STAR WARS MILLENNIUM FALCON

BUILD THE MODEL – EXPLORE THE GALAXY



THE *CRUCIBLE*

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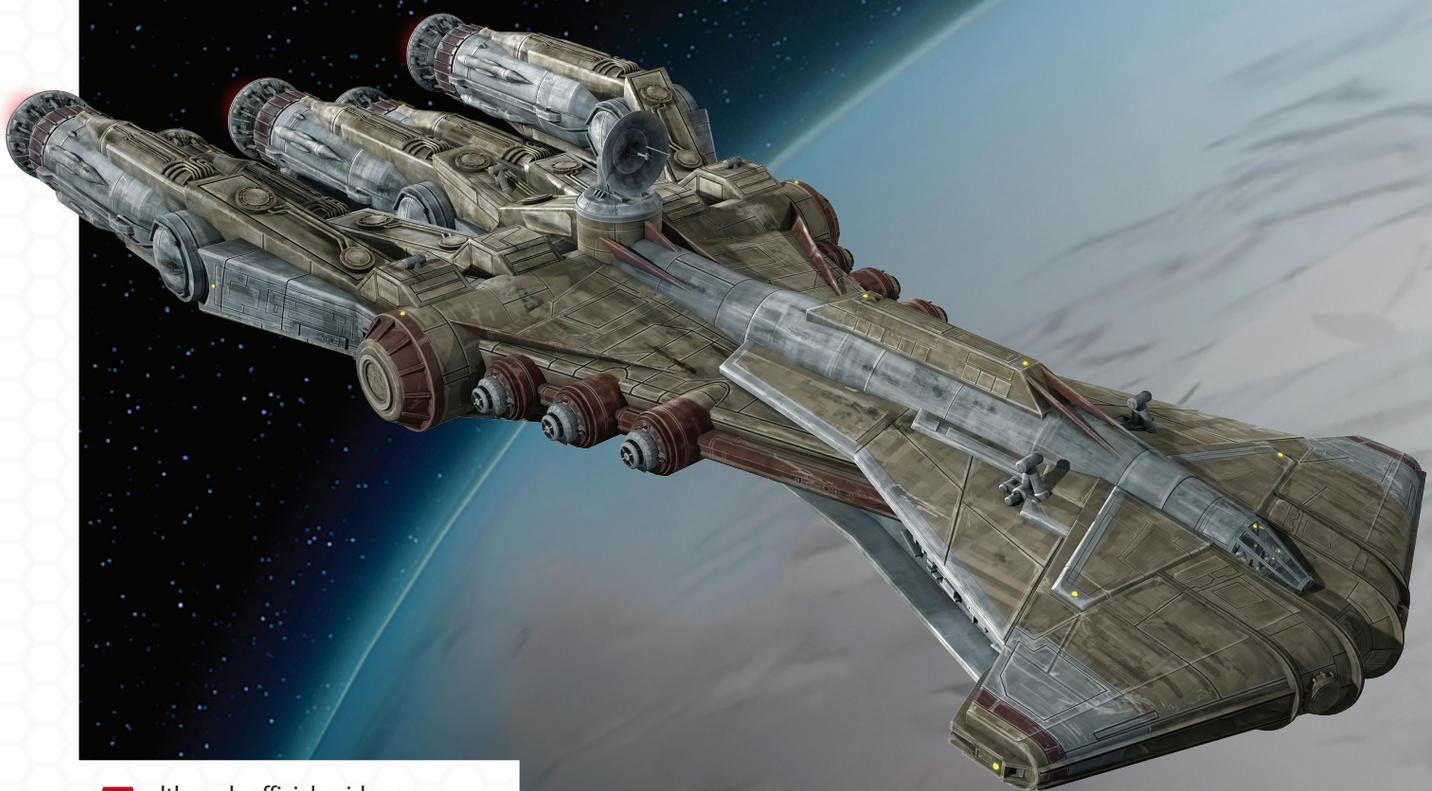
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PADAWAN TRANSPORT

TRAINING CRUISER THE *CRUCIBLE*

The *Crucible* was an ancient ship used by the Jedi until the end of the Clone Wars. It served as a training cruiser for younglings and Padawans, who traveled on board the ship during an important journey to Ilum where the younglings were put through the trials known as the Gathering.



Although official evidence may never be presented, the *Crucible* was probably influenced by the ancient design of the *Defender*-class light corvette from Rendili Vehicle Corporation, which was also used by the Jedi Order. That ship was introduced long before the Clone Wars, and as the *Crucible* was also categorized as an ancient ship, the visual similarities were most likely no coincidence. The *Crucible*'s original manufacturer may have vanished from the annals, but a certain Corellian signature could also be recognized in its design.

