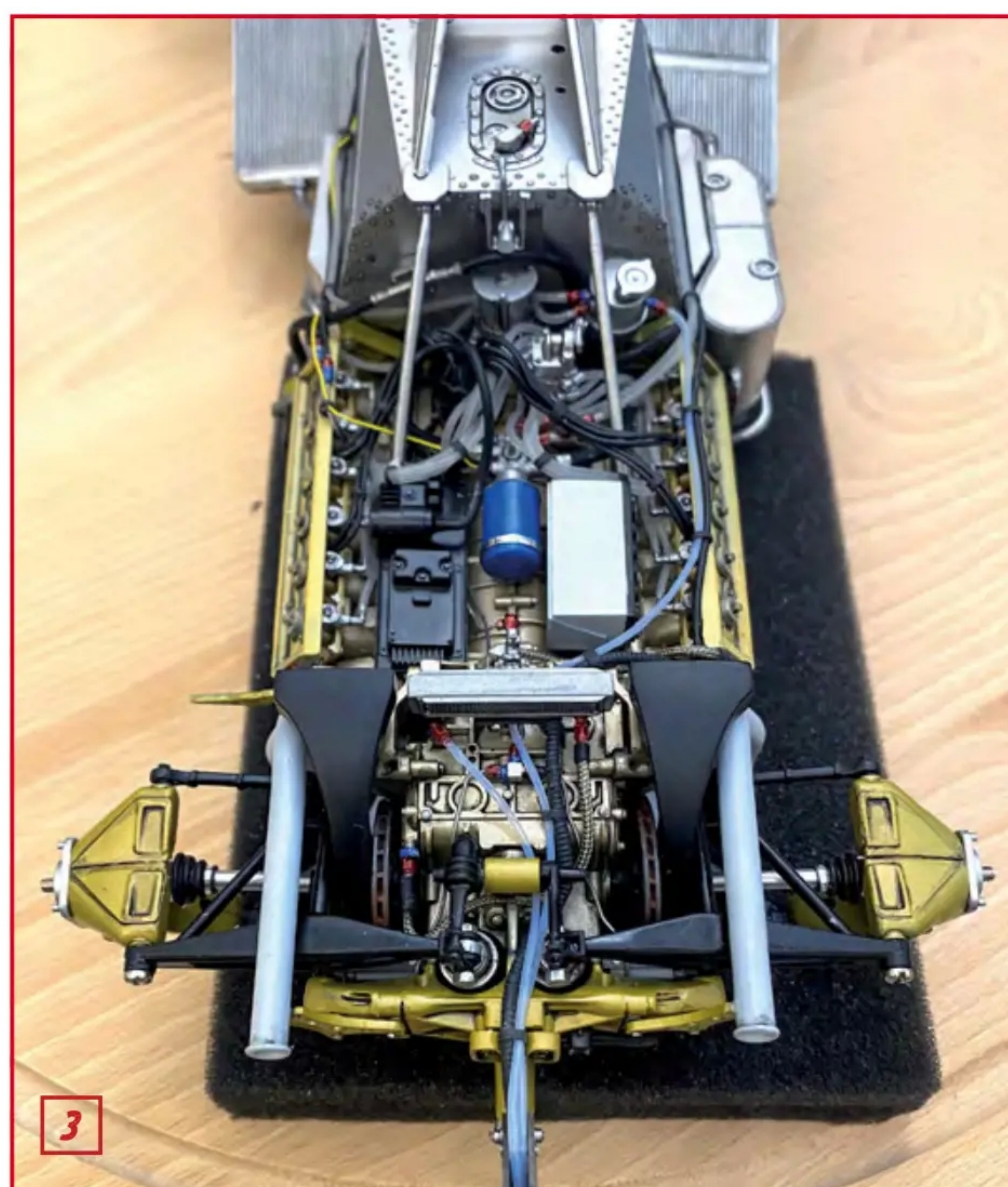
I built both according to the instructions, but I used colours that I found in reference photos, most from the Slovak company MRP. According to the photos, I added hoses, pipes, wires, screw-heads, nuts and many details that the model does not contain. Some details are 3D printed, some purchased, mostly from the company SpotModel, which has a large selection. The products from the company TOP Studio are very nice, without which it is really impossible to detail. Ferrari engines have a beautiful variety of tones across their different parts; my years of experience with cars helped me a lot, so I could use it when weathering. For weathering I used oil paints, AMMO Mig preparations and Tamiya Panel Line Accent Colors (pics 1, 2, 3, 4).

COCKPIT AND FRONT AXLE

When building the cockpit, I followed the instructions for the model and added some detail according to the reference photos, of which there are many on the internet. I mostly added hand controls, hoses and foot pedals, followed by the assembly of the front axle and the brake system hoses. Then I glued together the power unit and the cockpit with the front axle.

REAR AXLE AND EXHAUSTS

Fitting the exhausts is a bit more challenging part of the build, especially the modification of the exhaust mounts. The mini springs on the exhaust are a very difficult matter, especially for modellers with shaky hands. This detail is worth the effort and fortunately, only one spring flew off. I added brake pipes and bolt-heads to the rear axle. ▶



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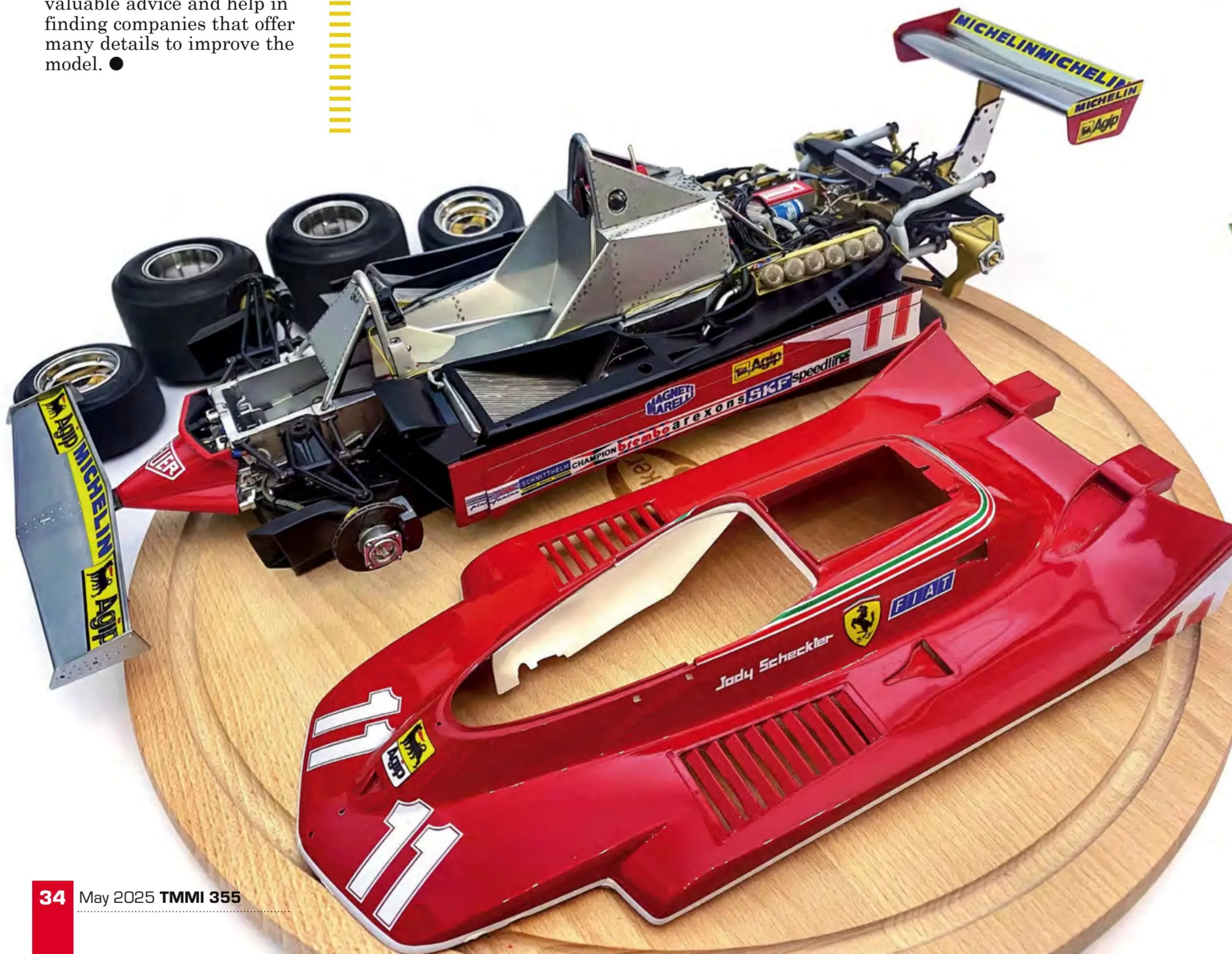
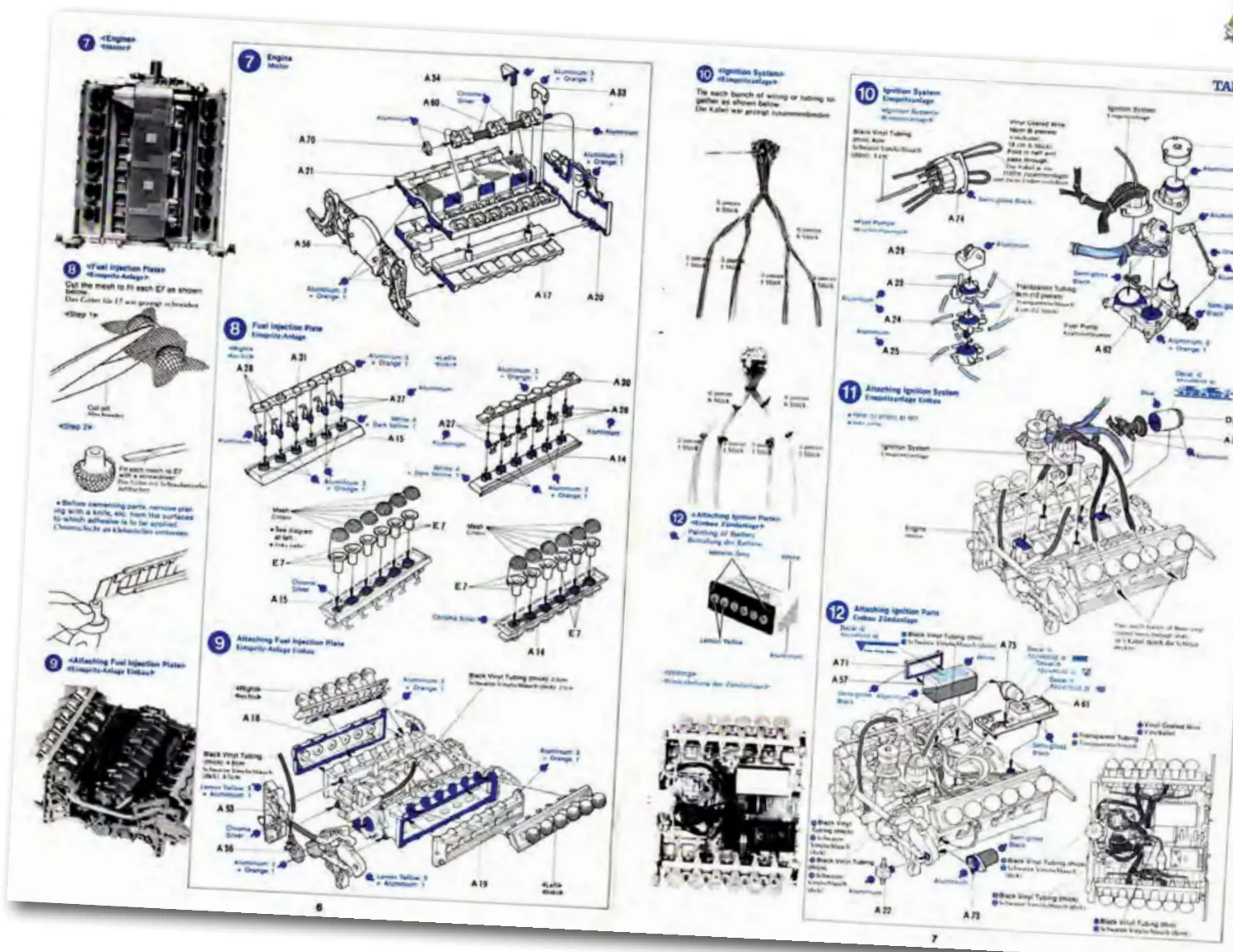
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email: order2@studio27.co.jp

BODY

Now we get to the body. I sanded the entire body with water, cleaned it and started testing how everything fitted together. I had to make some minor corrections, but everything turned out well. I then sprayed all the parts with MRP's White Surfacer. There were minor irregularities, so I had to fill in with Tamiya White Putty and, after sanding, sprayed surfacer again. After polishing the surfacer, it was time for paint, using Tamiya X-7 Red. After it dried, I polished the paint and applied the decals. After the decals dried, I sprayed 2K clear coat MS Optimal 600. I sprayed several layers, each about twenty minutes apart. The next day I polished everything with Tamiya Polishing Compounds. Finally, I assembled the entire model and took pictures.

I would like to thank my friend Jan Merhaut, a top Czech car modeller, for valuable advice and help in finding companies that offer many details to improve the model. ●





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TECHSPEC...

TAMIYA 1:12 FERRARI 312T4 BIG SCALE SERIES KIT NO.1225

Materials:

Injection-moulded polystyrene, synthetic vinyl tyres, vinyl tube, waterslide decals

Paints used:

- Tamiya Acrylics: X-7 Red, Panel Line Accent Color,
- MRP: White Surfacer

Accessories used:

TOP Studio: (out of production)

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



www.creativemodels.co.uk

Model by Wayne Hui

Model by Jeremy Moore

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Semovente M43 da 105/25 Bassotto

1:35
scale
scale

NEW
MOULDS

Metal gun barrel
Link and length tracks
Photo-etched parts
Decals sheet for 4 versions



No 6751



DACHSHUND TRACKS!

Brett Green checks out Italeri's latest addition to its 1:35 Italian AFV family, the Semovente M43 da 105/25 Bassotto 'Dachshund'

The Ansaldo 105/25 M43 was an Italian self-propelled gun designed by Ansaldo and used during World War II and it was the most powerful self-propelled gun built by Italy in numbers during the conflict. The Bassotto, modelled on the general design of the M40 and M41 predecessors, consisted of an M43 hull, i.e. the hull of a M15/42 tank widened and lowered, with redesigned front and side plates that were welded instead of bolted. A fixed casemate with an Ansaldo 105/25 howitzer was bolted onto the hull, with a traverse of 34 degrees and an elevation/depression of +22 to -12 degrees. The main armament was

complemented with a Breda 38 8mm machine gun for close and anti-aircraft defence operated by the commander/gunner, while the radio operator had one Magneti Marelli radio RF1 CA.

The first units to be equipped with the Bassotto were the DCI and DCII groups of the 235th Semovente Artillery Regiment of the 135^a Armoured Division "Ariete II". Each group received twelve units, which were used in the defence of Rome in the days following the armistice of Cassibile that went into effect on 8th and 9th September 1943. They acquitted themselves well in combat. Following the Italian surrender, the

Germans, who regarded the Semovente 105/25 Bassotto as a very good vehicle, captured them and built an additional ninety-one units, renamed StuG M43 mit 105/25 853 (I), which were used against Anglo-American forces. *Historical text edited from Wikipedia.*

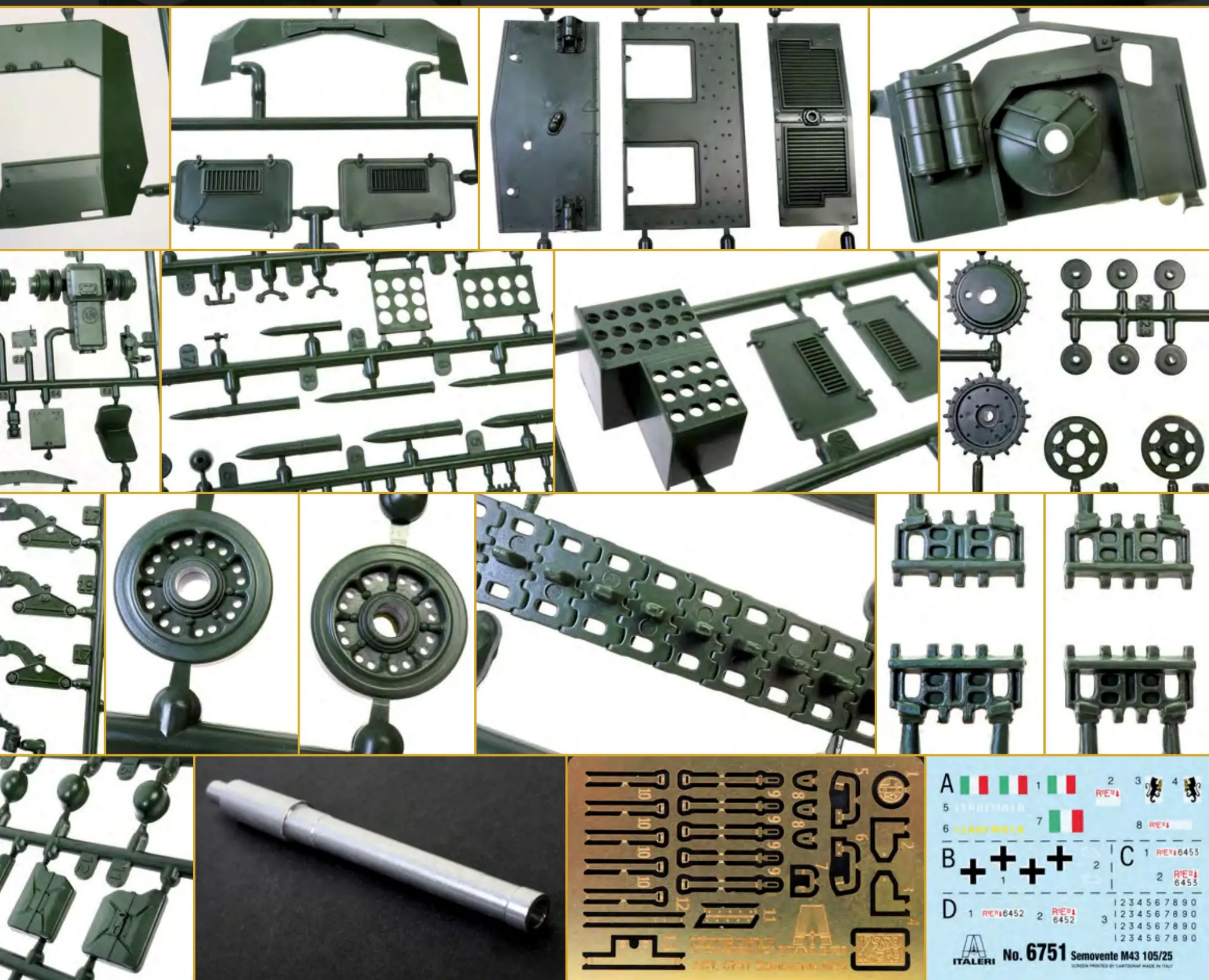
ENTER ITALERI

Italeri has added a new 1:35 Semovente M43 Bassotto to their long-lived family of WWII Italian tanks and self-propelled guns and it is nice to see this powerful and well-regarded weapon available as a mainstream injection-moulded plastic kit. The kit comprises 433 parts in dark green coloured plastic on eight

sprues, twenty-three parts on one photo-etched fret, a turned-metal gun barrel, markings for four vehicles, instructions plus colour painting and marking guide. The imposing parts count is not quite as sizeable as it sounds, with 108 parts marked not for use.

Of the eight plastic sprues, Sprues A and E have appeared in Italeri's 2022-release Semovente M42 75/18, Sprue B has some parts in common with the above-mentioned M42 and the rest are all-new.

The kit is presented in a nostalgic shade of 'Italeri Green'; you'll recognise it if you have built a few Italeri models in the past. Detail is crisp, moulding quality is very good and the plastic



is quite soft and easy to work with. There are some ejector pin marks on the insides of the track links and elsewhere but these will be easy to remove or ignore, depending on your personal preference. I'll probably ignore them. The model features a full interior for the fighting and driver's compartments including seats, transmission, drive shaft, ammo stowage, textured surfaces and much more. This is suitably busy and will look great after careful painting and weathering.

It is also pleasing to note that all crew and engine hatches are moulded separately, which means that all your extra work on the interior will be worth the

effort with hatches fixed in the open position. The bogies look good when finished, made up from thirteen parts each and the tracks are link-and-length with a shallow sag moulded into the long top run. Their clean-up is fast and easy and the links-and-lengths fit well; no aftermarket is required here. The only downside is that the long side skirts will hide the nice-looking track sag so you won't be able to admire all of Italeri's handiwork!

The photo-etched fret supplies jerrycan straps and other small details, which is a nice touch. Italeri includes accessories including German and Italian jerrycans, helmets and a nice turned metal 105mm gun barrel. Construction

should be straightforward. The hull and superstructure are both made up from multi-part flat-pack assemblies which ensures nice, crisply raised rivets and other surface detail on the exterior of the vehicle.

Many military vehicles are drab, but that accusation could never be levelled at the M43. Markings are supplied for two German vehicles and two Italian. All the schemes are intricate and colourful and the decals are perfectly printed by Cartograf. A number-jungle and a pair of empty number plates are supplied on the decal sheet if you want to customise your subject. The instructions are well laid out and it is nice to see full colour painting guides.

I am already well down the path of building this model and fit and alignment have been very good so far, while the link-and-length tracks go together quickly and with minimal fuss. Italeri's new 1:35 scale M43 Bassotto is a well-presented model of an interesting vehicle, and will make a suitable companion to their earlier Semovente and Italian tank kits. Definitely Recommended. Thanks to Italeri for the sample. ●

Availability;

Italeri models are widely available from good model shops and online. UK import and distribution by The Hobby Company Limited; www.hobbyco.net

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE **3D** KIND...

3D-printed kits are becoming more and more common, so what better way to show off this new technology than by recreating a complex armoured vehicle in 1:35? Welcome to Resin Scales' 1:35 Centurion AX Medium Tank...
Feature by **Spencer Pollard**



Over the last few years or so the release of completely printed model kits has become more and more common. From simple accessories through to fully-fledged kits the equal of many injection-moulded products, we are now seeing them as part of the hobby's mainstream, rather than mere curios on the periphery. Having already built a number of printed kits over the last few years, I was keen to

take a look at a military vehicle rather than a subject with wings, Resin Scales' Centurion more than fitting the bill.

A little while back Marcus had mentioned that he had this new 3D printed kit in the office and would I be interested in having a go at it. As it was a subject that I'd not from memory tackled before (a Centurion gun tank) and in a medium that was in terms of full kits relatively new, I jumped at

the chance, hoping to slot it into my hectic schedule at the first opportunity. Though it's taken a little longer to do than I had hoped, it's now finished so I'm in a position to show you the kit and how any modeller could get the best from it.

