STAR WARS MILLENNIUM FALCON

BUILD THE MODEL – EXPLORE THE GALAXY



H2 EXECUTIVE SHUTTLE

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LUXURY TRANSPORT

H-2 EXECUTIVE SHUTTLE

A late-Republic vessel whose cost and design spoke volumes of the decadence of the era, the H-2 executive shuttle reached the height of its popularity during the Clone Wars.



That the H-2 executive shuttle was designed for the elite was perhaps made most clear by its limitations when compared to other cheaper but more serviceable craft. Designed and built by Slayn & Korpil, and brought into service during the second year of the Clone Wars, the H-2 could not safely leave the atmosphere of a planet, operate in the vacuum of space, or survive re-entry. It was joked that only the elite could afford to keep such an expensive shuttle that could not even get them offworld.

The fact that Supreme Chancellor Palpatine of the Republic used an H-2 shuttle was to prove quite a publicity coup for its manufacturers. Even the destruction of one by a Zillo Beast did nothing to affect a brief sales spike.

H-2 REPUBLIC EXECUTIVE SHUTTLE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

MANUFACTURER	Slayn & Korpil
MODEL	H-2 executive shuttle
CLASS	In-atmosphere luxury transport
HYPERDRIVE	Aftermarket hyperdrive
ADDITIONAL	Fully configurable interior
LENGTH	14.63 m (48 ft)
MAXIMUM SPEED	1,200km/h (746 mph) in atmosphere
ARMAMENT	None
CREW	1 (pilot)
PASSENGERS	Up to 12
AFFILIATION	Republic Senate, civilian

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SECURE SHUTTLE

With its high-profile target audience in mind, Slayn & Korpil gave the H-2 shuttle the option of polarized windows, making it impossible for anyone to see in from the outside. Along with its shields, this made it difficult for an assassin to figure out the exact position of any target within. For further protection, such individuals could travel in the windowless rear compartment, as was done by the likes of Separatist Senator Mina Bonteri. While some owners added additional security features, Chancellor Palpatine did not.

Slayn & Korpil certainly knew how to cater for their audience. They knew that the galaxy's rich and famous tended to be impatient, and liked their ships fast. The H-2 was fast but, crucially, was also fitted with large, rapid-start turbo-jet engines – perfect for getting away from celebrity stalkers or journalists. Then, while speeding off, those aboard could take in the passing scenery through the shuttle's ring of large viewports, or choose to retreat to the more private enclosed space in the rear.

The shuttle's design team was also aware that its target audience liked to personalize their vehicles, so left its standard factory model open to modification.

There were a small number of H-2 shuttles kept on standby in the depths of the Senate Building on Coruscant, which in case of emergency would fly the Chancellor to safety – as was attempted during the Zillo Beast attack during the Clone Wars.



ELITE CUSTOMERS, ELITE SPECS

A standard H-2 came with a central pilot's seat up front, and four rather luxurious passenger seats just behind it. Behind them was a large, open area where passengers could stand, or where their luggage – which could include light speeder bikes or other small recreational vehicles – could be stored. All of the internal space, like the appearance of the exterior, was fully reconfigurable at, or after purchase, and different owners made their own decisions as to aesthetics and layout.

For example, Senator Mina Bonteri of the Separatist Parliament had a maroon-colored shuttle with permanently blacked-out windows. This was a security measure designed to prevent potential assassins from easily identifying and targeting those within. Bonteri traveled exclusively in the rear compartment of her shuttle, fitting this section out accordingly, and the wings of her shuttle tipped up just before landing. Rush Clovis had his H-2 shuttle decorated in gold and gray, and upgraded the shielding, but otherwise left it unchanged from factory standard.

One of the things that the majority of end users altered were the access ramps. These extended out from just below the main hatches on either side of the ship, which swung up out of the way when required, but were considered too steep by many.

PHASED OUT

As Chancellor, Palpatine had kept a small number of H-2 shuttles on Coruscant for himself and his staff, but, after the rise of the Empire, these were quickly phased out and replaced with Sienar Fleet Systems' *Lambda*-class models. With conspicuous consumption frowned upon in the new age of authoritarian rule, which even extended to the members of the Imperial Senate, much of the market for the flashy H-2 executive shuttle evaporated, and the line was eventually discontinued.



SENATE COMMANDOS

Highly trained Senate Commandos acted as the personal guard of the Chancellor, accompanying him wherever he went, and their ranks included skilled pilots – one of whom gave his life while attempting to fly Palpatine to safety in one of the Senate's H-2 shuttles. Later, the Senate Commandos would be replaced by the anonymous units of the Red Guard, with pilots from their ranks just as loyal and ready to do their duty.

The predecessors to the Emperor's Red Guard, the Senate Commandos, were a similarly elite and unwaveringly loyal unit, which included a number of highly trained pilots in their ranks.



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YOUR NEXT PARTS

This issue's parts include more plant-on details for the starboard mandible, which you will add in this stage. You also have an LED and wiring for the starboard headlight, and some parts to start the port mandible.

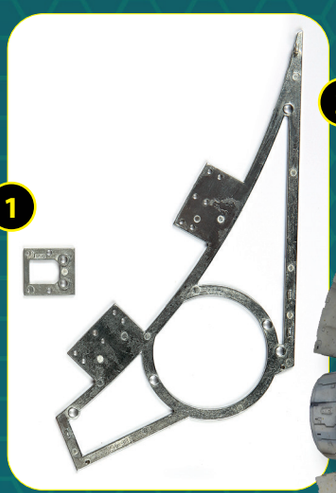
The starboard mandible was richly detailed with small kitbashed parts, which you will be adding in this stage, using the two sprues supplied with this issue and the two from Issue 78. You will also fit and test the headlight. The only parts that aren't fitted straight away are the bottom frame for the port mandible and the assembly jig to support it, both of which will be needed very soon.

