77

STAR WARS MILLENNIUM FALCON

BUILD THE MODEL – EXPLORE THE GALAXY



THE *FINALIZER*

FANHOME

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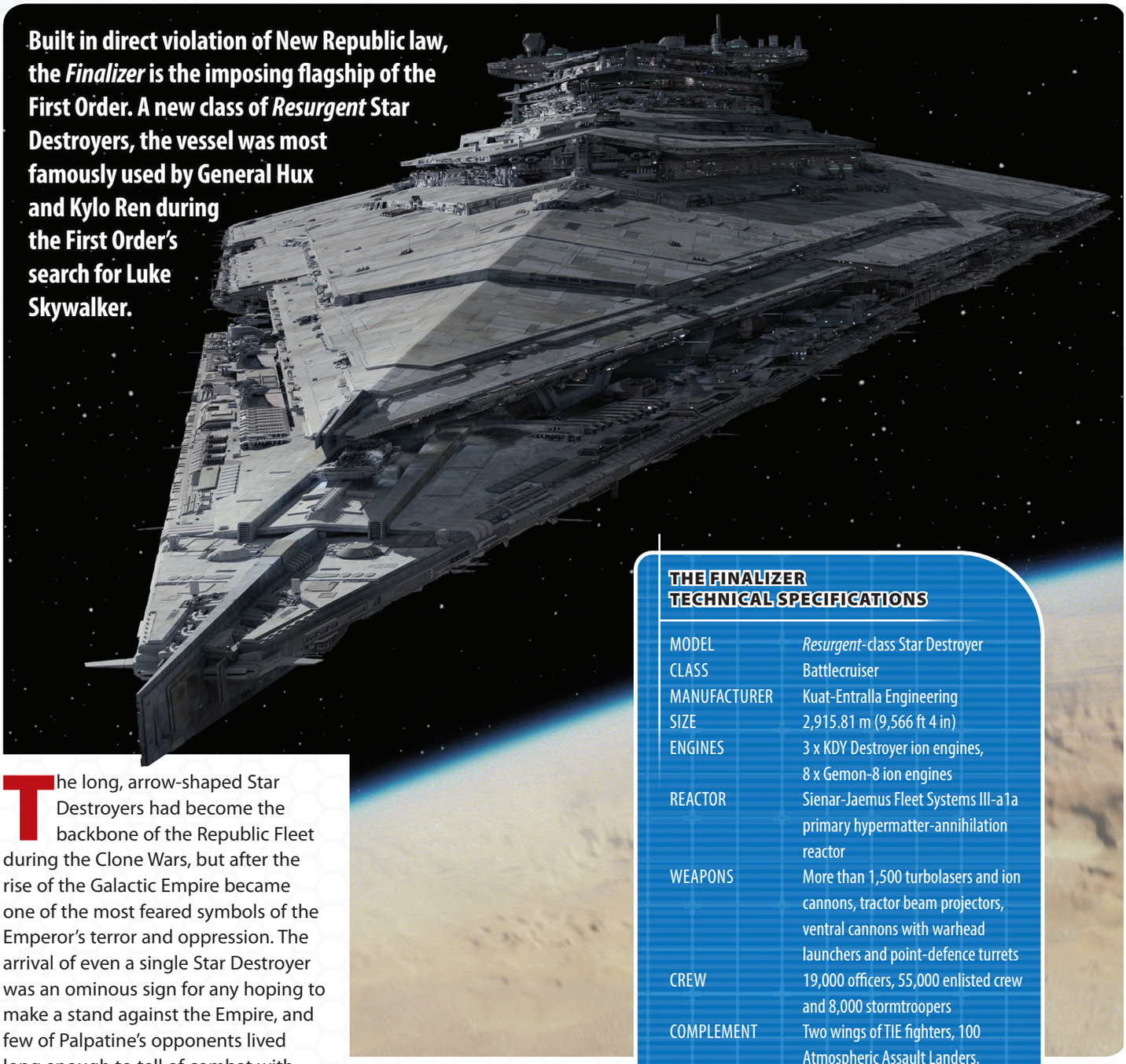
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RESURGENT-CLASS STAR DESTROYER

THE *FINALIZER* – FIRST ORDER FLAGSHIP

Built in direct violation of New Republic law, the *Finalizer* is the imposing flagship of the First Order. A new class of *Resurgent* Star Destroyers, the vessel was most famously used by General Hux and Kylo Ren during the First Order's search for Luke Skywalker.



The long, arrow-shaped Star Destroyers had become the backbone of the Republic Fleet during the Clone Wars, but after the rise of the Galactic Empire became one of the most feared symbols of the Emperor's terror and oppression. The arrival of even a single Star Destroyer was an ominous sign for any hoping to make a stand against the Empire, and few of Palpatine's opponents lived long enough to tell of combat with such a behemoth.

When the remnants of the defeated Galactic Empire, later to become known as the Old Empire, banded together to

The construction of the *Finalizer* directly contravened the demilitarizing treaties signed by the Empire after its defeat at Endor and the establishment of the New Republic, but was built in secrecy, in the First Order's hidden factories in the Unknown Regions.