For many centuries, Jedi initiates were put through rigorous trials on Ilum, in the Unknown Regions, and the ancient ship called the *Crucible* was the vessel on which they travelled to and from the ice world.

THE CRUCIBLE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

TYPE	Jedi training cruiser
MGLT	70 MGLT
MAXIMUM SPEED	1,000km/h (621 mph) in atmosphere
HYPERDRIVE RATING	Class 2.0
ARMAMENT	None
CREW	1-10
PASSENGERS	Up to 50
CONSUMABLES	6 months
LENGTH	99 m (325 ft)

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HONDO'S ATTACK

When the *Crucible* was once on its way back to Coruscant after a trip to Ilum, it was attacked by Hondo Ohnaka's pirates. Ohnaka knew that the *Crucible* would be carrying priceless kyber crystals, so used his frigate, the *Acushnet*, to hijack and board the ship. Eventually, the younglings on board managed to outwit the pirates and, with the help of R2-D2, effect an escape, but not before their leader on the trip, Padawan Ashoka Tano, had been taken hostage by the pirates and spirited away from the *Crucible*.

At 99 m (325 ft) in length, the *Crucible* was a fairly large ship, but its hull was rather flat. Just like the *Defender*-class, the *Crucible* featured a front section that was shaped like an anvil. It had a small cockpit with several transparisteel windows. The ship was usually manned by a crew of between four and ten, including the pilot, the co-pilot, a navigator, and a scanning officer. If necessary, however, a single good pilot could operate the *Crucible* sufficiently well without a co-pilot.

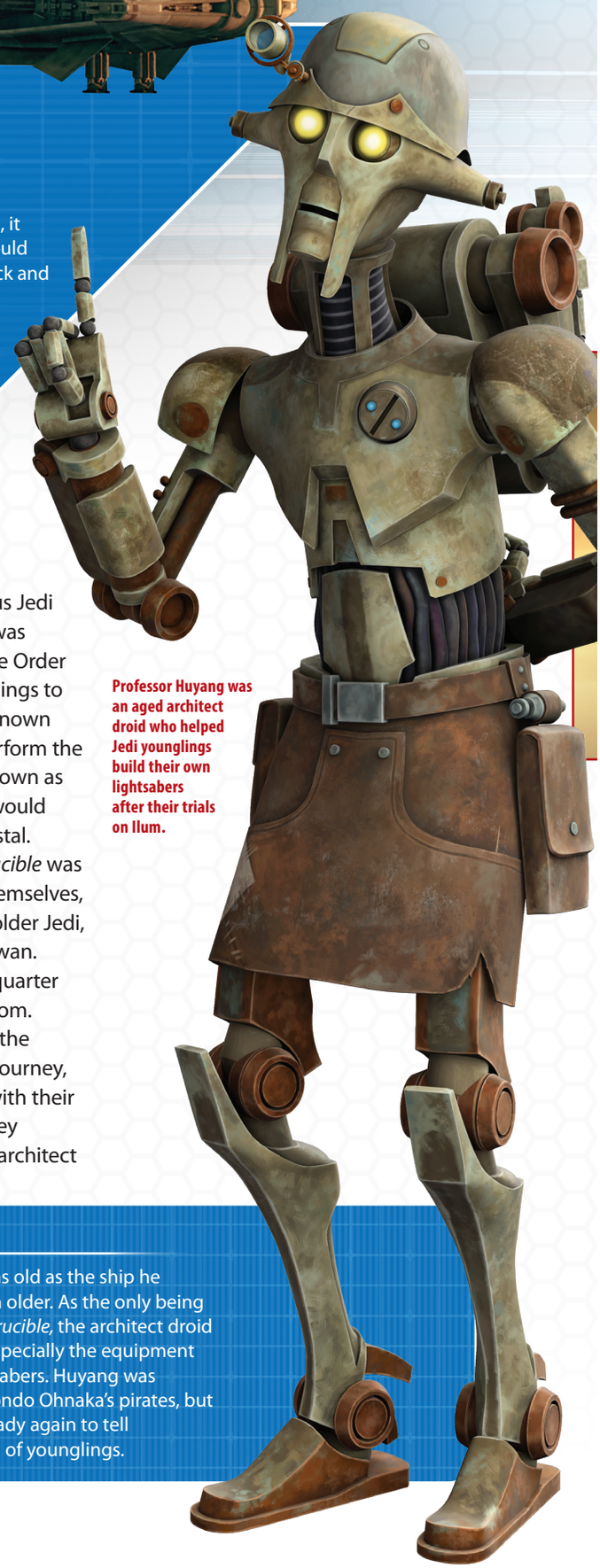
The ship had several escape pods at its flanks, as well as two docking bays. The *Crucible*'s many halls and rooms were decorated beautifully, sometimes even with wooden panels. The aft section featured components such as the engines, deflector shields, and the hyperdrive generator, and for propulsion the ship counted on the power of five large engines.

