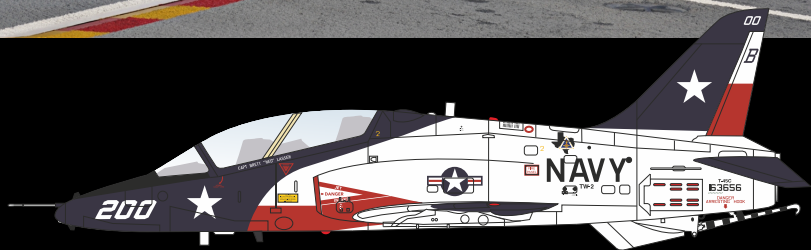




ON TARGET
Conversion Set

AIR-GRAPHICS
CS-25



T-45C Goshawk

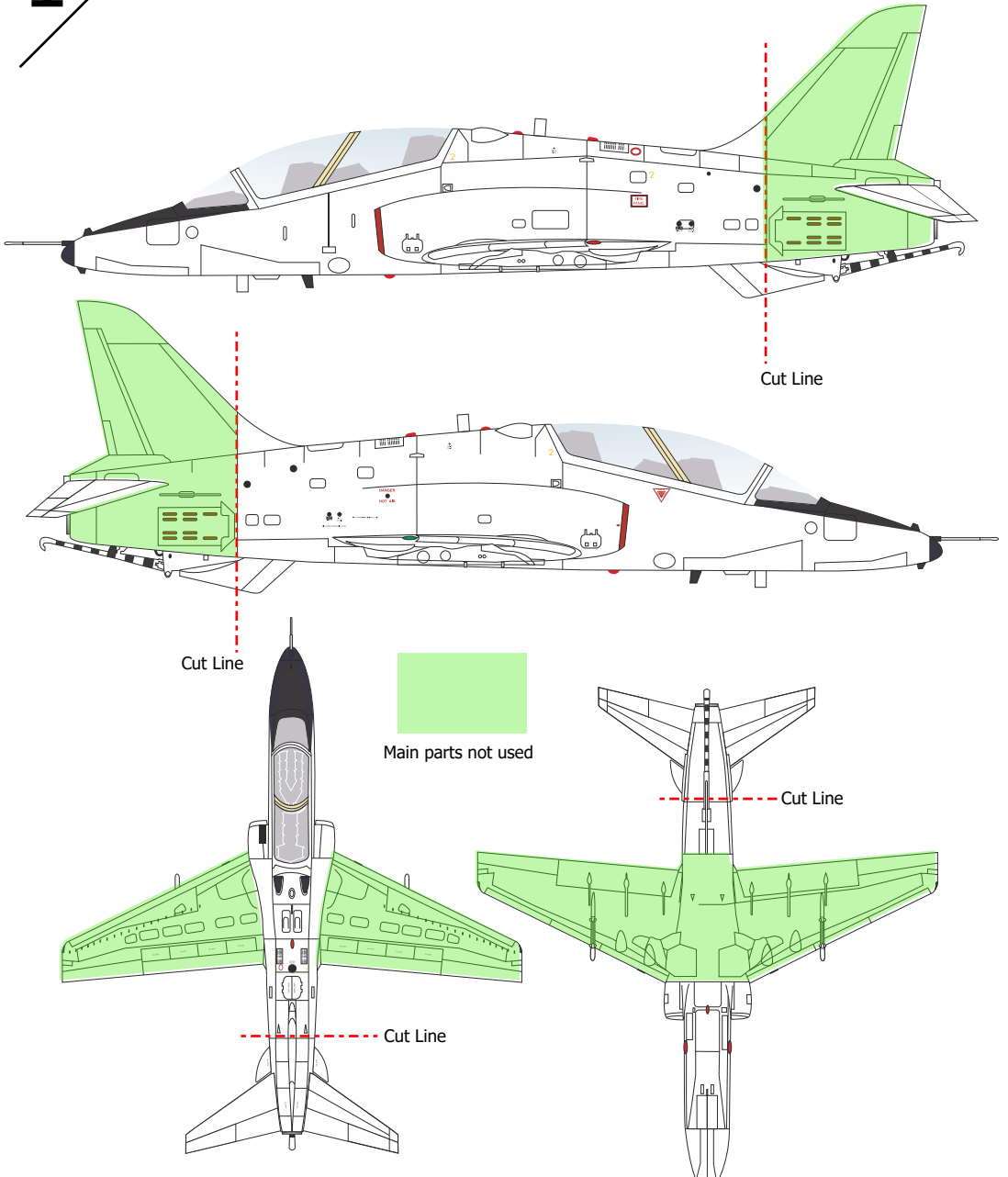
1:72
Scale

McDD/Boeing

AIR-GRAPHIC MODELS

1

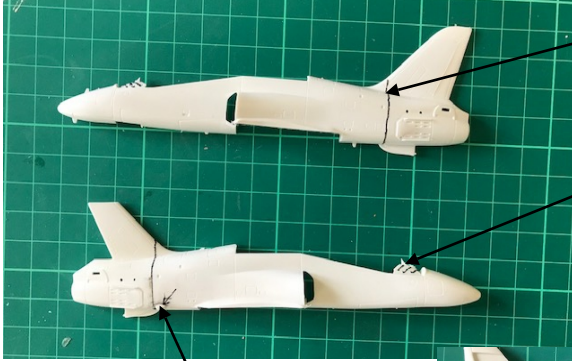
Stage 1 - Getting Ready!



2

Airframe Modifications

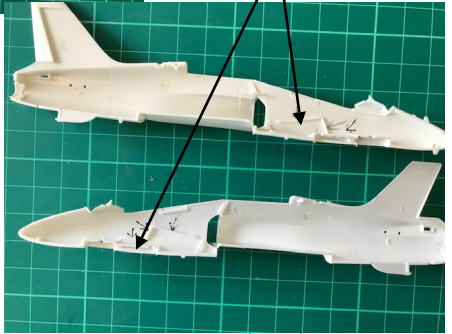
Rear fuselage cut line.
* Caution, you need to get this as straight as possible. Tip, tape the fuselage half's together and cut.



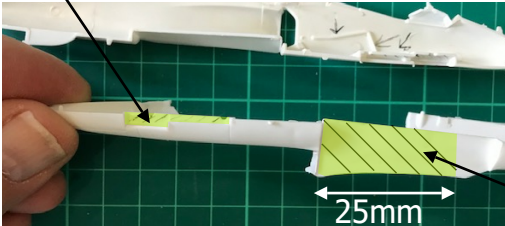
Cut off front cockpit coaming.

Leave the cockpit tub locating areas as the new resin cockpit fits into these.

Cut off exhaust vent as this will be replaced at a later stage



Cut out wheel bay



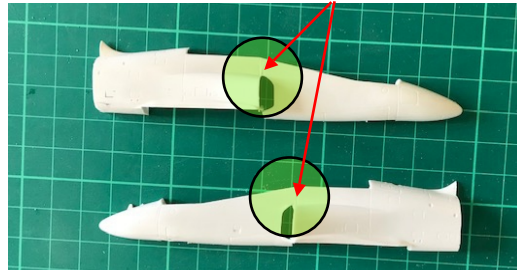
Cut out wing area and sand so wing fits flush.

3

Cockpit Assembly

Only fit Part 1, Cockpit tub at this stage

*** Caution**
Week spot on both sides
Of fuselage



3

Cockpit Continued



Above: This shows the fuselage which needs Plasticard strips to help join the two half's.
Note* Wing note yet cut out.



Above: Weight added to nose both sides, This was also filled with Bluetac before joining.

Note* Paint the cockpit at this stage. The main walls and floor is Dark Grey FS36231
Instrument panels are Black with light Grey switches..

Do not fit the instrument panels, or ejector seats at this stage as there is still major construction to do.