THE FINALIZER TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

MODEL	*Resurgent*-class Star Destroyer
CLASS	Battlecruiser
MANUFACTURER	Kuat-Entralla Engineering
SIZE	2,915.81 m (9,566 ft 4 in)
ENGINES	3 x KDY Destroyer ion engines, 8 x Gemon-8 ion engines
REACTOR	Sienar-Jaemus Fleet Systems III-a1a primary hypermatter-annihilation reactor
WEAPONS	More than 1,500 turbolasers and ion cannons, tractor beam projectors, ventral cannons with warhead launchers and point-defence turrets
CREW	19,000 officers, 55,000 enlisted crew and 8,000 stormtroopers
COMPLEMENT	Two wings of TIE fighters, 100 Atmospheric Assault Landers, ground vehicles and a prefabricated groundbase
AFFILIATION	First Order

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KYBER-POWERED WEAPONRY

One of the secrets dating to the Imperial era that the First Order has been keen to exploit from its bases and factories in the Unknown Regions, far out of sight of the New Republic, is the use of kyber crystals in large-scale weaponry. The *Finalizer*'s weapons are strengthened by kyber-focusing crystals, boosting their power and recharge rates. With military-grade crystals a rare sight, kyber-powered weaponry remains a privilege for only the most important ships in the fleet, hence its use on General Hux and Kylo Ren's flagship.

form the First Order, there was no doubt that the Star Destroyer would remain a central part of its fleet. In its secret factories in the Unknown Regions, the First Order worked with Kuat-Entralla Engineering – one of the many new mega-manufacturers that had survived the Military Disarmament Act by merging – to develop a new class of Destroyer. This new model was so large that it was classified as a battle cruiser, a designation for ships that were larger than Star Destroyers but smaller than Star Dreadnaughts.

LESSONS FROM THE PAST

The new model, named the *Resurgent*-class Star Destroyer, is a true leviathan, measuring 2,915.81 m (9,566 ft 4 in) long, almost twice the length of an *Imperial*-class Star Destroyer. The class is in many ways similar to the older Destroyers of the Emperor's fleet, featuring the familiar triangular design with an asymmetrical bridge in an elevated position, but has the distinctive appearance of almost being made up of a smaller Star Destroyer attached to a larger one.

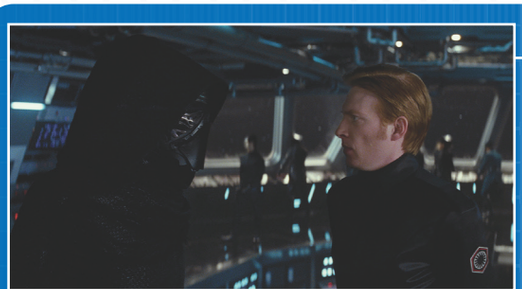
An earlier ship, the versatile Clone Wars-era *Venator*-class, was the inspiration for the dorsal flight deck, prominent keel and side hangars – each of which had a specific flight-control bridge to oversee arrivals and departures. The *Resurgent*'s larger, main hangar is joined to a sizable ventral



The interior of the *Finalizer* was deliberately modelled on the cold, utilitarian aesthetic of the Empire's Star Destroyers.



One of the highest-ranking members of the First Order, General Hux answered directly to Supreme Leader Snoke, and, on board the *Finalizer,* led the search for the disappeared Luke Skywalker.



CHAIN OF COMMAND

With a crew of more than 60,000, the *Finalizer* requires a carefully structured chain of command. Its chief commanders Hux and Kylo Ren are assisted by Captain Phasma and numerous bridge officers, including Lieutenant Dopheld Mithaka and Chief Petty Officer Unamo, as well as a great many of lower-ranking personnel.

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MISSION TO FIND LUKE

VIOLATION OF TREATIES

While it could be said that the New Republic never took the threat of the First Order seriously, General Leia Organa of the Resistance realized quickly that the vast new battle cruisers violated the treaties that had been signed between the New Republic and the Galactic Empire forbidding the production of such warlike vessels. Nevertheless, reported sightings of *Resurgent*-class vessels were dismissed by some in the New Republic as Resistance warmongering, but the First Order was indeed readying itself for a return to all-out war, and in the process of constructing its Starkiller Base. The last mission to be accomplished before an assured First Order victory was to find and kill the legendary Luke Skywalker, the only person who could bring back the Jedi Knights – and hope of a lasting peace – to the galaxy.



The *Finalizer* was the First Order's most prominent flagship, commanded by General Hux and Kylo Ren, and was used for the ongoing hunt for Luke Skywalker.



The capture of Resistance ace pilot Poe Dameron following an attack on Jakku was a significant victory for the First Order, and he was immediately taken aboard the *Finalizer* for interrogation by Kylo Ren.

docking bay, with a reception bay for welcoming dignitaries.

Lastly, a key Imperial design flaw was also corrected in the new model. The command bridge, whose vulnerability was exposed with the destruction of the *Executor* during the Battle of Endor, was better protected, and the control systems were spread throughout different command stations aboard the vessel, which included an emergency bridge. The main bridge itself is still fitted out with pits for its crew members and large, segmented transparisteel windows, though multiple command stations have been added to the walls of the bridge.

HOME OF THE FIRST ORDER

Because the First Order, in the years since its foundation, hasn't established as many outposts as the Empire had commanded at the height of its power, the *Finalizer* was not built to be just a capital war ship – it was also designed to be a carrier for First Order ships, vehicles and troops. The flagship of General Hux and Kylo Ren carries two wings of starfighters (exact numbers are not known, but would include 150 TIE fighters if the First Order follows the Imperial standard of 72 fighters per wing),100 Atmospheric Assault Landers, and a full legion of stormtroopers.