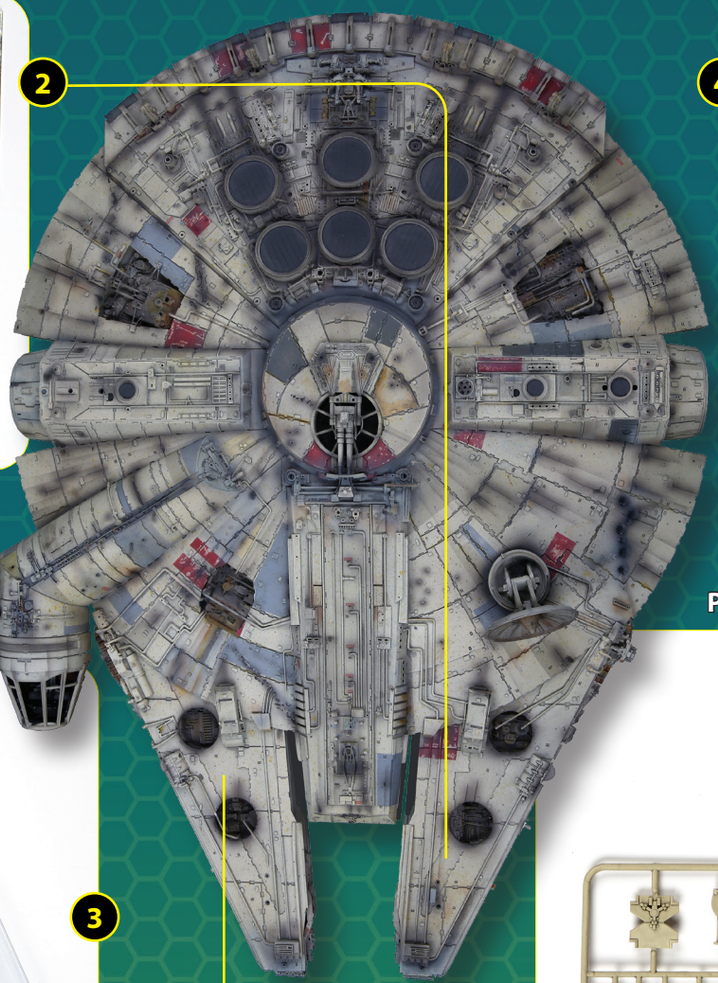
COMPONENTS CHECKLIST

- **1** Side frame SF-10 (mandible)
- **2** Bottom frame BF-45 (mandible)
- **3** Assembly jig
- **4** LED headlight
- **5** Fixing screws x 5 (including spare)
- **6** Fixing screws x 9 (including spare)
- **7** Fixing screws x 3 (including spare)
- **8** Fixing screws x 3 (including spare)
- **9** Fixing screws x 10 (including spare)
- **10** Plant-on details (13 on sprue)
- **11** Plant-on details (14 on sprue)

WHERE THE PARTS FIT

HULL FRAMES



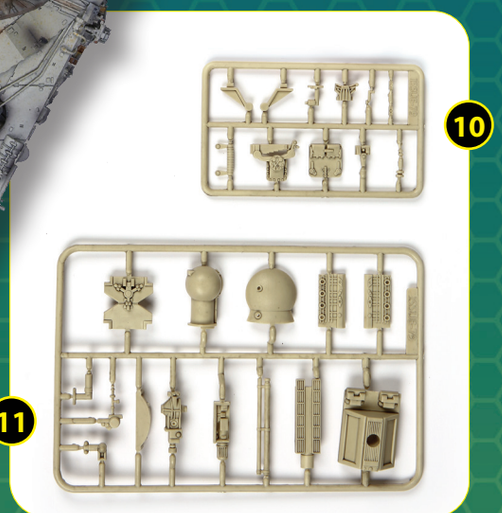




ASSEMBLY JIG



PLANT-ON DETAILS

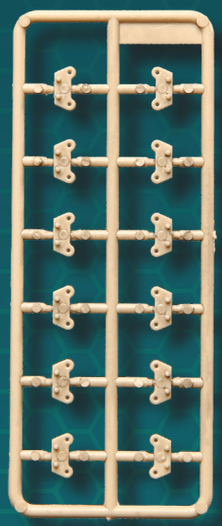


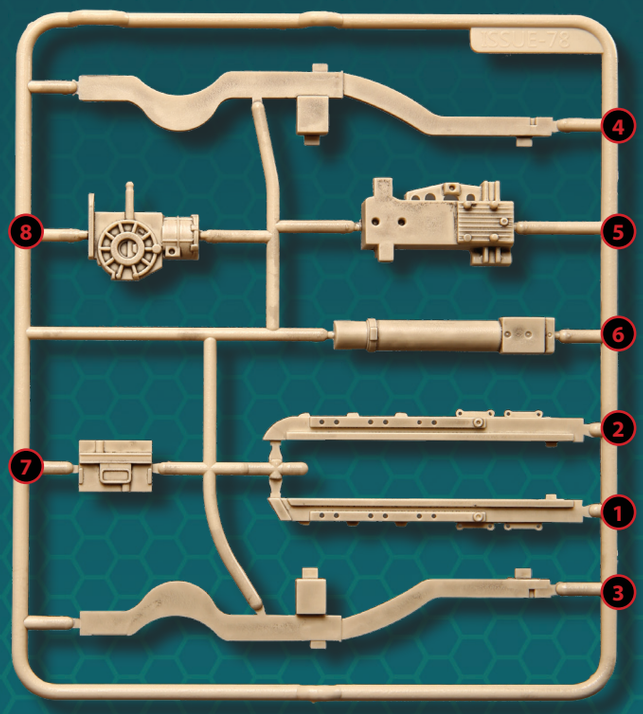
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ADDING THE INNER DETAILS

Start by applying the plant-on details to the inside face of the starboard mandible, which were provided on the two sprues from Issue 78.

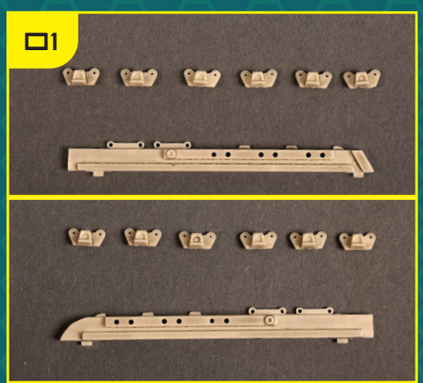
The inner face of the mandible is much less detailed than the outer, but the plant-on components are a little more complex than usual. All the parts on the smaller sprue are additional details that need to be applied to the first two parts on the larger sprue.





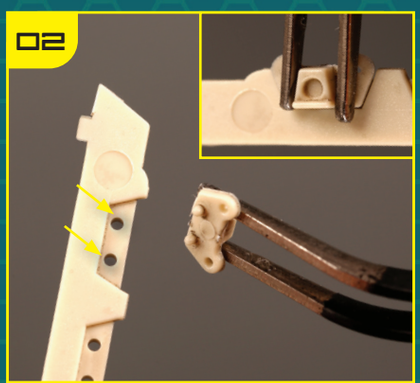
The numbers in red indicate the numbers of the details applied in the following steps.

01



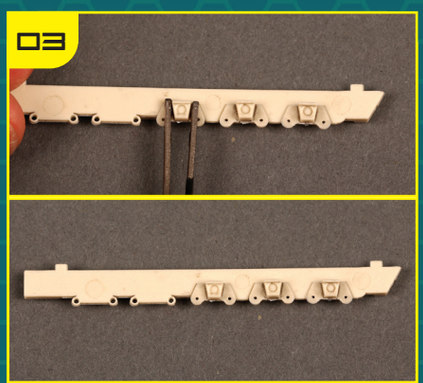
Lay out parts (1) and (2) with six of the small details, which are all identical.

02



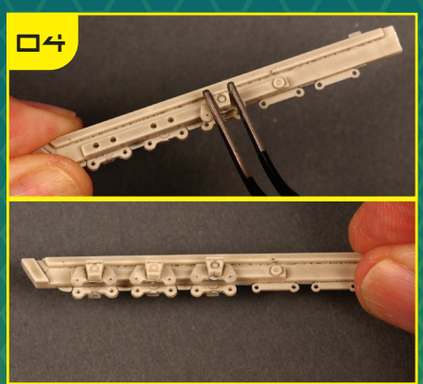
Each of the details has two pins on the back, which glue into matching holes.