The kit as supplied is complete, highly detailed and in terms of construction, very simple. The production process has allowed the manufacturer to create large sections such as a

one-piece hull, turret shell and track runs, the latter split into two lengths per side, each featuring sag cover the vehicle's return rollers. Detail is exquisite, the turret basket and light guards with their meshed construction for instance, being both incredibly fine and delicate. Wheels are similarly impressive, as is the gun barrel, the latter featuring a carbon fibre tube to keep it perfectly straight. It's all very impressive!



As you can see, the detail around the turret is excellent and print lines, pretty much invisible



The hull and turret are supplied as two large and hollow resin parts. Detail is superb. Here they are with the unwanted supports removed, ready for clean-up





Unwanted remnants of the printing supports were cleaned away using a sanding stick



Any visible print lines on then upper turret were smoothed over using a fibreglass pen...

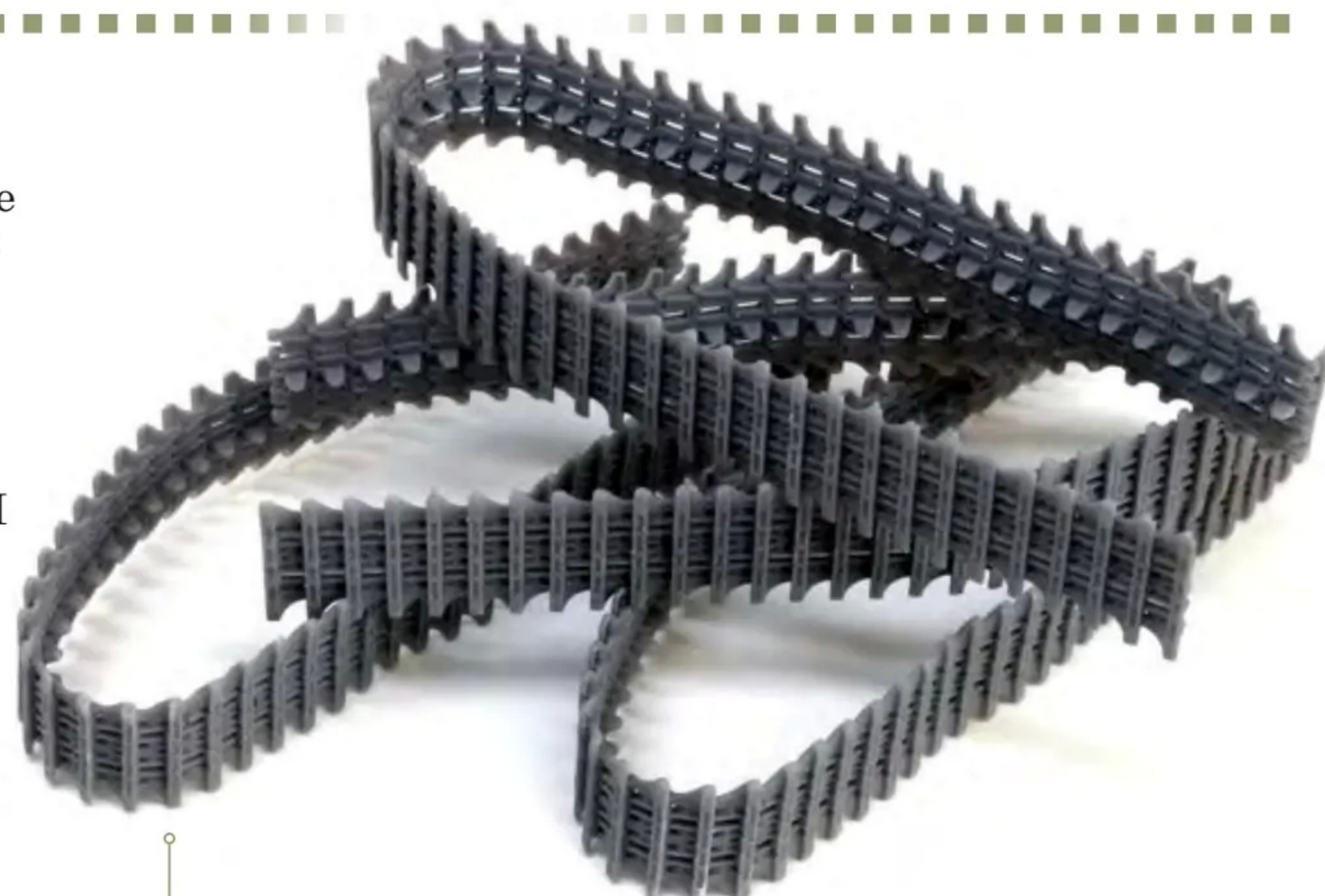


...and one of Argofile's 5mm sanding sponges mounted on their router bit

Though the model was impressive enough from the box, I once again turned to the War Thunder game for inspiration, both in terms of details and paintwork. If I have this right, the Centurion Action X (AX) is one of their designs, so there are plenty ideas within the game for colour schemes and details. You may recall last year that I did the same thing with a Tamiya Type 90 MCV, the scheme on that being a digital camouflage rather than the bland green and brown option for on the real machine. The same thoughts came into play with this model, though this

time I was keen to push things a little further with the addition of rockets to the turret sides, something that appears to have been a real modification, taken up by players within the game.

Over the next few pages or so I will take you through some of the stages I completed during assembly and painting of the model. This is by no means an exhaustive look at Resin Scales' Centurion, but it should give you plenty of ideas should you wish to either build this kit, or something similar for your collection. With that out of the way, let us begin!



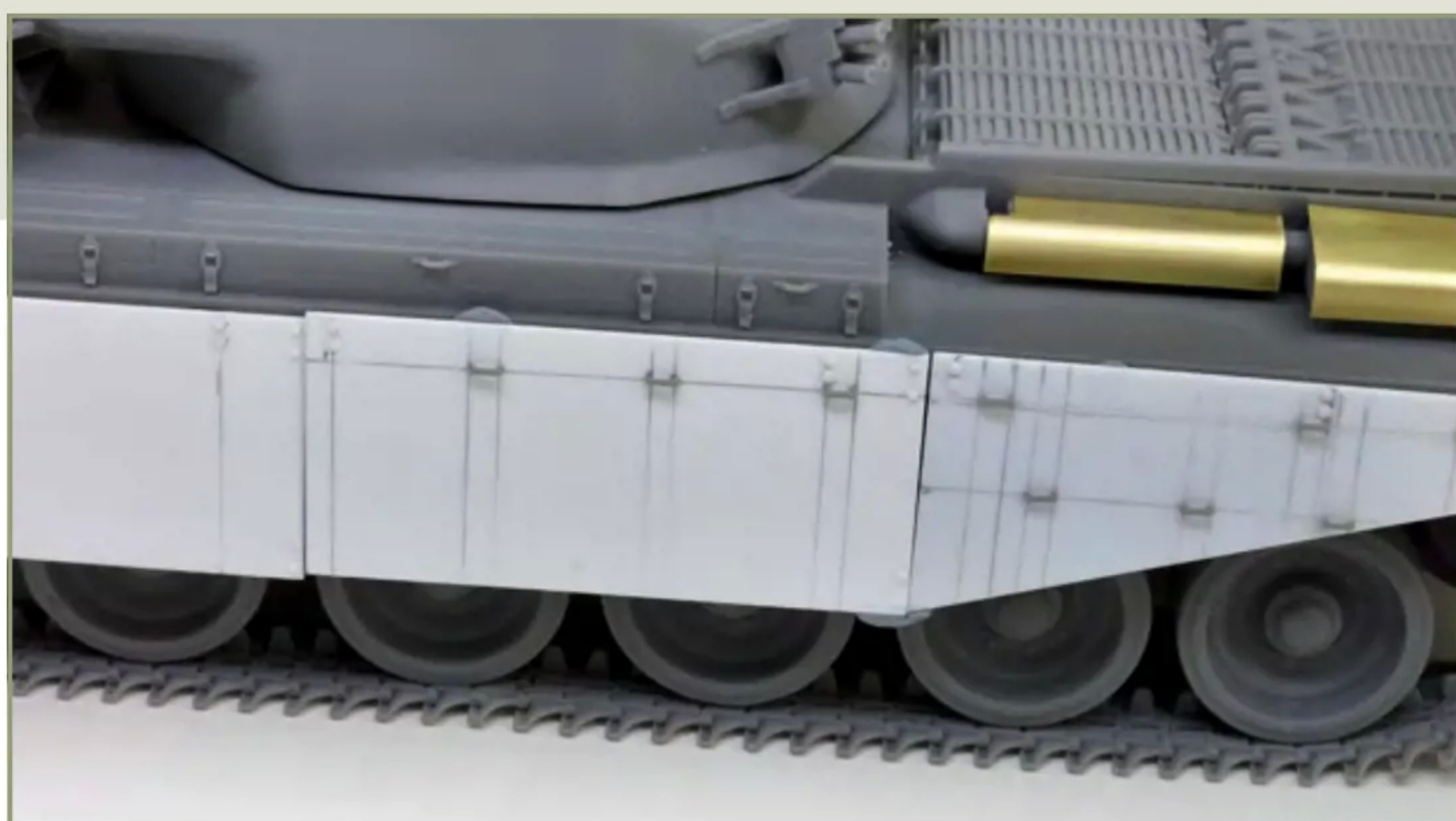
The tracks are supplied in two long sections that join at the centre point of the road wheels and suspension. You will need to carefully clean-up the castellated joints to allow them to slip together easily, the joints as is, being far too tight and prone to breakage



As with the tracks, the pin and socket joints for the wheels are virtually identical in size, so they don't slip together without using considerable force. A milling bit was used to ream out the holes for the sprockets and then each of the roadwheels, until they slipped together with ease

I initially planned to paint the wheels and tracks separately but found that fixing the tracks in place would be difficult once painted. That being so, everything was glued in place to create a completed hull and turret and then individual side skirts. Though this seemed a daunting prospect when it came to painting, it proved to be relatively easy, focus being only on areas that could be seen and not on areas that would be ultimately, hidden away

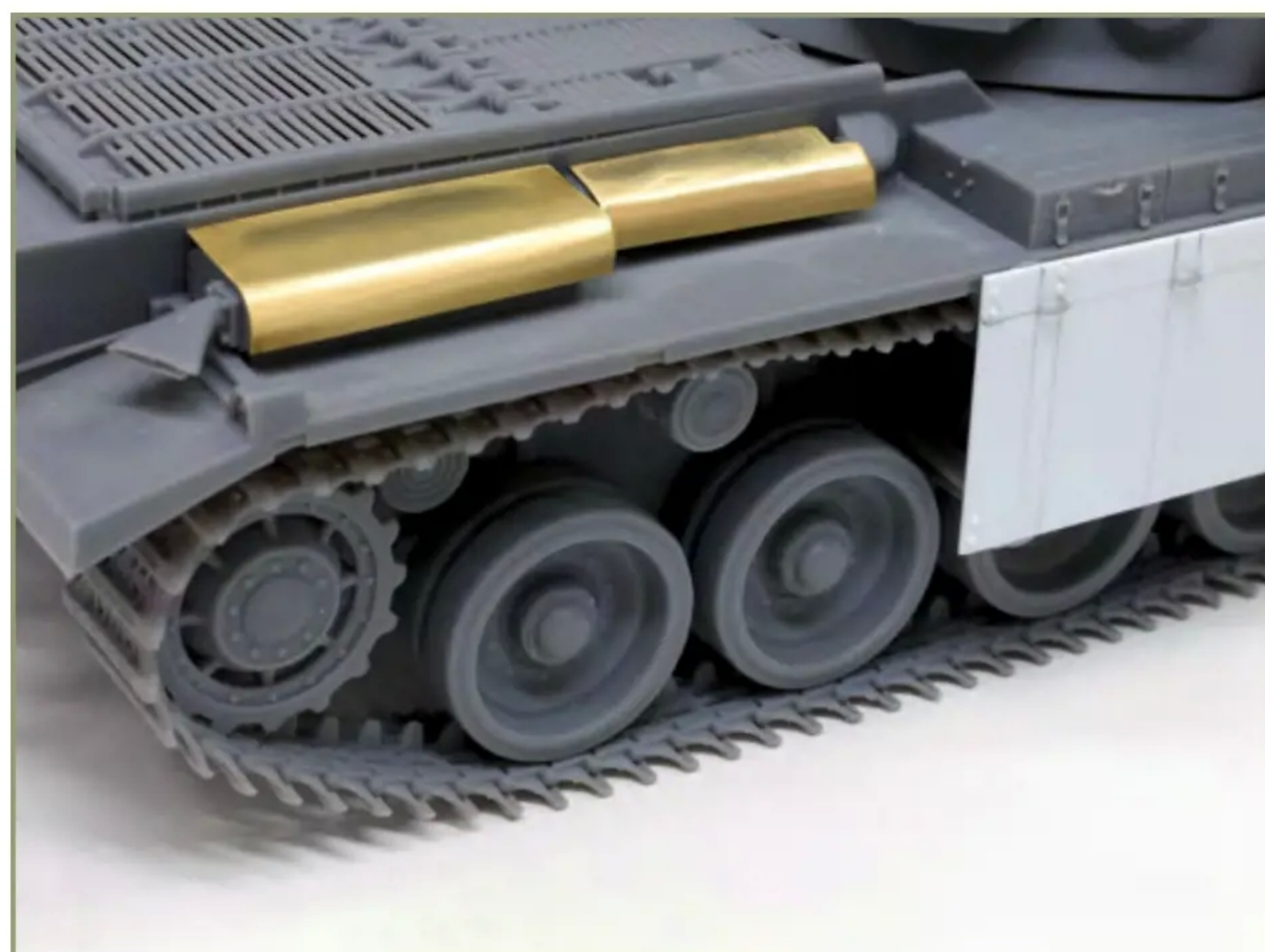




I felt that the side skirts were a little thick as printed, so these were replaced with thin plastic card, the tie downs being removed from the resin parts and then glued in place on the surface of those created in plastic



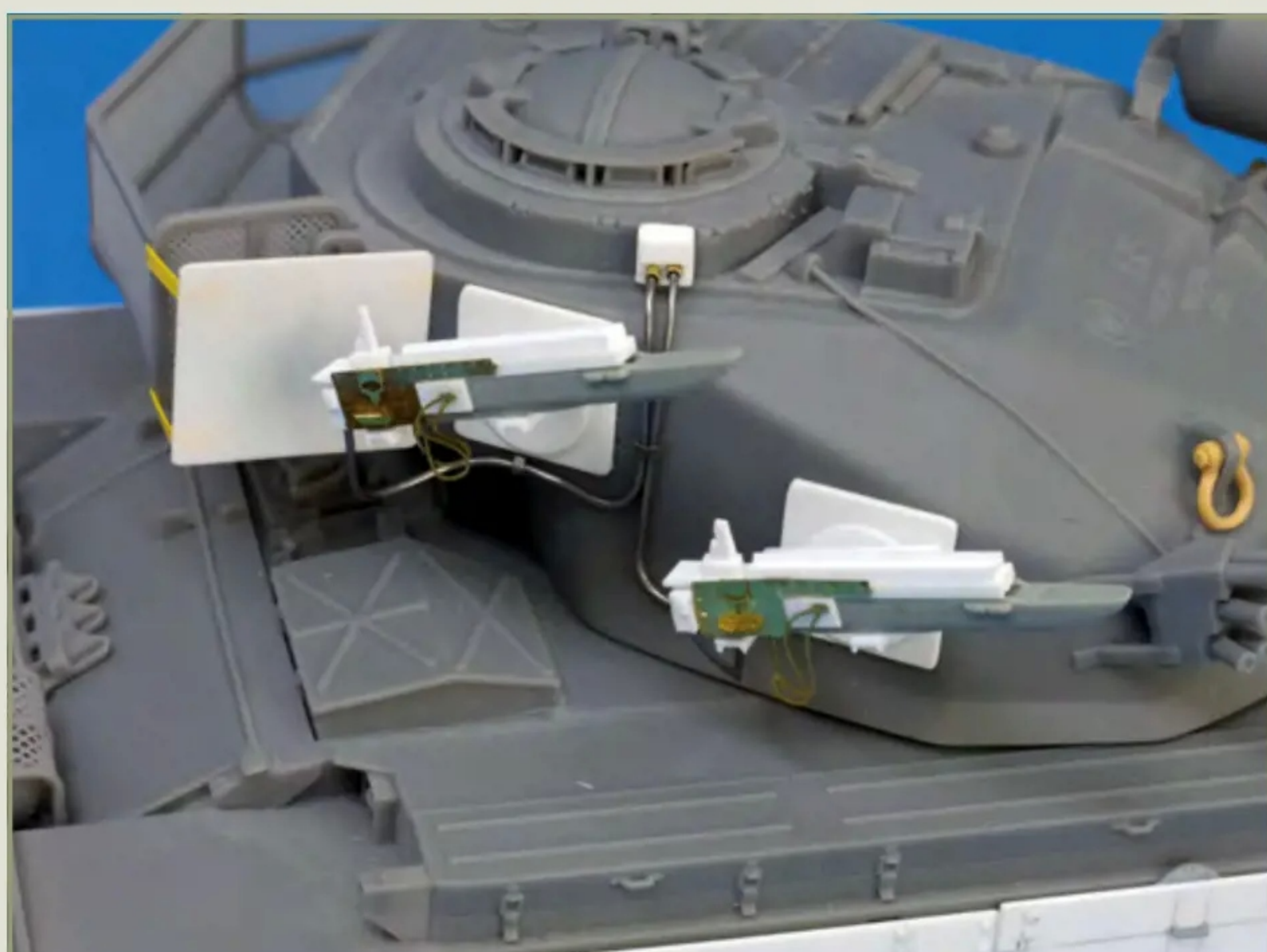
A fabric mantlet cover was sculpted using Green Stuff and a handful of silicone sculpting tools



In order to show off some of the suspension detail one of the side skirts was left off. Detail around this part of the model is really impressive, especially when the limited number of parts and simplicity of construction, is taken into account



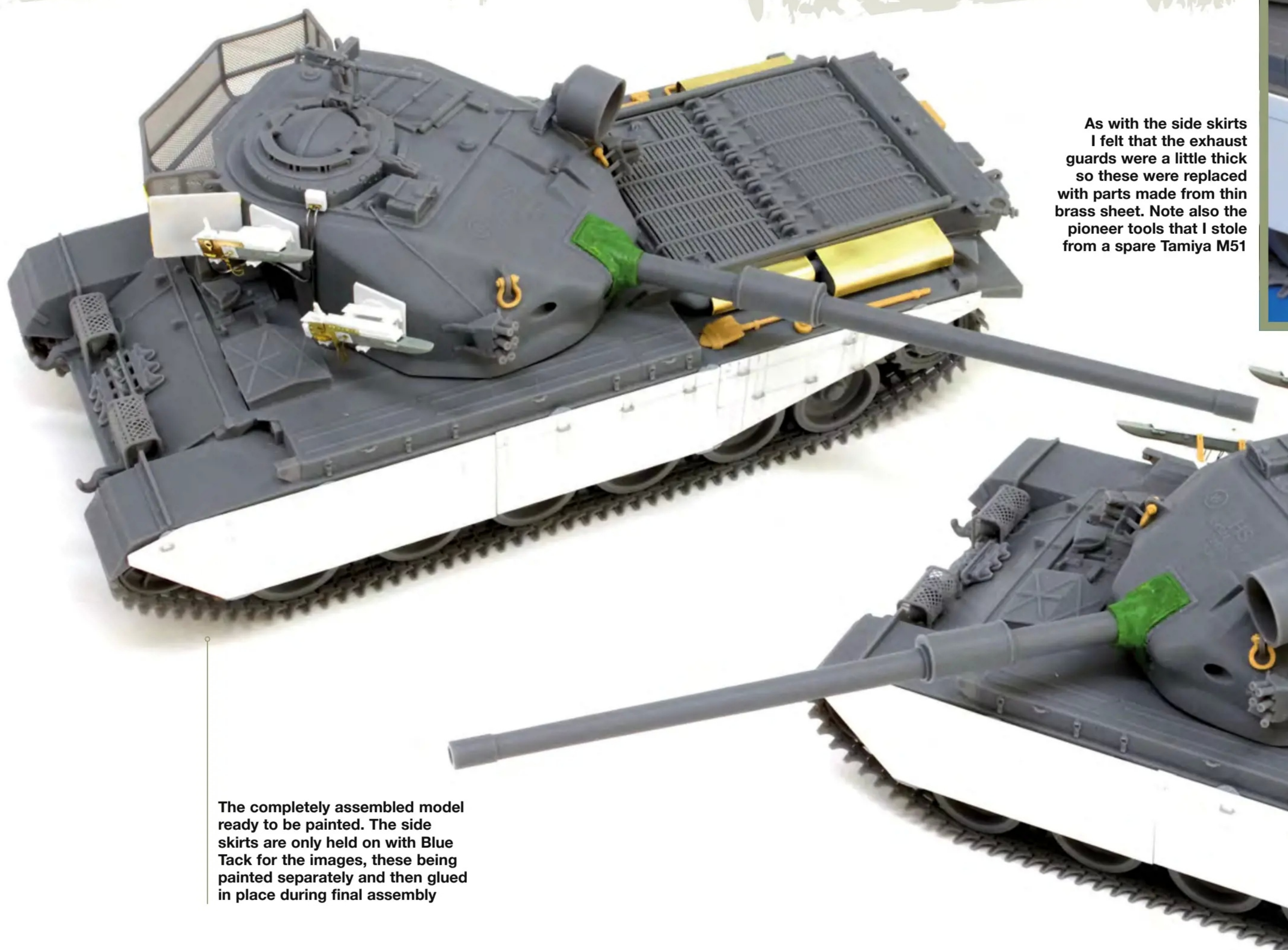
Having decided that I wanted to add rockets to the side of the turret these had to be scratchbuilt to look similar to those seen in the drawing I was using to inspire my build. The rockets and the mounts were built using some spare missile bodies, bits and pieces from the scrap box and a few scraps of plastic card. Note as well that I used some creative gizmology to give the impression of complexity, odd parts from etched frets being useful when it came to surface detail and pipework



It was difficult to see how the rockets were mounted to the turret so some imagination and adjustments were needed until they looked correct. Power cables were added using lead wire held in place using lead foils 'clips'



And here are the rockets in place. What a difference this makes to the look of the model, eh?