In line with the new operational standards, the troopers, pilots and crew aren't simply posted aboard the *Finalizer* – it is the closest thing they have to a home. The ship is armed with more than 1,500 turbolasers and ion cannons, not to mention its deadly ventral cannons and missile turrets.

The aesthetic of the *Finalizer*'s dark interior is purposely reminiscent of the Imperial military architecture that was found aboard the Empire's capital ships and battle stations such as the iconic Death Stars.

BEHIND THE SCENES

NEW DESIGN

The *Resurgent*-class is the latest in the wide array of Star Destroyers seen across the myriad *Star Wars* productions, ranging from the iconic *Imperial*-class of the original trilogy, to the Republic's *Venator*-class seen in *The Clone Wars,* and to the more niche *Gladiator* class seen in *Star Wars: Droids*. James Clyne, VFX Art Director of *The Force Awakens*, said that it was fun to work on the new Star Destroyer because J.J. Abrams was so heavily involved in the art direction of the movie, coming up with ideas such as the new command tower. In July 2014, the final design of the First Order flagship was set and ready to be digitally modeled by ILM. The *Finalizer* was included by Hasbro in their Micro Machines line as a small ship, as well as part of a transforming playset that came with mini-figures of Kylo Ren and Finn.



***The Force Awakens'* writer and director J. J. Abrams (left) takes a break alongside another of the film's writers Lawrence Kasdan on the set of the *Finalizer*.**

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MILITARY STARSHIP CLASSIFICATION PART 4

The outermost point of the battle line in a main fleet battle was the picket line, home of the starfighter. It was the most dangerous place to be, with the smaller ships being exposed to the first wave of enemy attack.



In large-scale battles, such as the one over Coruscant during the Clone Wars, starfighters from both sides sought to disrupt the activities of the larger capital ships.

There was a certain stubborn pride to be found in those who crewed the starships of the picket lines. Their first job was dangerous enough: to scan for approaching enemy ships, a task that – in an age where electronic countermeasures and jamming gear could render scanning technology useless – often relied on little more than a good pair of eyes at a viewport. Things got no easier when battle had begun, when their role was, simply put, to make life really difficult for the enemy, giving their own capital ships freedom to slug it out for space supremacy from the line of battle.

The CIS's approach to the danger of the picket line was to use unmanned, disposable starfighters, such as the quick and maneuverable *Vulture*-class.



PICKET LINE TACTICS

In the well-funded forces of the Republic and the Empire, the picket line was considered by some to be unnecessary – close support vessels patrolling the outer edge of the sensor field often being deemed sufficient. Nevertheless, the use of a fast-moving line of small, agile craft – usually but not exclusively made up of starfighters – continued to prove beneficial.

One tactic saw the picket line drop off on detecting an approaching enemy attack to allow the fleet's more heavily armed vessels do their job unhindered. Another saw the picket line hold fast, forcing the enemy commanders to second-guess their motives: were they too slow or stubborn to withdraw, or did they hide a deadly secret – such as the modern version of the fire ship, a remotely controlled freighter loaded with explosives that could be directed at a capital ship? Whether the picket line was a throwback to times long past or not, it remained a good way to disrupt an enemy or scatter their ships.

DEFENCE AND OFFENCE

Starfighters could also help deal with certain ordnance. Large missiles could be intercepted and shot apart on approach, as could boarding craft. The latter could also be 'cleaned off' a capital ship even after they had engaged, though doing so took very skilled piloting. Bombers presented another threat to be dealt with. Then, as well as tackling enemy craft, friendlies needed to be escorted to their targets to best deliver their lethal payloads. Lastly, of course, starfighter pilots needed to deal with other starfighters – then get back to the mess room to tell ever more exaggerated tales of derring-do.

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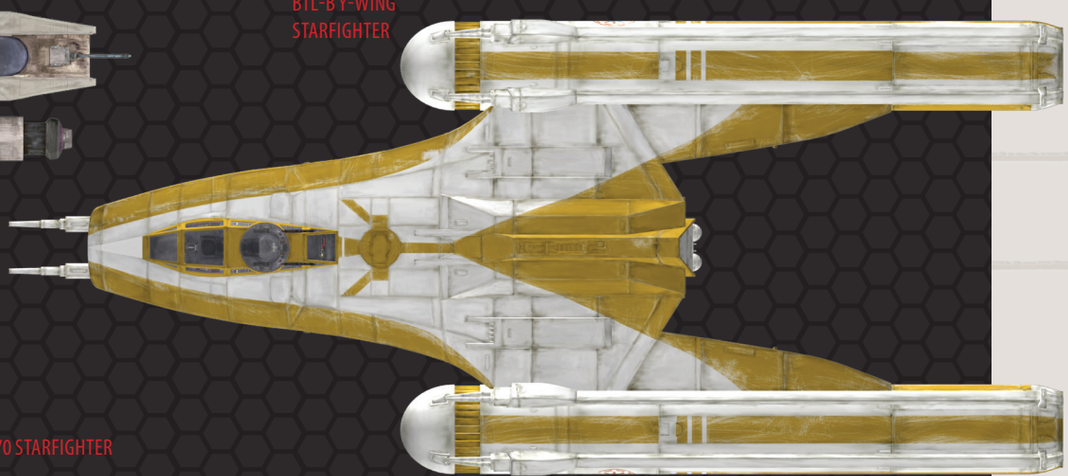
CLONE WARS ERA: REPUBLIC STARFIGHTERS

In the very early stages of the Clone Wars, the Republic craft flown by clones often struggled to keep up – both with the Jedi, who used their own starfighters, and, more worryingly, their droid opponents. As a result, the V-19 *Torrent* and later ARC-170 starfighters were designed to be quick enough to outrun an assault, and tough enough to soak up punishment that would have scrapped a droid starfighter. The Republic craft needed to deal out damage, too. The BTL-B Y-wing was introduced to provide fast and sure bombing and missile capabilities, while the V-wing, brought in towards the end of the war, could both keep up with Jedi and droid fighters, and deliver significant blows to enemy craft.

