

AMPS Atlanta 2018 Club Project



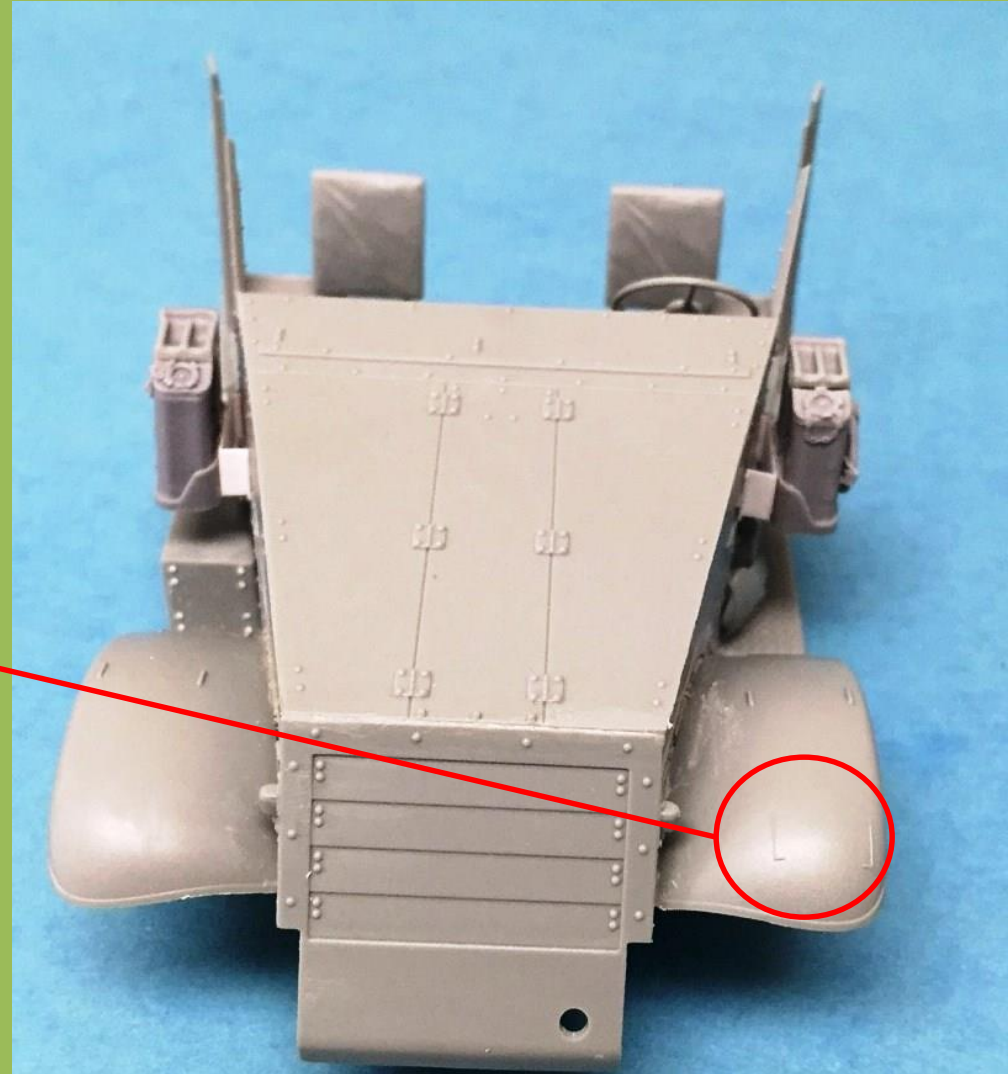
M2/M3 Halftrack Family

Part 6 – Mounting the Body to the Frame and Detailing

M3A1 – Preparing the Front Compartment

Before mounting the front compartment, it would be easier to take care of a few details

If using the later headlight mounts, the locators for the earlier type should be removed from the fenders



M3A1 – Preparing the Front Compartment

The headlights need wiring added. Easier to drill holes for wiring prior to mounting the front compartment.

