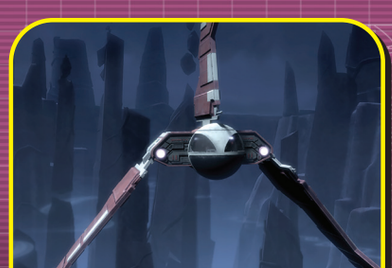
STAR WARS MILLENNIUM FALCON

BUILD THE MODEL – EXPLORE THE GALAXY



***ETA*-CLASS SHUTTLE**

F219FSC064

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JEDI SHUTTLE

CYGNUS SPACEWORKS *ETA*-CLASS SHUTTLE

The *Eta*-class shuttle was primarily designed to get important people out of trouble in a hurry. Hyperdrive capable, its tri-wing design made it highly maneuverable at sublight speeds. Its three laser cannons packed a huge punch, and gave the shuttle valuable time to escape its attackers.



The *Eta*-class shuttle, designed and built by Cygnus Spaceworks, was used extensively throughout the Clone Wars by the Galactic Republic, and also the Jedi Order. The heavily armed shuttle was brought into service by the Galactic Republic in response to the increasingly dangerous events of the Clone Wars.

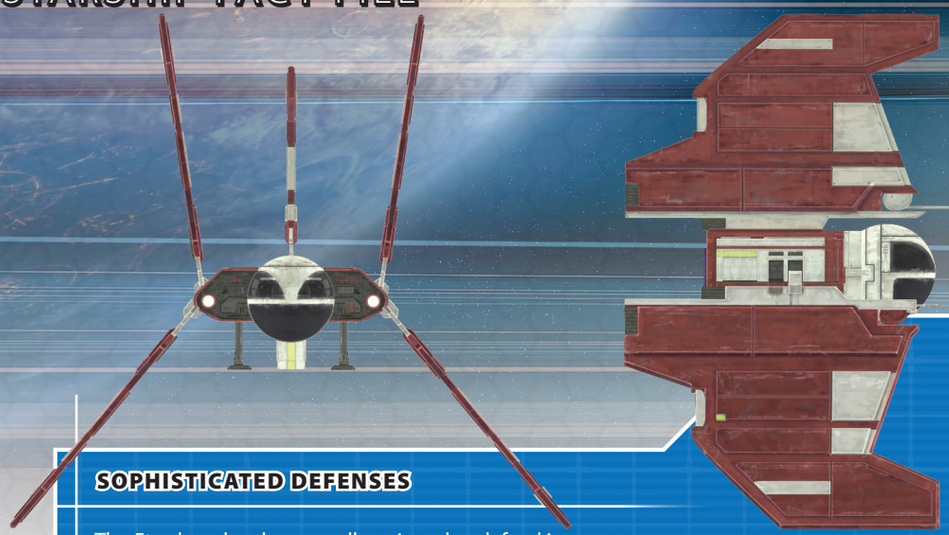
The most important aspects of the shuttle's design were its speed and maneuverability, especially at sublight speeds, and the inclusion of a Class 2.5 hyperdrive unit. Its three-winged

The distinctive tri-wing *Eta*-class shuttle was seen all over the galaxy during the Clone Wars era, ferrying important passengers on diplomatic missions, or getting them out safely. On occasion, it was also used on more clandestine military operations.

ETA-CLASS SHUTTLE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

MANUFACTURER	Cygnus Spaceworks
MODEL	*Eta*-class shuttle
CLASS	Shuttle
LENGTH	14.15 m (46 ft 5 in)
ENGINE UNIT(S)	2 engines
HYPERDRIVE	Class 2.5
SHIELDING	Equipped
ARMAMENT	3 x laser cannons
CREW	1 x pilot and 1 x gunner

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SOPHISTICATED DEFENSES

The *Eta*-class shuttle was well equipped to defend important passengers. A gunner sitting in the main cockpit controlled the three laser cannons, which were able to delay any attackers, buying time and allowing the shuttle to flee at sublight speeds. The shuttle also featured enhanced shields, which provided supplementary protection when under attack. Finally, the shuttle was fitted with an impressive advanced sensor-jamming package. This technology allowed the pilot to block signals and made it very hard for enemies to co-ordinate any kind of assault.

design, all wings being at equal angular distances from one another, provided the shuttle with the extra stability required at such fast speeds, and also allowed the ship to maneuver in and out of tight situations. When airborne, the two wings on either side of the hull would lower into an optimum position for flight, and they would contract against the hull for landing.

CLONE WARS SERVICE

The *Eta*-class shuttle saw plenty of service during the Clone Wars, and was used extensively both by the high command of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Jedi. It was not uncommon for groups of Jedi to use the *Eta*-class for potentially dangerous missions, where they knew the speed of the shuttle could be used to aid in a quick escape – if and when required.

In one daring rescue mission, Anakin Skywalker cleverly used one of these shuttles to board General Grievous's Separatist flagship and bring back the hand-picked assault team.