As with the side skirts I felt that the exhaust guards were a little thick so these were replaced with parts made from thin brass sheet. Note also the pioneer tools that I stole from a spare Tamiya M51

The completely assembled model ready to be painted. The side skirts are only held on with Blue Tack for the images, these being painted separately and then glued in place during final assembly



As the finish was going to be sand with black camouflage, the model was first base-coated with Mr Surfacer Mahogany which works really well with both colours. Several thin coats were applied and then left to dry overnight

The road wheels were then sprayed with XF-88 Dark Yellow 2. Once dry, the hubs were masked with disks of masking tape, the tyres airbrushed with Rubber Black and then the tracks and surrounding detail with a very dark red brown. Weathering washes and dust, would tie all of this together as painting progressed through to completion



The base layer of Dark Yellow was applied over the Mr Surfacer in thin cloudy layers. The idea here was to create the illusion of light and shade across the surface of the model

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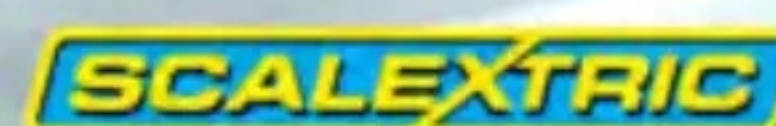
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Happy with the sand base-coat, all camouflage was applied using AK 3G Rubber Black thinned with water and then painted in place using a Size 3 Kolinsky sable paintbrush. Several thin coats were required to ensure the paintwork was smooth, opaque and free of brush strokes



Camouflage all done! Hand-painting this part of the model proved be remarkably easy and is something I plan to do again where future projects demand hard-edged schemes such as this



AK's Sepia Pin Wash was used to define the detail, adding shadows around the smaller features. Once applied, it was allowed to dry for an hour before being carefully blended in using a soft brush moistened with white spirit



Chipping was added using a sponge and some of Vallejo's very useful Camo Black Brown acrylic. This was carefully applied to edges corners and other areas, where wear would naturally occur



Before adding the dark wash around detail, the surface of the model was dampened slightly with white spirit. This allows the wash to flow more easily than if applied to a completely dry surface



Having dealt with the darker chips, lighter patterns were added using AK's Dunkelgelb, thinned with tap water and then applied with a No.1 sable paintbrush



ABT 502 oil paints were used to add staining and dust layers over the surface of the model, these effects being applied gradually as weathering progressed



To create the dust effects, AMMO's Rainmark's Effects was thinned and then airbrushed over the surface of the model. Leaving it to stand for a while to dry, it was then blended away from the centre of panels so that it accumulated around corners and details. This can be seen here over the surface of the black camouflage, the lighter wash working beautifully against the darker underlying paintwork. Note also the darker accumulations of dirt. This was added using neat ABT 502 Industrial Earth oil paint, blended into the individual panels and where necessary, streaked down the model using a sable brush, once again moistened with white spirit. A final noteworthy feature is the red towing shackle, added to break up what is a fairly drab scheme!



I love this view because it shows off those runs of streaked dirt that I so wanted to apply. You can also see here the splattered dirt that I added to the model, a future that involved nothing more complex than thinned oil paint flicked over the skirts and running gear. The use of lighter and darker shades helps to add interest and create the illusion of use over an extended period of time. Finally, note the rusty turret basket, the brass fire extinguisher and how brighter items of stowage help to differentiate those pieces from their surroundings



The exhausts were tricky to paint, being finished several times before I was happy with the results. In the end I opted to paint them with Lifecolor rust paints, dabbing on different shades using a sponge. A wash over with ABT 502 rust oils and then some earthy shades created the look you see here. The dust that you see over the rear hull was applied using the same methods you saw earlier, though here the layers were deeper and greater in number. Note the exhaust staining as well. This was applied using an airbrush and some very thin, very dark, red-brown Tamiya acrylic paint

FINAL THOUGHTS

As you can see, I rather enjoyed this kit and its paintwork, creating not only a highly detail model, but what I think might be the most rounded finish that I've applied to a model in years. Most pleasing of all was the chance to hand-paint much of the camouflage, my normal reliance on airbrushed colours applied with the aid of masks, being replaced with acrylic paints applied with kolinsky sable paintbrushes. Having now seen how this works in action and how it can be done so quickly and with little evidence of brush strokes, I will won't be too reticent to use these ideas as part of future projects. See you next time! ●

TECHSPEC...

RESIN SCALES 1:35 CENTURION AX
MEDIUM TANK • KIT NO.N/K

Materials:

3D-print resin

Paints used:

- Vallejo Acrylic : German Grey, London Grey, White, Black, Red, Camo Black Brown
- Games Workshop: Retributor Armour, Brass Scorpion, Castellax Bronze
- Tamiya Acrylic: Flat Black, Flat White, Buff, Wooden Deck Tan, Flat Earth, Rubber Black
- AK 3G: Rubber Black, Black, Dunkelgelb
- OVMS: XXL Satin Clear

Availability:

Direct from Resin Scales: www.resinscales.com



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KIT PREVIEW

ANDY'S HOBBY HEADQUARTERS M113A1/M113A1 ACAV • NO.009



ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Marcus Nicholls checks out AHHQ's incredible new 1:16 M113A1 US armoured personnel carrier

Along with the UH-1B Huey helicopter previewed this issue, the US M113 armoured personnel carrier is another icon of America's military hardware from the Vietnam War and a much-modelled subject in 1:35. Andy Klein's 'Andy's Hobby Headquarters' brand has cemented itself in scale modelling history with a line-up of AFV kits in 1:16 that are bold, highly detailed and very affordable, considering their size. Until recently, the subjects have been mostly from World War Two, but all that changed with the earth-shattering announcement of the M113A1 last year that caused my jaw – plus the jaws of many other modellers – to drop in delighted astonishment.

The creation of this kit in 1:16 was a dream come true, and is the perfect partner for Tamiya's 1:16 M551 Sheridan static display model.

1:16 might seem huge, but the M113 is a reasonably compact machine in reality, so in 1:16 it's a very manageable project that will fit nicely on the average workbench, with the hull-side measuring around 285mm (11¼ inches) in length. The kit comes without an engine, which keeps the purchase cost down and opens the door for aftermarket manufacturers to step in with 3D-print replicas of the Detroit

Diesel two-stroke V6 plus its bay and associated ancillaries. The kit does come with hinged, openable engine access hatch, so it's just a matter of time that this upgrade materialises. The driver's station and crew compartment are beautifully executed however, and await a creative painting and weathering process to bring out the acres of incredible raised and recessed detail. Modellers with knowledge of electronics could add a few strategic LEDs inside to really make it 'shine' in there.

The workable suspension looks straightforward to assemble and the tracks, whilst made up from individual links, should come together quickly thanks to their two-part design. With careful cement application they will remain articulated once built up, making their fitment to the running gear a breeze and will allow the all-important upper-run 'sag'.

This is a '2 in 1' presentation, enabling the modeller to choose either the standard M113A1 or the M113A1 ACAV (Armoured Cavalry Assault Vehicle) with its distinctive bell-shaped

gun turret and optional frontal buoyancy cells for the trim vane and frontal hull sides, giving the model a chunkier look. A few holes will need to be drilled to fit these parts so choose your version early and make sure you don't miss those location points as you work through the instructions.

A stunning crew figure is included, depicting a US serviceman in M-1952 flak jacket and CVC T56-6 helmet and goggles, in a standing pose, holding the handles of the included M2 .50cal heavy MG. The figure is moulded in kit plastic and will bring the model to life. Overall then, this is a significant achievement by AHHQ in conjunction with Takom and I am truly grateful for the incredible models they are creating. Expect a full-build feature in TMMI once I have managed to lift my jaw from the floor! ●

Availability;

Andy's Hobby Headquarters:
www.andyshhq.com
www.modellbau-koenig.de/en

Vehicle specs

Number manufactured:	Approx 80,000 (all variants)
Engine:	Detroit Diesel 6V53T 5.2 litre V6 two-stroke diesel
Transmission:	Allison TX-100-I three-speed, fully automatic
Maximum speed:	45mph on road



Jason Studio figure set

As with previous 1:16 releases, a stunning figure set is available for the M113 from Jason Wong.
www.jason-studio.com



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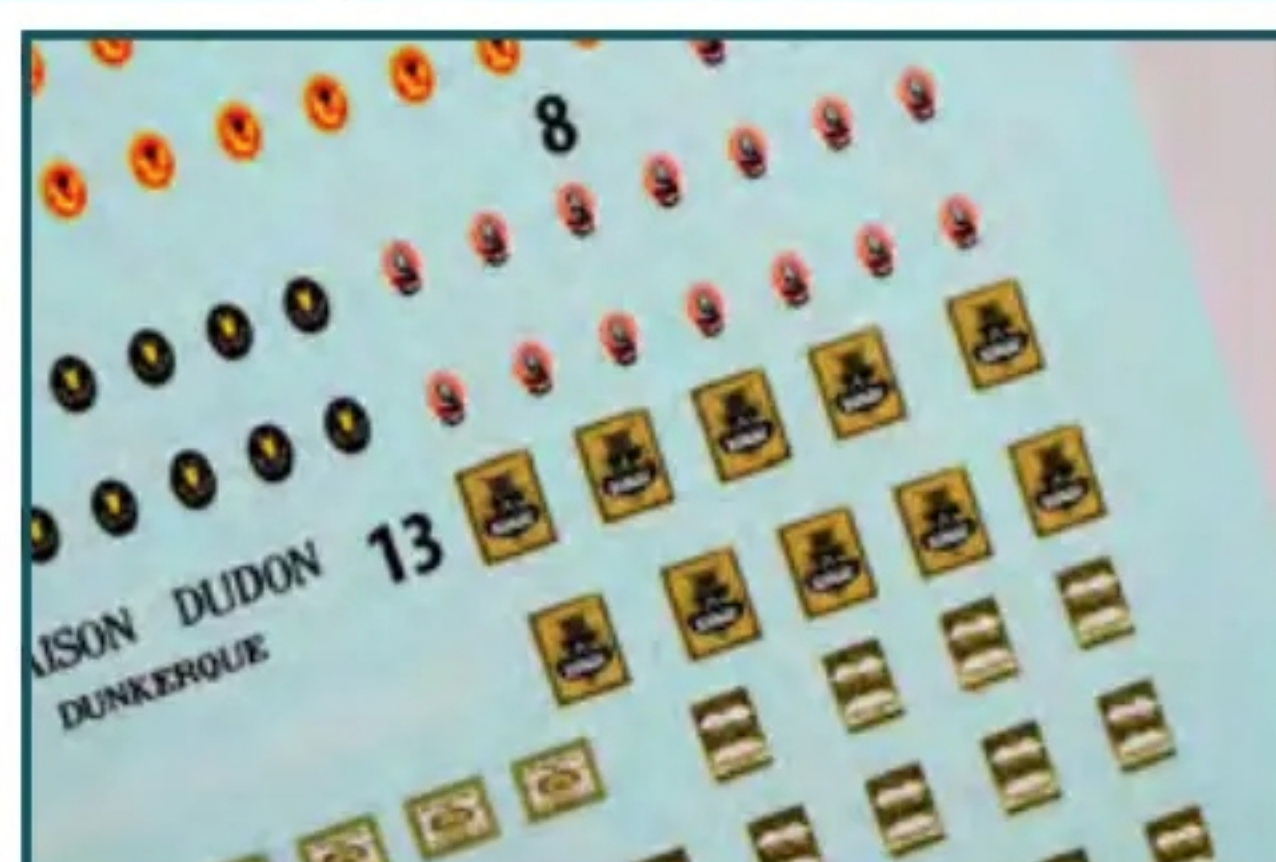
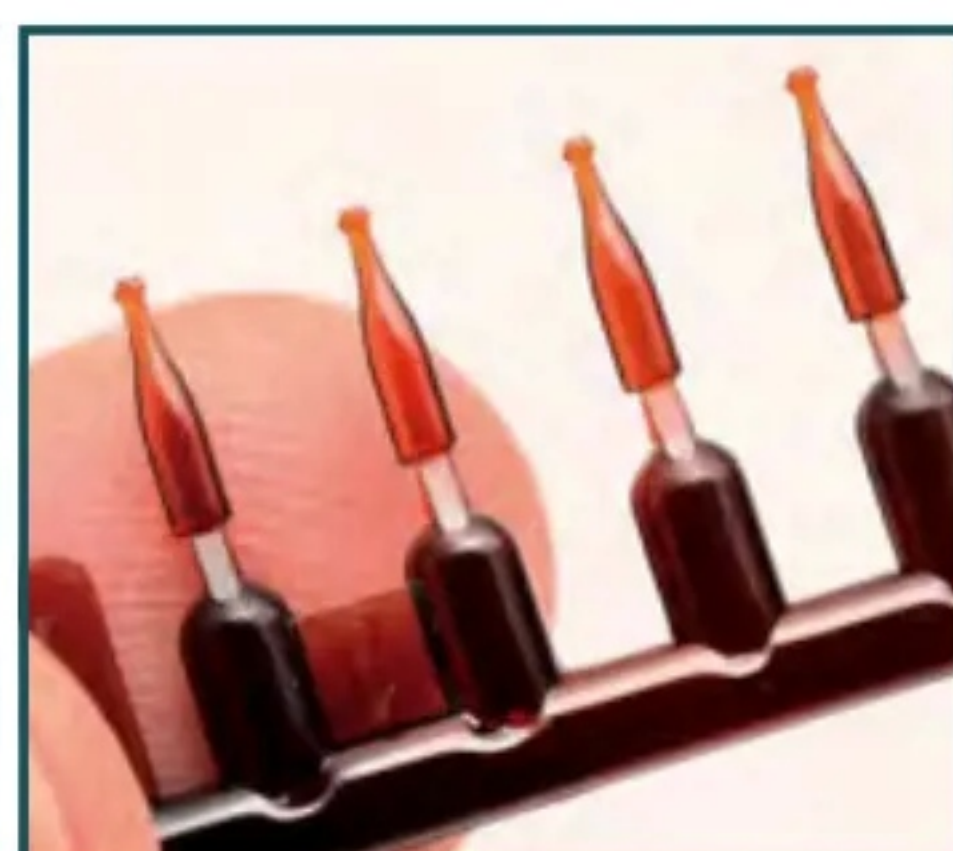
MiniArt's ranges of kit-plastic accessory sets in various scales are brilliant little packages of scale modelling goodness that are crammed with detail. They bring a touch of individuality to a diorama and are worth stocking up on for your future projects. High quality parts and decals.

Injection-moulded diorama accessories

- 1:35 Alcohol Bottles With Boxes (35665)
- 1:35 French Concrete Road Signs 1930-'40s North & East (35674)
- 1:24 Plastic Barrels 200L (24011)
- 1:48 Wooden Barrels (49014)



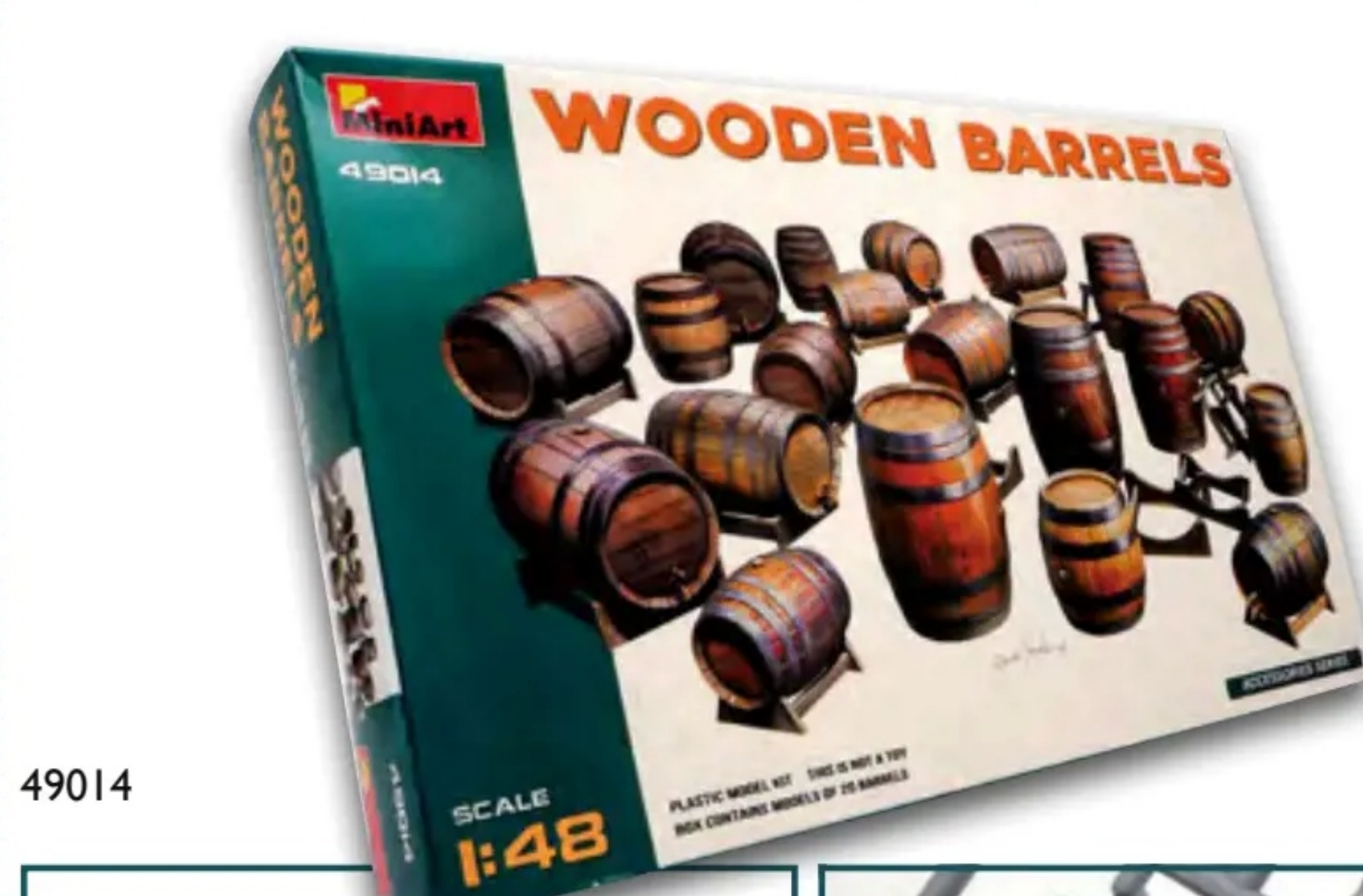
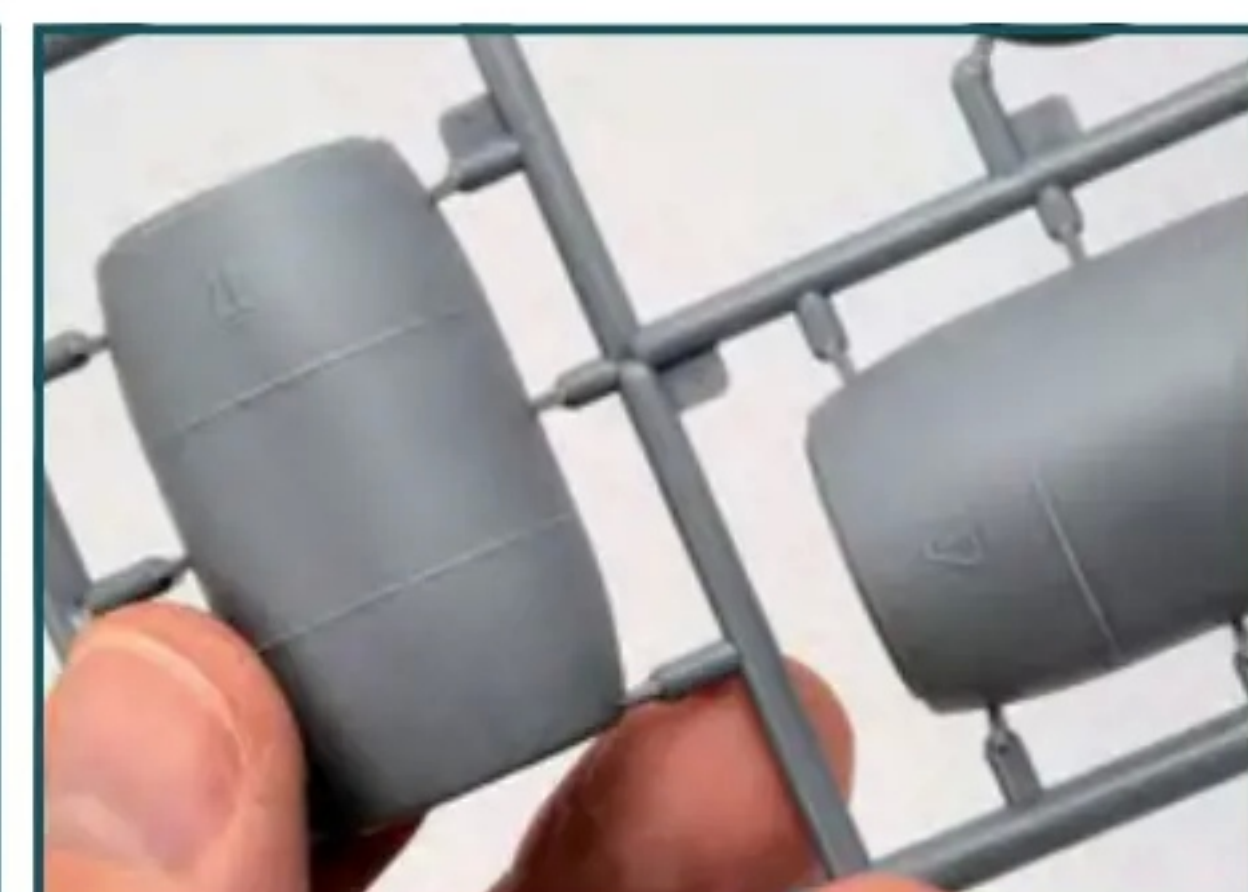
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GREEN STRAWBERRY

www.greenstrawberry.cz

Green Strawberry's line of photo-etched metal detail upgrades is vast and covers numerous science-fiction subjects including Star Trek, Star Wars and more. This time we have a nice set for the AMT 1:25 Batmobile film from 1989, providing superb cockpit enhancements and more. AMT's large-scale Star Wars TIE Fighter also gets a lick of brass for its cabin interior and elsewhere. Great stuff!