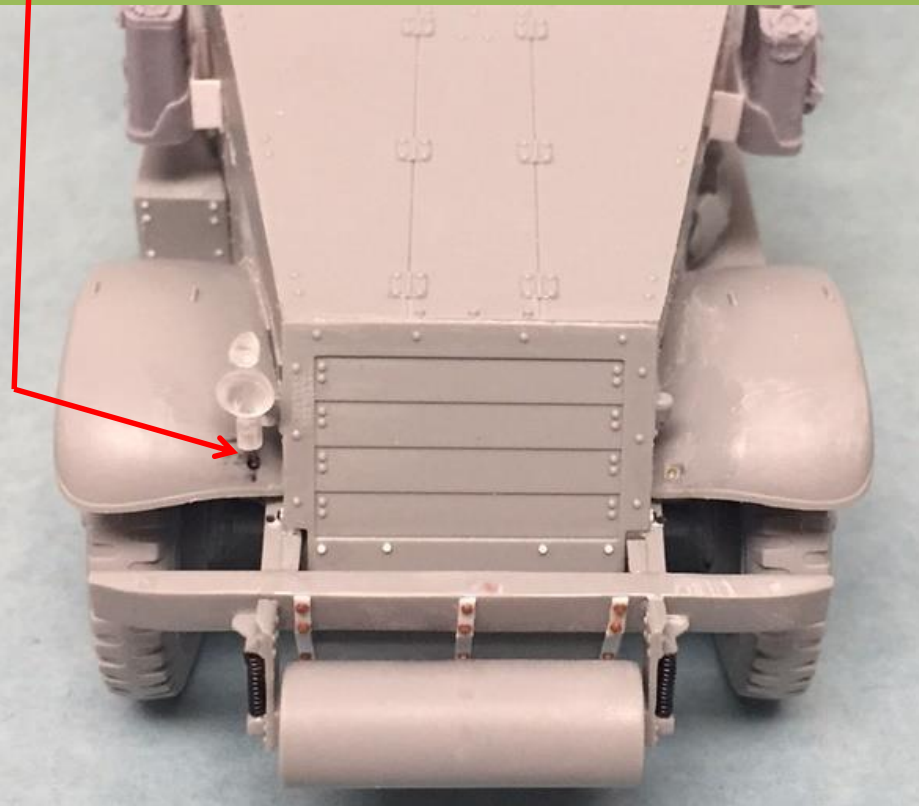
Headlight Wiring



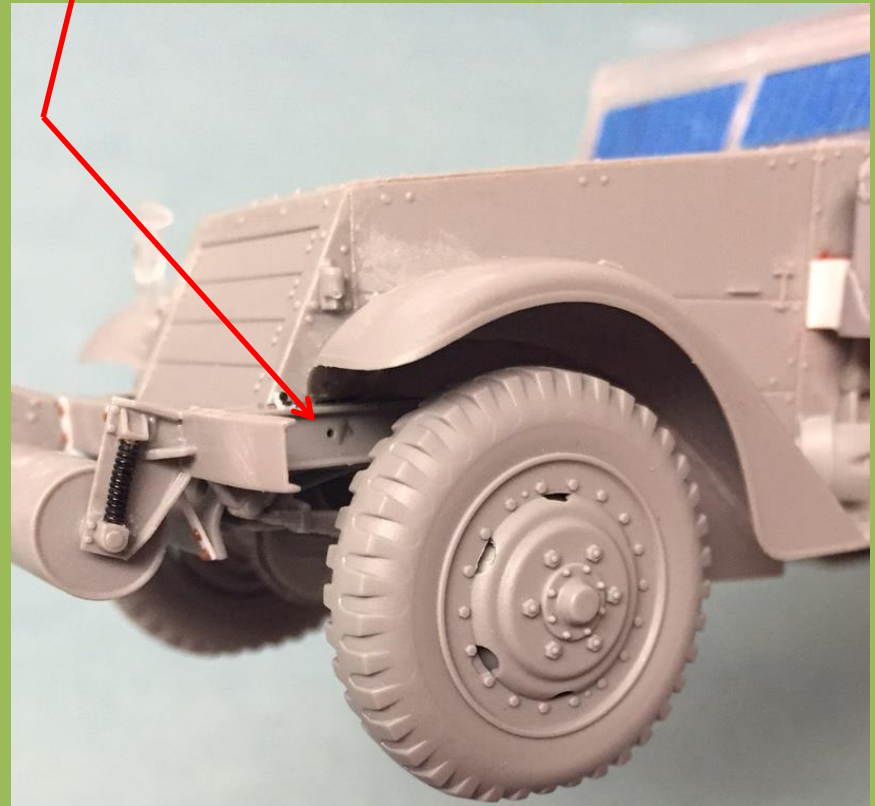
M3A1 – Headlights

I drilled holes in the frame and fenders for the headlight wiring.