The shuttle was a firm favorite of Obi-Wan Kenobi – even though he had a profound dislike of space travel. He used one later on in the Clone Wars to travel with Jedi Master Quinlan Vos to Nal Hutta and then on to Teth, searching for the infamous Ziro the Hutt. Later still, Kenobi, Skywalker and his Padawan, Ahsoka Tano, used an *Eta*-class shuttle to investigate an ancient Jedi distress signal that had been inexplicably activated in the Chrelythiumn system. Whilst approaching the signal, the Jedi stumbled upon a mysterious structure that absorbed the ship. When they awoke, they found themselves on the

Despite his dislike of flying, Obi-Wan Kenobi was an excellent pilot. He was often found in the cockpit of his Jedi starfighter or his Jedi interceptor, but he had a particular fondness for the Jedi shuttle.



JEDI SHUTTLE

Equipped for two crew and six or more passengers, the *Eta*-class was officially designated the Jedi (or Republic) ambassadorial shuttle. In reality, it was used on many sensitive and dangerous missions, and was a particular favorite of Obi-Wan Kenobi, who appreciated its speed, stability, and solid defenses.

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THE RESCUE OF EETH KOTH

STEALTH MISSION

An *Eta*-class shuttle joined a Galactic Republic task force to help free Jedi Master Eeth Koth from the claws of General Grievous. The shuttle, piloted by Anakin Skywalker and Adi Gallia, was sent to board General Grievous's ship, while Obi-Wan Kenobi and the rest of the fleet provided a distraction for the other Separatist vessels. Skywalker cleverly used the on-board jamming equipment to bring the shuttle out of hyperspace directly in front of the destroyer, dock with it and board undetected. Once Koth had been rescued, Skywalker returned to the ship along with his troops, ready to leave the destroyer, while Gallia went to assist Kenobi in an effort to capture Grievous. During the ensuing conflict, Kenobi's transport was destroyed, and Skywalker's shuttle was used to bring Kenobi, Koth, Gallia, and the rest of the team back to the fleet.



Zabrak Jedi Eeth Koth was overpowered by General Grievous's IG-100 MagnaGuards, and held hostage until Anakin Skywalker led a rescue mission.



When coming in to land, the lower wings folded up to allow the body of the craft to set down – a design feature that was copied by later shuttles.



The cockpit was right forward, and its bulbous canopy gave all-round visibility for navigation and for aiming the laser cannons.

Force-rich planet of Mortis, their ship perfectly intact but inexplicably non-functional.

SIDIOUS'S SHUTTLE

Darth Sidious, Dark Lord of the Sith, used his own version of the *Eta*-class shuttle during the Clone Wars. His was not painted in the usual red-and-white color scheme used by the Jedi Order, but instead was a nondescript gray. Apart from the alternative color scheme, the only other noticeable differences from the outside were the widened hull and advanced weaponry on the wings. The rest of the ship remained almost identical, and was also equipped with a hyperdrive unit.

The cramped interior of the shuttle was widened to incorporate the additional areas required by Sidious, and extra rooms were added so that his aides could accompany him when they joined him on his travels to far-flung systems. Sidious's own quarters were modified to provide a more luxurious and opulent cabin area.

Even though the *Eta*-class shuttle was small, it commanded significant respect from all those who used it. It was the forerunner of the *Theta*-class shuttle favored by Supreme Chancellor Palpatine, while many of its design team would go on to create the *Lambda*-class Imperial shuttle after they left Cygnus Spaceworks to join the staff of Sienar Fleet Systems.

BEHIND THE SCENES

THE BORROWERS

When it came to looking for new designs for the more recent movies and the animated series *The Clone Wars* and *Star Wars Rebels*, the first point of reference was often the abandoned artwork and concepts from the original films, including work done by legendary artists Ralph McQuarrie and Joe Johnston. In particular, the whole look and feel of *Star Wars Rebels* was closely inspired by some of the original work McQuarrie did on *Star Wars* in the mid-1970s. For the *Eta*-class shuttle, the design can be traced back to some concept art of the *Lambda*-class T-4a shuttle, created by Johnston for *Return of the Jedi*.