4

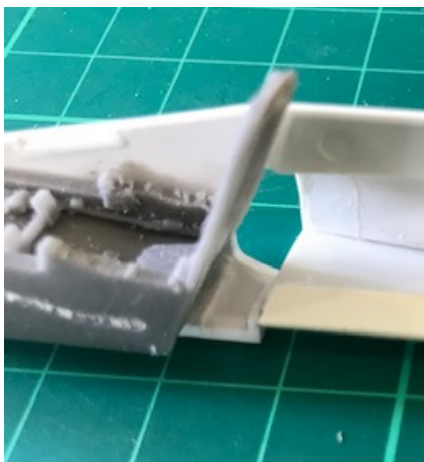
Fuselage Assembly

**Caution* This is tricky so
Take care and do it slowly.**



Fit tail assembly Part 8. Careful to line up both the fin and the Tail hook fairing on the centre line. Note the kit panel lines around this area do not line up.

Blend in the new resin rear plug & the kit parts with filler.
sand before progressing any further.



It is also worth dry fitting the rear fuselage Kit part behind the cockpit. You will need to sand down the resin rear wall of the Cockpit tub to achieve a good kit.

You can also glue this into the kit at this Stage if preferred once all sanding has Been completed. This is Kit Part 20B

Do not fit the intakes at this stage but they can be prepared ready to fix in Stage 5 once the wings are in place.

5 Fitting the Wings



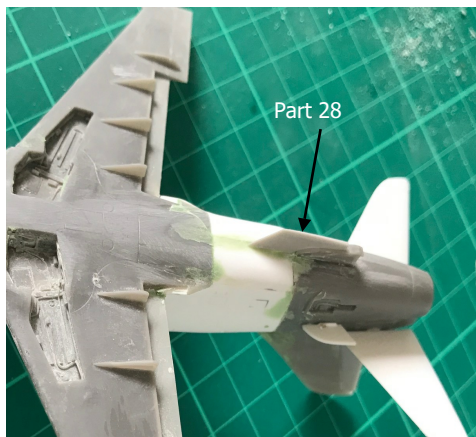
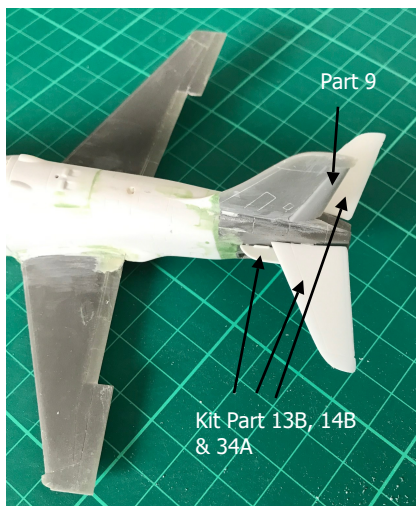
Dry fit the wing Part 10 to the fuselage. The front edge needs to be level with the kit front fuselage. Note small gap which was due to my error. This was filled with thin Plasticard before filling. The intakes can also be fitted once the wings are in place and all blended in with filler.

6 Fuselage Detailing

Fit the tail planes from the kit, Parts 13B and 14B, the small strakes either side of the fuselage Parts 34A, the new resin rudder Part 9 and the resin tail hook Fairing Part 28.

Note, The tail can be slightly warped due to the resin casting. Immerse in very Hot water for 10 seconds and straighten.

Also, note the T-45 does not have wing pylons so do not fit the kit parts.

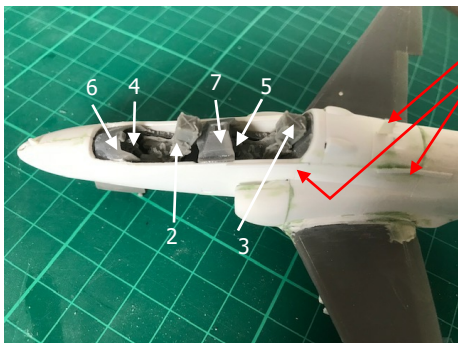


7

Small Detailing

I fitted a new exhaust pipe to replace the kit part which was removed at this stage. The cockpit instrument panels, joysticks and ejector seats are all fitted now. (Note, I have not painted anything but this should be painted at an early stage. The ejector seats can be fitted at a latter stage if required.