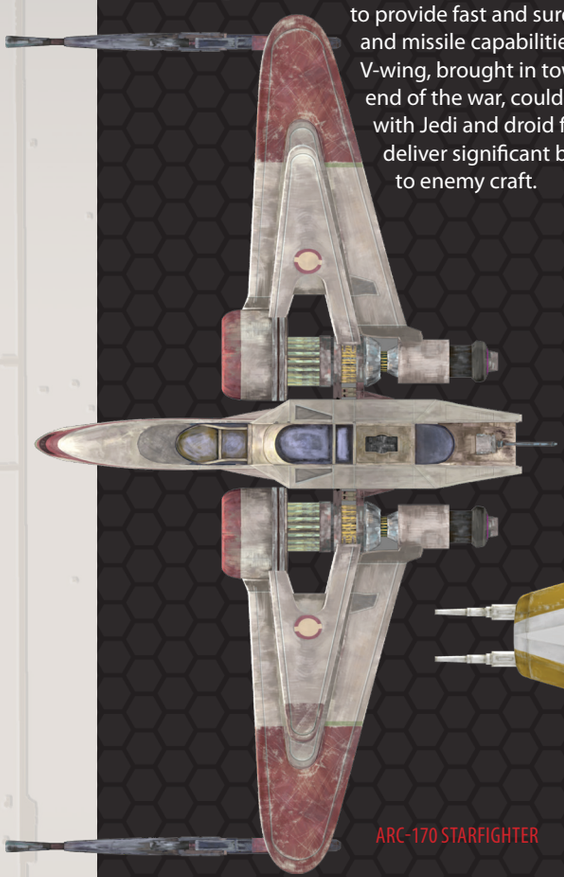


V-19 TORRENT STARFIGHTER

ALPHA-3 *NIMBUS*-CLASS V-WING STARFIGHTER



BTL-B Y-WING STARFIGHTER



ARC-170 STARFIGHTER

SEPARATIST STARFIGHTERS

The Separatist vulture droid, tri-fighter, and hyena fighter/bomber were all guided by integrated droid brains. Without having to worry about physical stresses on an organic pilot, or even the basic comforts required, droid fighters could perform maneuvers organic pilots could not, making them exceptionally dangerous. However, the droids were unable to react or to improvise in the way an organic pilot could, meaning they had to be fielded in far greater numbers. The droid fighters were doubly dangerous to capital ships they faced. Without having to be concerned about the loss of experienced pilots, it wasn't unusual for CIS commanders to order their fighter craft to make suicide runs to destroy an enemy.



DROID TRI-FIGHTER

VULTURE-CLASS DROID STARFIGHTER



HYENA-CLASS DROID FIGHTER/BOMBER



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YOUR NEXT PARTS

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST

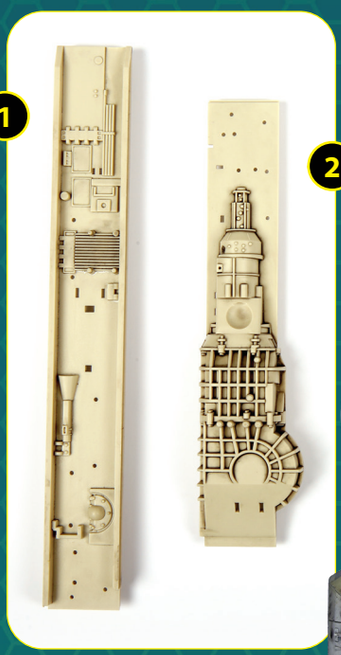
1. Side panel SP-16 (mandible)
2. Side panel SP-15 (mandible)
3. Side frame SF-08 (mandible) x 2
4. Side frame SF-09 (mandible)
5. Plant-on details (7 on sprue)