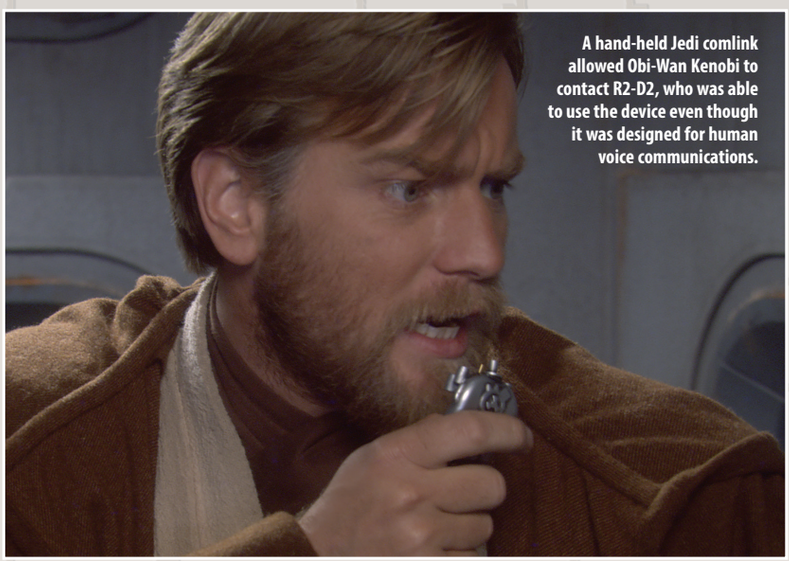


The *Eta*-class shuttle's design was based on concept art for the *Lambda*-class T-4a shuttle, drawn up by Joe Johnston during the development work on *Return of the Jedi*.

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COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES

Small, portable comlinks are convenient for short-distance communications. Over a greater distance, subspace radio allows users to communicate without needing to link into the public-access HoloNet.



A hand-held Jedi comlink allowed Obi-Wan Kenobi to contact R2-D2, who was able to use the device even though it was designed for human voice communications.



Comlinks and subspace radios were both developed for person-to-person communications at a distance, but as they broadcast signals that can be picked up by anyone within range, military organizations and those whose business is private or clandestine need to encrypt their transmissions. As the signals themselves can be used to locate an individual or their ship, those whose business is top-secret generally refrain from using any kind of communication device as much as possible.

The simplest, cheapest comlinks consist of little more than a receiver, a transmitter, and a power source. Light and portable, they can be carried in a pocket, belt or wrist strap. More sophisticated comlinks include built-in encryption and decryption devices, security facilities and ports to connect to a range of other equipment. They typically have a longer range, although no comlinks are designed to communicate over a very great distance. The range and signal/interference ratio are mainly dependent on the power of the device, so comlinks that have access to high-energy power sources (such as military backpack and vehicle-mounted models) have much longer ranges and fewer transmission breaks than small hand-held, wrist, or helmet-mounted models.

IMPERIAL COMMUNICATIONS

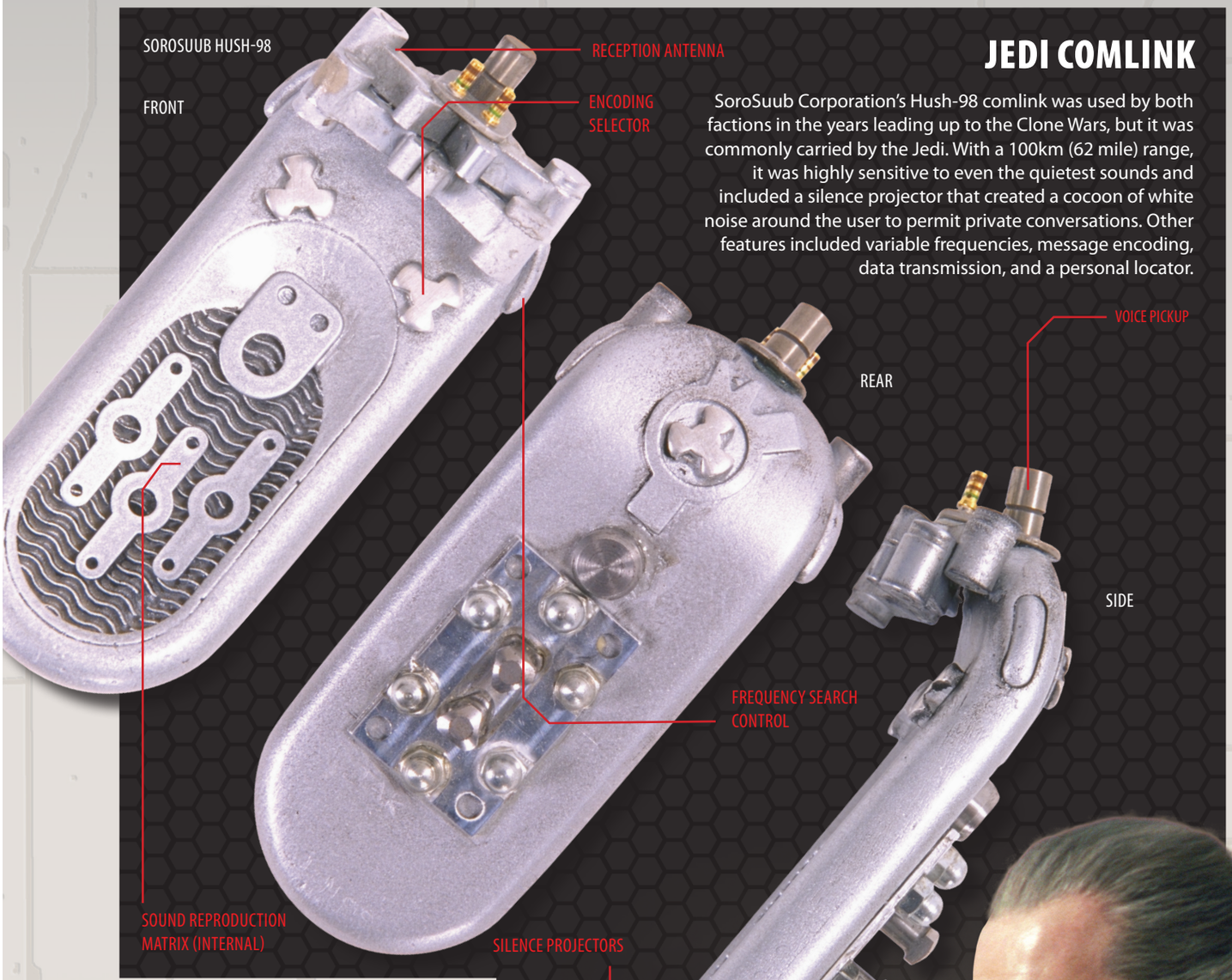
Helmet-mounted comlinks were a feature of the armor first developed for Republic clone troopers. As well as transmitting voice messages, the communicators allowed troops to share target data and other chart information. Later, SoroSuub Corporation's DH77 comlink was fitted to the Imperial Army's stormtrooper helmets, until it was discovered that high-energy particles could easily jam the signal. As artillery explosions and TIE fighters produced emissions that had this effect (at up to 3km or 1.86 miles, in the case of the fighter), this affected operations. Herzfall Corporation developed an improved version, the DH107, which was fitted to stormtrooper helmets made after the Battle of Yavin – although no priority was given to retrofitting them to earlier units.