The Jedi training cruiser carried no weapons, but housed an impressive rectenna device to scan the ship's surroundings for potential dangers.

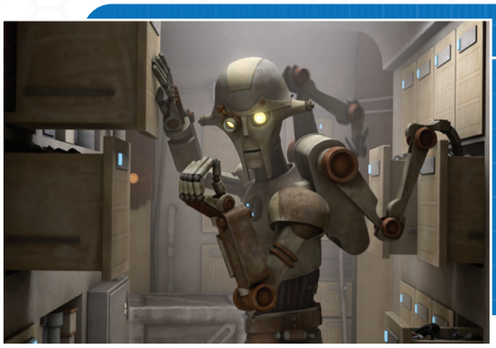
THE GATHERING

Although there were numerous Jedi training cruisers, the *Crucible* was known among members of the Order as the ship that carried younglings to Ilum, the ice planet in the Unknown Regions where they would perform the ancient Jedi rite of passage known as the Gathering, in which they would search for their own kyber crystal. During these journeys, the *Crucible* was manned by the younglings themselves, watched over by at least one older Jedi, possibly an experienced Padawan.

The most frequently visited quarter of the ship was the training room. This spacious hold was where the younglings lived during their journey, and, after they had returned with their kyber crystals, it was where they gathered to meet the ancient architect



Professor Huyang was an aged architect droid who helped Jedi younglings build their own lightsabers after their trials on Ilum.



PROFESSOR HUYANG

Professor Huyang was at least as old as the ship he served on, and most likely even older. As the only being permanently assigned to the *Crucible*, the architect droid knew every inch on the ship, especially the equipment that was needed to build lightsabers. Huyang was damaged in the scuffle with Hondo Ohnaka's pirates, but was eventually repaired and ready again to tell intriguing tales to the next clan of younglings.

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FINAL QUEST ON FLORRUM

RESCUING AHSOKA

With General Kenobi's fleet tied up in the pursuit of General Grievous and Ahsoka taken by the pirates during the hijack, the younglings on the *Crucible* were left on their own. They decided to rescue Ahsoka themselves, and set their course for Florrum, where Hondo was based. Their rescue plan worked out well, and with Ahsoka freed by the younglings, the ship was poised to intercept the pirates on their WLO-5 speeder tank. However, during the chase that followed, Weequay pirate Lieutenant Goru managed to score a fatal hit on the *Crucible*'s central engine that destroyed the entire system. Ahsoka noticed the imminent danger and warned everybody to abandon ship just moments before the *Crucible* crashed on Florrum. Hondo had the ship's wreckage towed to his camp.



Determined to rescue their leader from the clutches of Hondo Ohnaka's pirate gang, the Jedi younglings took the *Crucible* to Florrum.



Touching down on Florrum, the Jedi younglings set about their plan to free Ahsoka. The scheme succeeded, though the *Crucible* was lost in the action.

droid, Professor Huyang. The droid kept a wealth of equipment on board with which the younglings could construct their own lightsabers. This was stored in cupboards and lockers, but Huyang always knew where to find a particular item in a matter of seconds. Among the equipment Huyang stored in the room were training helmets, remotes, sturdy sticks to practice lightsaber moves, and workbenches.

FINAL VOYAGE

The *Crucible*'s last outing would take place near the end of the Clone Wars. The vessel fell under attack from a pirate gang headed by Hondo Ohnaka, and later succumbed to the damage inflicted when the vessel tried to make its escape from Florrum. Its wreckage crashed onto the planet's surface, where its precious belongings and



It was customary for an older or more experienced Jedi to accompany each group of younglings to Ilum and back. On what turned out to be the last journey of its kind, it was Anakin Skywalker's Padawan Ahsoka Tano who escorted a group of six younglings to Ilum.

ancient objects became the quarry of Hondo's men, shipwreck scavengers, and eager galactic archaeologists.

The *Crucible* exemplified what the Jedi Order stood for at the end of the Galactic Republic. It was a symbol from a bygone age, and of an Order that had not evolved in centuries. Though the ship functioned properly for what it was meant to do, the Jedi ultimately failed to realize the dangers that came with travelling aboard an unarmed vessel during the Clone Wars.

BEHIND THE SCENES

AWARD-WINNING

The *Defender*-class light frigate from 'The Old Republic' video game was an important influence on the *Crucible*'s design. The vessel was featured in the entire story arc of season five of *The Clone Wars*, which followed the adventures of six younglings during their most perilous quest. Professor Huyang was voiced by Scottish actor David Tennant, probably best known as the Tenth Doctor in *Doctor Who*. Tennant won a Daytime Emmy® award for his short, but memorable performance as Professor Huyang. The droid spoke of historical events ranging from The Battle of Rashfond to the Peacekeeping of Parliock, and mentioned lightsaber hilt materials such as Black Onk, Pastillion Ore, the bone from the Cartusion Whale, and wood from the Brylark Tree.