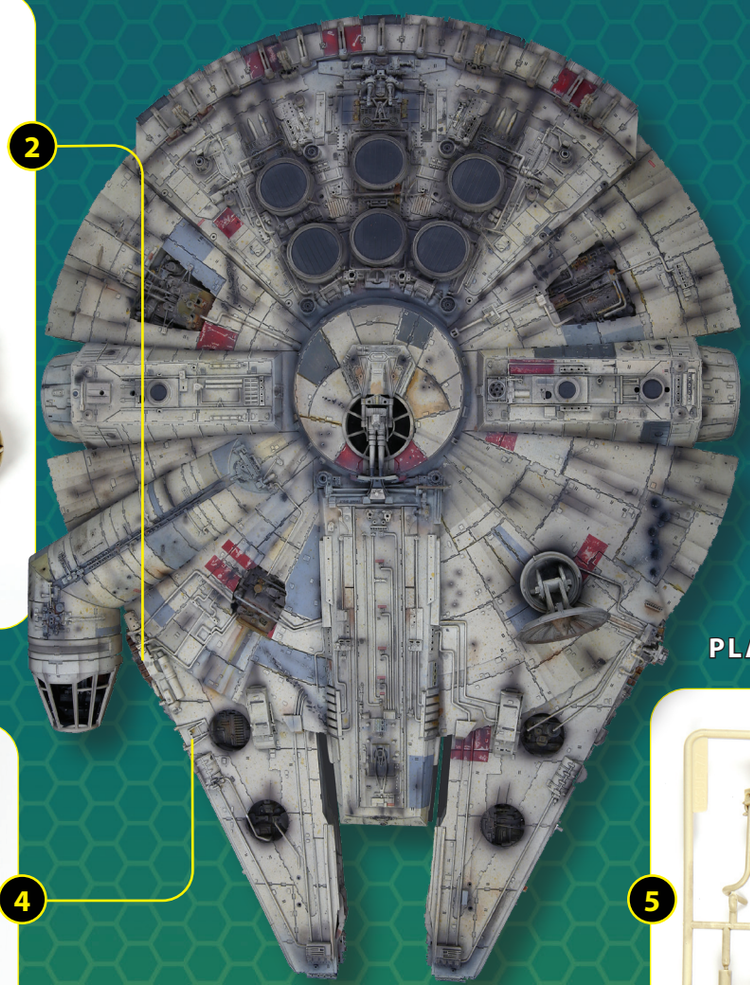
This issue's parts include the first side panels and frames for the starboard mandible. These will be used to join the upper and lower panels, but first you need to add the four recesses and plant-on details to the plating.

The top and bottom panels of the starboard mandible each have two circular recesses, which you assembled in Stages 75 and 76. As with the recesses on the main hull, you can paint these with shades of gray to simulate layers of grime, then screw them underneath the plating. With that done, you can add the long pieces of external pipework supplied with Issue 75 and this issue.

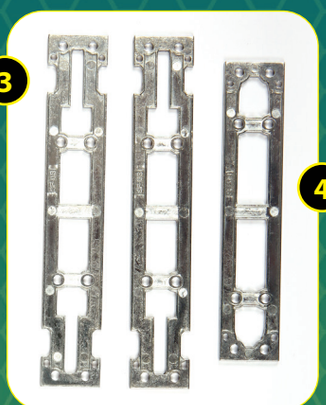
WHERE THE PARTS FIT

HULL PANELS

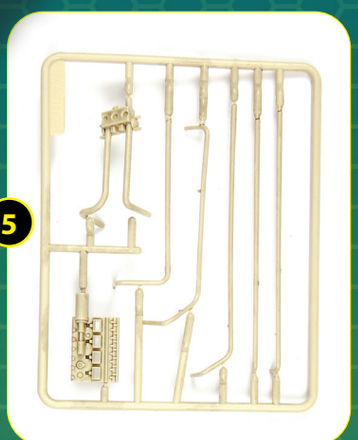




SIDE FRAMES



PLANT-ON DETAILS



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FINISHING THE RECESSES

Like the recesses you assembled in earlier stages, finishing the surface with spray paint will add a used, grimy appearance. You may wish to refer back to the first example in Stage 19, although there is no need for any of the recesses to match each other exactly.

01



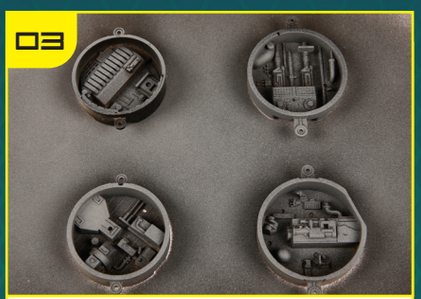
Shake the can well to mix the color, and spray lightly from 20-30cm.

02



Start with matte black paint, making sure all areas are covered, and leave to dry.

03



Spray light coats of mid-gray and light gray to pick up the high spots.

FITTING THE RECESSES

Each of the recesses is held in place against the underside of the plating using two brass self-tapping screws. Identify all four carefully to make sure you fit them in the right positions and the right way round.



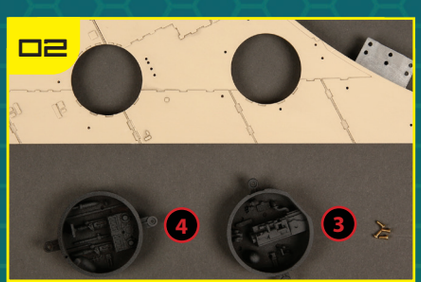
The completed recesses should look like this. The numbers refer to their fitting positions in the following steps. Use the pictures at the top of page 8 and the bottom of page 9 to see which way round they fit.

01



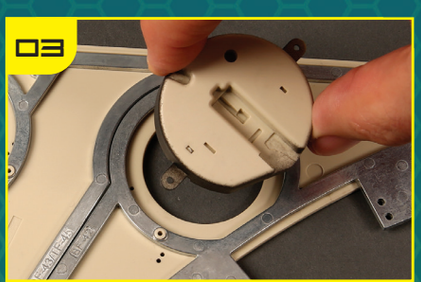
Recesses (1) and (2) fit into the upper side of the mandible in the positions shown.