Hole directly under headlight



Hole drilled in frame

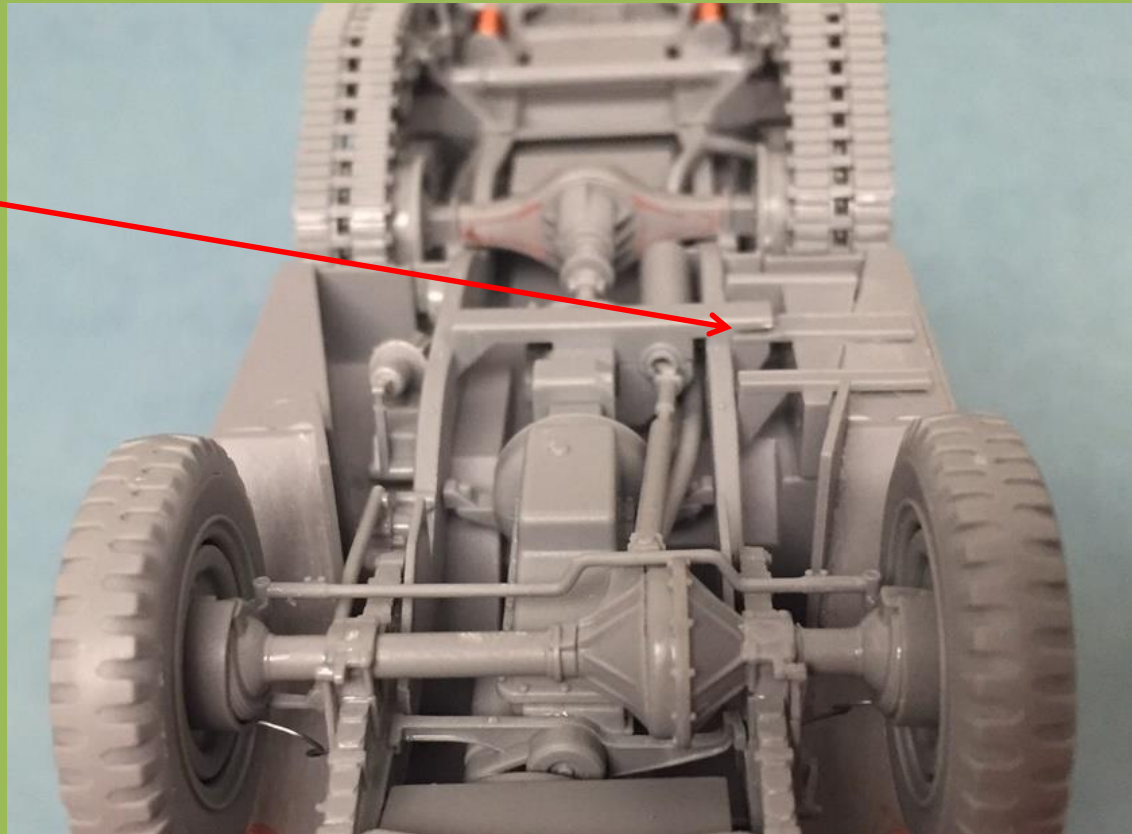


M3A1 – Mounting the Body to the Frame

The rear compartment mounting is straightforward. Mounting the front compartment was a little more tricky:

These two overlap one another

They needed to be trimmed down to remove interference that caused the front compartment to rock fore and aft



M3A1 – Mounting the Body to the Frame

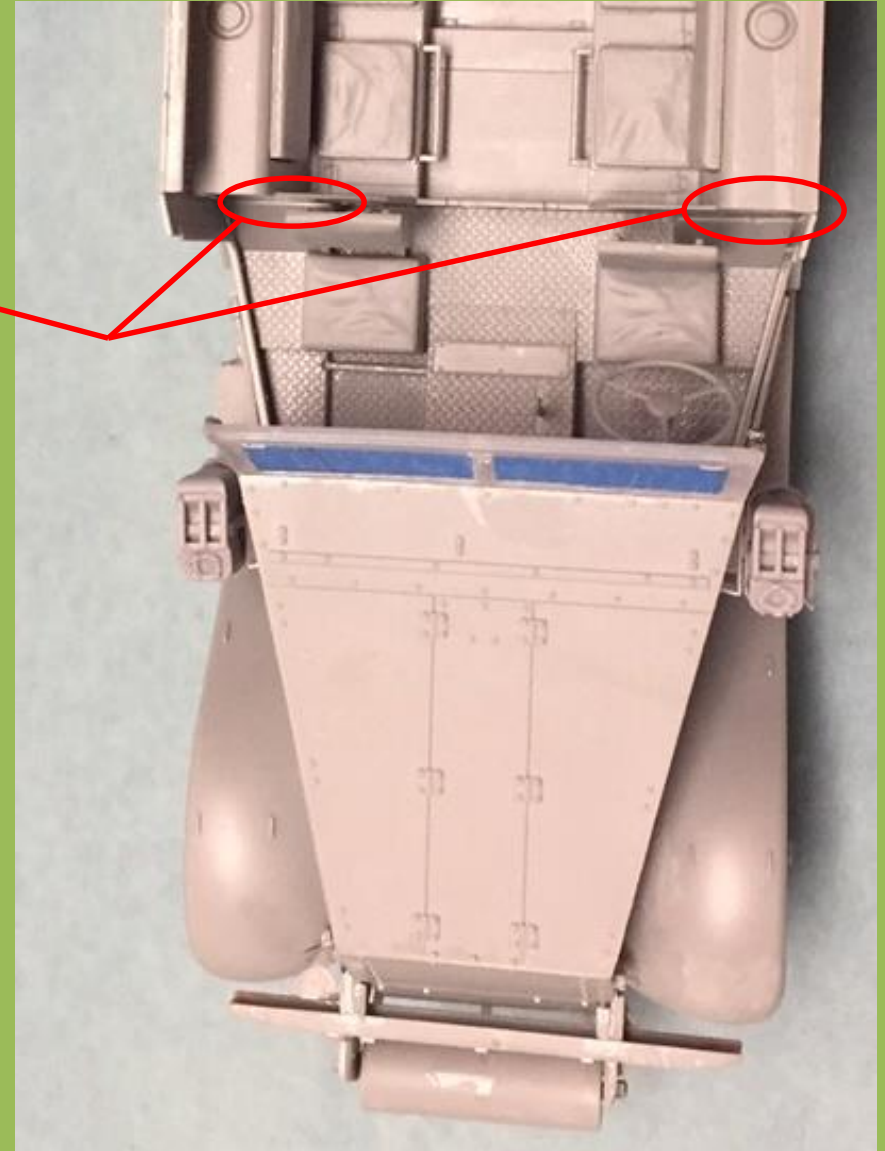
The fore and aft rocking caused gaps in the fit either at the front or rear of the compartment. Shaving the parts down made this manageable. Maybe something fit wrong?