The C1 personal comlink made by SoroSuub Corporation was also standard issue for the Galactic Empire. It was used by officers and technical personnel, while whichever internal communications systems were fitted to a particular unit's stormtrooper helmets, the easily portable C1 was a useful backup. The small, cylindrical casing had a microphone grille on the upper end, and an on/off switch on the side. The body of the device

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JEDI COMLINK

SoroSuub Corporation's Hush-98 comlink was used by both factions in the years leading up to the Clone Wars, but it was commonly carried by the Jedi. With a 100km (62 mile) range, it was highly sensitive to even the quietest sounds and included a silence projector that created a cocoon of white noise around the user to permit private conversations. Other features included variable frequencies, message encoding, data transmission, and a personal locator.



contained a scrambler, transmitter and controls for the frequency code sequence. Sophisticated encryption algorithms ensured that both transmission and reception were secure. The standard range of 50km was automatically boosted when signals were picked up close to an Imperial base. Comlinks were also used on board starships, for short-range communications such as formation commands and to request a landing or departure clearance.

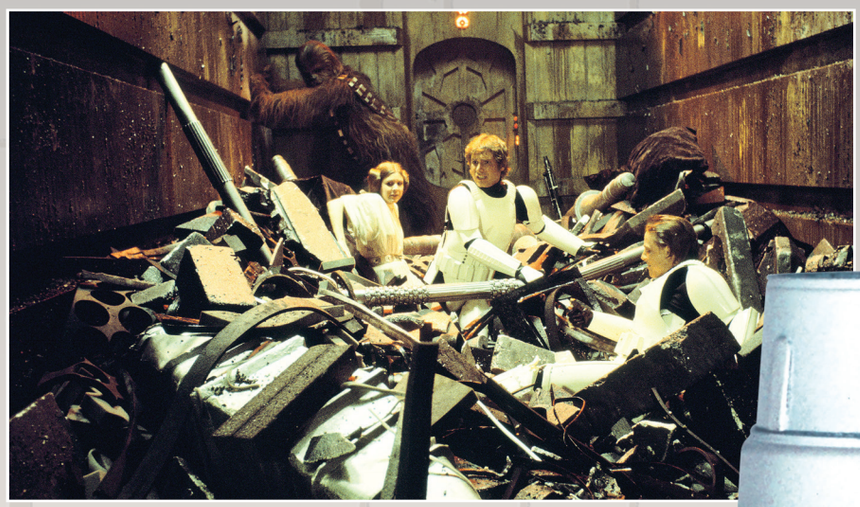
SUBSPACE COMMUNICATIONS

For longer distances, subspace comm transfer satellites pick up and rebroadcast a comlink's signal, allowing



During his stay on Tatooine, Qui-Gon Jinn used his comlink to keep in touch with Obi-Wan Kenobi. Qui-Gon also used its built-in chip to sample Anakin Skywalker's blood and transmit his midichlorian count.

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An Imperial C1 comlink (below) saved the lives of Princess Leia and her rescuers when Luke Skywalker was able to use one to contact C-3PO and get R2-D2 to shut down the garbage masher in which they were trapped.

personnel on a planetary surface to transmit messages across space. Crew members on board a starship can make direct use of the vessel's subspace radio. This allows instantaneous, faster-than-light communications between nearby systems, using subspace as the carrier medium. The maximum range is several light years, depending on the power of the transmitter. Sienar Fleet Systems' Ranger subspace transceivers, fitted to Imperial Star Destroyers, have a range of 100 light years. Beyond that, messages can be relayed from one subspace network to another, but this can be problematic, as many networks use different communications protocols, which means that translation algorithms have to be applied – with a risk of corrupting or even losing the information.