02



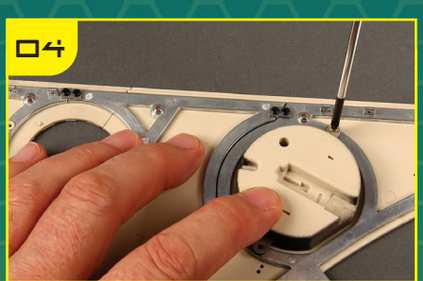
Recesses (3) and (4) fit into the lower side of the mandible in the positions shown.

03



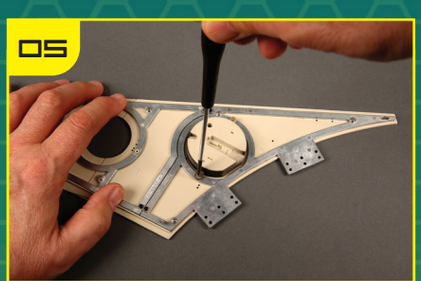
Fit each recess under the hole in the frame and plating, lining up its two lugs.

04



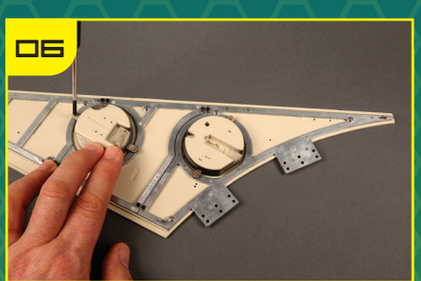
Fit a brass self-tapping screw through one lug and into the plating.

05



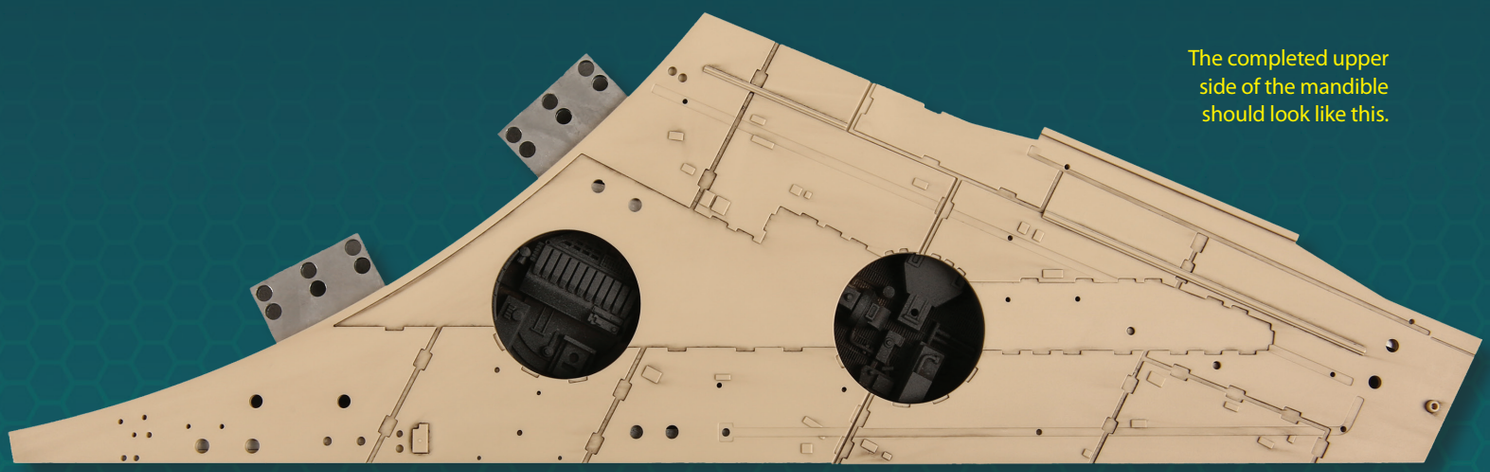
Fit a second screw through the other lug and tighten both carefully.

06



Repeat Steps 3 to 5 to fix all four of the recesses in place.

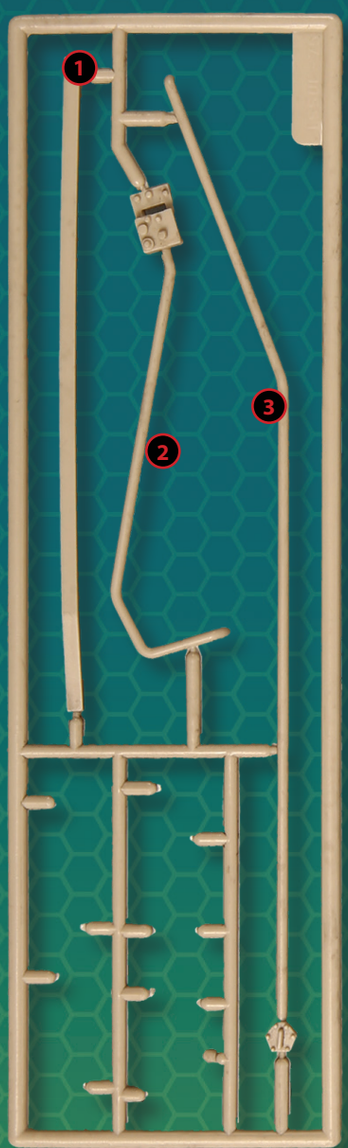
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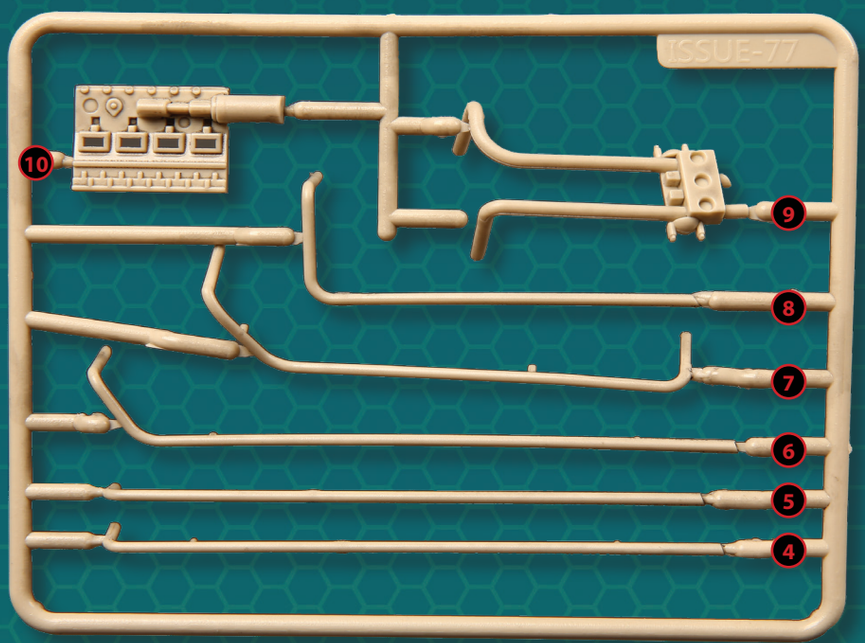