M3A1 – Mounting the Body to the Frame

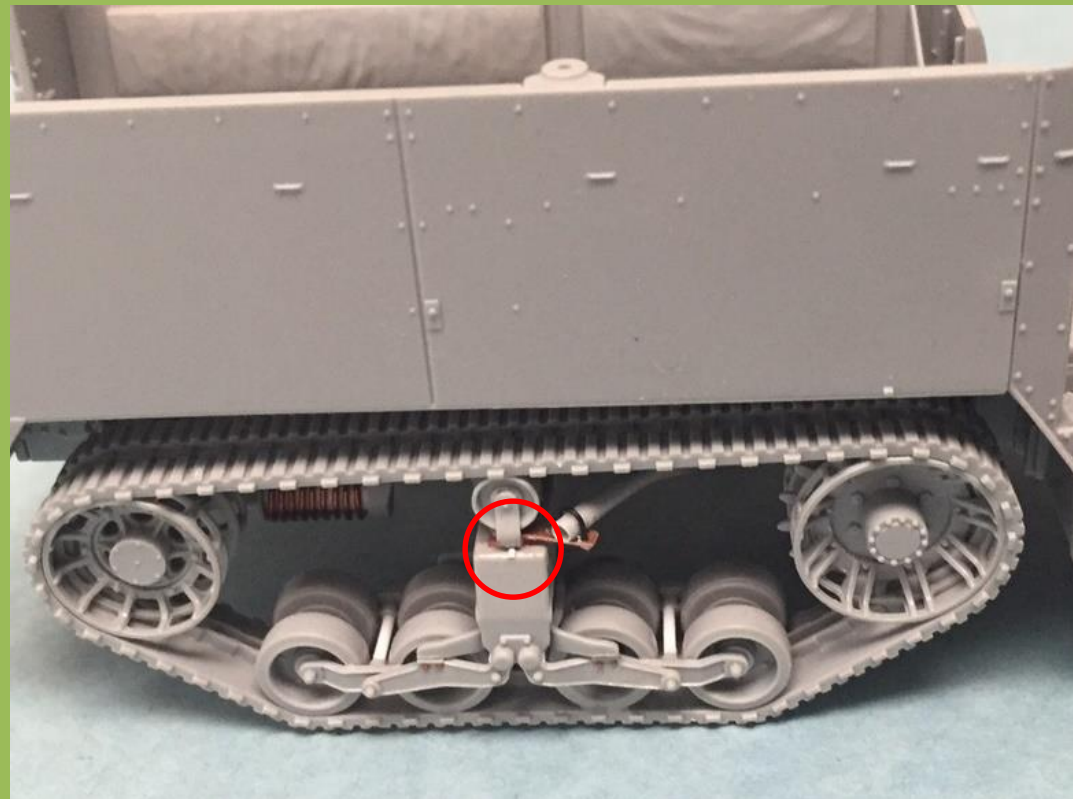
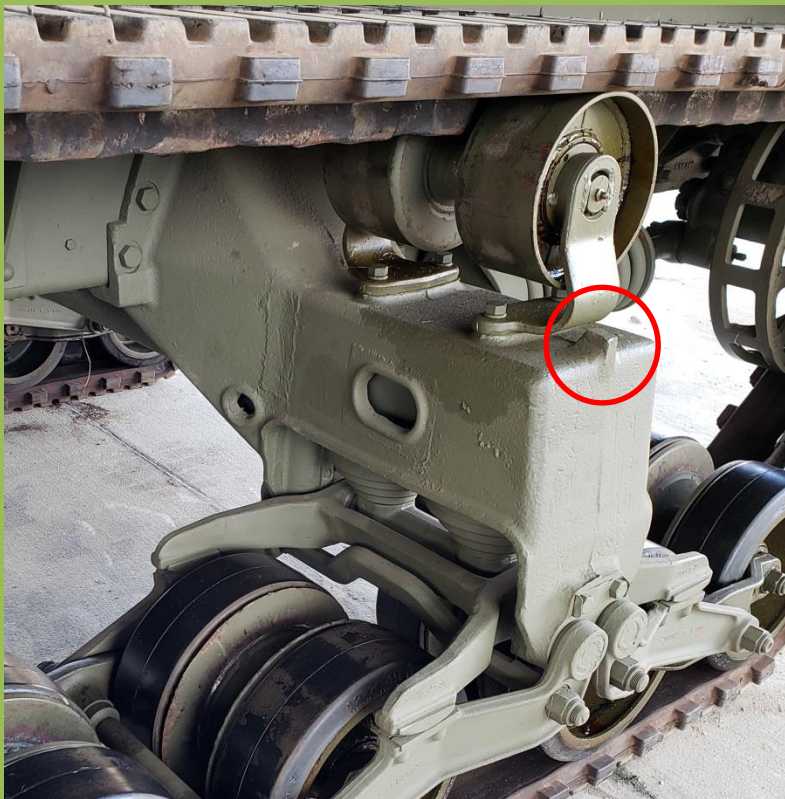
I had a couple of small gaps here