ENCRYPTION

The Ranger Transceiver can monitor over 300 subspace channels at once, and is capable of switching channels every tenth of a second. This means it can scan the entire subspace spectrum in under three hours. Any intercepts that an operator picks up can be decoded in minutes by the device's powerful built-in com-scan encryption computer.



Chedak Communications' Sprite subspace transceiver is standard equipment on the X-wing starfighter, but the need to miniaturize the device means that its range is limited to 25 light years. The same company's more powerful Frequency Agile subspace transceiver has a range of 40 light years, and picks up both video and audio. Its interface port connects with droid brains and computer systems, meaning it can be fitted to a wide range of different equipment. The *Millennium Falcon* had one installed as standard, although it was further modified with a Carbanti Whistler encryption module to encode messages sent through subspace.

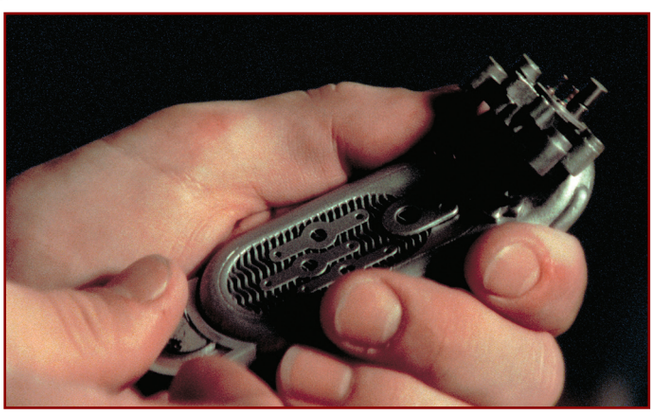
BEHIND THE SCENES

CUTTING-EDGE DESIGN



The Hush-98 comlink used by Qui-Gon Jinn and Obi-Wan Kenobi was based on a Gillette Sensor Excel women's razor, which had a smooth casing with a non-slip grip. A copy was cast in resin, after filing off some details and filling in others, and was further modified by gluing on metal fittings, including solder lugs, normally used to attach a cable to a terminal.

With its non-slip case, the ergonomically shaped Gillette Sensor Excel razor was a popular design when *The Phantom Menace* was being filmed.



Distinctive additions to the razor's body included metal solder tags with a large central mounting hole and two smaller holes for attaching electric cables.

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YOUR NEXT PARTS

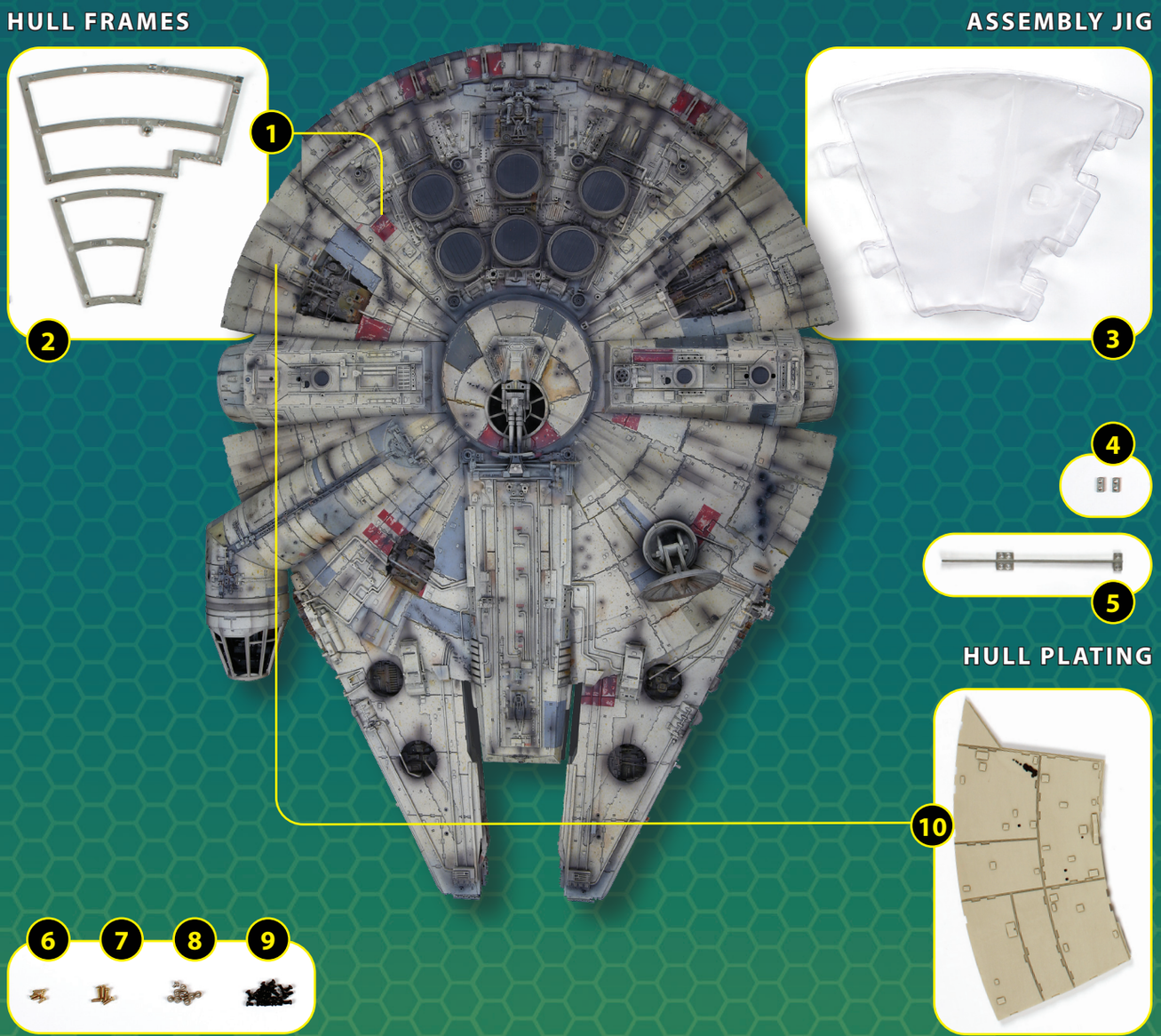
This issue's parts are used to extend the upper hull framework. You have also received another section of the assembly jig to support the growing framework, and another piece of hull paneling.