03



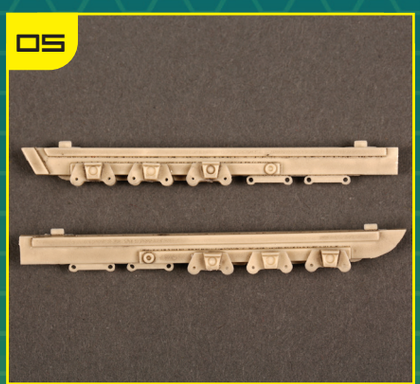
Start by gluing three of the small details to this side of (1).

04



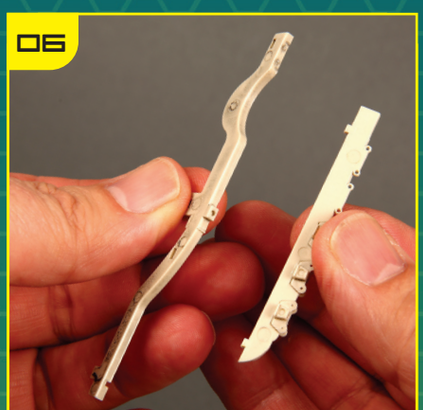
Complete (1) by adding three of the small details to the other side.

05



Complete (2) by gluing three of the details to each side in the same way.

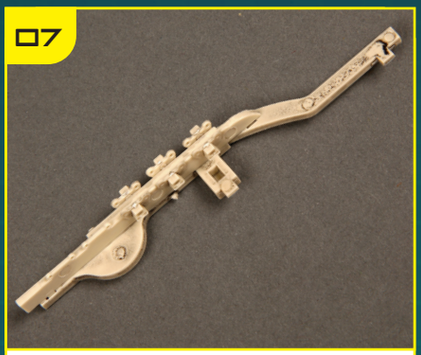
06



Align (2) with (3) as shown.

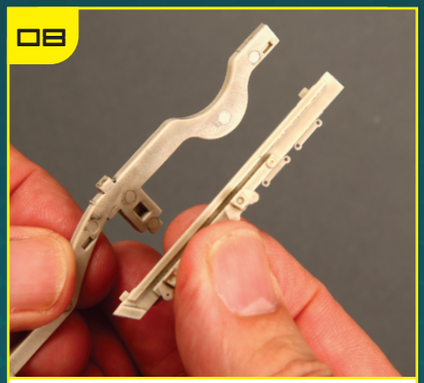
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07



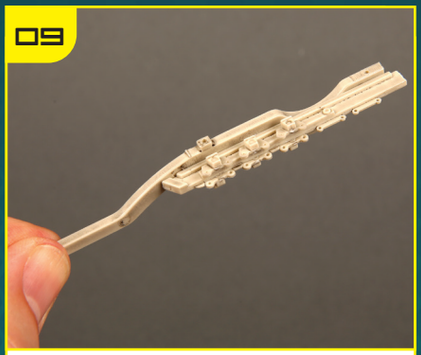
Glue (1) to (3), making sure you fit the parts the correct way round.

08



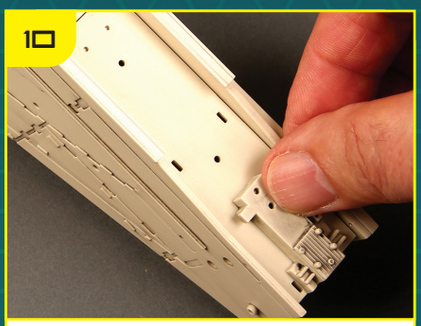
Align (2) and (4) in the same way.

09



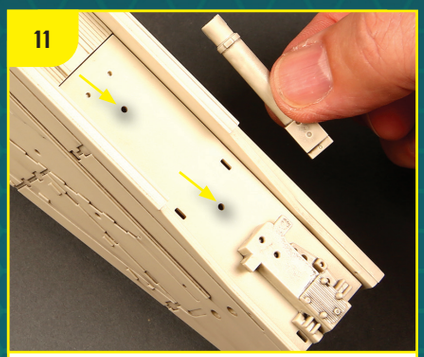
Glue (2) to (4), making sure you fit the parts the correct way round.

10



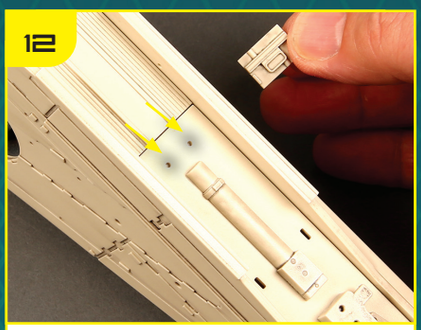
Glue the two pins on the back of (5) to the two matching holes near the tip of the mandible.

11



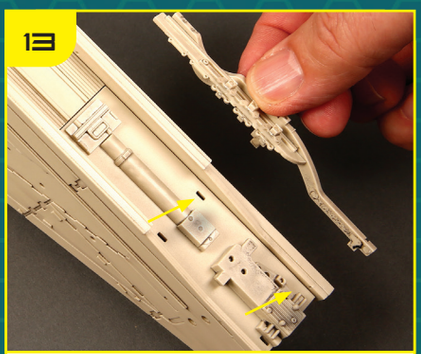
Glue the two pins on the back of (6) to these two corresponding holes.

12



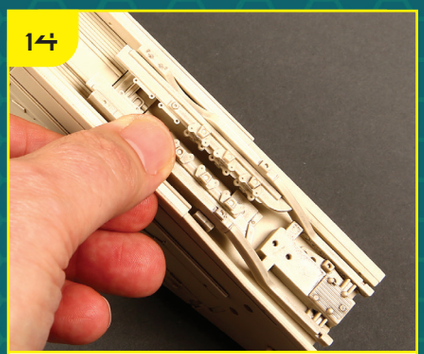
Glue the two locating pins on the back of (7) to the two matching holes next to the end of (6).

13



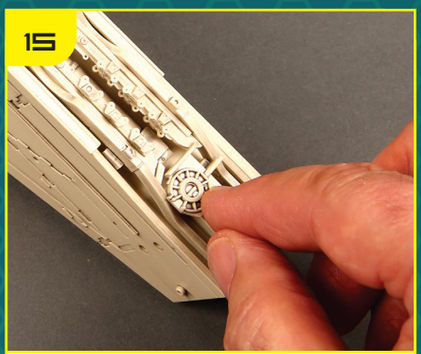
Glue the assembly from Step 7 into the two matching slots.

14



Glue the assembly from Step 9 into the two remaining slots.

15



Glue the two pins on (8) into the two matching holes in (5).