The droid Professor Huyang was voiced by David Tennant, better known to TV audiences as the Tenth Doctor in *Doctor Who*.



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SMUGGLING PARTNERSHIPS

The partnership formed by Han Solo and Chewbacca long before the outbreak of the Galactic Civil War is undoubtedly the most famous of its kind in the galaxy, but there are many such partnerships in the world of smuggling, as almost all captains appreciate the need for a trusted co-pilot and business partner.

The deep bond of friendship and trust between renowned Corellian smuggler captain Han Solo and his Wookiee first mate Chewbacca is the secret of the success of the galaxy's best-known smuggling pair, and the key to their lasting business partnership. The success of one of the galaxy's greatest pilots and his co-pilot shows just what spacers can achieve when they work together at the helm of a starship.

Chewie, as he is affectionately known, has worked by Han's side for decades, in honor of the debt he feels he owes Solo for his rescue from an incident early on in their relationship. Some believe that the Wookiee life debt was at the heart of Chewie's pledge to join Solo as his first mate, and to stand by him in all his smuggling endeavors. Quite early on, however, he realized that he may never get spectacularly rich as a result of the captain's reckless endeavors.

LEGENDARY PARTNERSHIP

In time, the exploits of Captain Solo and Chewbacca have become legendary across the galaxy. Tales of their adventures are often exaggerated (many say by Solo himself) but it is a matter of record that they did smash the record for the Kessel Run in the *Millennium Falcon*, and played a significant part in the destruction of two Imperial battle stations. Into the bargain Solo escaped the clutches of Jabba the Hutt and the bounty hunter Boba Fett, and won the heart of Leia Organa, princess of Alderaan. There were many more legends about Solo's past, but many were so wildly fanciful that most right-thinking individuals doubted they had happened at all.

SMUGGLING IN GROUPS

Smuggling is one of the myriad illegal activities carried out by the many criminal gangs operating in the Outer Rim. Sticking together for protection, but often not sophisticated enough in their methods to be deemed crime syndicates, these gangs simply make a quick buck where they can, taking advantage of the general lawlessness that characterized that section of the galaxy. Such outfits will typically crew stolen starships, and are comprised of members with distinctly shady pasts.

Smuggling, though, has also often been a vehicle for wider rebellion or espionage. It was not unheard of for Jedi Masters and knights to go undercover as smugglers during the Clone Wars, and, around a decade after that, a small group of rebels based on Lothal would engage in low-level smuggling and gun-running – anything as long as it had a negative impact on the Empire.

Later, both Rebel Alliance and Galactic Empire agents did the same during the Galactic Civil War, not just for intelligence gathering, but to ensure vital shipments made it to their forces. Much later still, it would not be unexpected to learn that Resistance and First Order agents also employed the technique. Smugglers who contracted to the Rebel Alliance, however, found that the freedom fighters did not often pay well. Their service, like that of the Lothal rebels before them, was expected out of a sense of duty to the ideals of freedom in the galaxy.



The Lothal rebels may have broken Imperial law to get their hands on certain items, but they were no common criminals. Often they would give some or all of their quarry to those that needed it most.

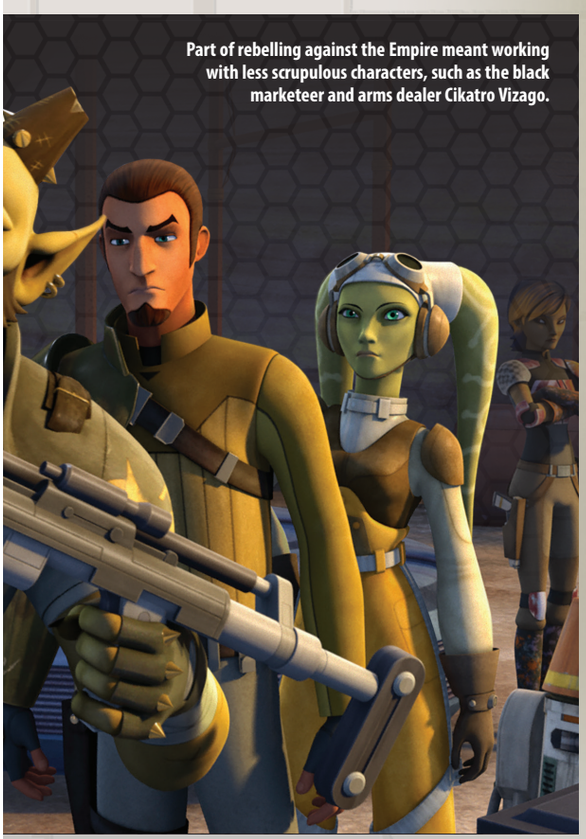
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Such tales inspire imitation, and some young smugglers saved up for their own freighter to ply the spaceways like their heroes. This foolhardiness often resulted in such captains getting into trouble, way over their heads in debt, with the authorities or an ex-employer after them for some infraction or other.