I filled the gaps with a small amount of epoxy putty and smoothed it out



M3A1 – Adding Some Details

Not sure what this little boss is on the bogie, but I added it with 0.010" X 0.020" strip.

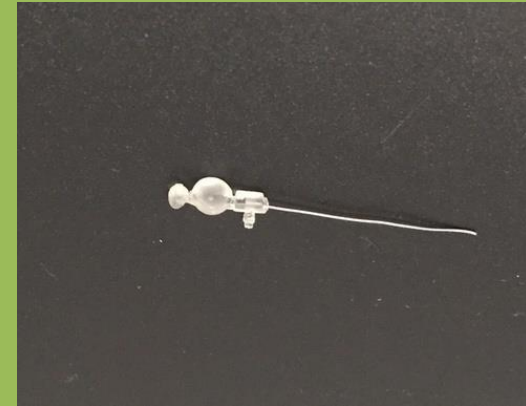


M3A1 – Adding Some Details

The headlight was drilled out to accept 0.010" solder.

The wiring was threaded through holes and glued in place.

Note the grommet made of thin wire wrapped around micro drill bit.

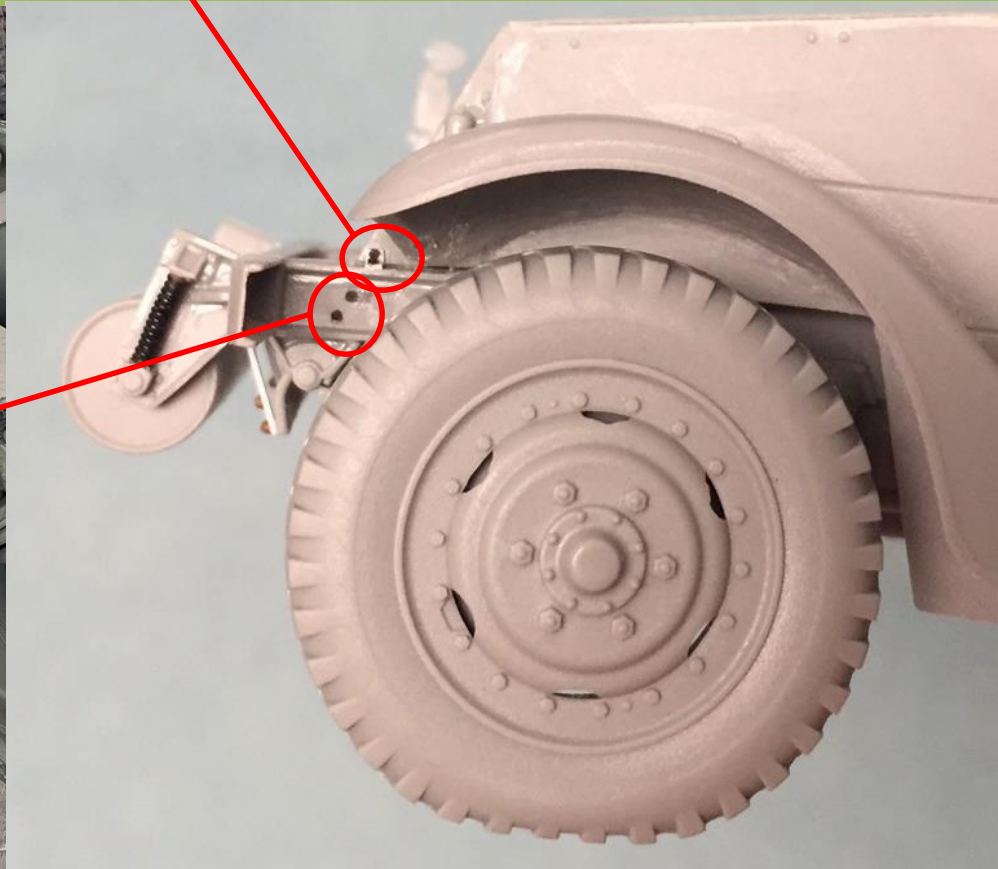


M3A1 – Adding Some Details

Some bolt detail on the front of the frame. A couple more to add.