Photo-etched brass detail/upgrade sets

- 1:25 Batmobile '1989' detail set (15522-1/25) for AMT
- 1:350 Qo'noS One (20723-1/350) for Polar Lights
- 1:2700 Star Destroyer detail set (03517-1/2700) for Zvezda/Revell
- 1:32 TIE Fighter detail set (20423-1/32) for AMT

15522-1/25



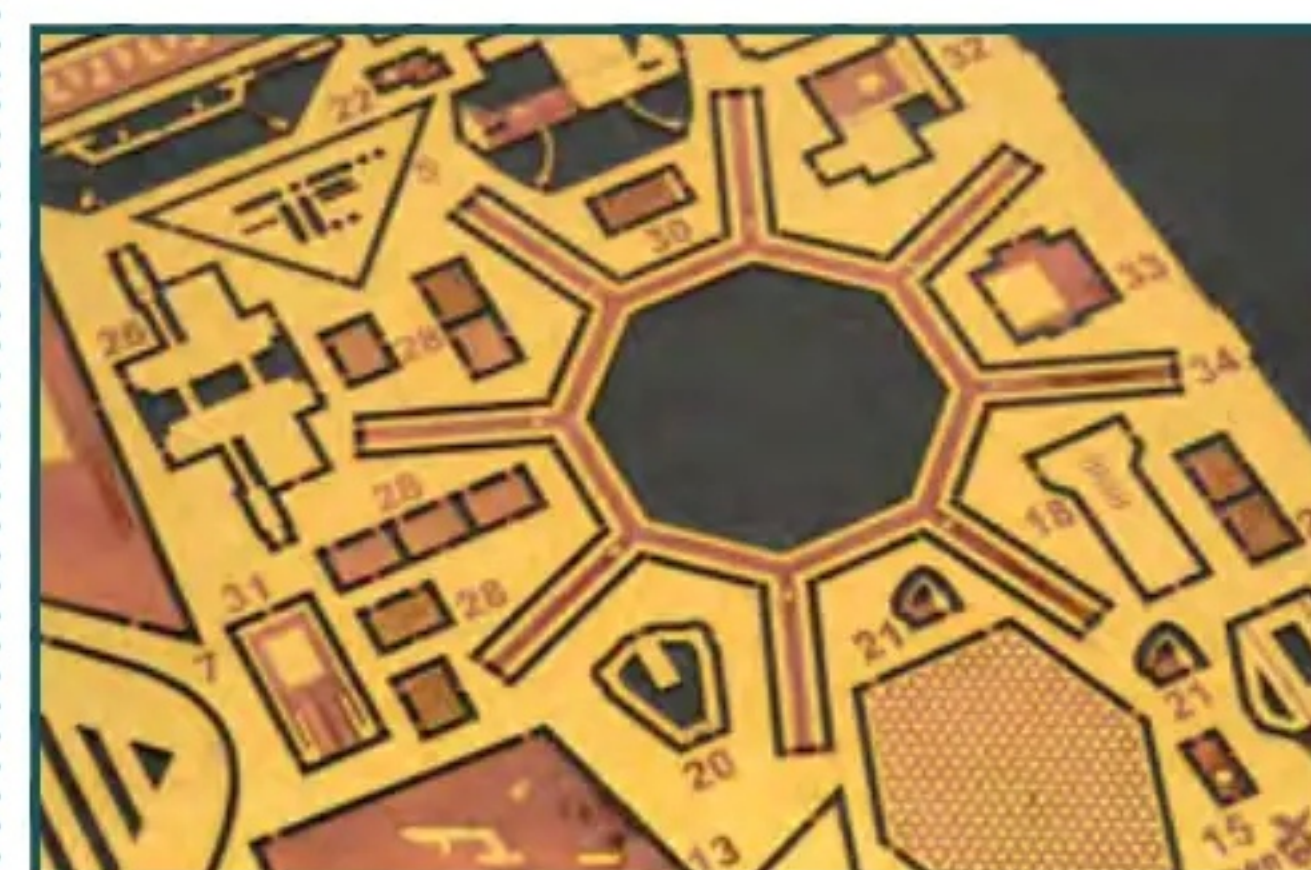
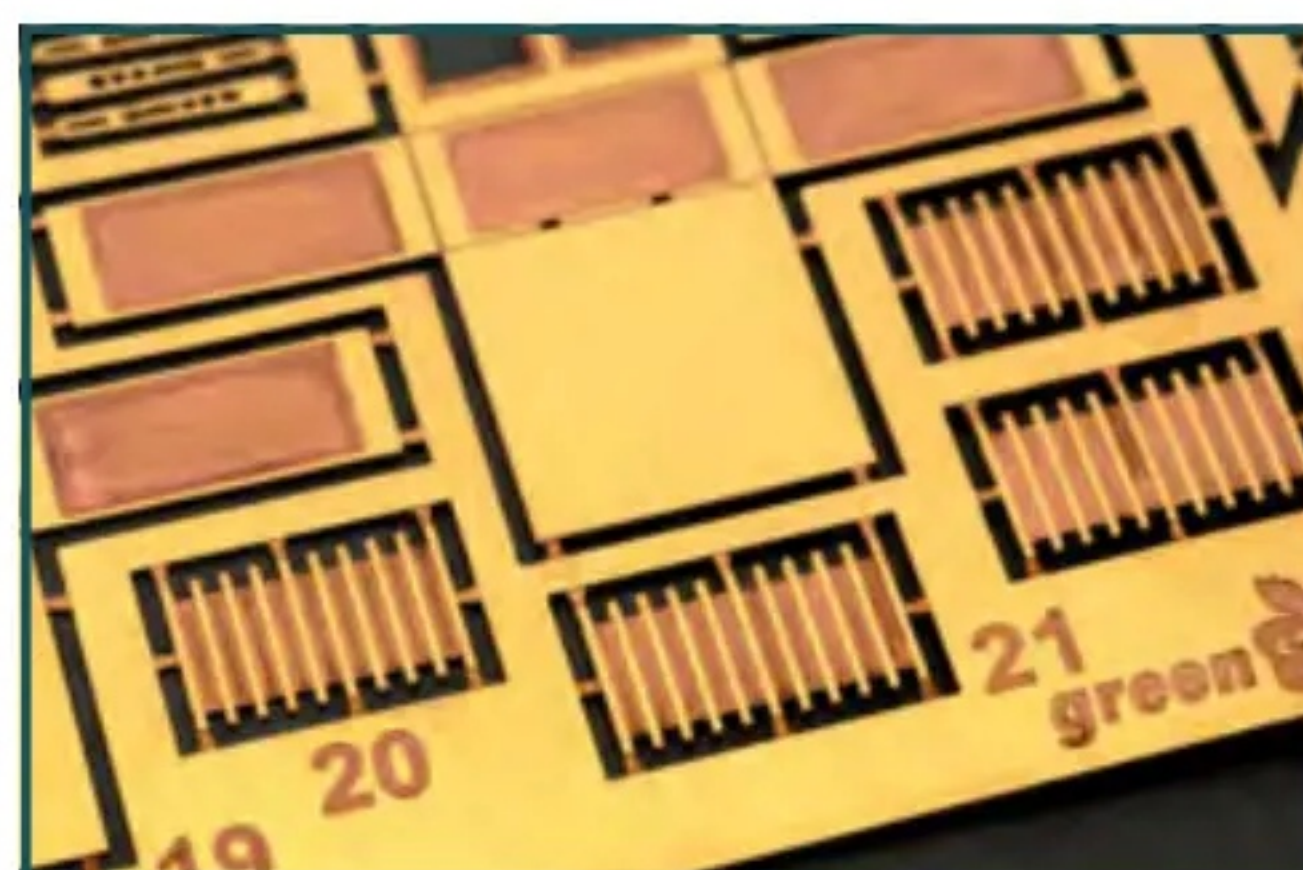
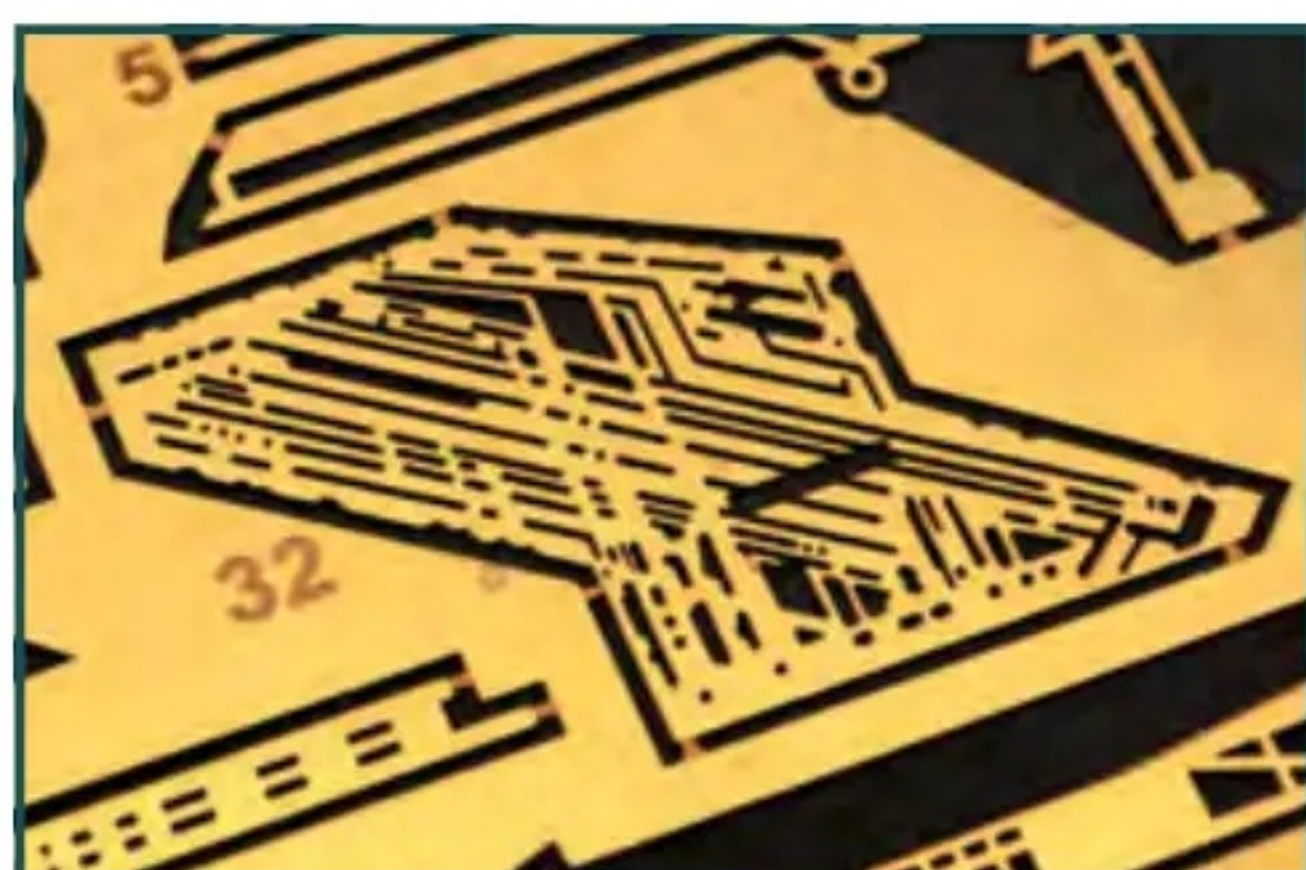
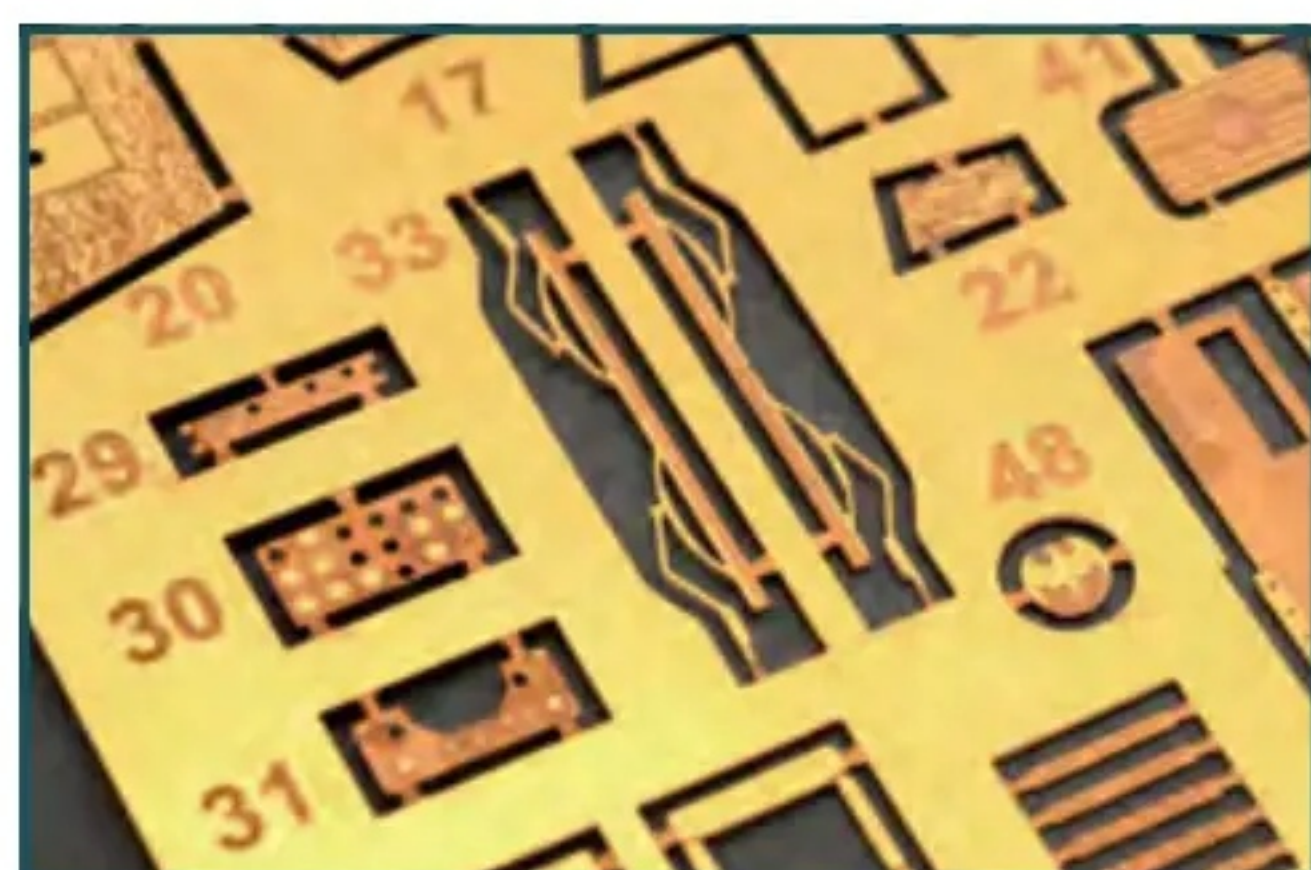
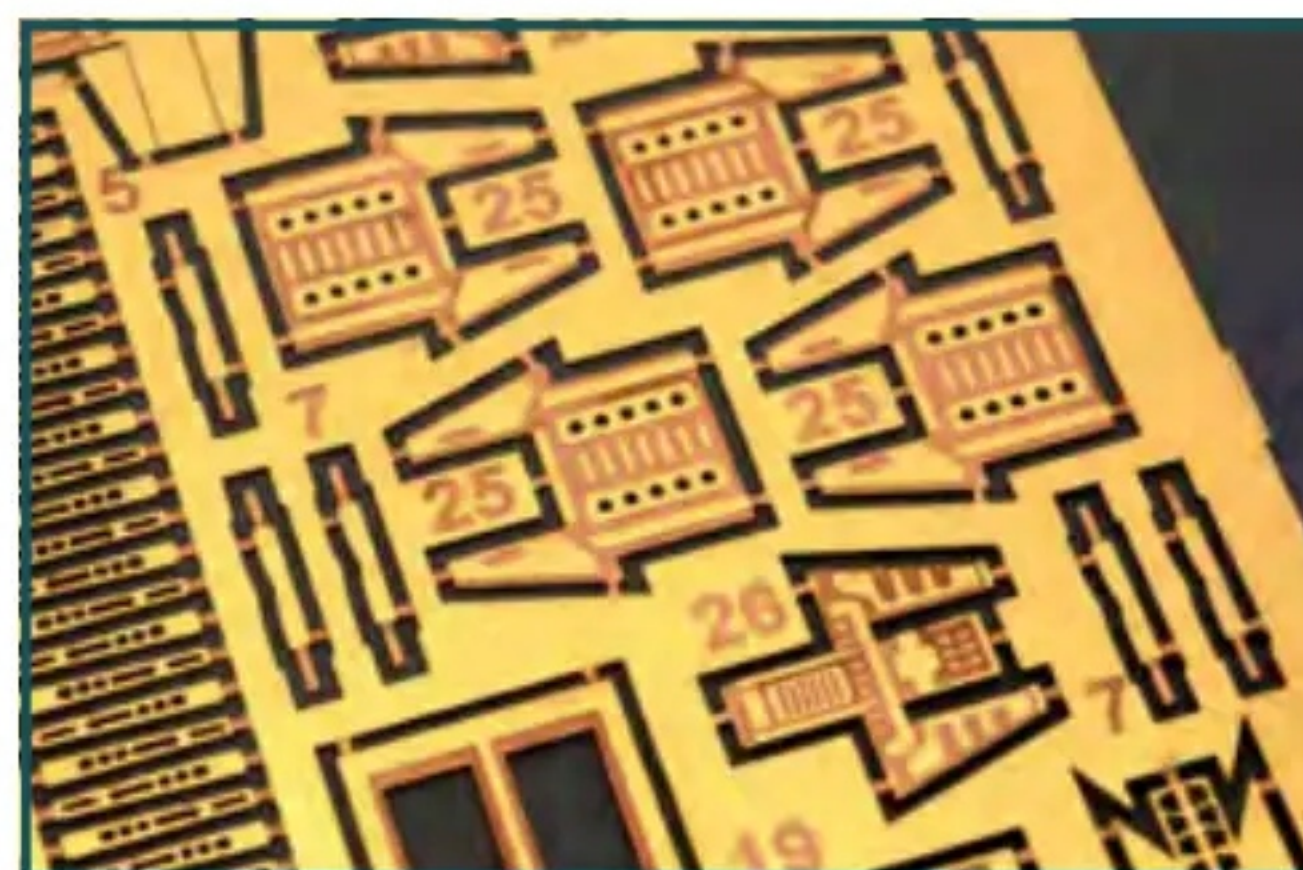
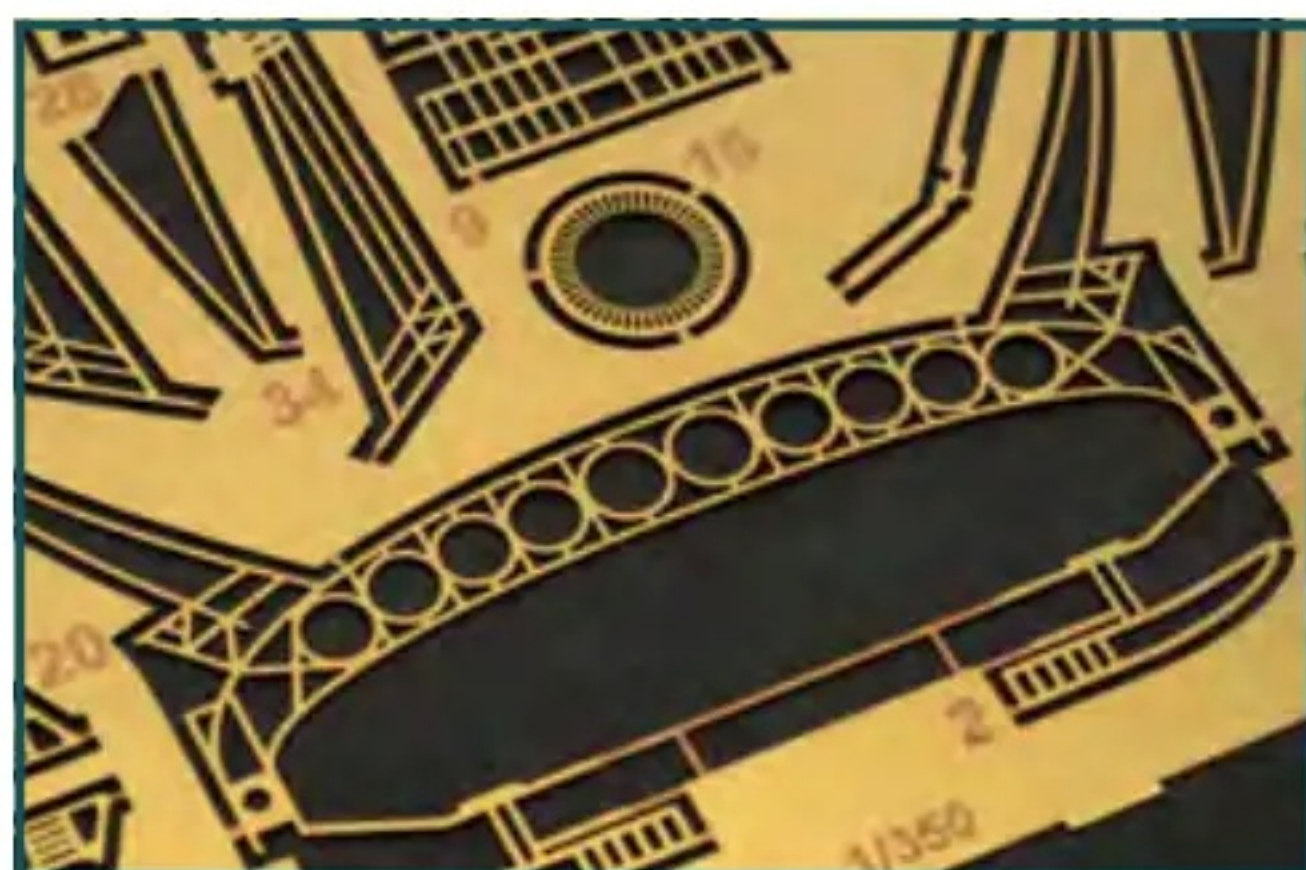
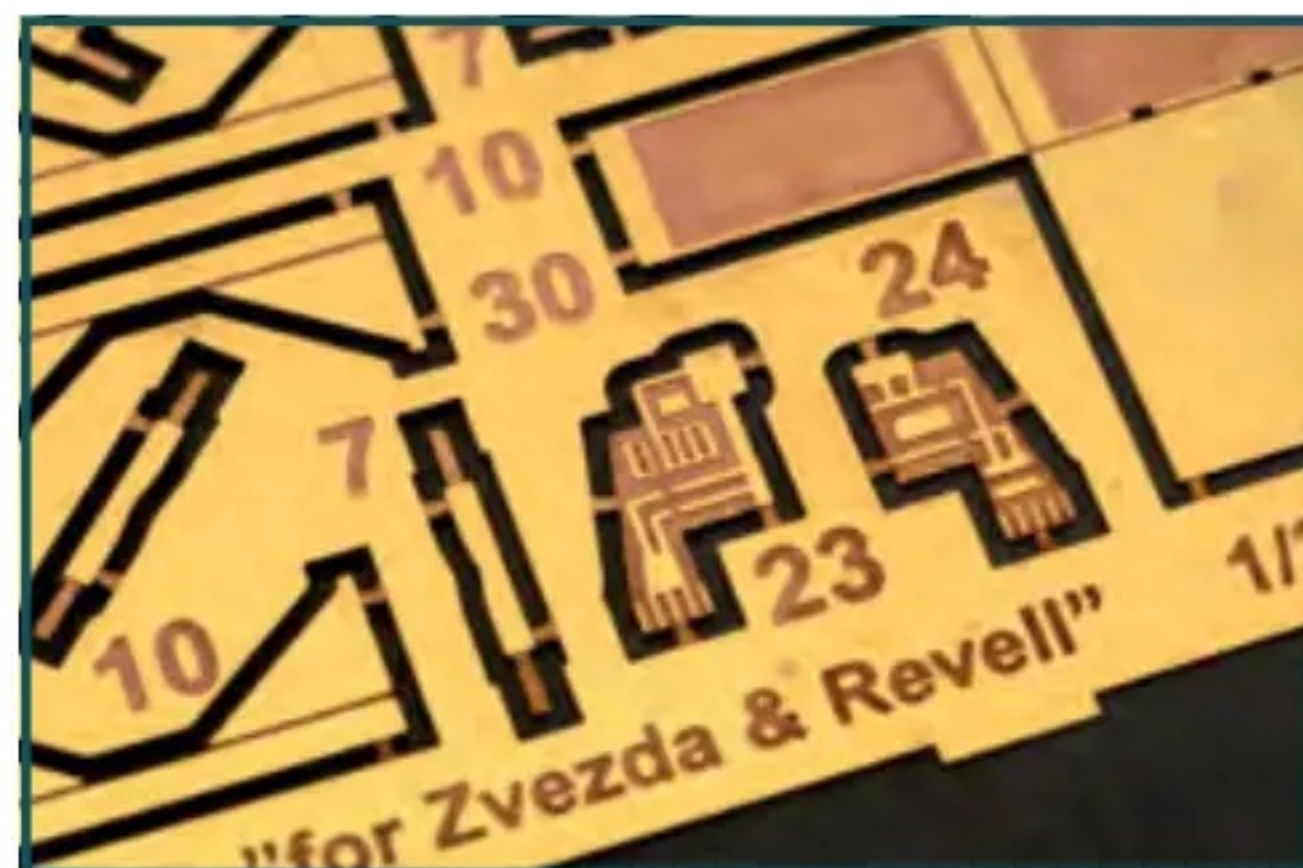
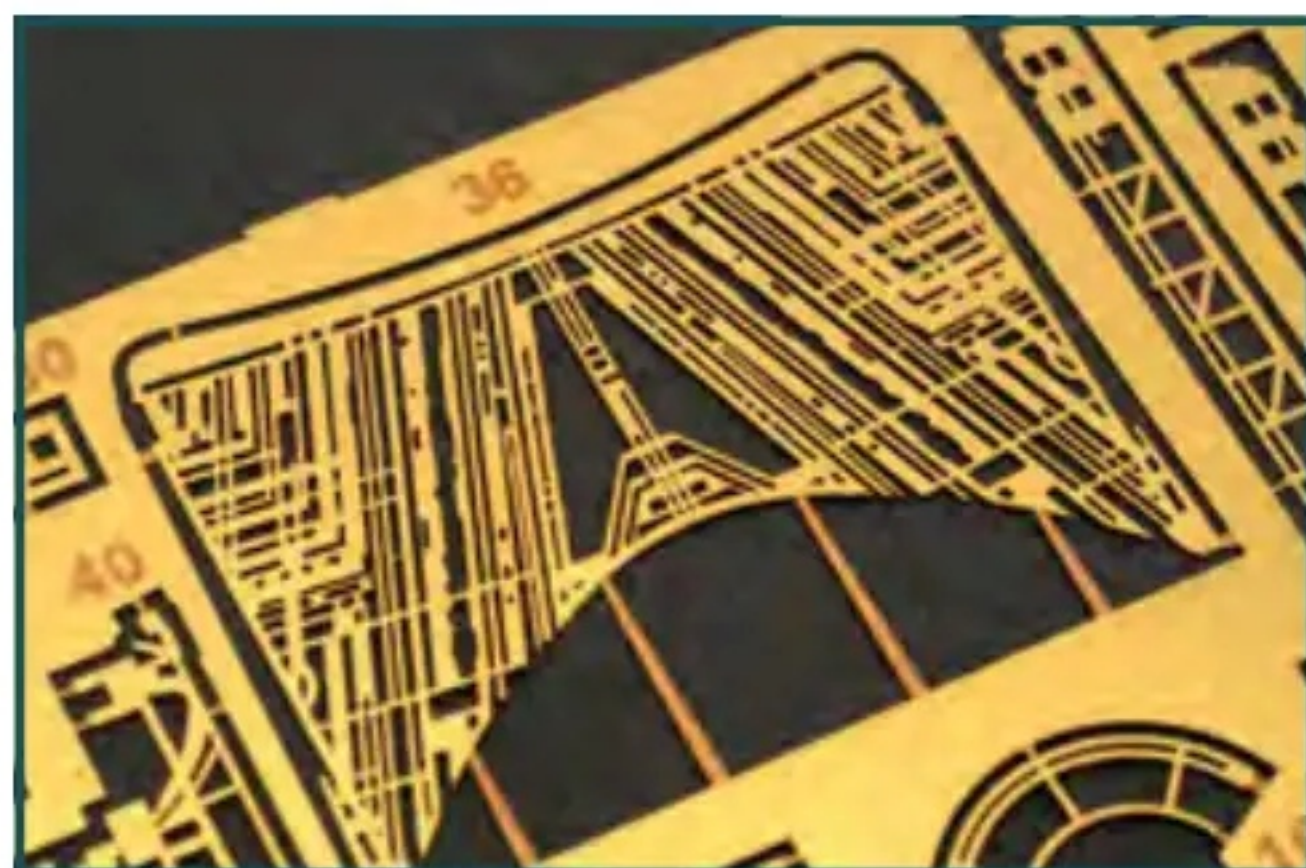
20723-1/350