These adventurers all have one thing in common, though. Any captain, no matter how big- or small-time, was twice as likely to succeed, and twice as likely to evade the attentions of the authorities, if there was a trusted co-pilot or smuggling partner on the lookout for trouble.

RELUCTANT PARTNERS

Other galactic smugglers have found themselves joining the profession in much the same way as Chewbacca did. Wookiees in particular would volunteer to serve a captain aboard a smuggling starship thanks to a cultural obligation of honor, or a debt of gratitude, or out of simple friendship – even love. Others were perhaps not-so-willing smugglers, and found themselves in partnerships with more zealous law-breakers, job after job, as a matter of necessity to keep someone else happy. Often, that person would be a more powerful individual to whom they owed a debt that could never seem to be paid off. Many such smugglers would dearly love to go it alone, or do something entirely different, but stick by their captains or



Part of rebelling against the Empire meant working with less scrupulous characters, such as the black marketeer and arms dealer Cikatro Vizago.

The exploits of Han Solo and Chewbacca became legendary among the galaxy's young spacers, and speak of the benefits of working in a partnership.

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One smuggling partnership that might have come close in terms of reputation and success to that of Han Solo and Chewbacca was that of Lando Calrissian and Lobot. Lando's go-getting attitude and charm were perfectly balanced by Lobot's cool and rational character, and the pair had many adventures before making Bespin's Cloud City their home.

partners in fear of what would happen to them or their loved ones if they jumped ship.

SOLE TRADERS

There are many reasons why certain individuals might take to a life of crime alone, scouring the shadiest parts of the galaxy for work. Some spurn the idea of forming a partnership because they actually prefer to work alone, while others become hell bent on revenge for some injustice done to them or their family.

Other single smugglers may be the sole survivors of a larger gang that was busted by the authorities, or taken out by a rival gang. One thing is certain – it's a tough galaxy for a smuggler without a partner. Starting over as a lone operative is rarely easy, and there always seems to be someone, somewhere, who wants to collect on an old debt... or an old bounty.

BEHIND THE SCENES

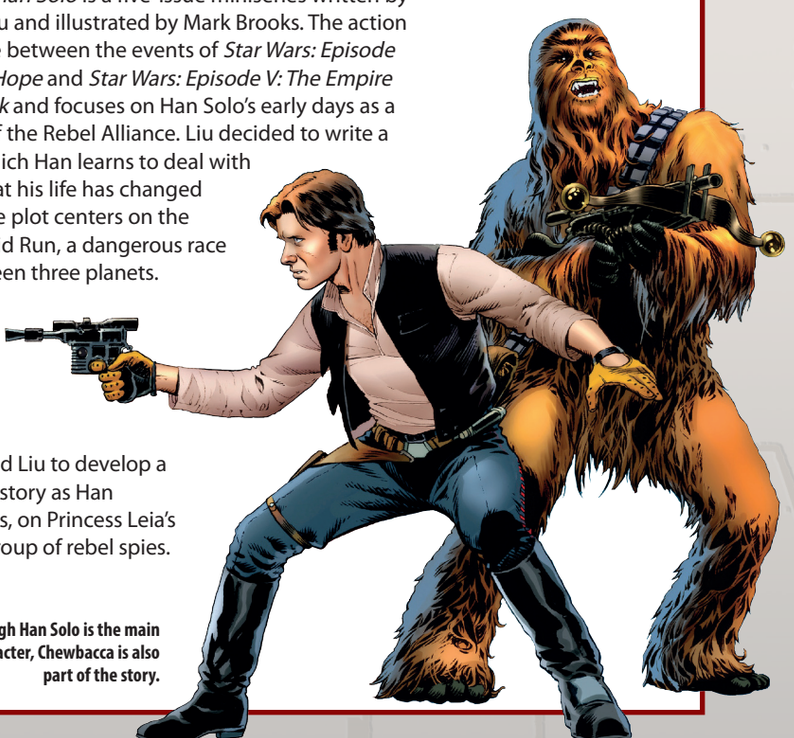
LEGENDS OF HAN AND CHEWIE



Star Wars: Han Solo **was announced in March 2016 and the first issue was released in June of the same year.**

Star Wars: Han Solo is a five-issue miniseries written by Marjorie Liu and illustrated by Mark Brooks. The action takes place between the events of *Star Wars: Episode IV: A New Hope* and *Star Wars: Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back* and focuses on Han Solo's early days as a member of the Rebel Alliance. Liu decided to write a story in which Han learns to deal with the fact that his life has changed forever. The plot centers on the Dragon Void Run, a dangerous race held between three planets.