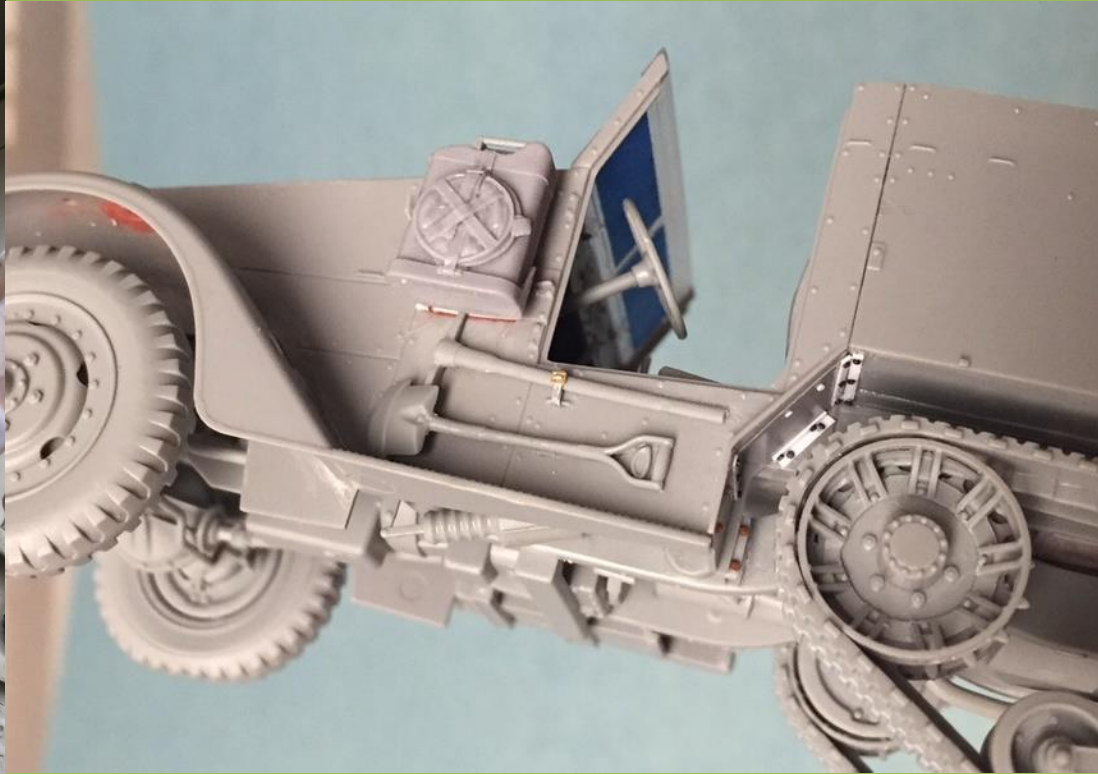
All bolt heads are 0.018" punched disks

L-shaped bracket made from 0.010" X 0.030" strip

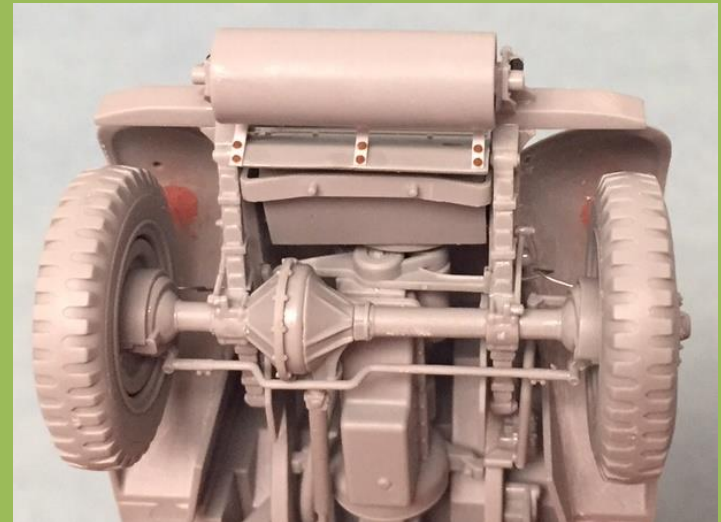
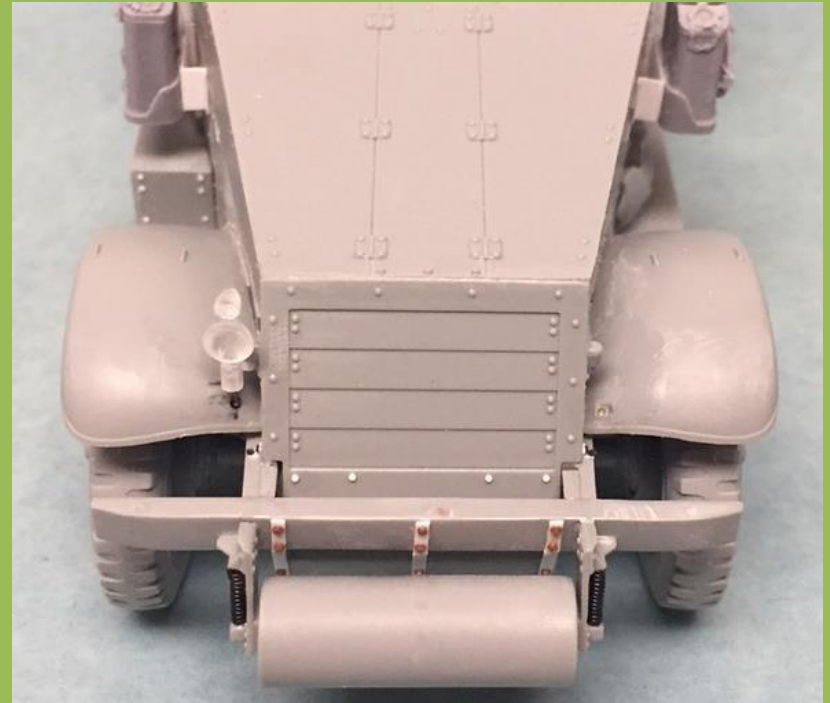
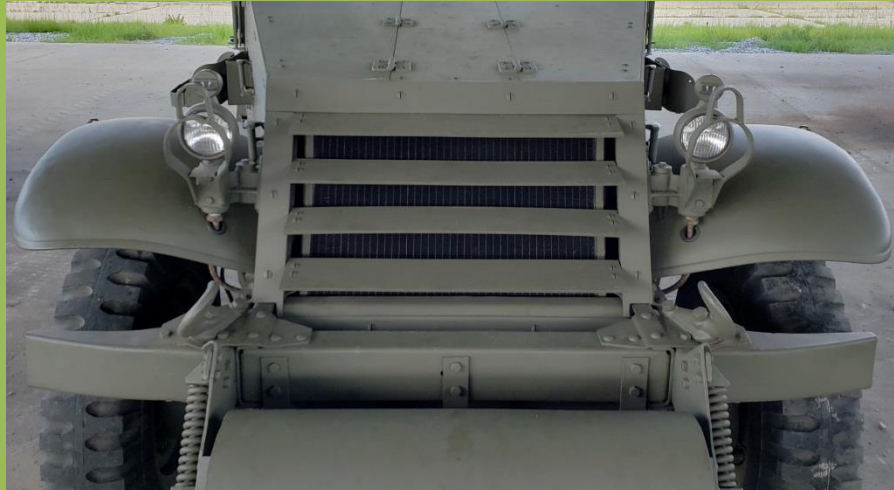


M3A1 – Adding Some Details