There are also numerous aerials and plates on the T-45C. Using reference photos, I added most of these from Plasticard.



Note* Plasticard Strengthening plates & aerials added.



Small exhaust added from hollow tube and then filled to shape.

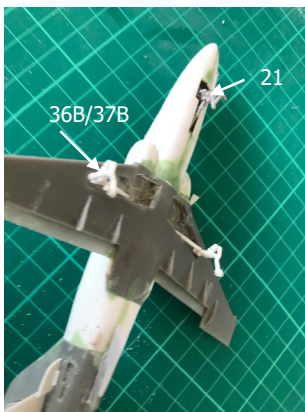
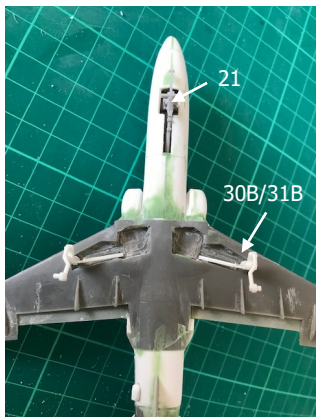
Cockpit completed. I intend to have the canopy open. Also note* rear ejector seat is lowered by 1.5mm. Joysticks and instrument panels all added.

8

Undercarriage.

Use kit parts 30B/31B and 36B/37B for The main undercarriage. Cut of kit loading lugs as these are not needed.

I also fitted resin front lowered oleo leg Part 21.



Main undercarriage doors. Oh dear what have Italeri done here as these are nothing like to photo reference.



Start by cutting out the doors as indicated on the kit instruction sheet, Discard the main doors marked X. Look at the photo reference on Page 7 on shape and how these fit. Caution* this is very tricky and patience is required!!

Use resin Parts 26 and 27 for the main undercarriage doors. These may need a bit of dry fitting to get to fit right.

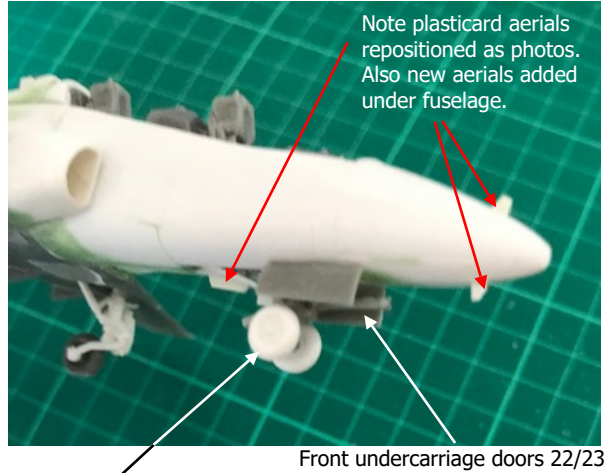
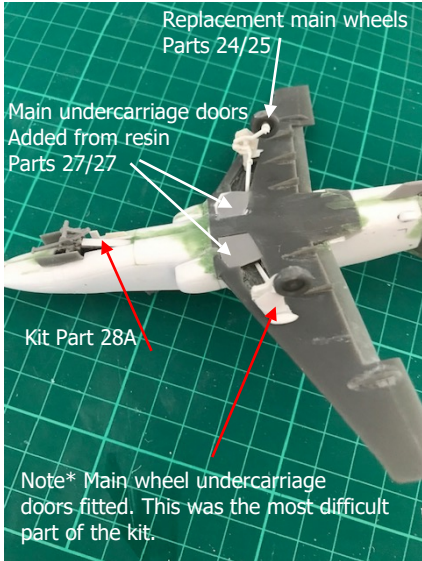
Use kit part 28A for the front main strut door and Resin parts 22 & 23. For the front undercarriage doors. Note, the kit undercarriage bay needs increasing in size but I missed this! Do not use kit parts 29A & B.