The steps on the next two pages add two more pieces to the top framework, which link up the outer circle of the main disc. The remaining parts of the framework will be added in the next stage, after which you will start adding the plating, so keep the hull panel safely until later.

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST

1. Hull frame TF-38
2. Hull frame TF-37
3. Assembly jig (1 section)
4. 2-hole connectors (x 2)
5. Radial rib (outer section)
6. Fixing screws (x 4 including 1 spare)
7. Fixing screws (x 8 including 1 spare)
8. Fixing screws (x 11 including 1 spare)
9. Fixing screws (x 26 including 1 spare)
10. Hull panel TP-19

WHERE THE PARTS FIT

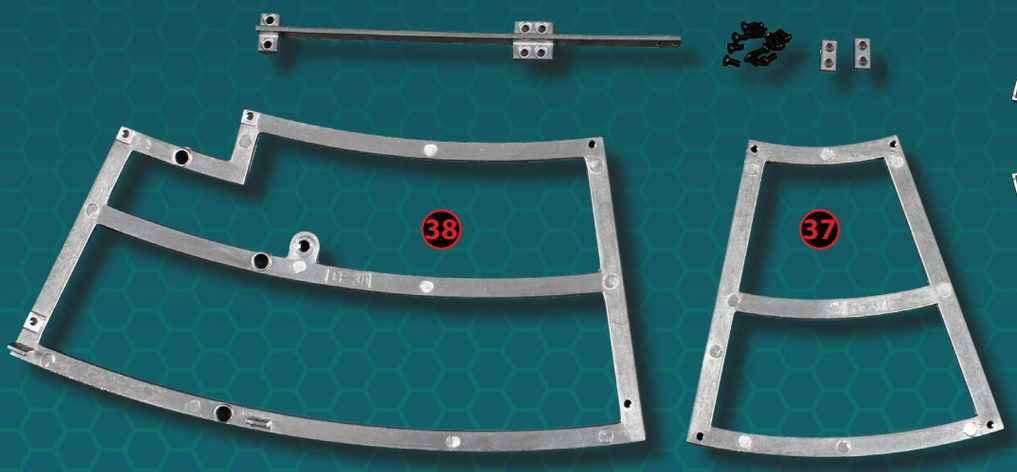


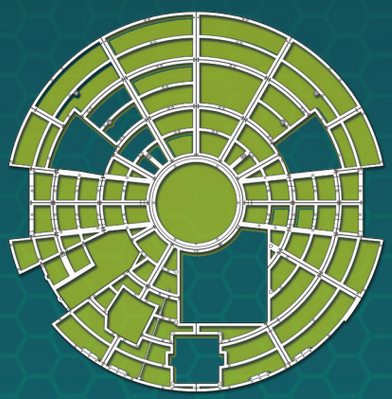
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ASSEMBLING THE TOP FRAMES

After adding the next section of the assembly jig, there will be support for the whole of the main disc.

For this stage, you need the two frame parts and radial rib section provided with this issue. You also need two 2-hole connectors, and nine short black button-head screws.