Bolt detail on lower body in front of tracks. Bolt strips are 0.010" X 0.030" strip.

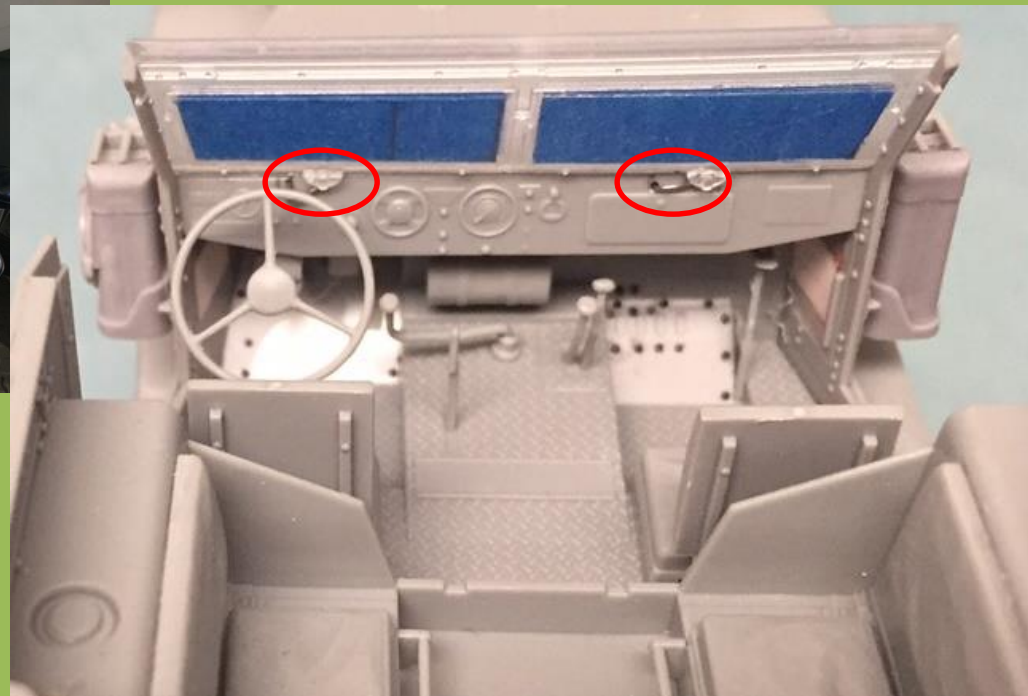


**Reinforcing brackets from bumper to lower skid plate.
Straps are made of 0.010" X 0.040" strip with Tichy Train
Shop bolt heads.**