8

Undercarriage continued

Use front undercarriage wheels from the kit. Parts 27B.

Do not use the main wheels as these are replaced by resin Part No 24 &25 which are bulged. You will need to drill out the locating holes on the wheels slightly.



Kit front wheels Part 27A fitted to resin front oleo leg Part 21. This can have the light drilled out if preferred and replaced with Bluebird clear lense.



8

Wing flaps and slats

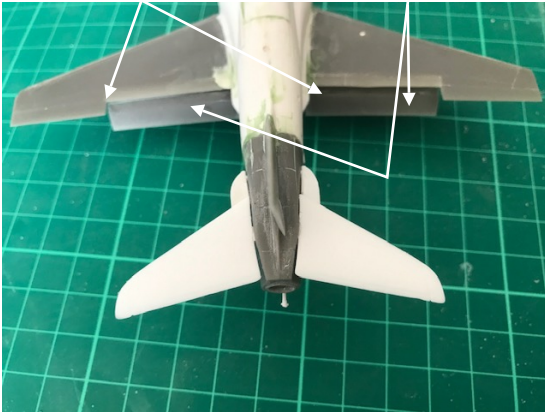


Fit the front wing slats resin Parts 15 and 16. Note the small bulged end goes in the Underside of each wing at the wing root.

Next fit the main flap spoilers, resin Parts 11 and 13 before fitting the dropped wing flaps resin Parts 12 and 14. Note the wing flaps actuator positions line up with the wing fairing's.

Tail hook also fitted. Kit Part 35A

Spoilers Parts 11 and 13. Lowered wing flaps, Parts 12 and 14.



Note* I used Squadron Green Stuff putty so it could easily be seen which parts needed Attention. I would normally have used a fine White filler such as Vallejo or similar.



General details of the wings and flaps Including colours.
Photos Credit US Navy

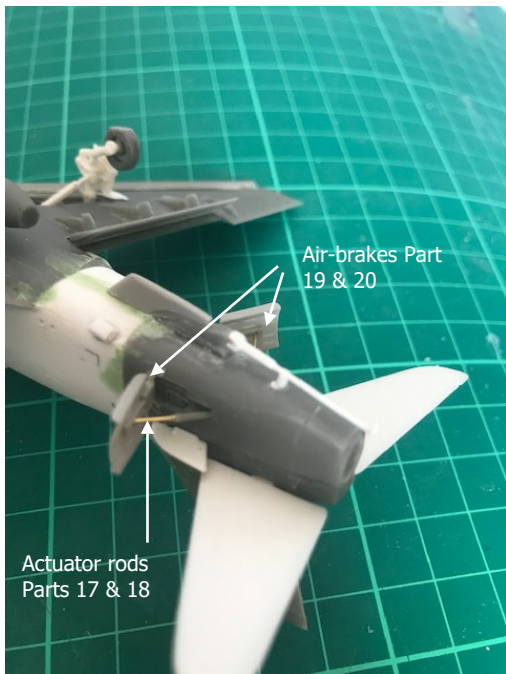


9

Air Brakes

Nearly there!

Note* I have not painted any part of the conversion set so that you can easily see resin and the kit parts.



The last major assembly is the air-brakes.

Use actuator rods resin Parts 17 and 18.

Note* These are fragile and I broke both of these and had to replace with brass Rod.