03517-1/2700



20423-1/32



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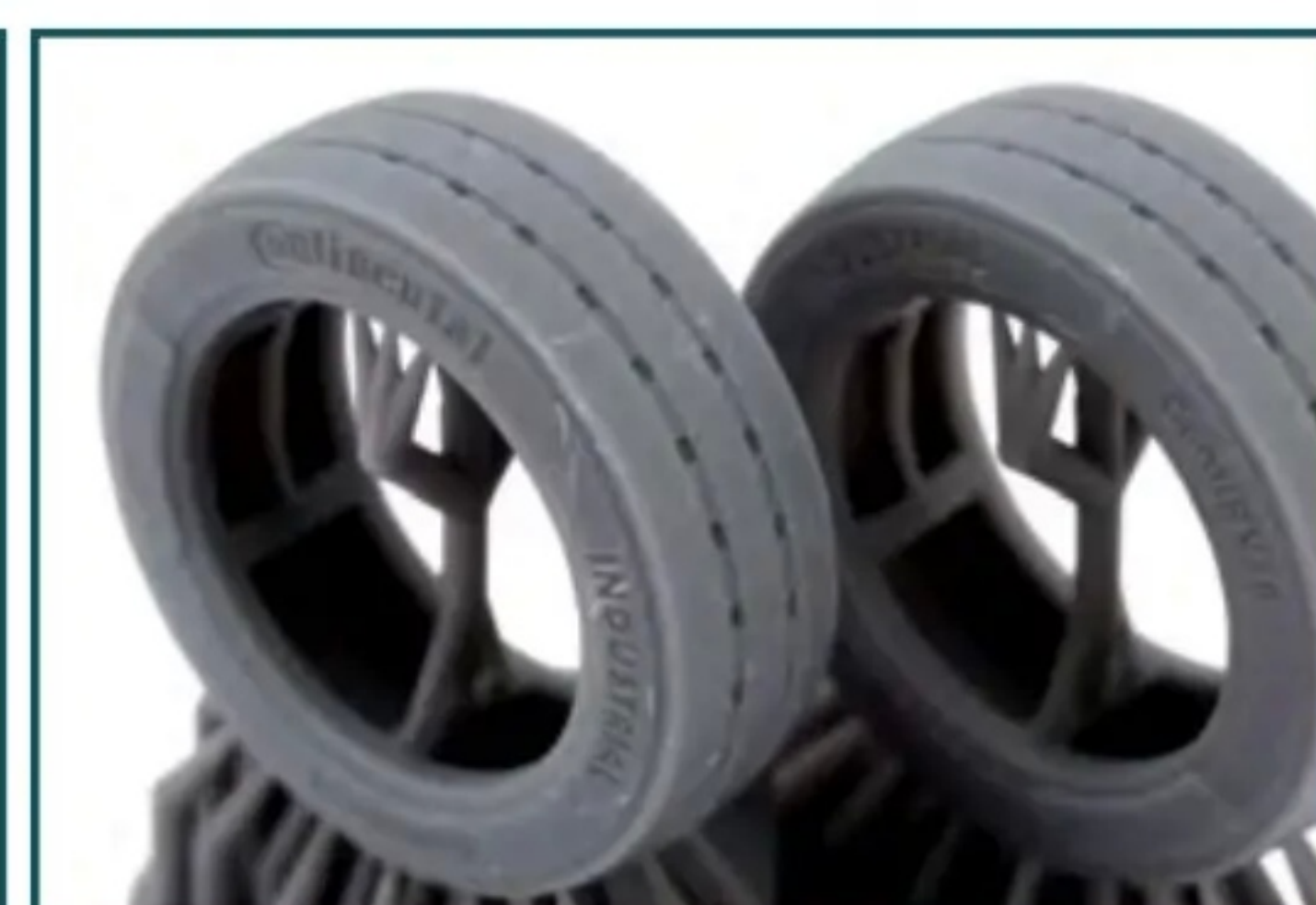
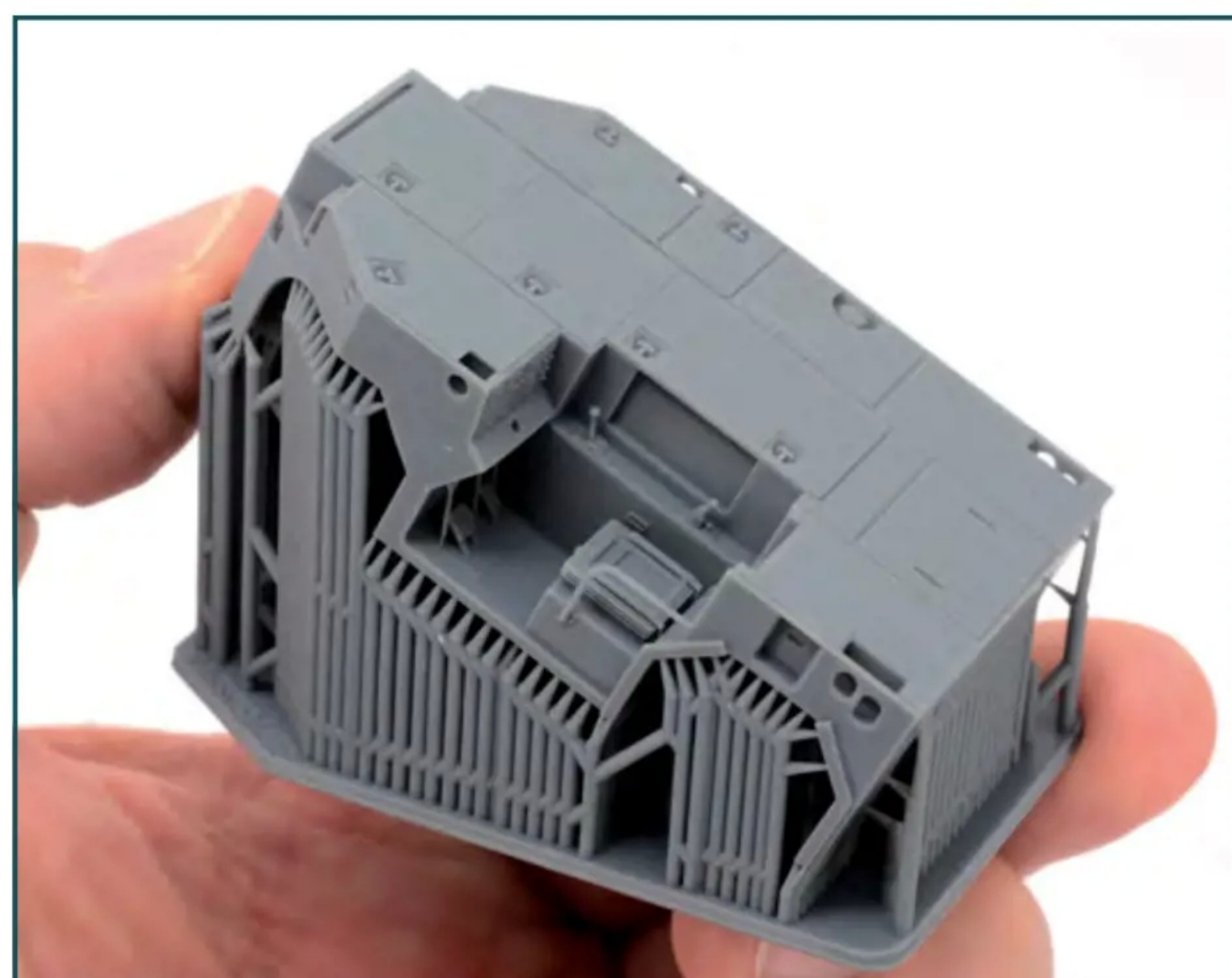
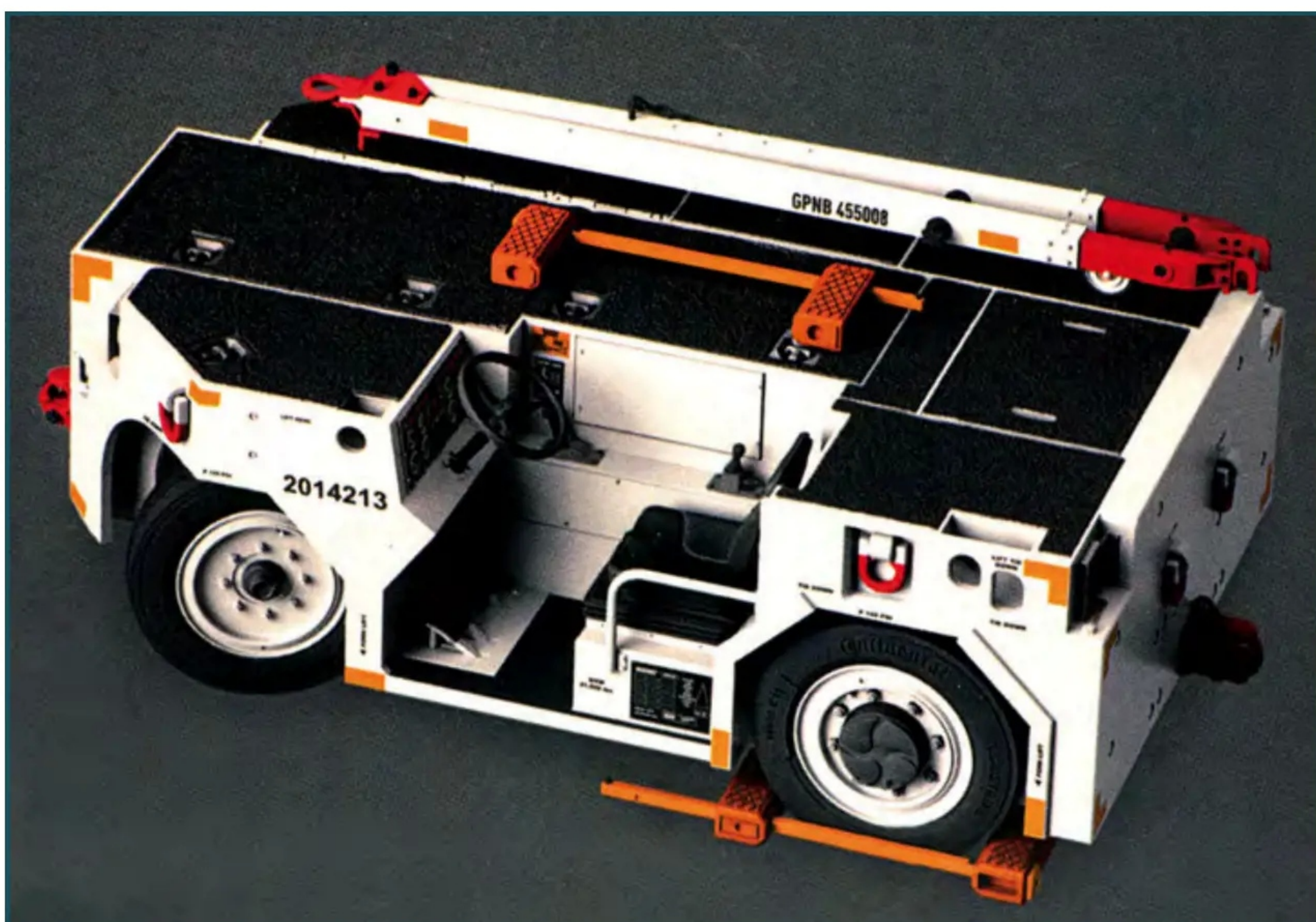
RESKIT

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ResKit recently released this incredible full kit of a US Navy carrier deck tractor, a vehicle in current use with US armed forces. It's formed entirely from 3D-print and as such, a fair number of printing supports will need trimming away before construction can begin, but their attachment points are mostly hidden from view so there won't be too much clean-up needed. The detail is absolutely staggering and the refinement of the thinnest components is completely to scale. Perfect for placing next to your 1:48 F-35B Lightning II, F/A-18F Super Hornet and others!

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- US Navy A/S32A-49 Short deck tractor (RSK48-0014)



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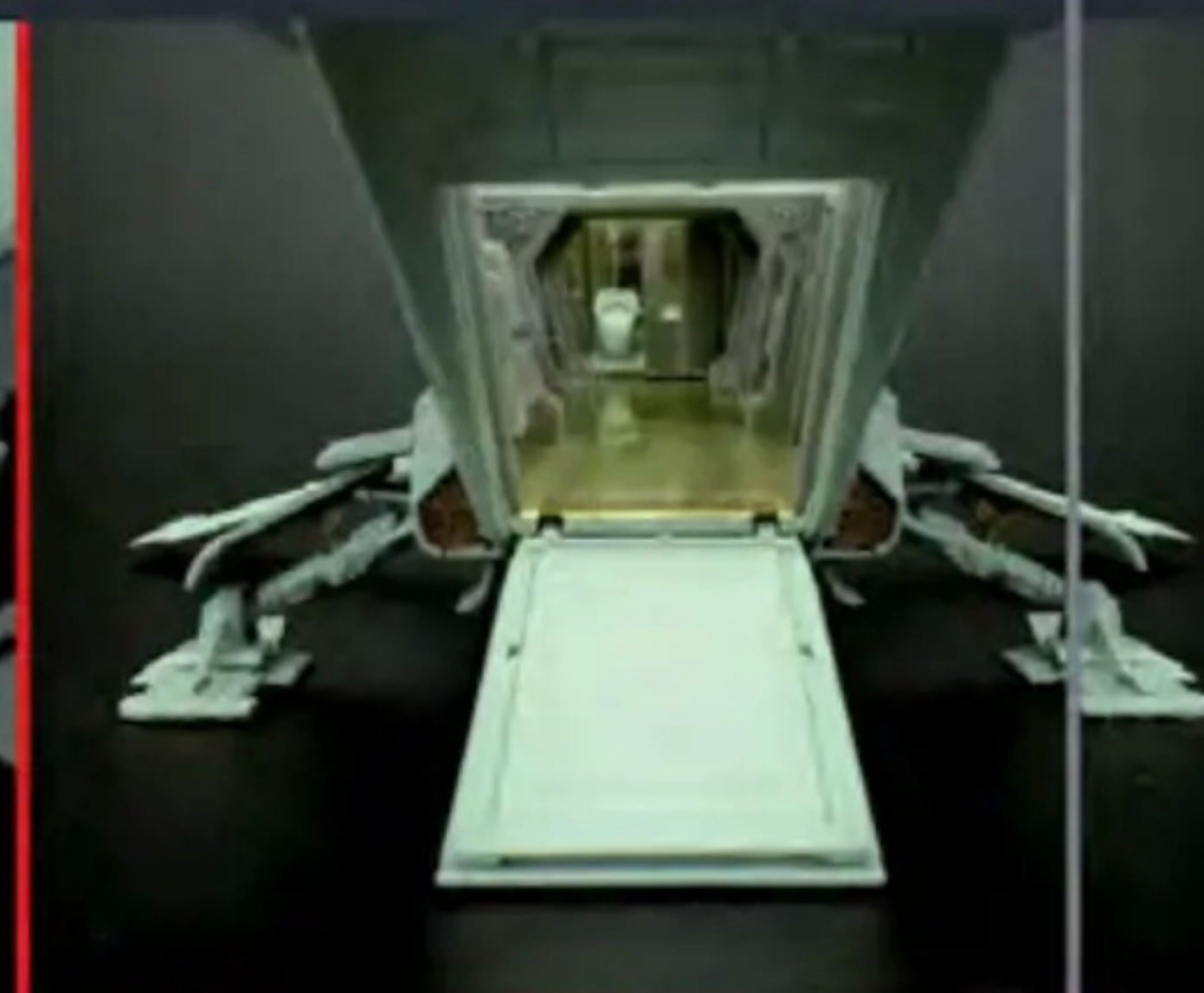
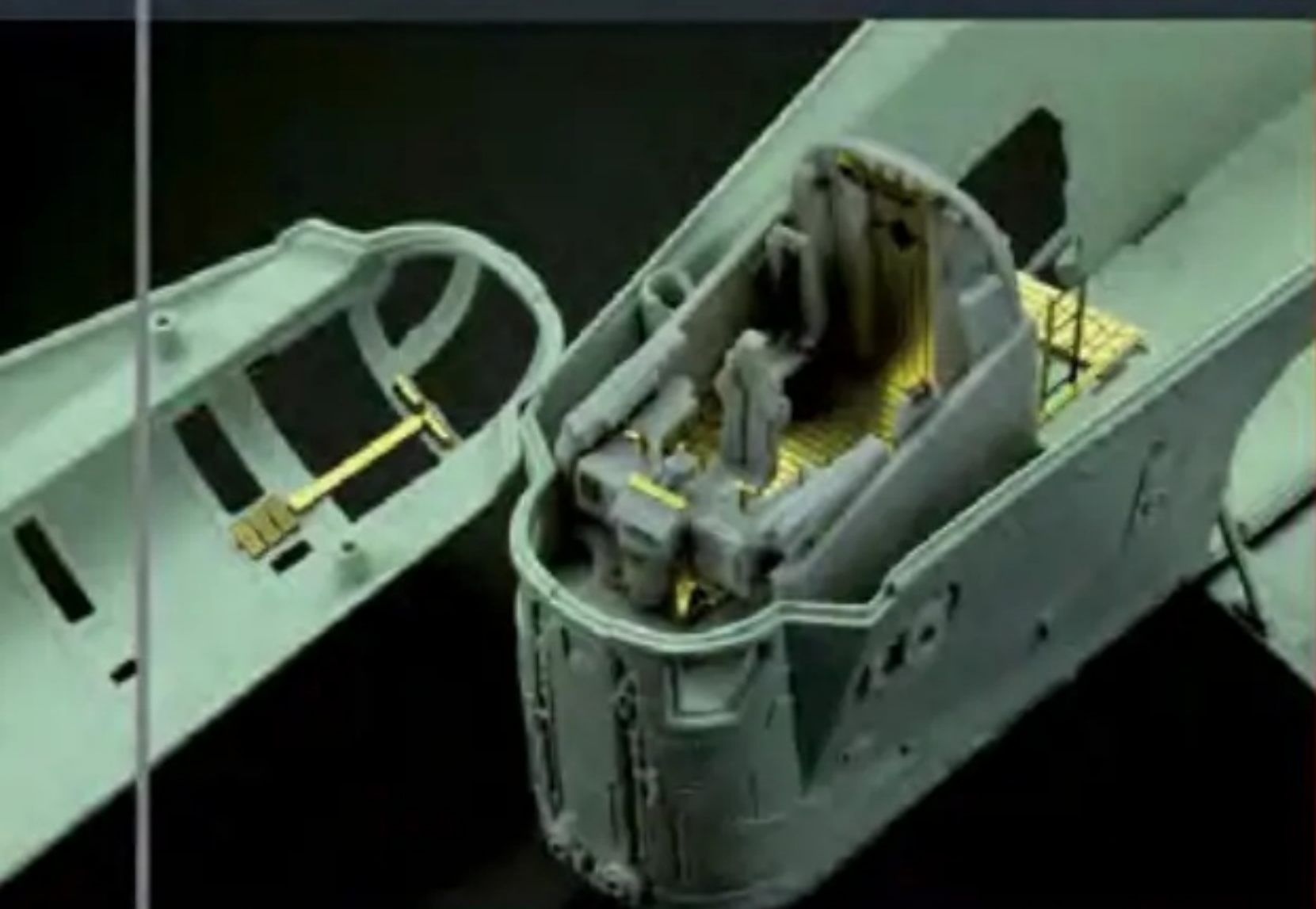
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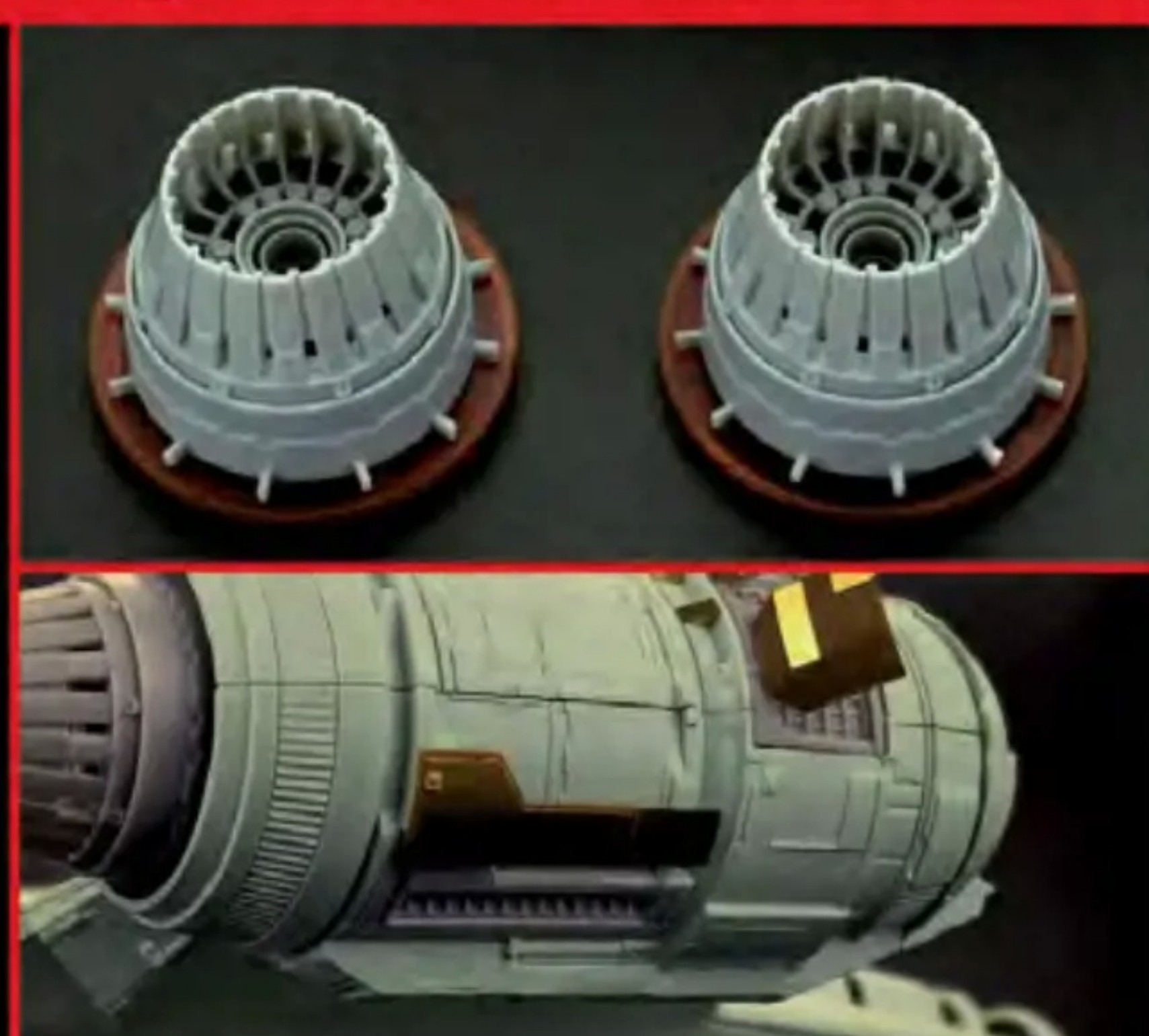