The completed upper side of the mandible should look like this.

ADDING PLANT-ON DETAILS

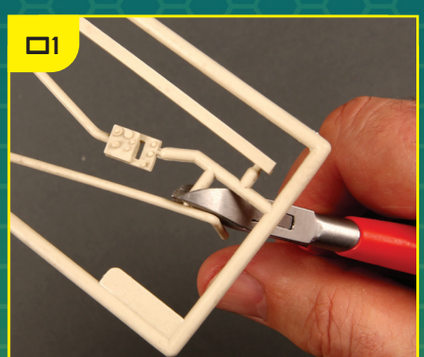
Seven of the ten plant-on details on the lower side of the mandible are supplied on the sprue that comes with this issue. The other three are on the sprue that you began using in Stage 75.





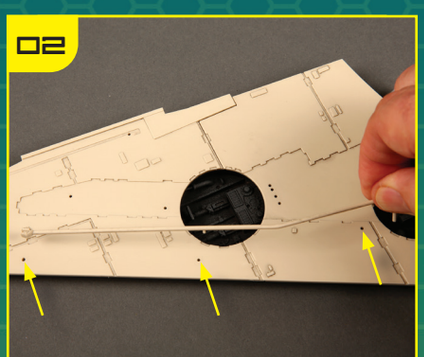
The numbers on the parts refer to their fitting positions in the following steps. Use the picture at the bottom of page 9 to see exactly where they fit.

01



Carefully remove each plant-on detail from the sprue as you need it.

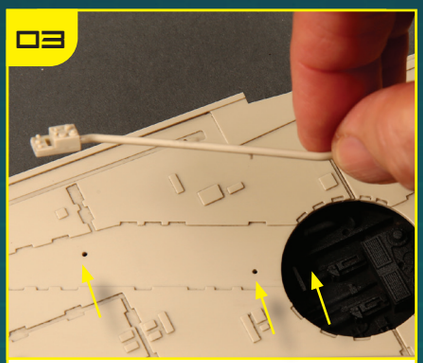
02



Glue the pins on (1) into the arrowed holes in the panel and recess.

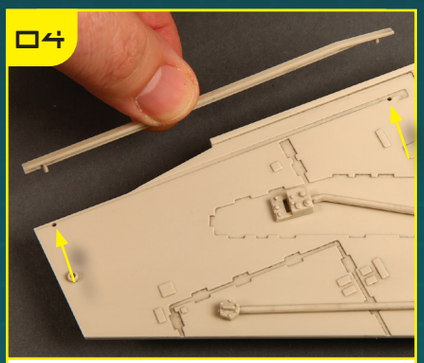
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03



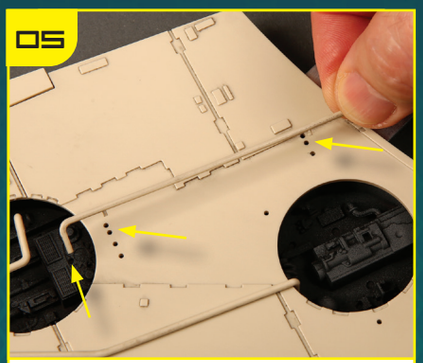
Glue the pins on (2) into the arrowed holes in the panel and recess.

04



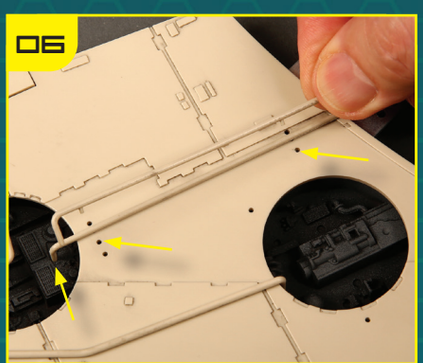
Glue the pins on (3) into the arrowed holes in the panel.