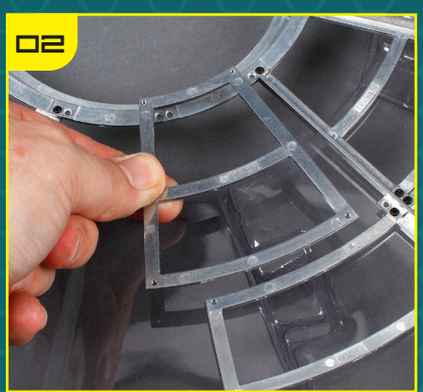
The frames shown have TF numbers (shown in red) cast into them for identification. The small diagram above identifies the area you will be assembling on the blueprint that came with Issue 1.

01



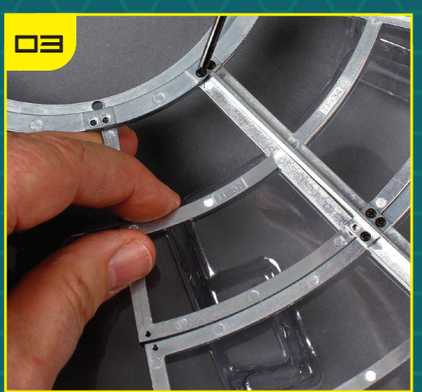
Fit this issue's section of the assembly jig to link the ends of the existing jig.

02



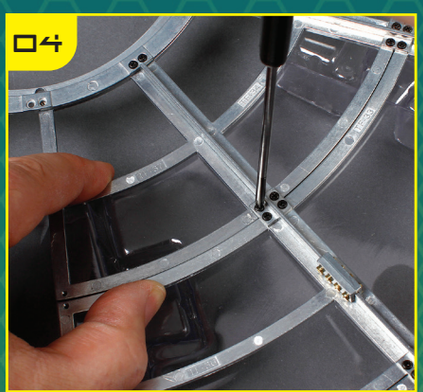
Fit frame TF-37 between the turret ring and frame TF-36.

03



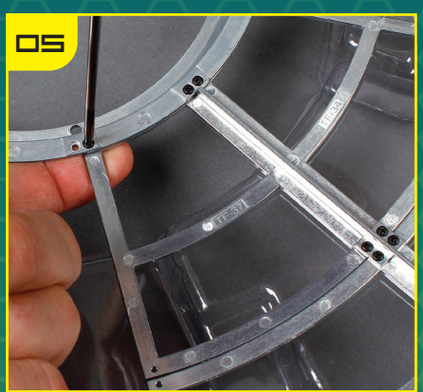
Screw this corner of TF-37 to the turret ring.

04



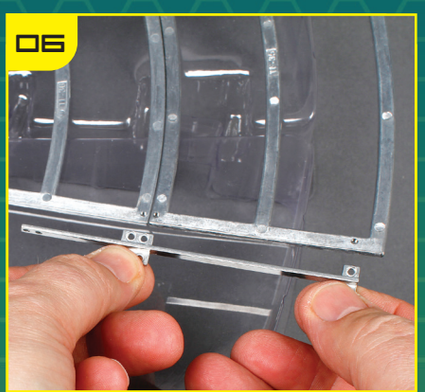
Screw the inner corner of the 4-hole flange to TF-37.

05



Screw this corner of TF-37 to the turret ring.

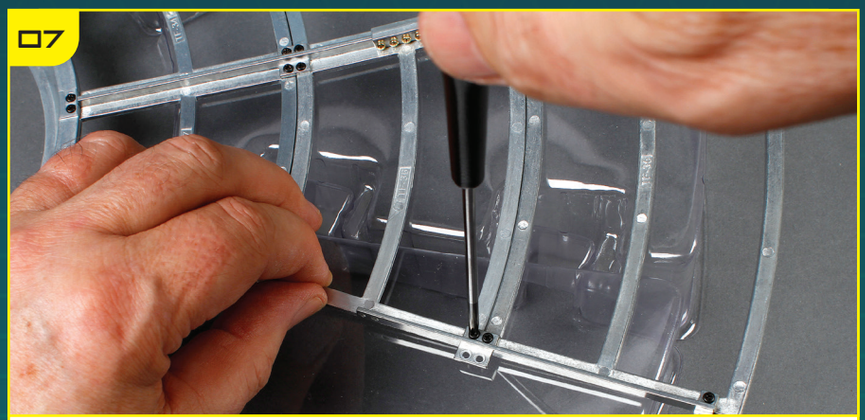
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Fit the radial rib section to the edges of TF-35 and TF-36.

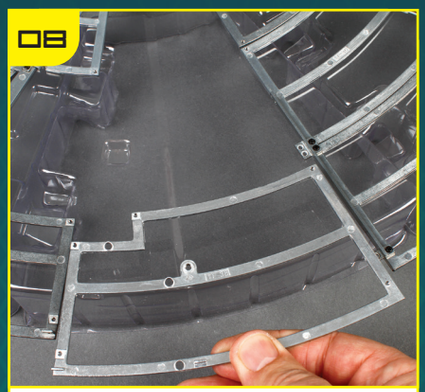
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07



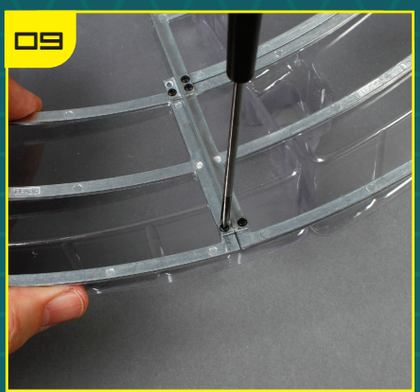
Screw the rib to both frames.