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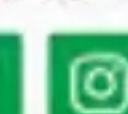
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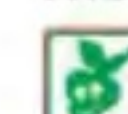


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SCALE: 1:48

MATERIALS: IM, WS

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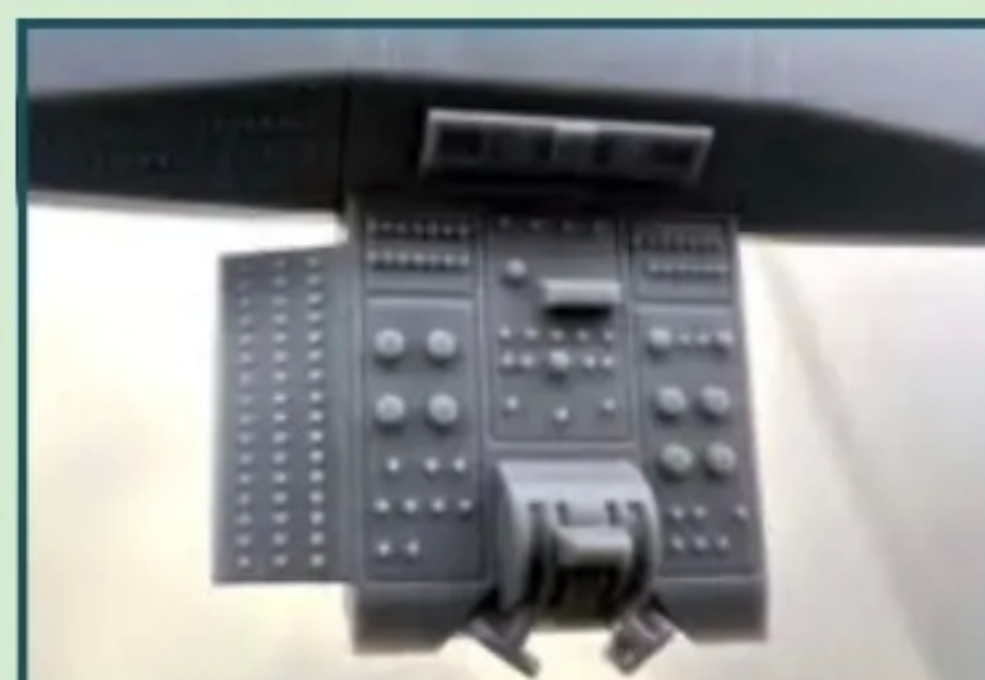
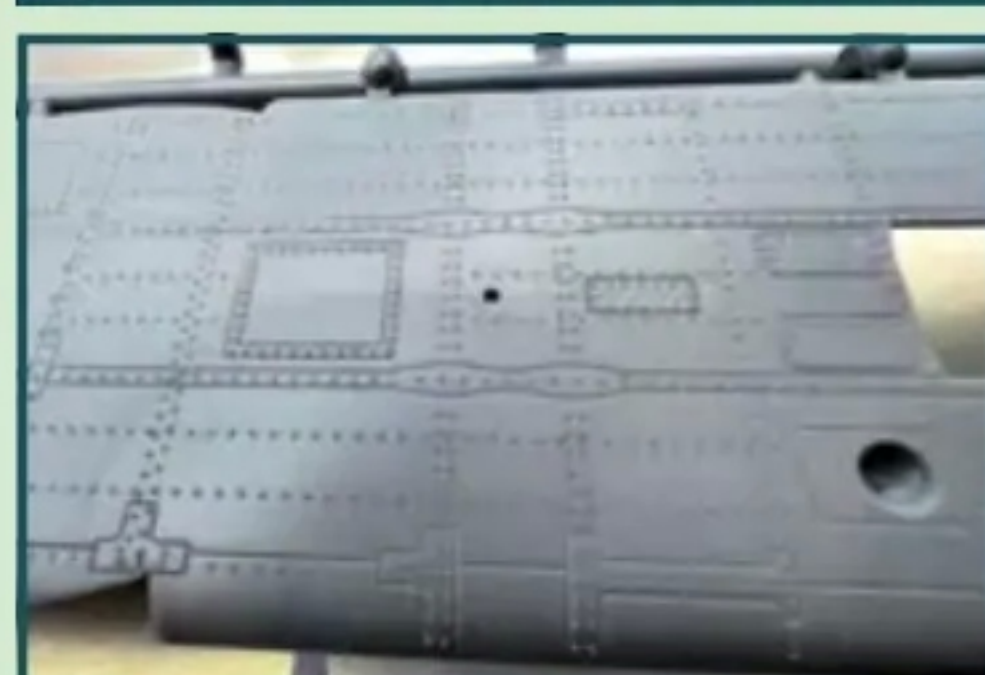
After previously relying on helicopters of Russian origin, after the invasion of Ukraine the country had to turn to other sources and has been operating at least two Black Hawk helicopters in the Intelligence Directorate. These are slightly modified from the standard U.S. type and are very attractive in blue or green paintwork. The kit from ICM is simply incredible, with a degree of fine surface detail that is hard to appreciate with the naked eye. The kit has no flaws in the moulding and assembles very neatly to create a rigid and stable model, with the interior easy to see and enjoy. The intricate passenger seats are very visible when the doors are open and the kit provides these in full detail. Two different instrument panels are provided for the two aircraft options and the modeller needs to decide early on which of the two will be selected. The body of the fuselage is essentially two halves, but note that the correct starboard half needs to be used from the two in the box. The modeller needs to drill out location points on the top of the fuselage for the specific antennas used on this version, but detailed measurements are indicated to get the holes in the right place. In the instruction booklet are templates for cutting the window masks and these can be made from low-tack film as desired. The thin decals are very sharply printed with good register and should go down well onto the paint surface. **CLS**



An extremely attractive choice for a Ukrainian helicopter



A sheet of pre-cut window masks would be very useful



TAKOM

PLA NAVY HHQ-10 SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM

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SCALE: 1:35

MATERIALS: IM, PE

ITEM NO.2190

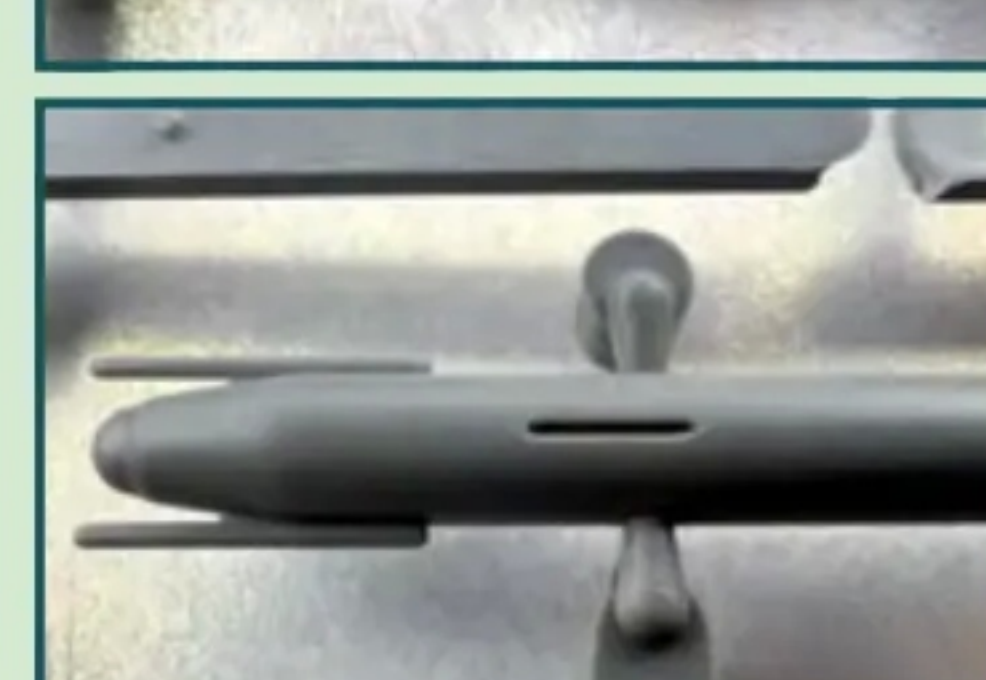
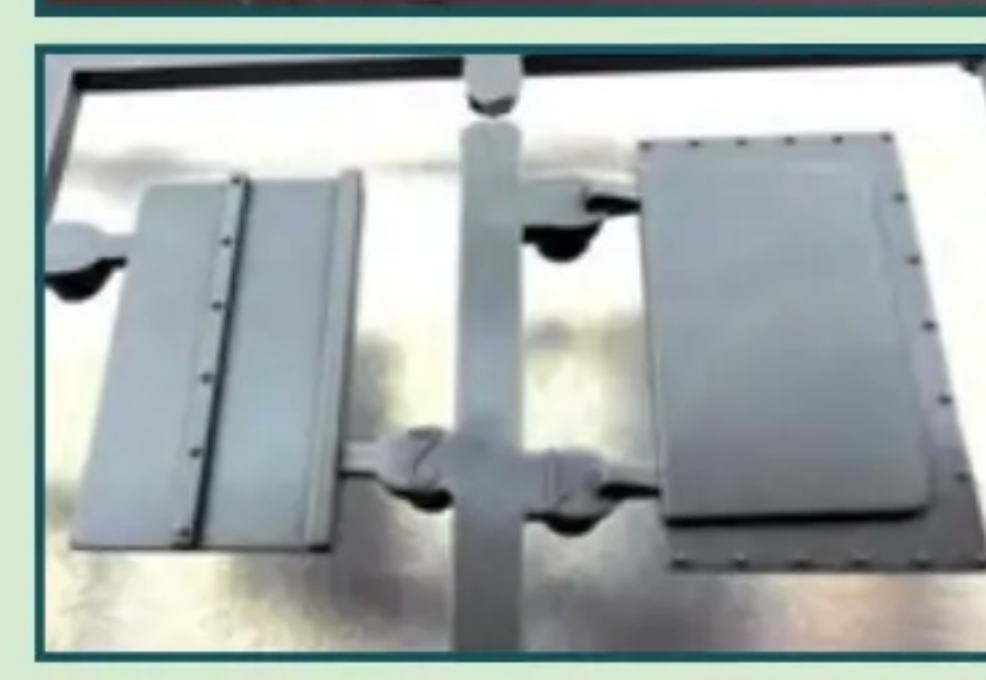
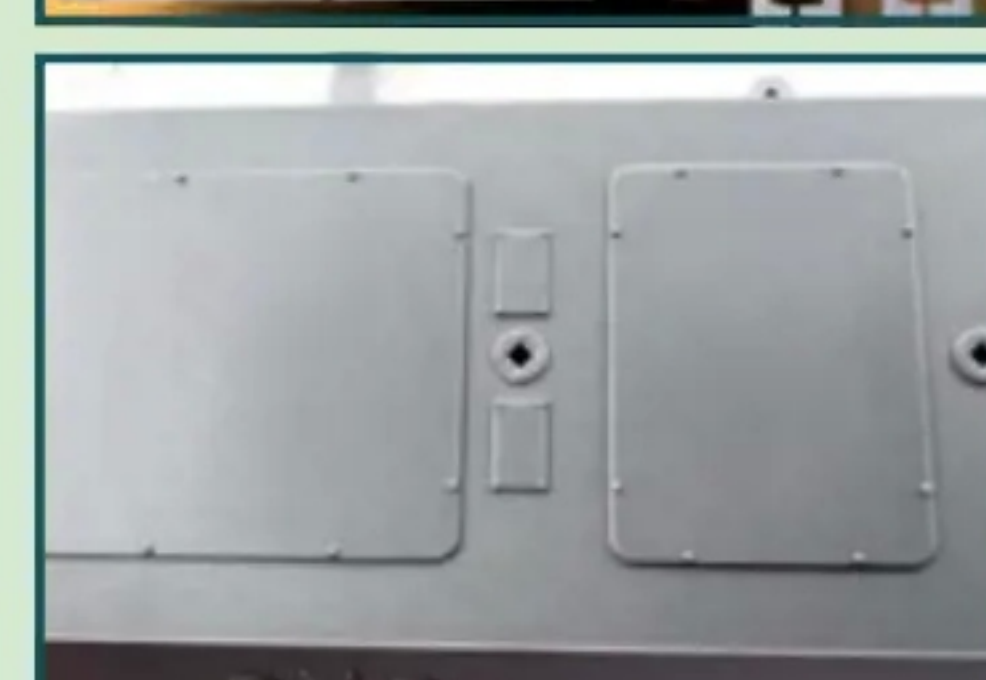
Another Chinese Navy naval turret from Takom and this one is of the Hai Hong Qui-10 (Naval Red Flag-10) close-in defence system designed to counter mass attacks from cruise missiles, aircraft, UAVs and so on. The turret mounts 24 missiles and can respond to a threat within 6-8 seconds. The mount has been fitted to Chinese ships since 2008 and has been exported to Nigeria and Bangladesh. This kit from Takom is in 1:35 scale and a figure beside it would show that the mount is large and very smoothly built, with flat surfaces with minimal detail. What detail is present in the kit is faithfully accurate and everything is provided. A very nice touch is the TY-90 type missile provided, with its own display base, so that the modeller can show the size of the missile in the mount. In fact, because one of the missile tubes can be shown with the end caps removed, a creative modeller could even create a missile being launched or reloaded! The kit provides etched grilles which have solid plastic behind them and some modellers may choose to cut out the plastic behind the grille for better appearance. The HHQ-10 is well illustrated on the internet, which reveals some minor differences between fittings, but the kit is perfectly accurate out of the box. The colour of the launcher is a uniform pale grey, with no additional markings and weathering is minimal. This makes for a quick and easy build into an impressive-looking model. **CLS**



A very unusual model of a Chinese naval missile launcher



It would be great to have a figure of a Chinese sailor to give a sense of scale



IC MOTOR EPS; EXTRUDED PLASTIC 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, SEMBLED METAL PARTS), PS; PAPER STRIP, R; RESIN, SVT; SOFT VINYL TYRES (OR TUBING), VF; VINYL FIGURES, VFP; VACUUM FORMED (PLASTIC), WC; WOVEN CORD, WS; WATERSLIDE (DECALS)



REVELL LEOPARD 2A7V

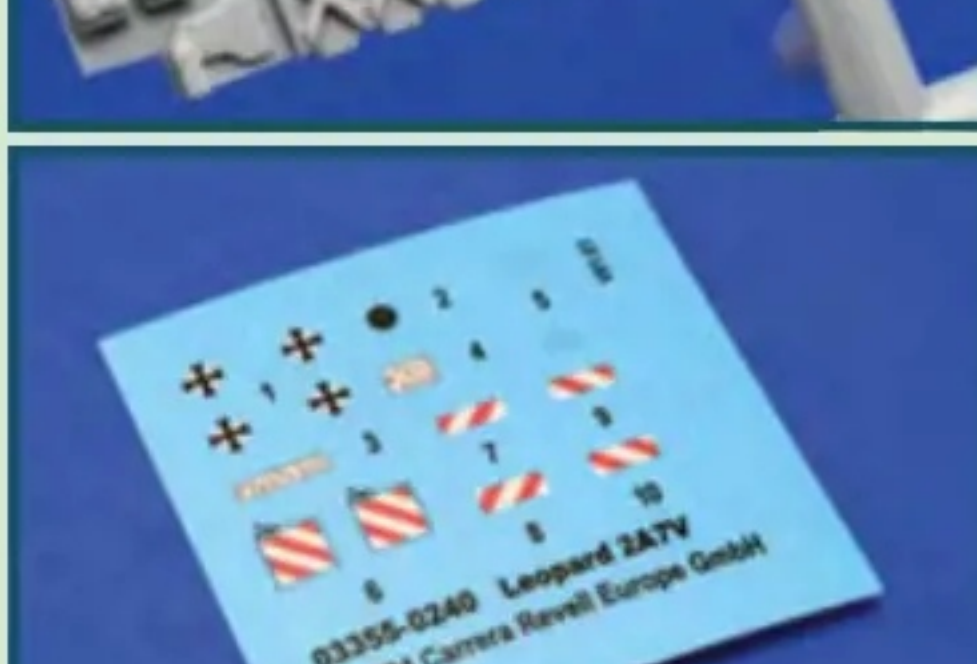
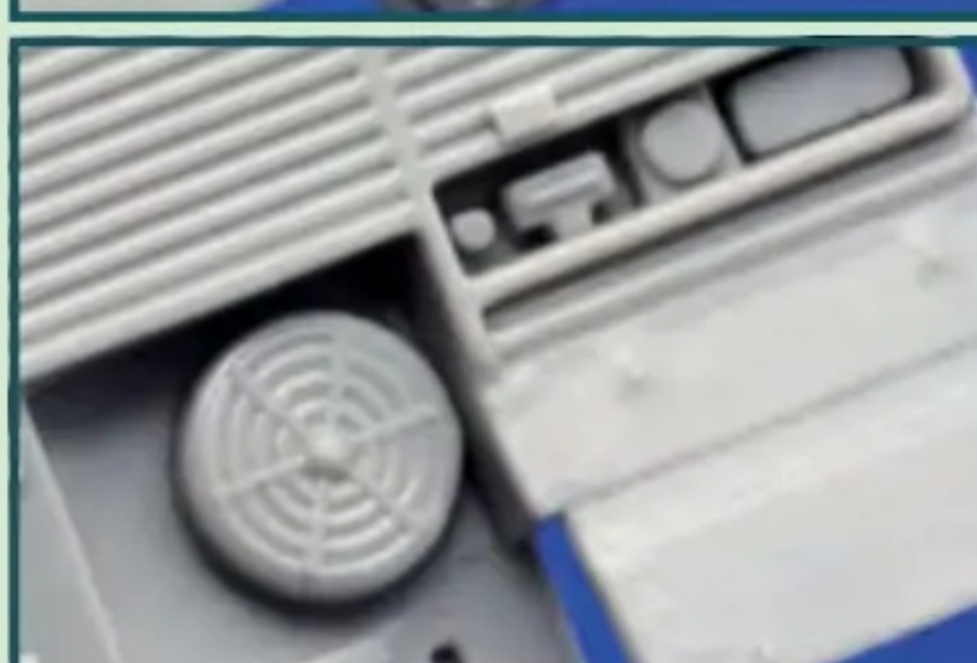
www.revell.de and good retailers everywhere

SCALE: 1:72 • MATERIALS: IM, WS • ITEM NO.03355

Revell issued their 1:72 Leopard in 2A6/A6M form in 2011 to much acclaim and so good was it, it happily forms the basis for their new Leopard 2A7V – the latest main battle tank in the Bundeswehr's inventory – on release fourteen years later. Having said the new kit is based on the older one, a large amount of the 2A7V is actually totally new, a fact that becomes readily apparent when looking at the parts-plans at the front of the instructions. The redacted areas show how many parts have been replaced by newly-tooled ones, including new upper deck, lower hull sides, turret top half and sides, lower rear hull panel, side armour and much more besides. From sprue G, twenty-four parts are destined for the spares box with just eight used for new version; a mere seven are taken from sprue C's twenty-seven or so components, with new sprues I and J carrying the updated mouldings. So, the most visible parts of the tank are the newest and the detail is especially fine in these areas. The tracks and roadwheels come from the initial 2A6 and are still well detailed (a little flash is in evidence) although the recommendation in the instructions to heat the track in hot water in order to bend it around the drive sprockets and idlers seems a little concerning. The track does seem thin enough for this to work, so let's hope they won't snap during the procedure. For the small scale of 1:72, the kit is absolutely crammed with parts – some tiny – with Revell's website stating 189 in total, but the instructions reveal a sensible approach to assembly and the kit will come together smoothly, forming an impressive miniature replica of 'the best tank in the world' for one's display cabinet. **TMMI**