This allowed Liu to develop a fast-paced story as Han investigates, on Princess Leia's orders, a group of rebel spies.



Although Han Solo is the main character, Chewbacca is also part of the story.

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YOUR NEXT PARTS

This issue's parts complete the main structure of the cover over the engine bay, which will be added to the upper hull and detailed at a later stage.

The steps on the next two pages show you how to finish assembling the rear quarter of the paneling. The principles are similar to Stage 68. As with Lucasfilm's original filming miniature, this panel is separate from the main structure, to which it is secured by three bolts along each straight edge. This makes it removable for easy access to the electronics inside, which will include the cluster of lights that produce the glow of the sublight engines.

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST

1. Hull panel TP-25
2. Connector for TP-23, TP-24, and TP-25
3. Connector for TP-22 and TP-25

WHERE THE PARTS FIT

HULL PLATING

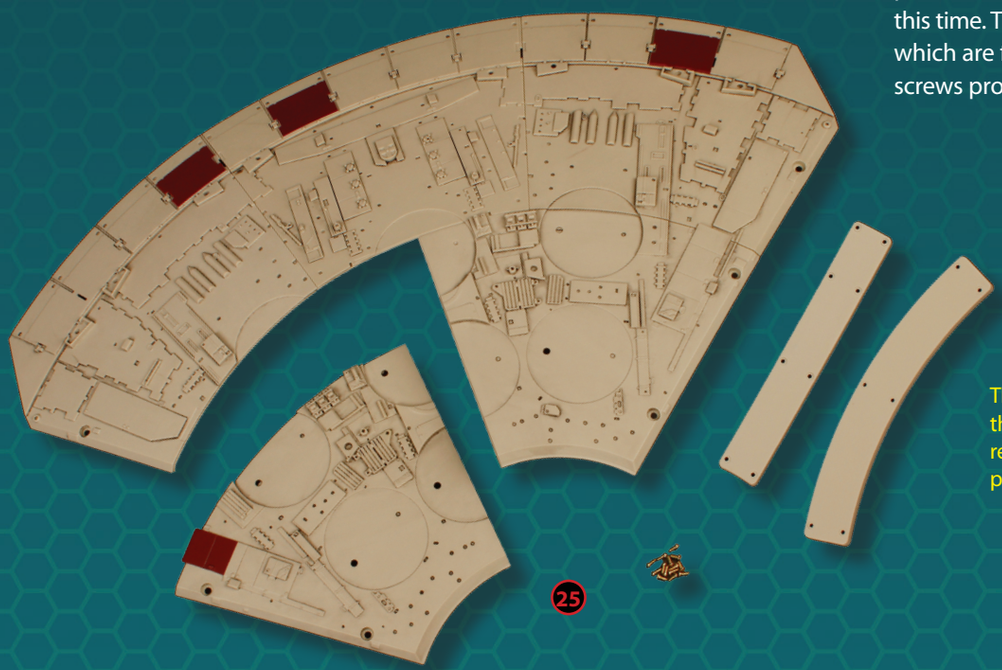


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COMPLETING THE ENGINE BAY COVER

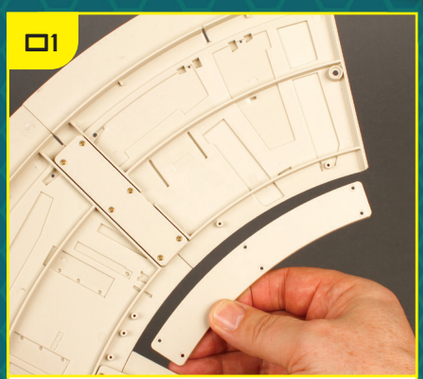
The section of plating you have received with this issue will complete the removable panel that you began in Stage 68. As before, you use shaped strips to connect the parts.

For this stage, you need the engine bay cover you began in Stage 68, plus the three components provided this time. These include two connectors, which are fitted using 14 more of the screws provided with Issue 67.



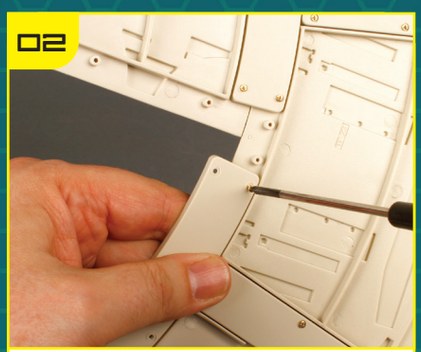
The number in red indicates the numbers molded on the remaining engine bay cover panel.