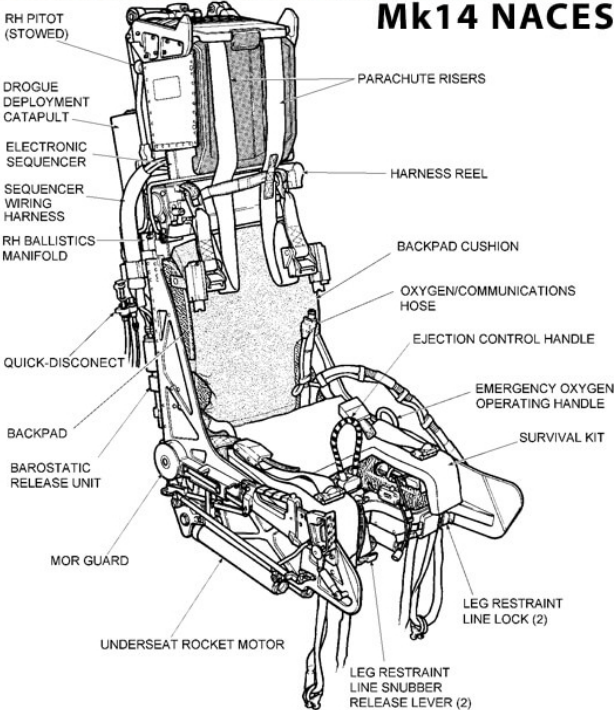
The easiest way is to fit the air-brakes resin Parts 19 and 20 and then fit the rods. This is a bit fiddle so care and patience will be needed.

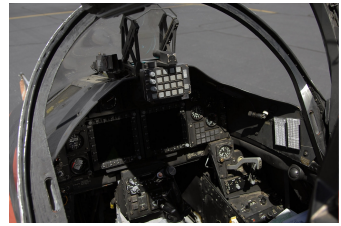
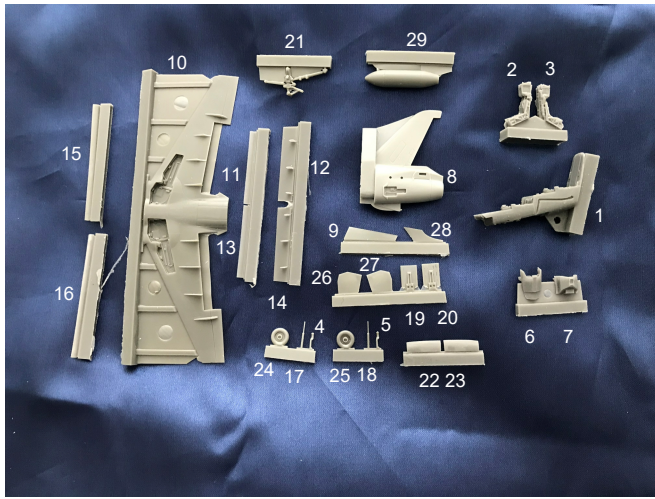


Add baggage pod resin Part 29 should if required. Add any small aerials, navigation lights etc. Whilst we have used the kit nose probe Part 24A, we recommend the excellent Master brass set No 72-145



Mk14 NACES





INSTRUCTIONS

- Remove any flash by gently snapping off, or cutting with a scalpel and then lightly sanding.
- Only use Super-glue or a two-part epoxy glue to fix parts.
- Gluing is easier if mating surfaces are slightly sanded to roughen the resin before gluing. Also clean off any dust before gluing.
- Before painting, thoroughly wash all parts in warm water with detergent.
- We recommend the application of a base coat in a light colour to show any blemishes prior to final painting.

WARNING & SAFETY!

- These parts are moulded in polystyrene resin. Please take care when sanding and cleaning up the resin by wearing a dust mask or other protective breathing device to avoid inhalation of the dust particles.
- Wash hands, resin parts and the work surface after sanding resin.
- When using Super-glue or two-part epoxy glue, please take precautions to avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- It is also advisable to wear a mask to avoid breathing in any fumes from the glue or work in a ventilated room.
- The use of barrier creams on hands or wearing disposable gloves, and working in a well ventilated area, is strongly recommended.
- Not suitable for children under 14 years of age.

Thank you for purchasing this Air-Graphics product which forms part of a range of accessories, conversion sets, decals & kits all to 1/72 Scale.

Air-Graphics: 24 Fyfield Close, Wantage, Oxfordshire, OX12 8HN, UK
E: gary.madgwick@air-graphics.co.uk