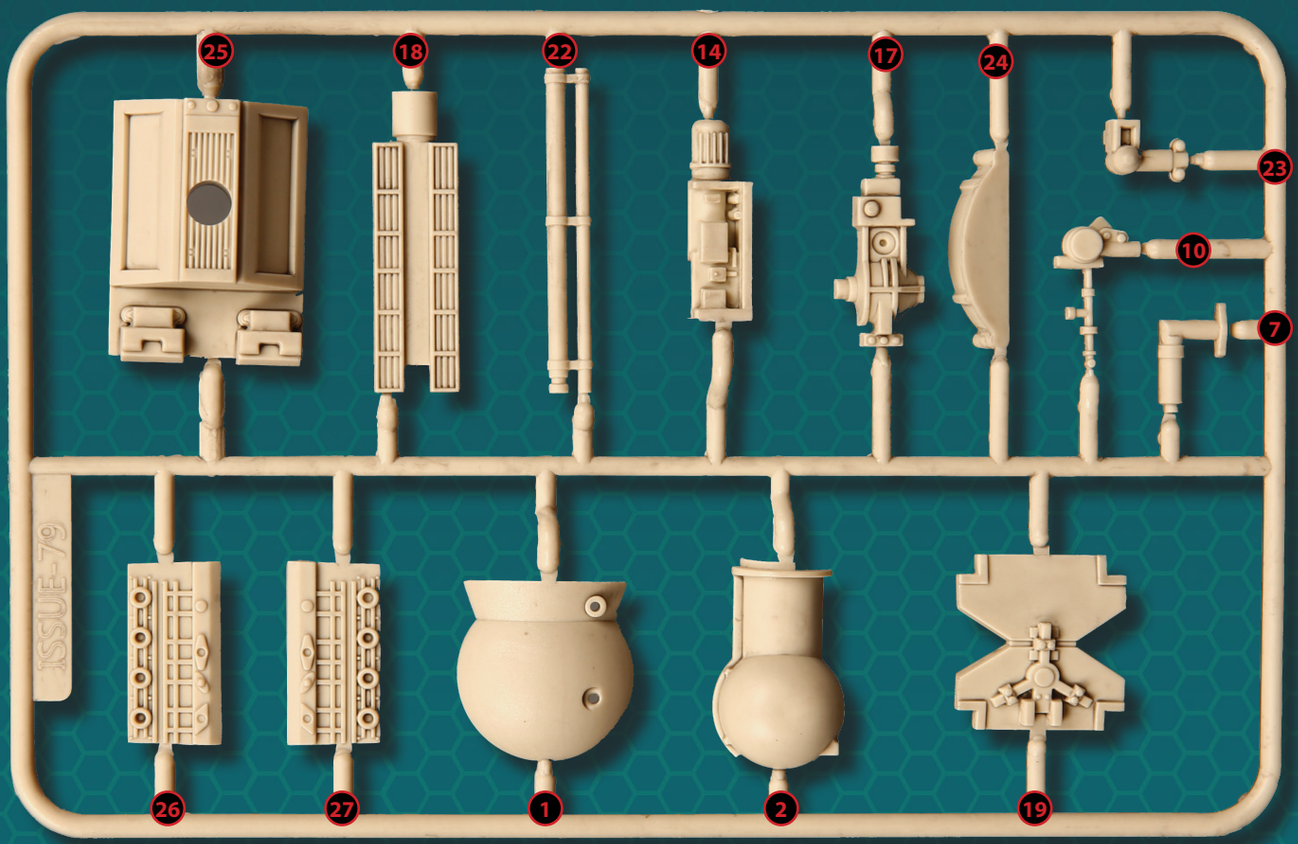


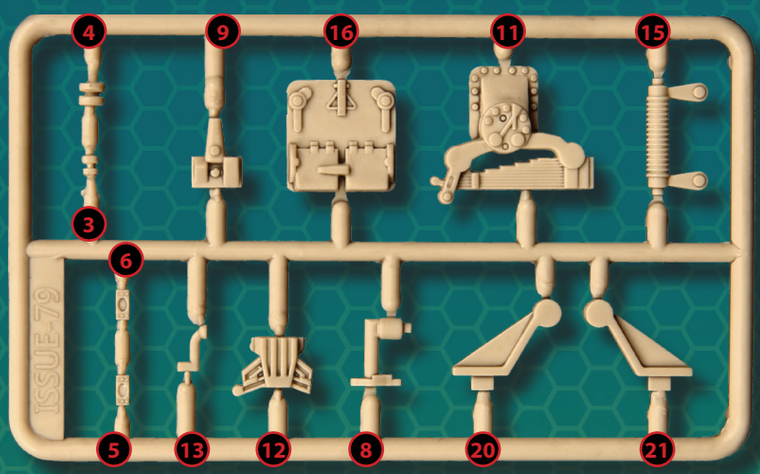
That completes the details on the inner face of the starboard mandible.

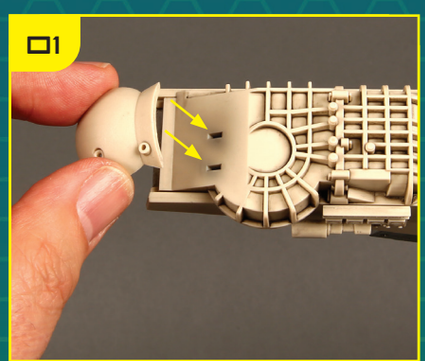
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ADDING THE OUTER DETAILS

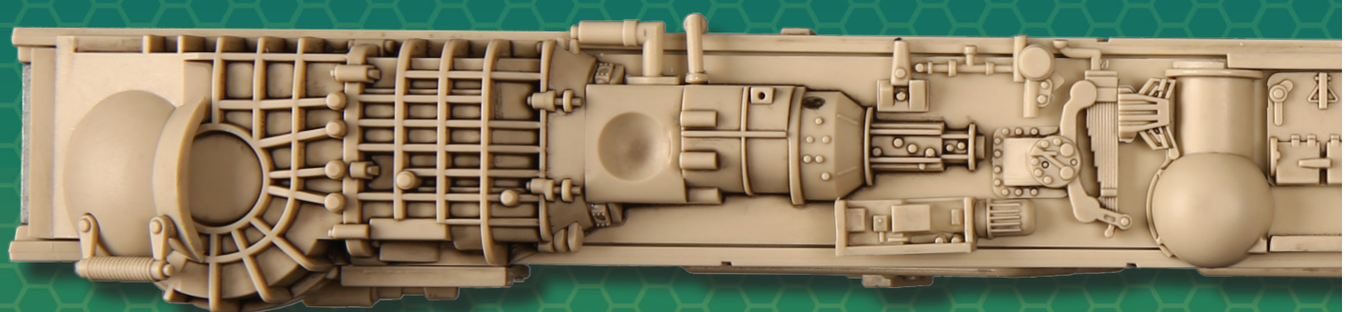
The plant-on details for the outer side of the starboard mandible are provided on the two sprues that come with this issue.