+ Highly detailed, lots of brand new parts, superb subject

- Track fitting process looks a little hair-raising



ARMA HOBBY NAKAJIMA KI-43 II HAYABUSA

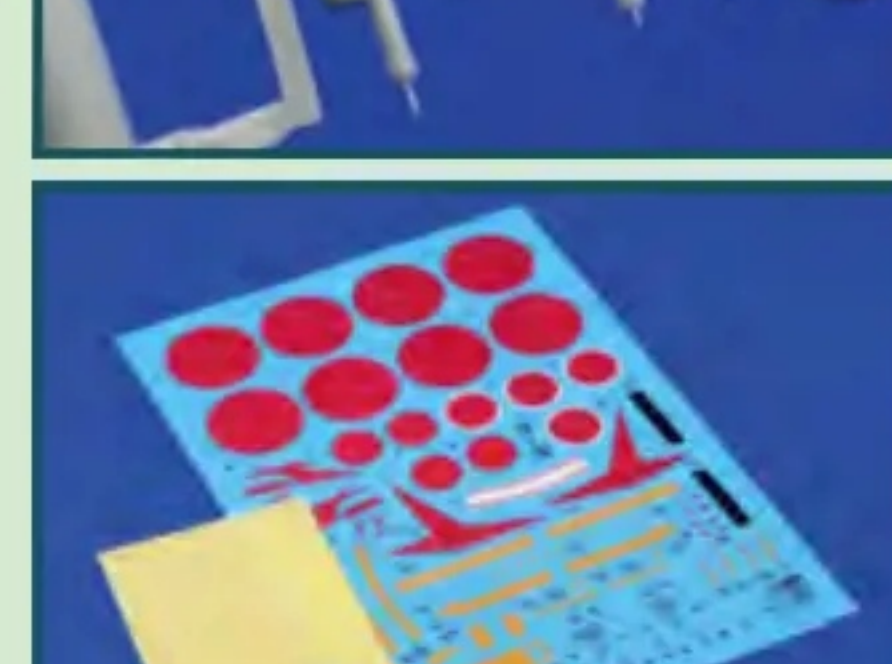
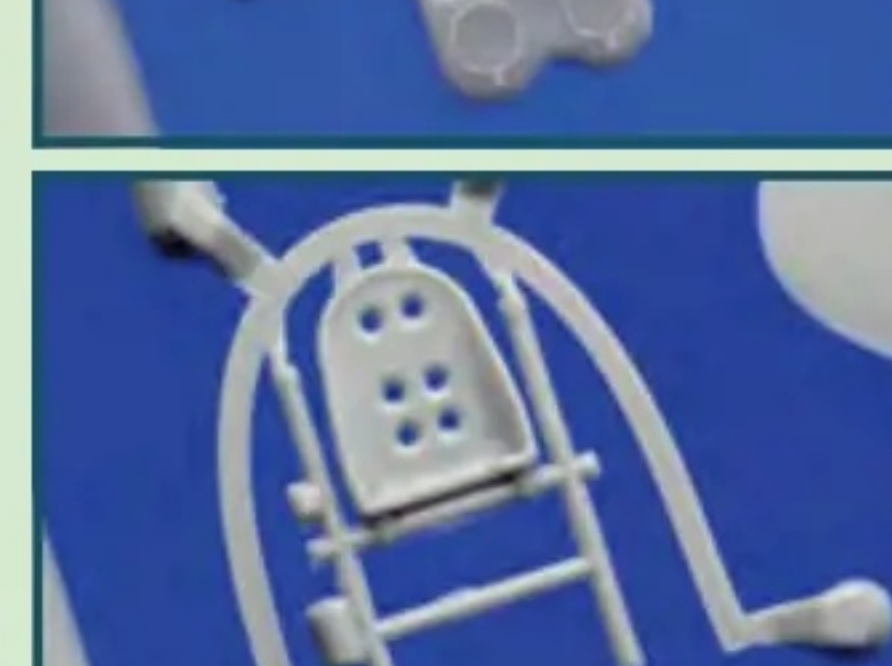
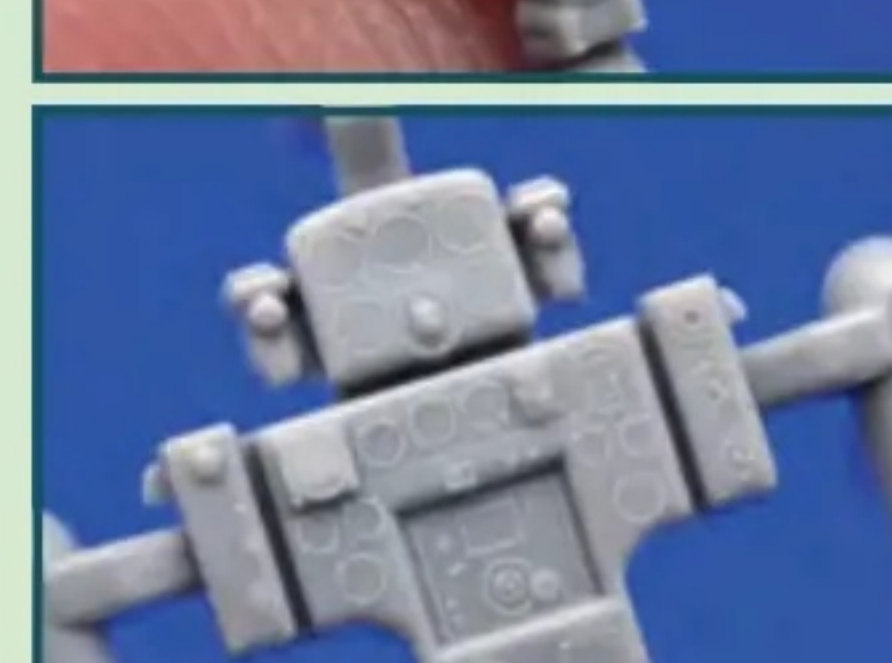
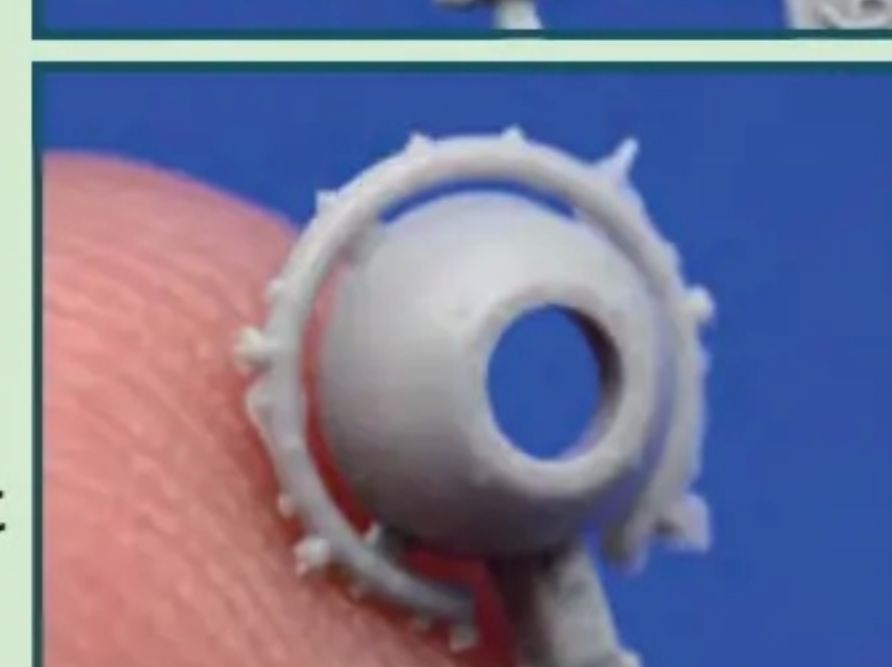
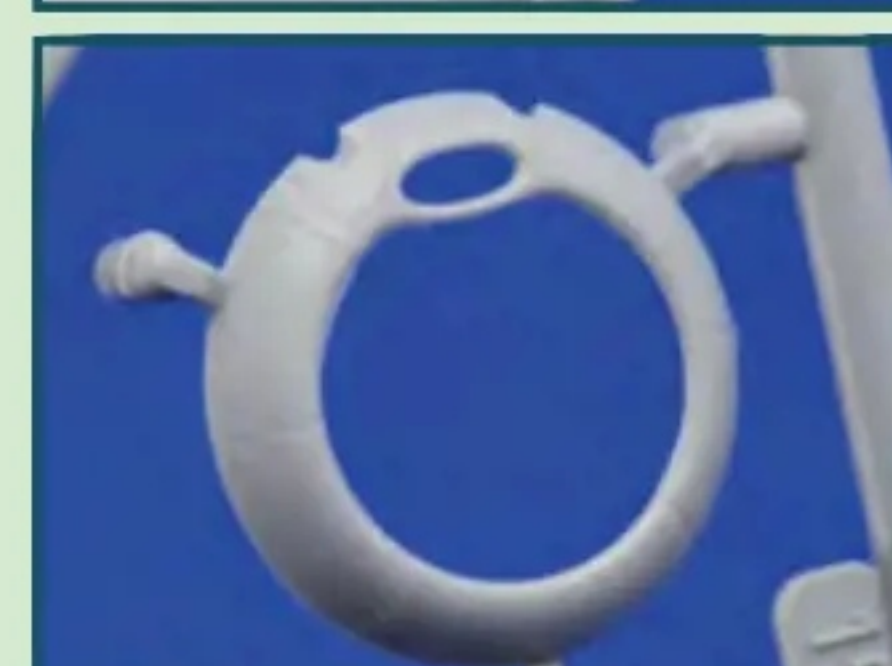
www.armacore.com and good retailers everywhere

SCALE: 1:72 • MATERIALS: IM, WS, PCM • ITEM NO.70078

The Nakajima Ki-43 Hayabusa ('peregrine falcon') was a single-engine land-based tactical fighter used by the Imperial Japanese Army Air Service in World War II. The Allied reporting name was 'Oscar', but it was often called the 'Army Zero' by American pilots because it bore a certain resemblance to the A6M Zero. The prototypes of the Ki-43-II first flew in February 1942, entering service December that year. The Ha-25 engine was upgraded with the two-stage supercharger, thus becoming the more powerful Nakajima Ha-115 engine, which was installed in a longer cowl. The aircraft fought in China, Burma, the Malay Peninsula, New Guinea, the Philippines, South Pacific islands and the Japanese home islands (history edited from Wikipedia). Arma Hobby's kit of this pugnacious little fighter is all new arriving in an end-opening box filled with two grey sprues of polystyrene, a third in clear, decals to finish one of three machines and very welcome sheet of pre-cut canopy masks. Arma has established itself as a producer of refined aircraft models and is certainly the case with the Hayabusa. Detail across the airframe is very subtle, with finely recessed panel lines across the fuselage and wings and a gorgeous cockpit comprising a rear bulkhead, individually formed sidewall details, throttle, rudder pedals, instrument panel with raised dial bezels and dial decals, plus clear-moulded gunsight. All the modeller must find is a set of seat harnesses in their preferred medium. The markings are for a solid green/aluminium machine of 59 Hiko-Sentai in New Guinea, 1943/44, a heavily paint-chipped green/bare aluminium aircraft of 54 Hiko-Sentai, Kuril Islands, 1944 and a striking overall bare metal Hayabusa of Hiko Dai 71 Sentai, Japan 1944. It is a lovely little kit with some very attractive features, not least of which is the sheet of canopy masks. Highly recommended. **TMMI**

+ Fantastic subject with plenty of paint and weathering options. Excellent detail throughout

- No seat harnesses; hardly a deal-breaker





GET TO DA CHOPPER!

Marcus Nicholls takes a look at the recently released UH-1B Huey utility helicopter from Trumpeter in 1:35

The Bell UH-1 'Huey' utility helicopter is one of those military subjects that needs no introduction from me – plenty has been written about them elsewhere – other than to state it is such an icon of the Vietnam War that just the thumping sound of its rotors on approach brings to mind images of Hueys packed with GIs cruising low over rice paddies on their way into combat. Add Creedence Clearwater's 'Fortunate Son' to that soundtrack and the Mekong Delta scene is set.

There have been numerous scale models of the UH-1's various iterations released over the years by a range of manufacturers, including Tamiya, whose UH-1B in 1:100 was launched in the same year as the 'Clearwater' song, 1969. But in my opinion, none of the more

modern kits in larger scales have really hit the mark when it comes to detail, refinement and arguably, overall accuracy.

In Tamiya Model Magazine, we don't currently have a great link up with Trumpeter as far as review samples go, so – and I hope you're sitting down – I jumped on the internet, credit card in hand and bought myself this kit, because I just had to have it. Having been somewhat fixated on the Huey since watching 'Apocalypse Now' many, many years ago, I took a chance with this kit hoping it would be the best yet, and from my initial inspection of the box's contents, it looks pretty good, with a few minor exceptions.

Six frames of mid-grey polystyrene carry the main parts of the model, with

a clear sprue providing that famous panoramic windscreen, lower bubbles and side windows. A modestly-sized fret of photo-etched brass includes grilles and other small components and very usefully, a sheet of pre-cut, self-adhesive canopy masks is also to be found in the box.

CRITICISMS?

As mentioned, the kit looks very promising but there are a few puzzles. The boxtop artwork depicts different engine intakes to the moulded parts, the inner faces of the flight-deck doors are rather bland and there's no non-slip pattern on the cabin floor. The presence of nose-mounted antennae suggest it is an early-model UH-1B but the early machines had un-armoured seats, which came later, and not provided in the box. The arrangement

of the anti-collision lights on the tail boom is slightly off: The UH-1B had just one light on the tail fin, while the UH-1C had two anti-collision lights on the tail boom on opposing sides and no light on the fin. The kit has all three, so some modification will be needed for complete accuracy in this area.

So, in summary, a generally very appealing production with some excellent detail (although not everyone will like the recessed airframe rivets) with a few areas needing attention. But doing a little research and gathering wartime photos is all part of the modelling process and should be enjoyed, and I can't wait to get started on this new Huey. ●

Review sample purchased from Jadlam Toys and Models: www.jadlamracingmodels.com

BOOK REVIEWS

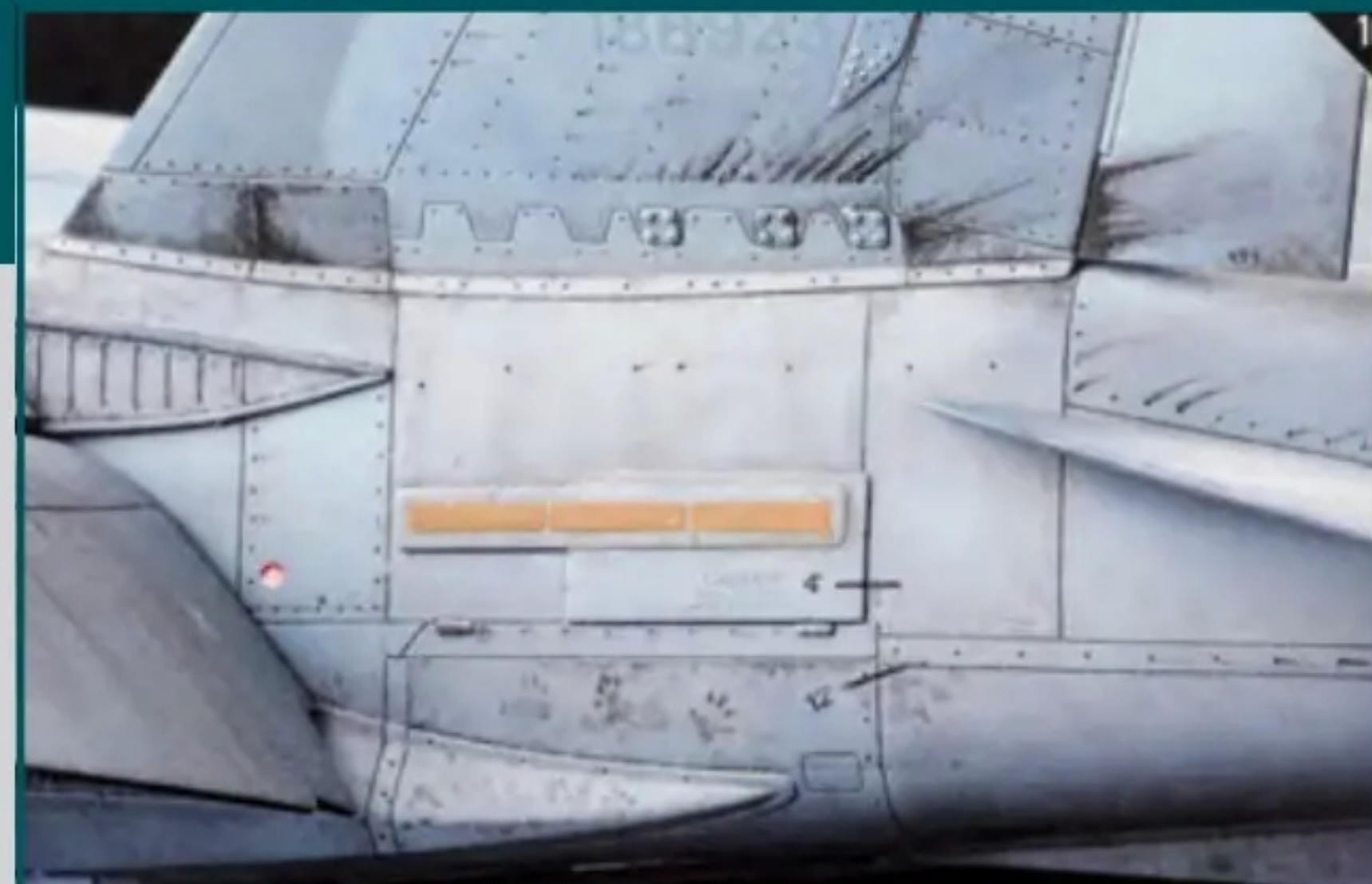
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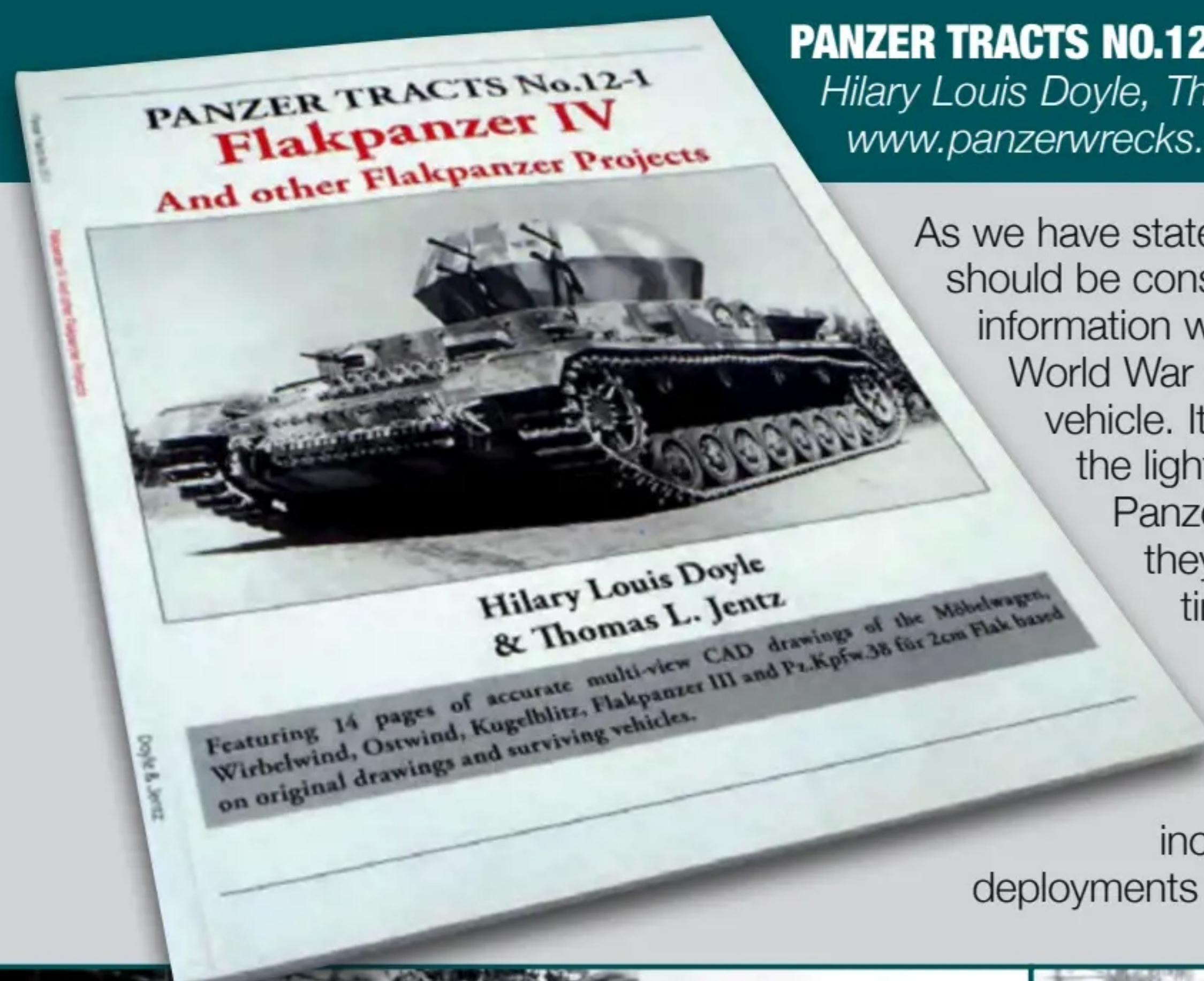
MODELLING MASTERFILE

JOHN CHUNG, DAINIPPON KAIGA
www.anyz.io

John Chung is one of the very best aircraft modellers of recent times and his models of modern jets (and other subjects) never fail to impress. John's observational skills are extraordinary with little touches of weathering that add up to make a serious impact when it comes to overall authenticity, as opposed to just a 'great-looking model'. Take for example the tail