01



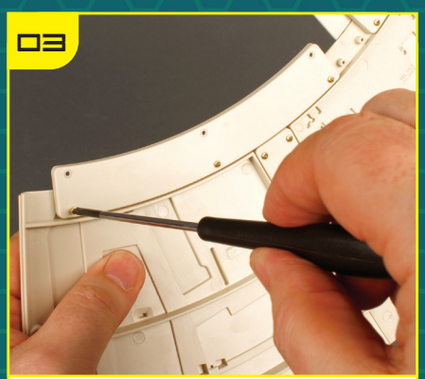
Take the curved connector, which spans the edges of TP-23 and TP-24 like this.

02



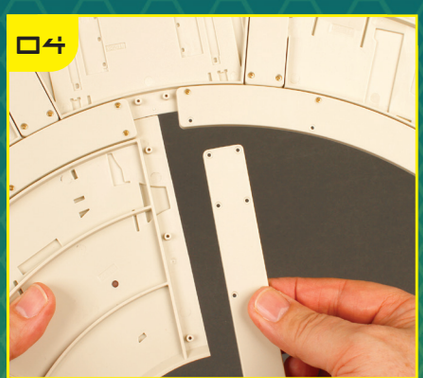
Note the gap between this connector and the one from Stage 68. Fit a screw into the first hole and tighten it fully.

03



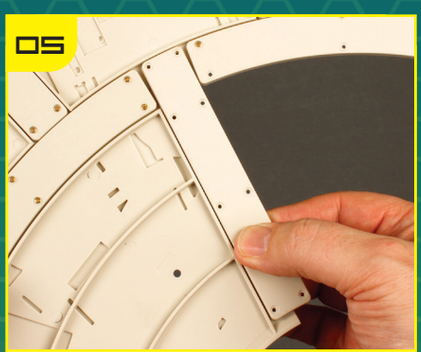
Fit another two fixing screws through the connector in the same way.

04



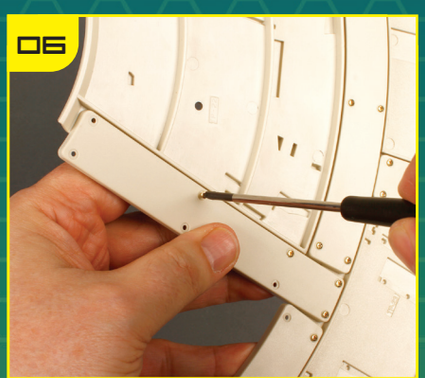
Take the straight connector, which fits along the edge of TP-22.

05



At one end of the connector, the screw holes are closer together. This end fits between the curved connectors.

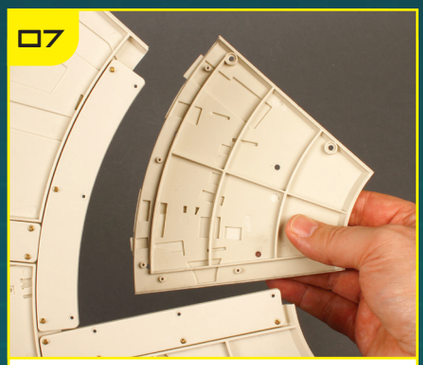
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Screw the connector to the edge of TP-22, using four screws.

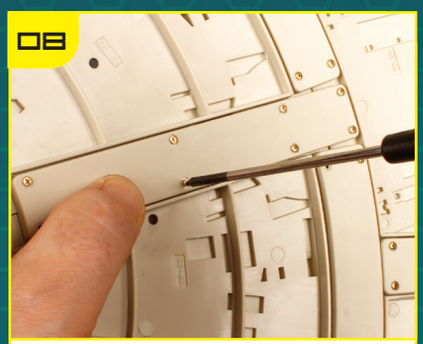
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07



Align TP-25 with the assembly.

08



Screw TP-25 to the straight connector using three screws.