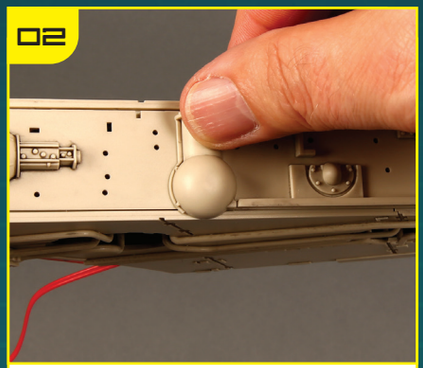


Glue the two tabs on the back of (1) to these two corresponding slots.



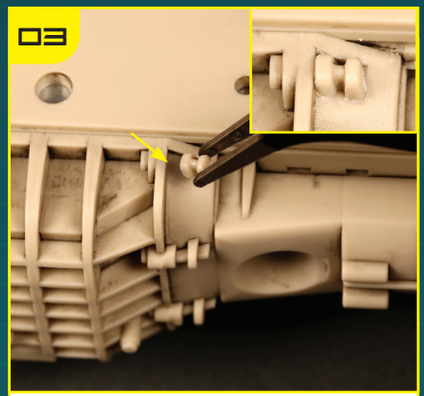
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02



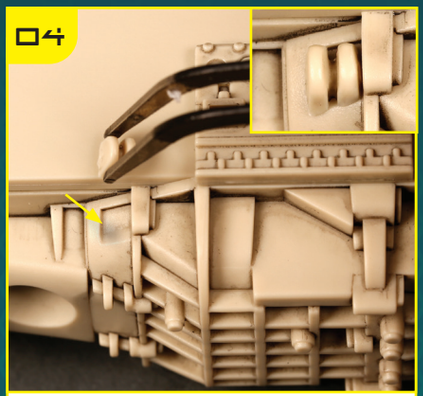
The pins on part (2) fit into four mounting holes.

03



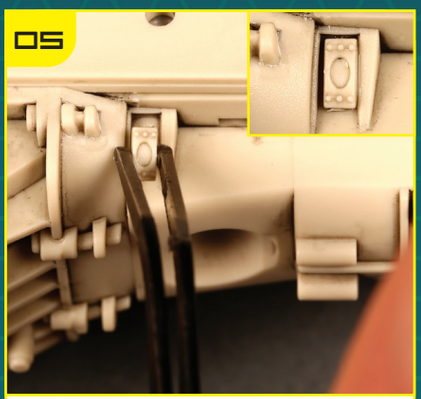
Glue (3) to the recess shown.

04



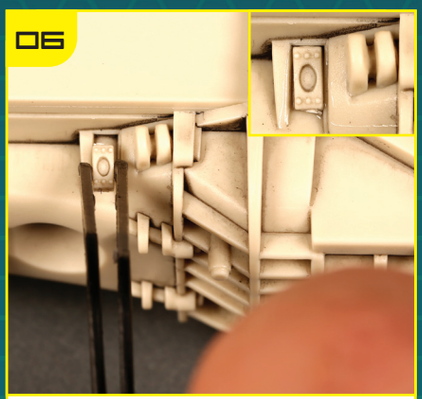
Glue (4) to the recess shown.

05



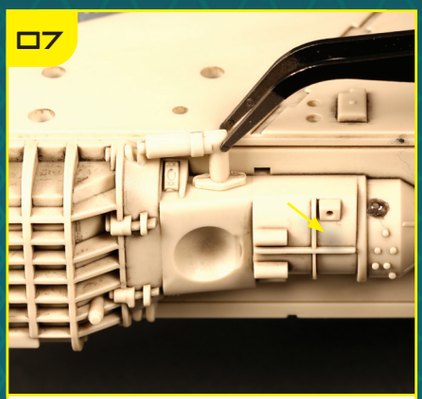
Glue (5) to the recess shown.

06



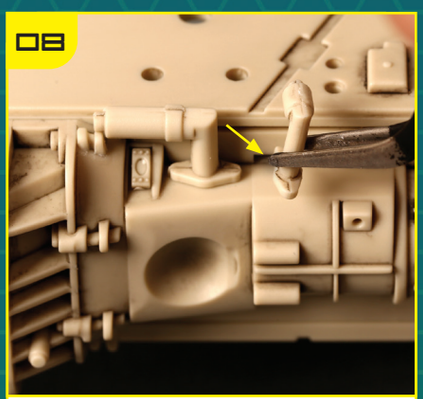
Glue (6) to the recess shown.

07



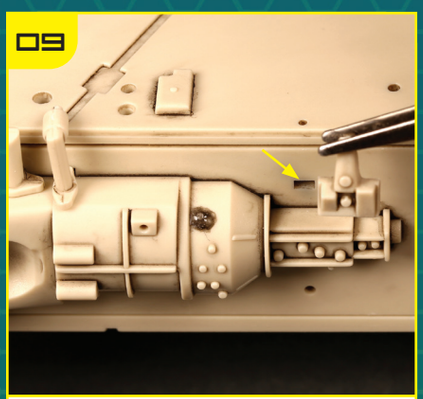
Glue (7) to its slot as shown.

08



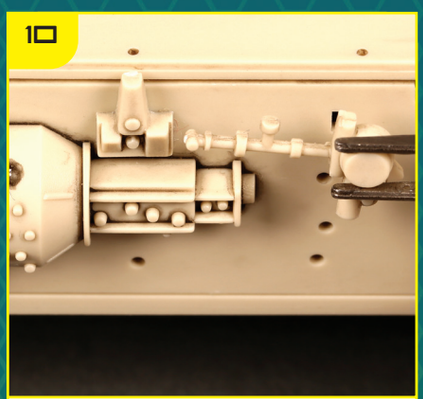
Glue (8) into the slot indicated.

09



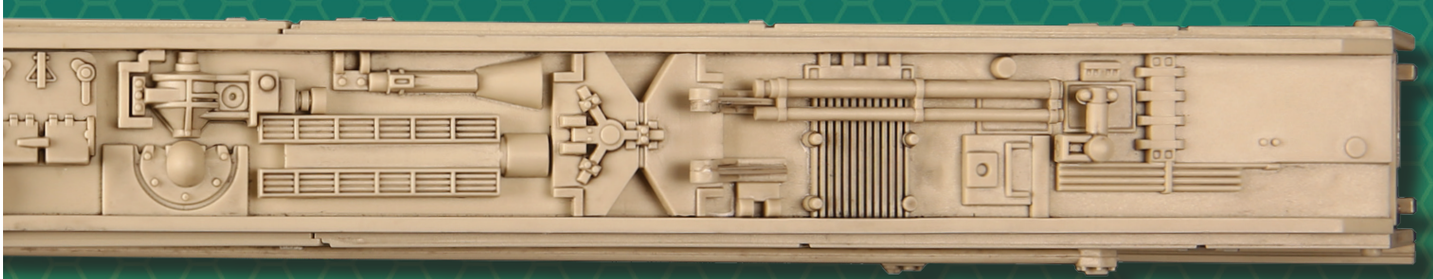
Glue (9) into the slot indicated.

10



Glue (10) to this vertical slot.