05



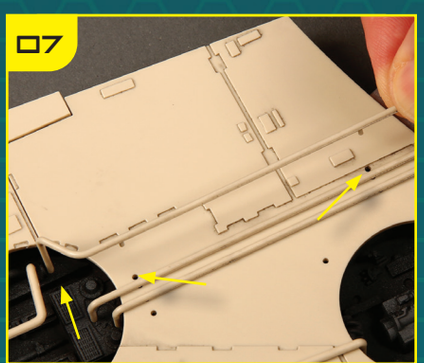
Glue the pins on (4) into the arrowed holes in the panel and recess.

06



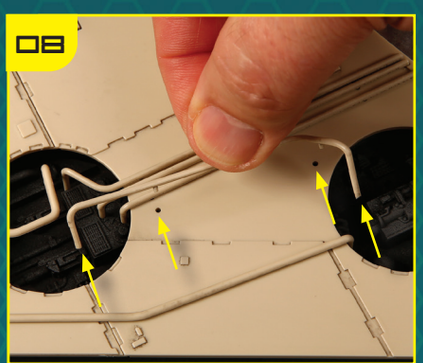
Glue the pins on (5) into the arrowed holes in the panel and recess.

07



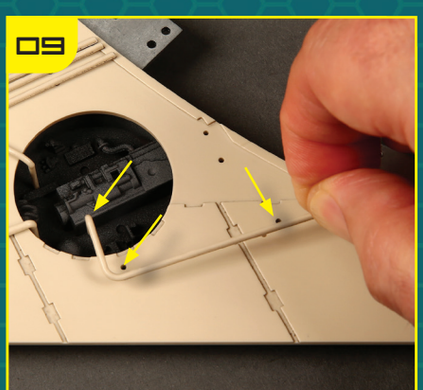
Glue the pins on (6) into the arrowed holes in the panel and recess.

08



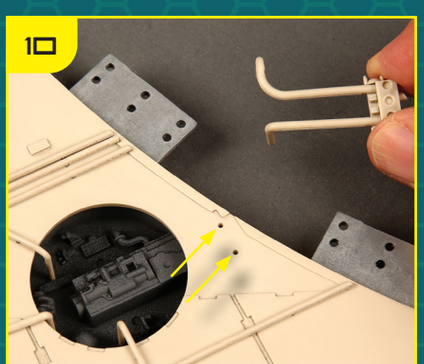
Glue the pins on (7) into the arrowed holes in the panel and recesses.

09



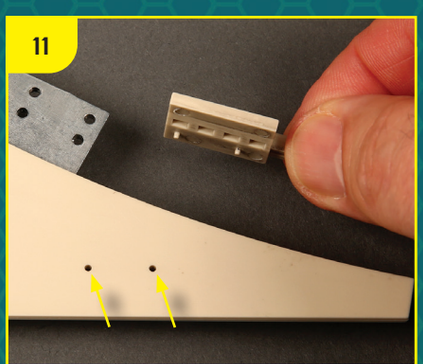
Detail (8) fits like this.

10



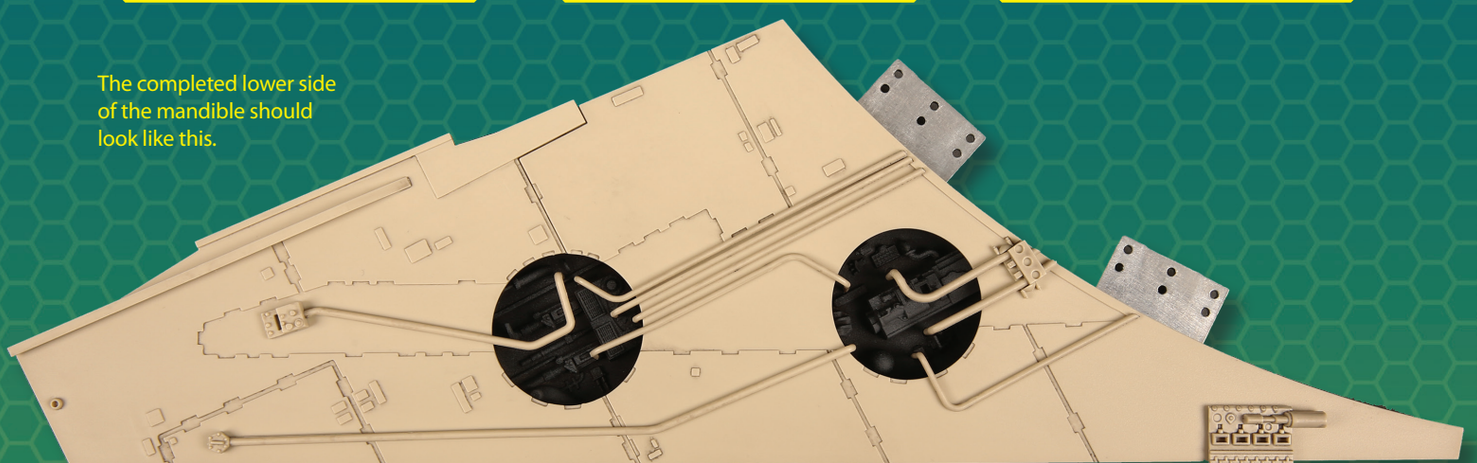
Glue the pins on (9) into the arrowed holes in the panel.

11



Glue the pins on (10) into the arrowed holes in the panel.

The completed lower side of the mandible should look like this.



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