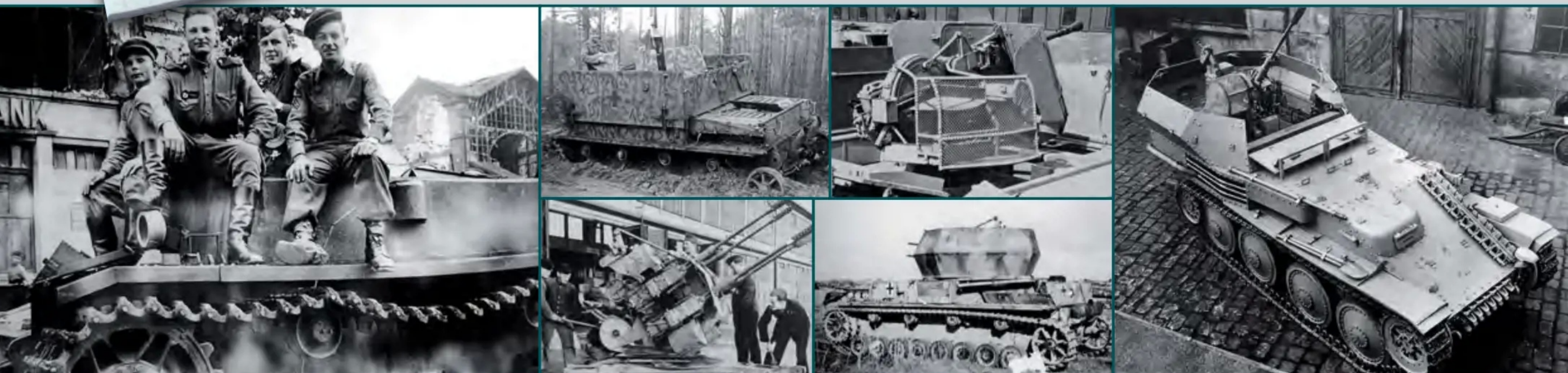
section of his CF-188B Hornet, built from the Hasegawa 1:48 kit, pictured above right. John has looked at how lubricant leaks haven't just dribbled down, but instead have flowed upwards with the airflow around the tail and fuselage sides, just as happens on the real Hornet. Also seen in this area are the greasy hand-prints on appropriate spots of access panels and they look completely convincing: John's are absolutely spot-on. So, when this recent book by renowned Japanese publishers Dainippon Kaiga arrived at TMMI, we flicked through with eyes wide open, taking in all the wonderful photographs of John's Hasegawa Hornet, Tamiya F-16 and AFV Club F-CK-1C jet fighters. Detailed in-progress photos and exquisite shots of the finished models feature throughout and it's an absolute must-have if you're wanting to take your aircraft modelling skills to the next level. Very highly recommended. **TMMI**



PANZER TRACTS NO.12-1 FLAKPANZER IV AND OTHER FLAKPANZER PROJECTS

Hilary Louis Doyle, Thomas L. Jentz, Panzertracts
www.panzerwrecks.com

As we have stated here before, this series of books should be considered the modeller's 'go-to' source of information when contemplating a build of a Second World War German tank or armoured fighting vehicle. It's wonderful that these books are seeing the light of day again thanks to the good folks at Panzerwrecks and at around £20 per edition, they are remarkably good affordable. This time attention is turned to the eminently modelable Panzer IV anti-aircraft tanks, covering the Möbelwagen, Wirbelwind, Ostwind and Kugelblitz along with other, non-Pz.IV-based machines such as the Sd.Kfz.140 Flak38 and mighty Versuchswagen 8.8cm Flak. The book is filled with incredibly clear wartime black and white photographs, 1:35 scale drawings and lists of divisional deployments and it makes a superb all in one package. Very highly recommended. **TMMI**



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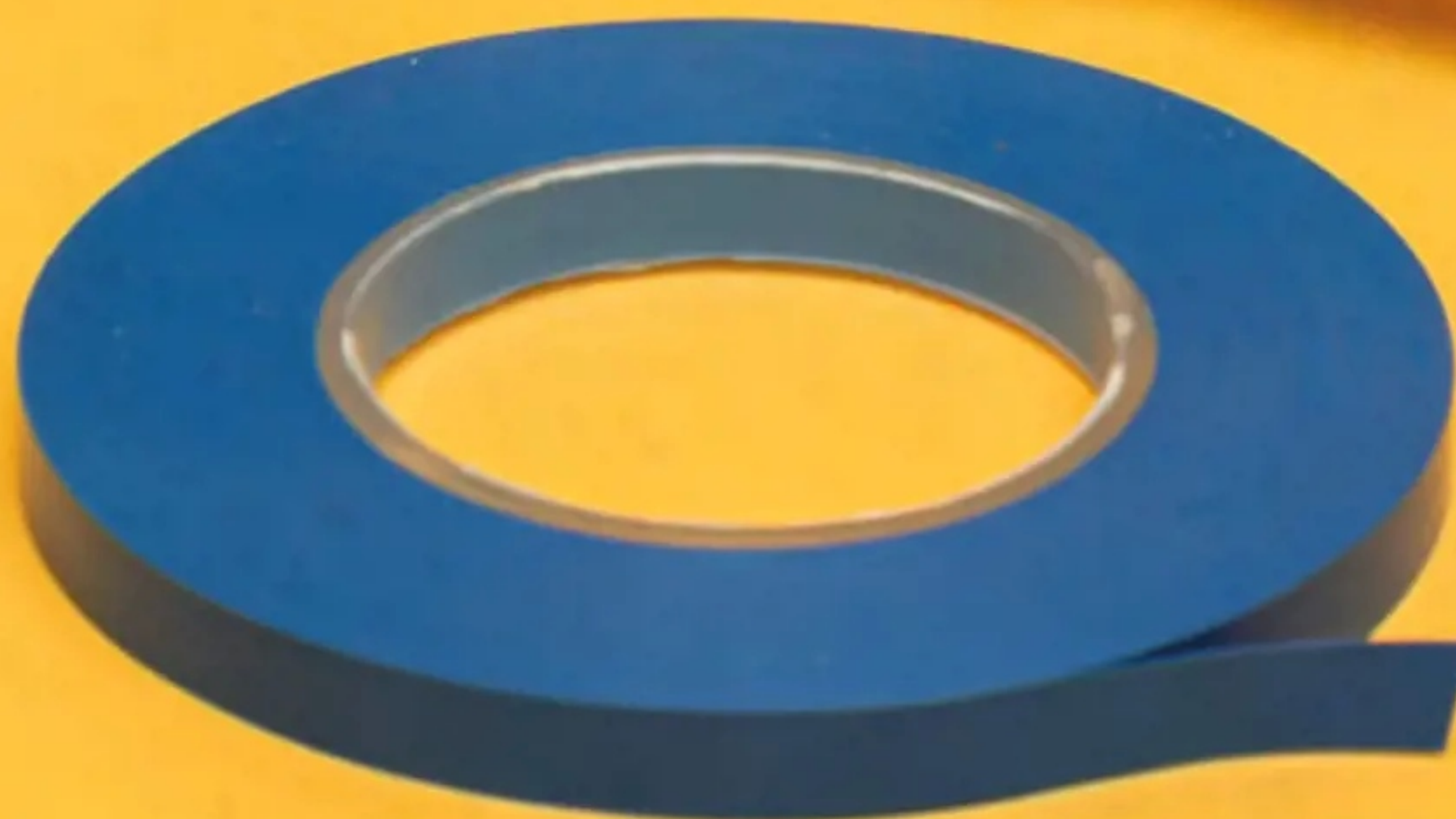
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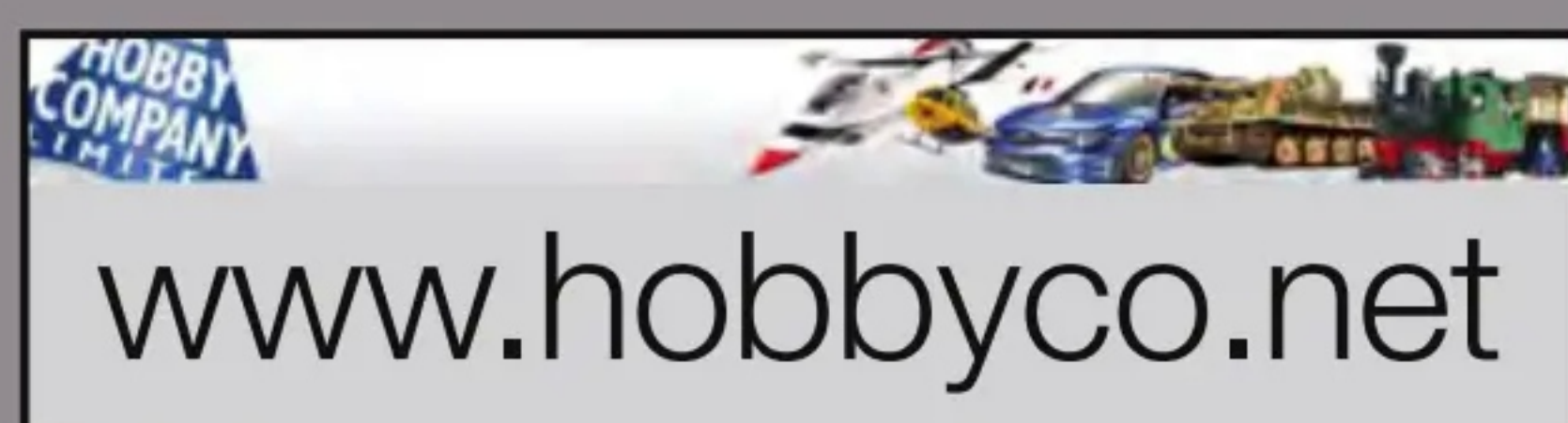


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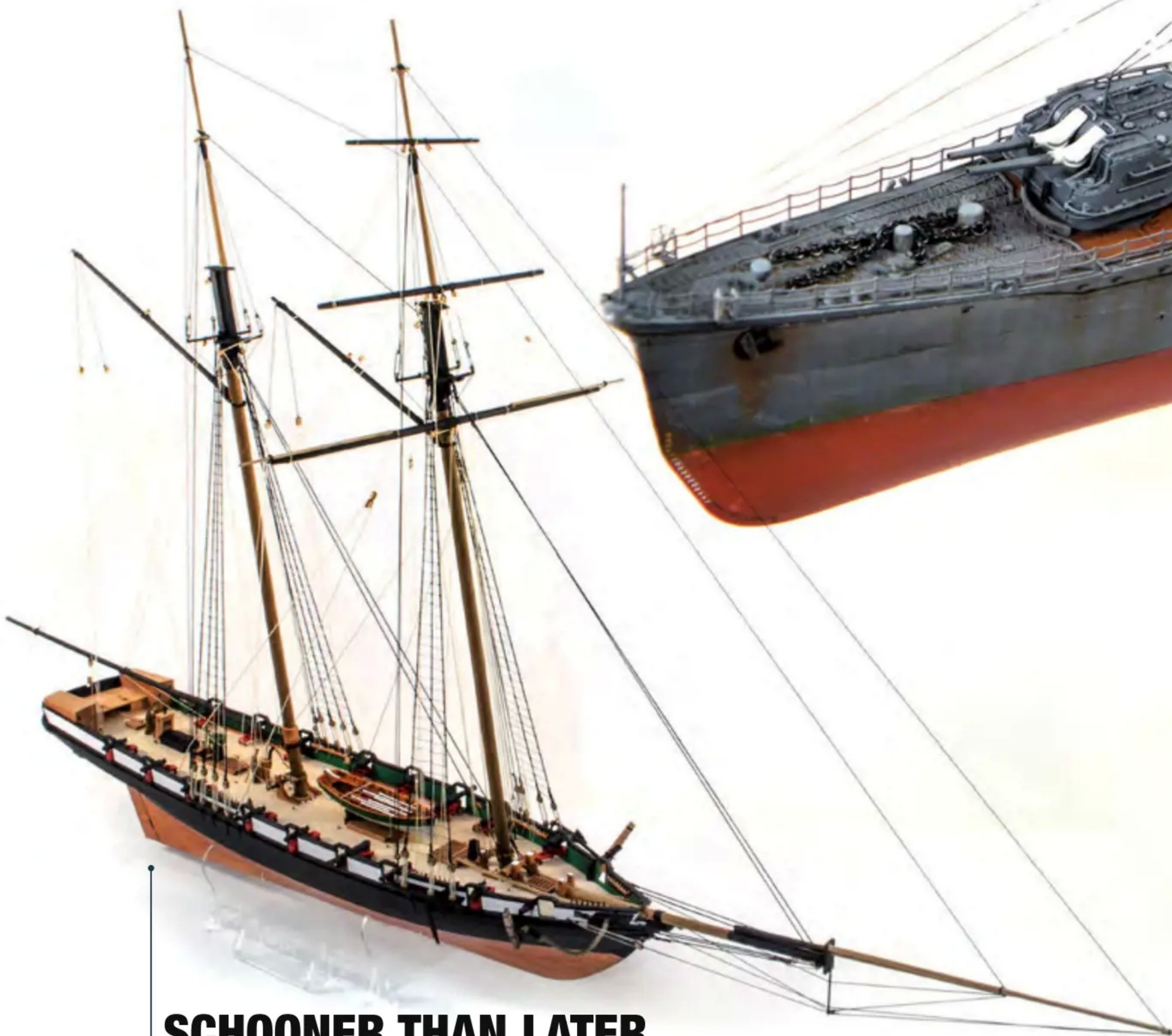
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The next issue of TMMI is June 2025 (No.356), on sale 15th May

DESTROYER DOUBLE

Tamiya's 1:350 IJN Kagero and USS Fletcher go head to head



SCHOONER THAN LATER...

Building Vanguard's gorgeous, all-wood 1:64 American naval vessel 'Grecian'



QUAD SQUAD

Tamiya's classic 1:35 Quad gun tractor in a desert setting

...AND MUCH MORE, OF COURSE!

Due to the numerous factors that can influence the appearance (or non-appearance) of a model feature in TMMI, the articles listed here are shown on a provisional basis only. We do our best to bring them to you, but please be patient if they do not appear! Thank you for your understanding.

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The Editor's Page...

FANCY A QUICK-BUILD CAR WITHOUT HAVING TO FAFF WITH THE ENGINE?

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SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND?

I love a highly detailed model of a competition car and a Group C machine in particular, because with the vast rear deck open, you can observe the engine and rear suspension in all their glory. Getting a model to that stage, however, takes a lot of work and it can't be hurried either, or the results can look less than optimal. Enter Tamiya, with the re-release of the gorgeous 1:24 Porsche 962C Jägermeister endurance racer which, if you remember, comes with a one-piece body moulded in bright orange with windscreen/side windows and headlight covers moulded integrally. Crucially, there's no engine, just very decent representations of the gearbox and rear structures that can be seen poking out from behind the rear diffuser. The new edition comes with a sheet of pre-cut, self adhesive masks which will be a big help when painting the body. Or, if you really want a weekend project, just leave it in its orange plastic and apply the decals. See? It is possible to build a great-looking model car without it taking weeks! Kit on sale soon. ●



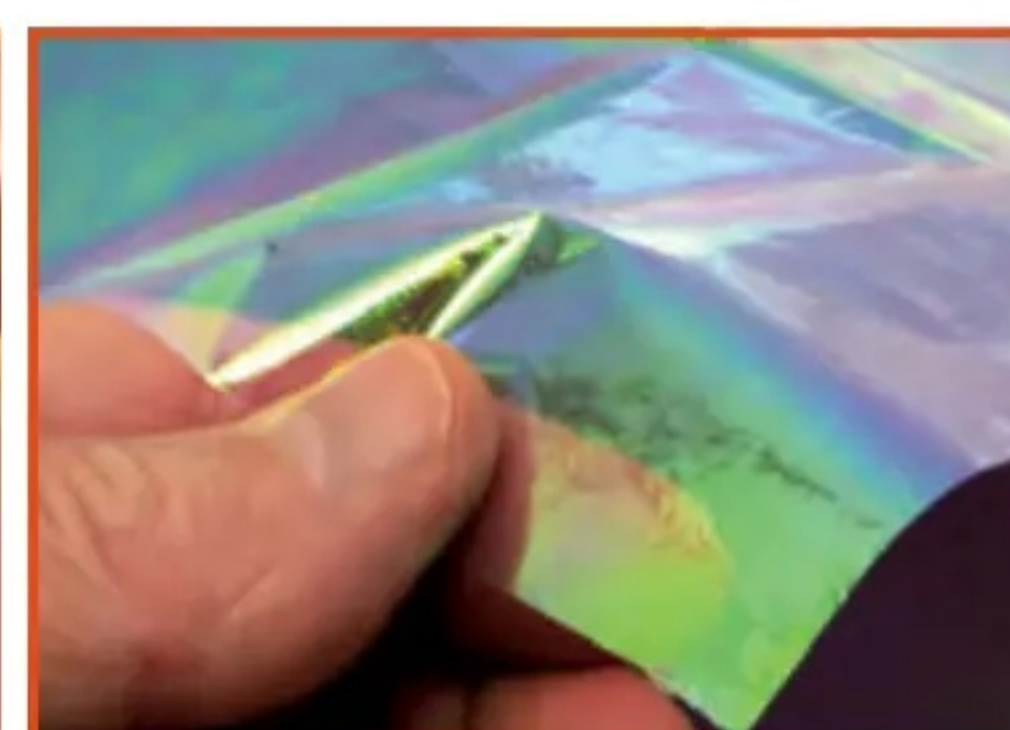
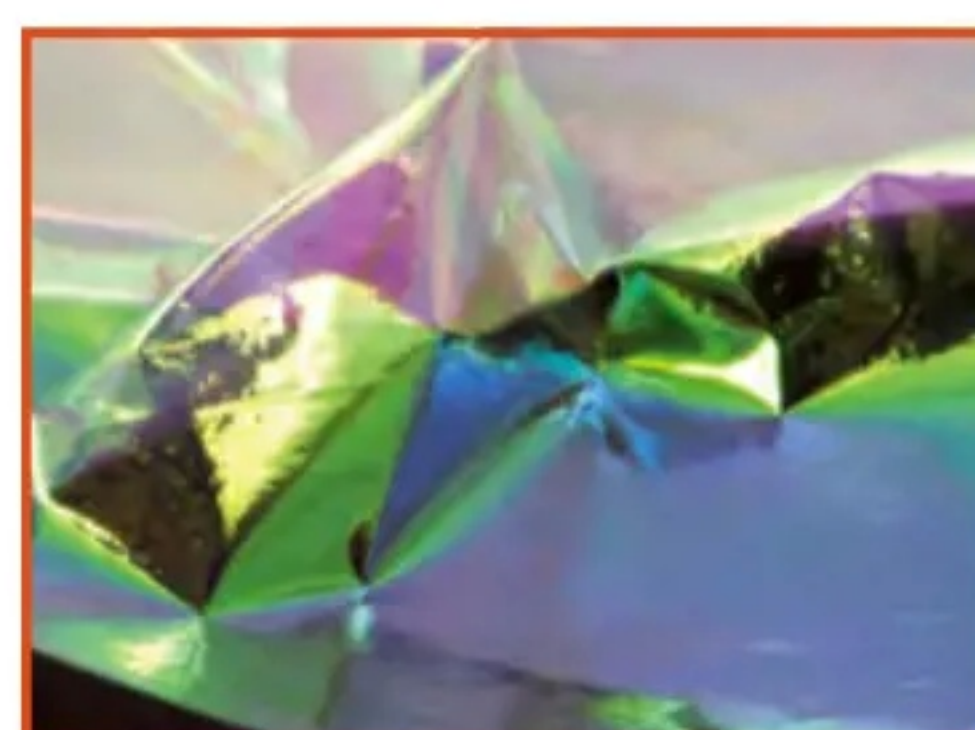
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EDITOR'S CHOICE

Iridescent foil

I have been contemplating how to achieve the iridescent effect often seen on the optical systems of modern tanks and also on the sensor windows of UAVs and so on. While searching online I came across this stuff, which is extremely thin cellophane (or its modern equivalent) with an intriguing iridescent effect on both sides. The key here is the foil's transparency, which should allow it to be fixed to dark surface and allow just the multi-colour iridescent finish to show. I shall do some experimentation and report my findings here!

Flat-pack of foil £2.99. Search on www.ebay.co.uk: Sosensorybubbles



SPECIAL FEATURE

TAMIYA 1:72 LOCKHEED MARTIN F-35B LIGHTNING II • KIT NO.60793



TAMIYA'S 1:72 F-35B: A LOVELY LITTLE LIGHTNING!

Tamiya's 1:72 F-35B joins the 'Scale Warbird Collection' of fighting aircraft

The Lockheed Martin F-35B Lightning II is operated by the Royal Air Force's famous 617 Squadron 'Dambusters', United States Marine Corps, Italian Navy, Italian Air Force, Royal Australian Air Force, Belgian Air Force, Japan Air Self-Defence Force, and the Republic of Singapore Air Force. The kit encompasses all the astonishing detail and accuracy of its bigger 1:48 cousin, a model that was featured back in Tamiya Model Magazine Issue 339, January 2024.

The new version takes in all the design changes for the B-model, most notably that huge intake door behind the cockpit, the inner face of which is often adorned with the flag of the operating nation. Inside that door, Tamiya have recreated an astonishing amount of detail and the same is true of the '3BSM' (3-Bearing Swivel Module) engine exhaust nozzle that can be positioned in the 'hovering' mode. It is

covered in amazing detail and just needs some creative paint work to bring it to life.

Two modes can be chosen by the modeller: hovering, with open intake door, downward-facing exhaust nozzle, extended undercarriage leg struts and scissor-links, and 'landed' mode, which uses a different set of undercarriage parts in the 'compressed' configuration (with closed scissor-links) to depict the aircraft's weight pressing down on the legs: an important observation by Tamiya's designers. This is another wonderful achievement from Tamiya, and an exquisite replica of this extraordinary fighter and one of the best 1:72 kits ever created. ●

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

Kit features:

- Wingspan: 148mm
- Fuselage length: 215mm
- Distinctive F-35B design featuring both highly advanced stealth characteristics and STOVL is authentically captured in style, with ergonomic parts breakdown
- The modellers can choose one of two assembly modes: landed or hovering
- Realistic renderings of half-open inner weapon bay doors and interior details such as ribs and pipes
- Lift fan is integrated with nose landing gear bay and the variable vane underneath is recreated in detail
- Shorter than on the F-35A, the engine nozzle is recreated by a single part
- The 3BSM (3-Bearing Swivel Module) is faithfully recreated with a specially designed parts breakdown for this kit
- Y-shaped air intake duct for highly advanced stealth characteristics
- Martin-Baker US16E ejection seat
- RCS (Radar Cross Section) enhancers affixed to top and bottom sections during basic training exercises
- Five marking options from a total of three countries: United States Marine Corps, Royal Air Force, Italian Navy
- Includes painting masks and colour painting guide
- Refined recreation of RAM (Radar Absorbent Material)
- Includes AIM-9X Sidewinder x2, AIM-120C AMRAAM x2



1/24
SCALE

《U.S. version》

《Japan version》

TOYOTA GR Supra
CUSTOM

Custom Star

Toyota's flagship sports car the GR Supra underwent a full model change in January 2019; the RZ was the top grade model in the Supra line-up with a turbocharged 340hp straight six engine powering this classically elegant long nose short deck FR car. That May, Toyota announced the release of customizing GR PARTS for the car including a wide range of carbon fiber aero parts, aluminum wheels, sports muffler and more. Now this tastefully customized car joins the famed Tamiya 1/24 Sports Car Series, giving you the chance to see up close and personal just what makes it tick.

Length: 183mm, width: 85mm, height: 54mm.

Choose between Japan, U.S. and Europe versions of the car.

Trunk spoiler

Front spoiler

Side skirt

Side door panel

19-inch aluminum wheels

Rear side spoiler



New GR PARTS are included!



1/24 Sports Car Series

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