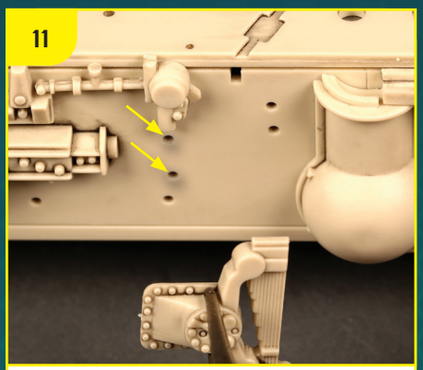
Use this side view as reference for the position of the components.



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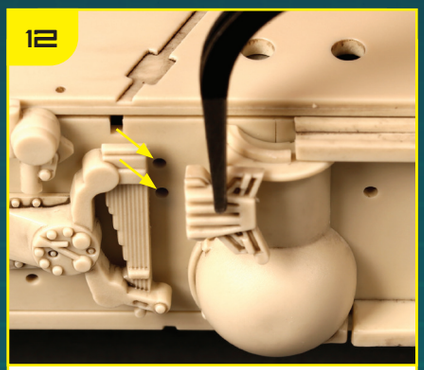
STAGE 79 ASSEMBLY

11



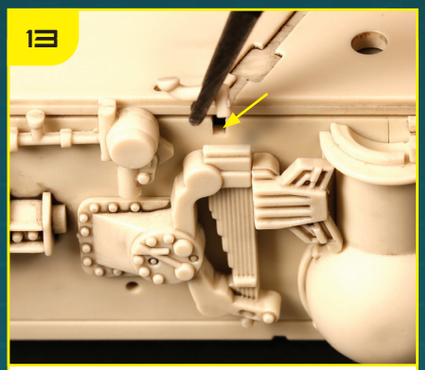
Glue the pins on (11) to these two holes.

12



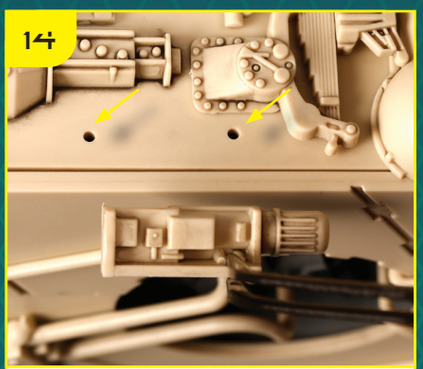
Glue the pins on (12) to these two holes.

13



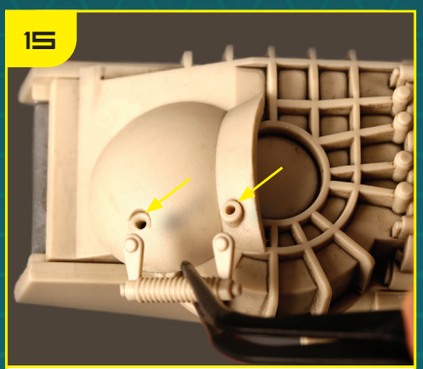
Glue (13) to the slot shown.

14



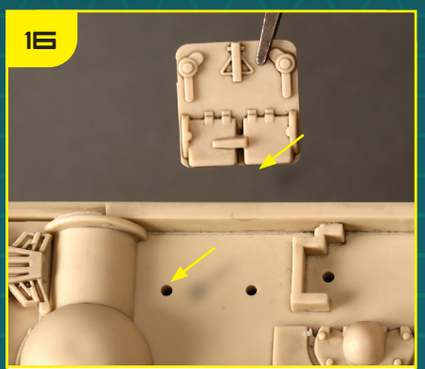
Glue the pins on (14) to these two holes.

15



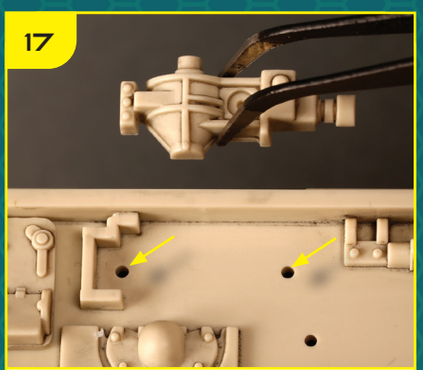
Glue the pins on (15) to these two holes.

16



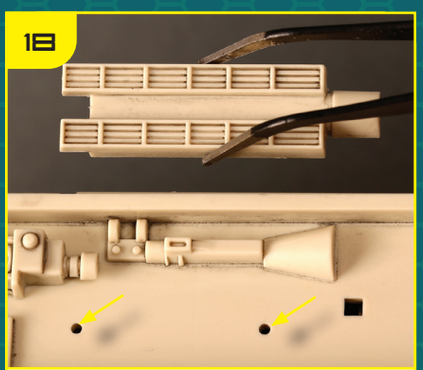
Glue the pins on (16) to these two holes.

17



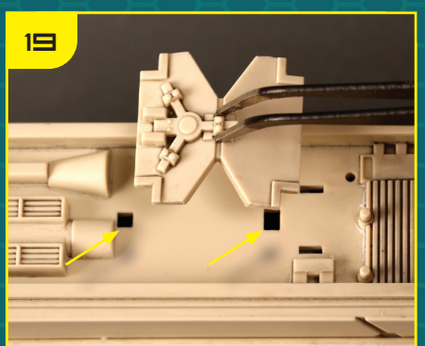
Glue the pins on (17) to these two holes.

18



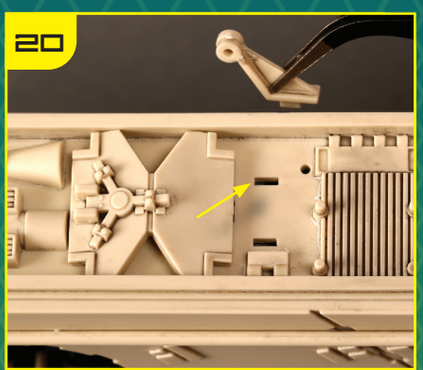
Glue the pins on (18) to these two holes.

19



Glue the tabs on (19) to these two square holes.

20



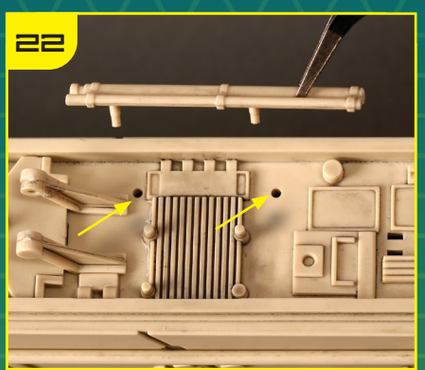
Glue the tab on (20) to this slot.

21



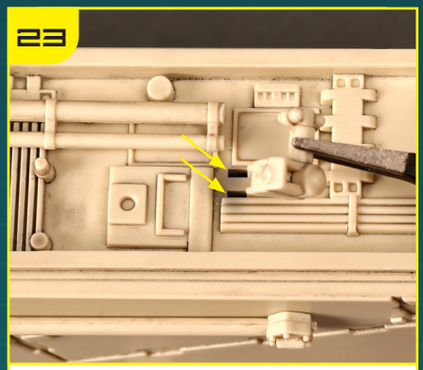
Glue the tab on (21) to the lower slot.