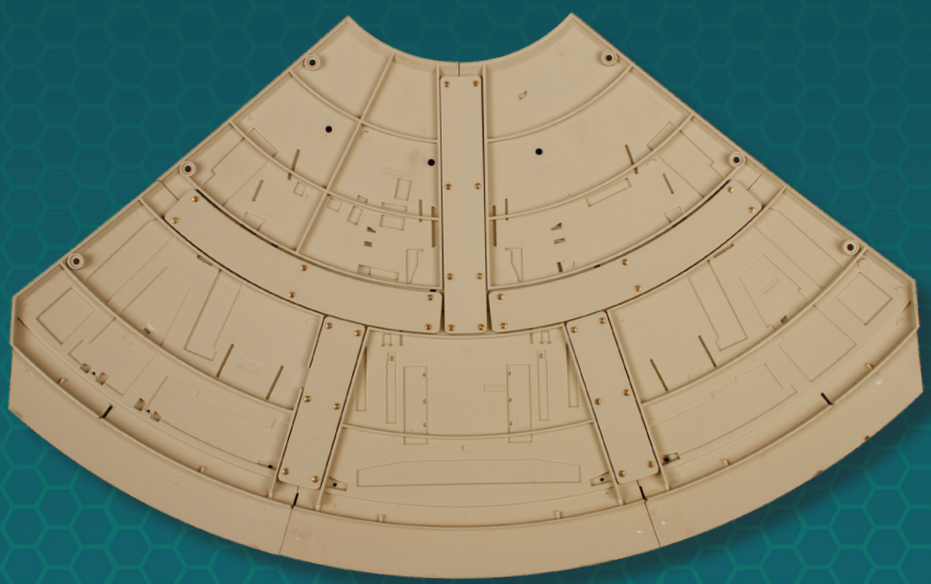
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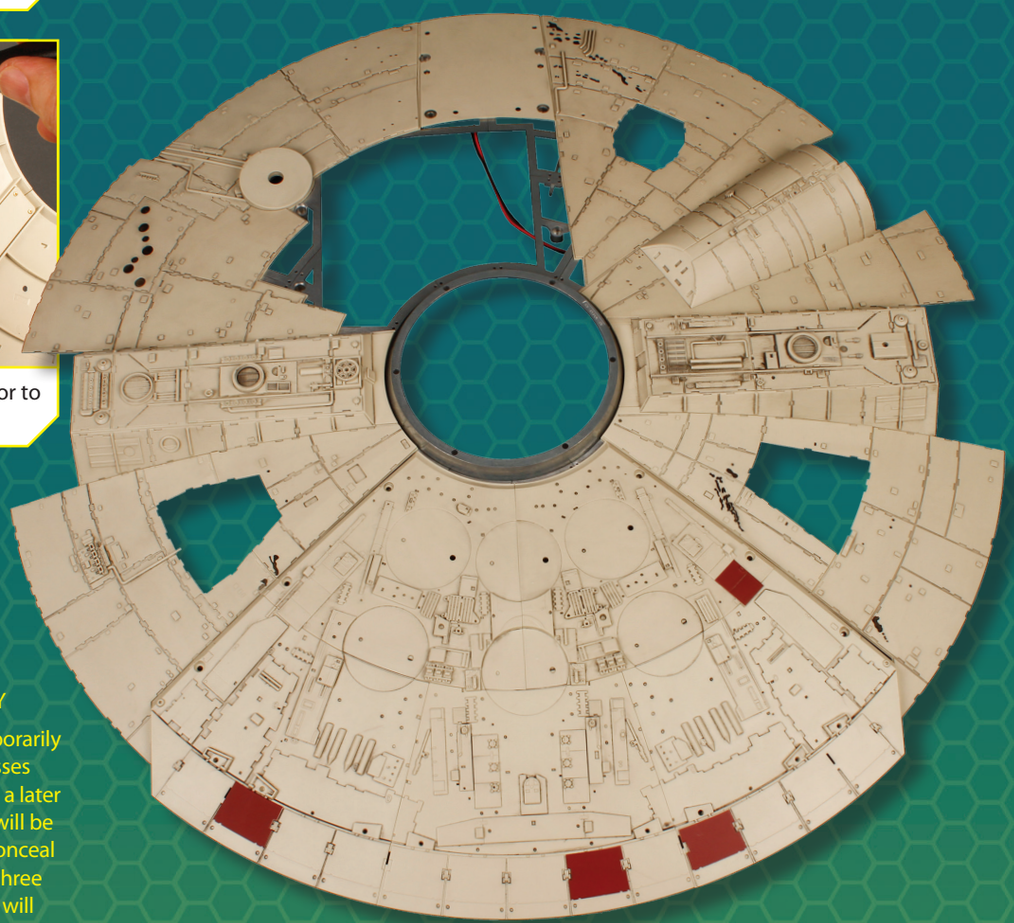


Screw TP-25 to the curved connector to complete the assembly.

UNDERSIDE OF COMPLETED ASSEMBLY

This shows the position of the two connectors added this time.





TOP VIEW OF COMPLETED ASSEMBLY

This shows the engine bay cover temporarily placed on the upper hull. The six recesses will be covered by the engine vents at a later stage, and the numerous small holes will be used to mount plant-on details that conceal any noticeable panel joints. Note the three holes down each straight edge. These will be used for the fixing bolts.

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STAR WARS MILLENNIUM FALCON

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