08



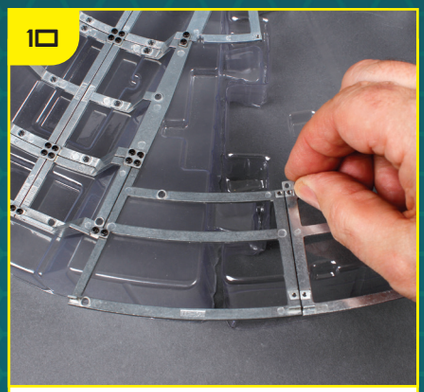
Fit TF-38 into the gap between TF-35 and TF-01.

09



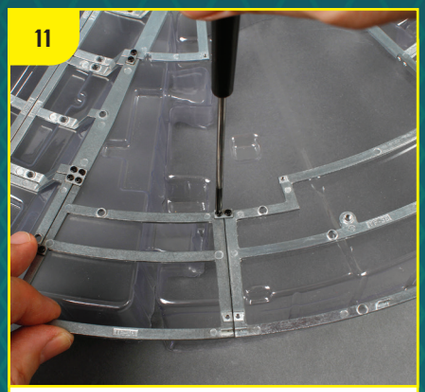
Screw both flanges of the radial rib to TF-38.

10



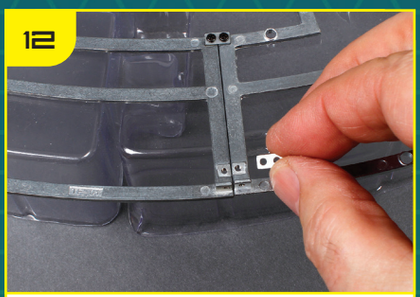
Fit a 2-hole connector across the inner joint between TF-01 and TF-38.

11



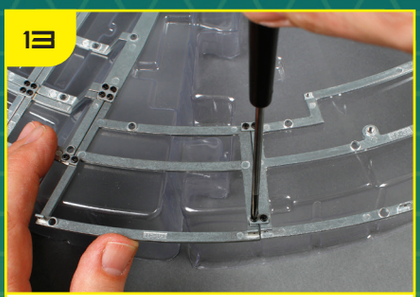
Screw the 2-hole connector to both frames.

12



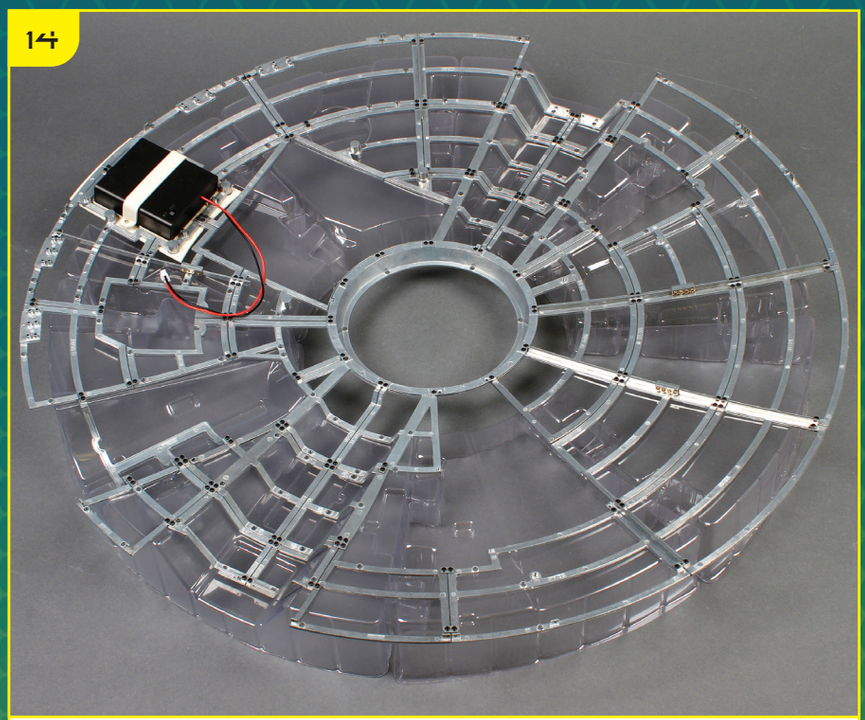
Fit a 2-hole connector across the outer joint between TF-01 and TF-38.

13



Screw the 2-hole connector to both frames.

14



That completes the assembly for this stage.

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