22

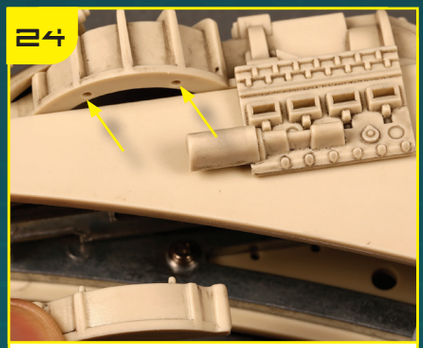


Glue the pins on (22) to these two holes.

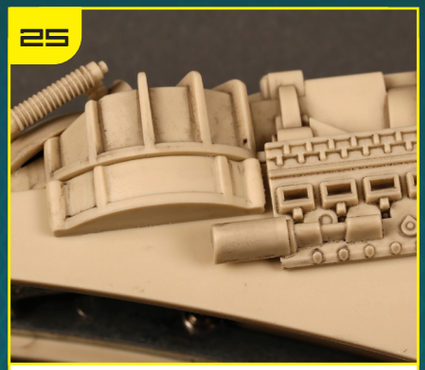
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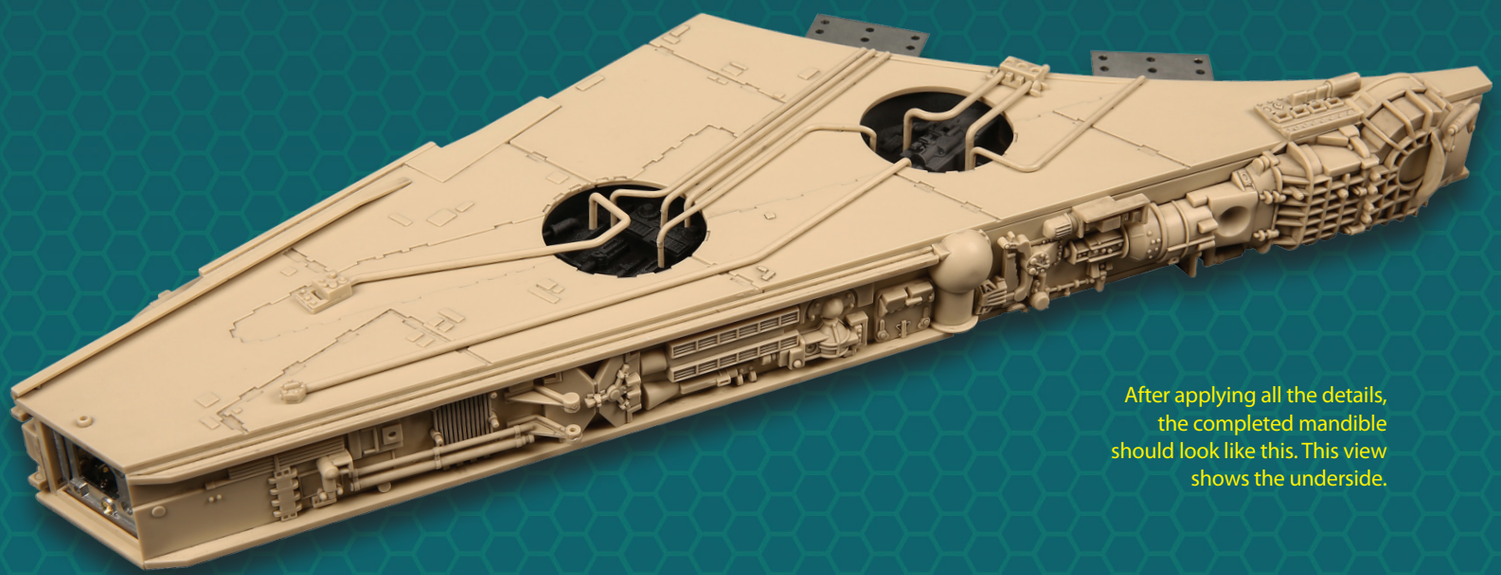
Glue the tabs on (23) to these two slots.



Glue the two pins on (24) to these two holes.



The part fits like this.



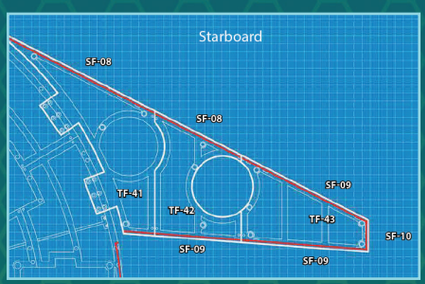
After applying all the details, the completed mandible should look like this. This view shows the underside.

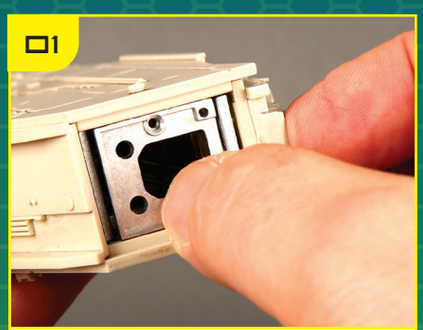
ADDING THE HEADLIGHT

The starboard headlight and wiring are attached to a small piece of plating (SP-17) that fits into the metal frame SF-10. All the parts are supplied with this issue.

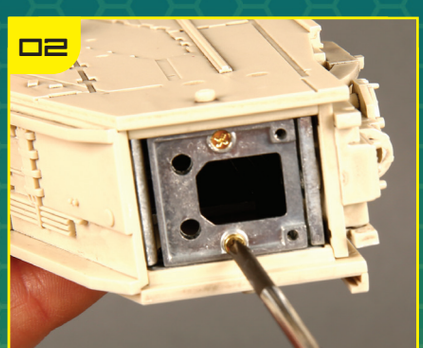
As before, fit the parts with screws and superglue. Use two countersunk screws (supplied with Issue 79) at Step 2 to keep them flush with the surrounding metal.

These components are shown on the blueprint supplied with Issue 73.

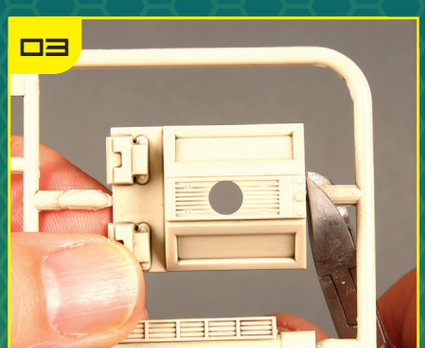




Take SF-10 and fit it to the tip of the mandible, making sure you place it the right way round.



Secure SF-10 by driving two countersunk screws into the framework.