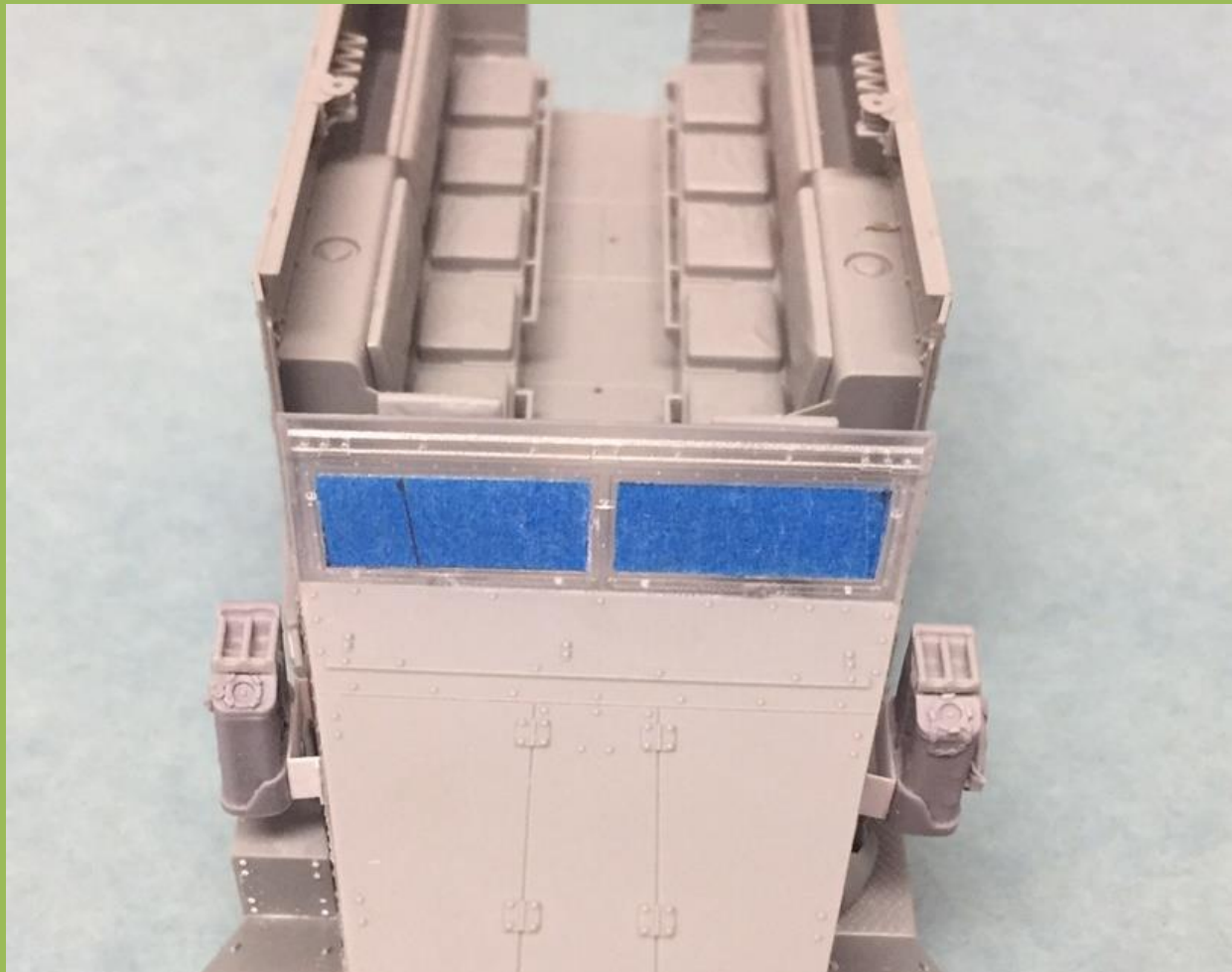
M3A1 – Adding Some Details

The windshield wiper motors were plumbed with 0.010" solder. Holes were drilled in the dash to accept the lines.



M3A1 – Adding Some Details

The windshield was masked with painters tape. It was stuck to a piece of tile and the shape carefully measured out and cut with a sharp X-Acto blade. Wipers will be added later.



M3A1 – She’s Starting to Look Like a Half-Track!