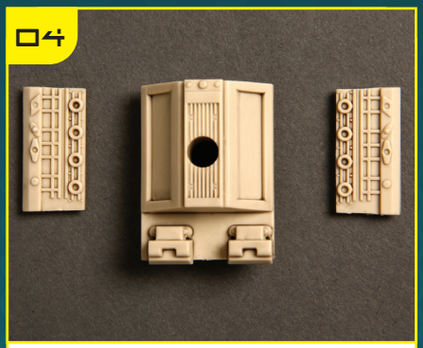


SP-17 and its two details are supplied on the sprue as parts (25), (26), and (27).

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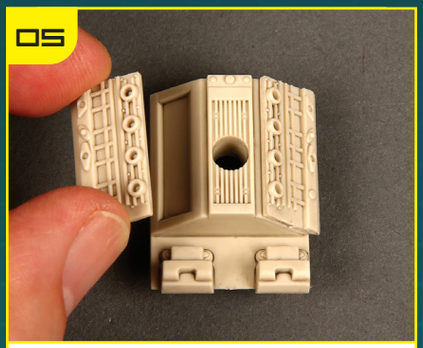
STAGE 79 ASSEMBLY

04



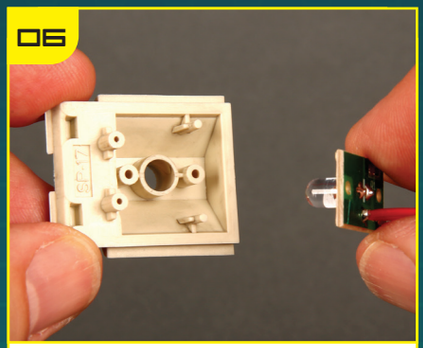
Lay out SP-17 and the two details, ensuring they are this way round.

05



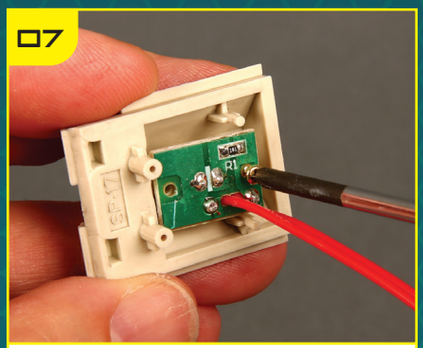
Glue the two details to the rectangular recesses in SP-17.

06



Fit the LED through the center hole in SP-17, holding it this way up.

07



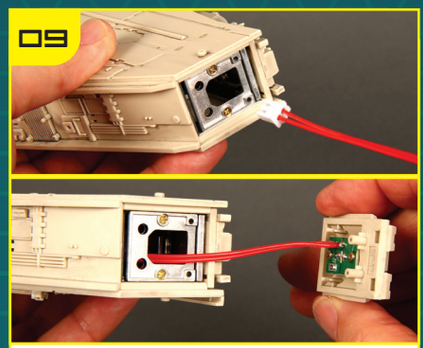
Screw the small circuit board to the two small lugs in SP-17.

08



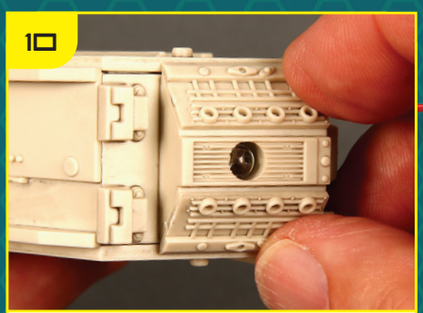
The completed assembly should look like this. It is a good idea to test the LED (see below left) at this point.

09



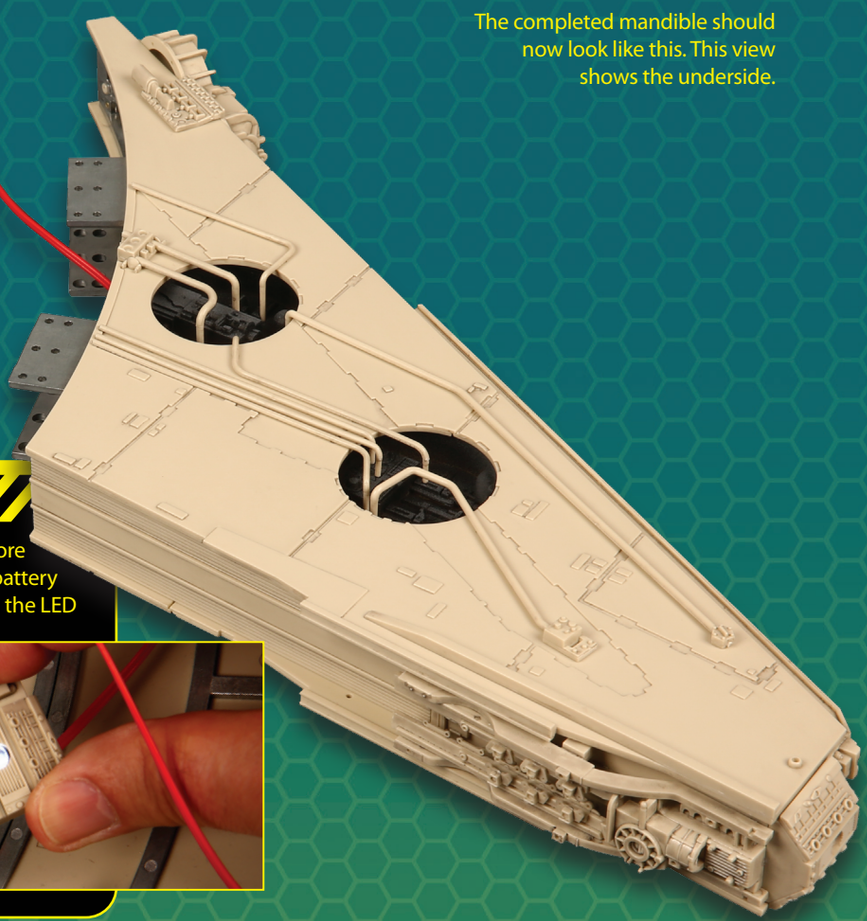
Fit the plug into the hole in SF-10 and feed the wire through the mandible.

10



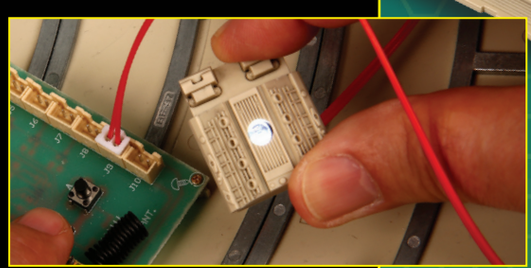
Glue the four lugs on the back of SP-17 into the four matching holes in SF-10, making sure it fits flush.

The completed mandible should now look like this. This view shows the underside.



TESTING YOUR LED

It makes sense to check that the light is working before fitting the parts in place at Steps 9-10. Connect the battery box to the control board as you did in Stage 57. Plug the LED lead into socket J9 and press button B. The LED should glow brightly and go out again when you release the button. Undo the connections and then carry on with Step 9.



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