93

STAR WARS MILLENNIUM FALCON

BUILD THE MODEL – EXPLORE THE GALAXY



MILITARY AND NAVAL COMMAND STRUCTURE

FANHOME

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YOUR NEXT PARTS

You have reached a key stage, as it is time to put the top on the hull and complete the internal wiring. Then you will be able to add the side panels and plant-on details, some of which are provided with this issue.

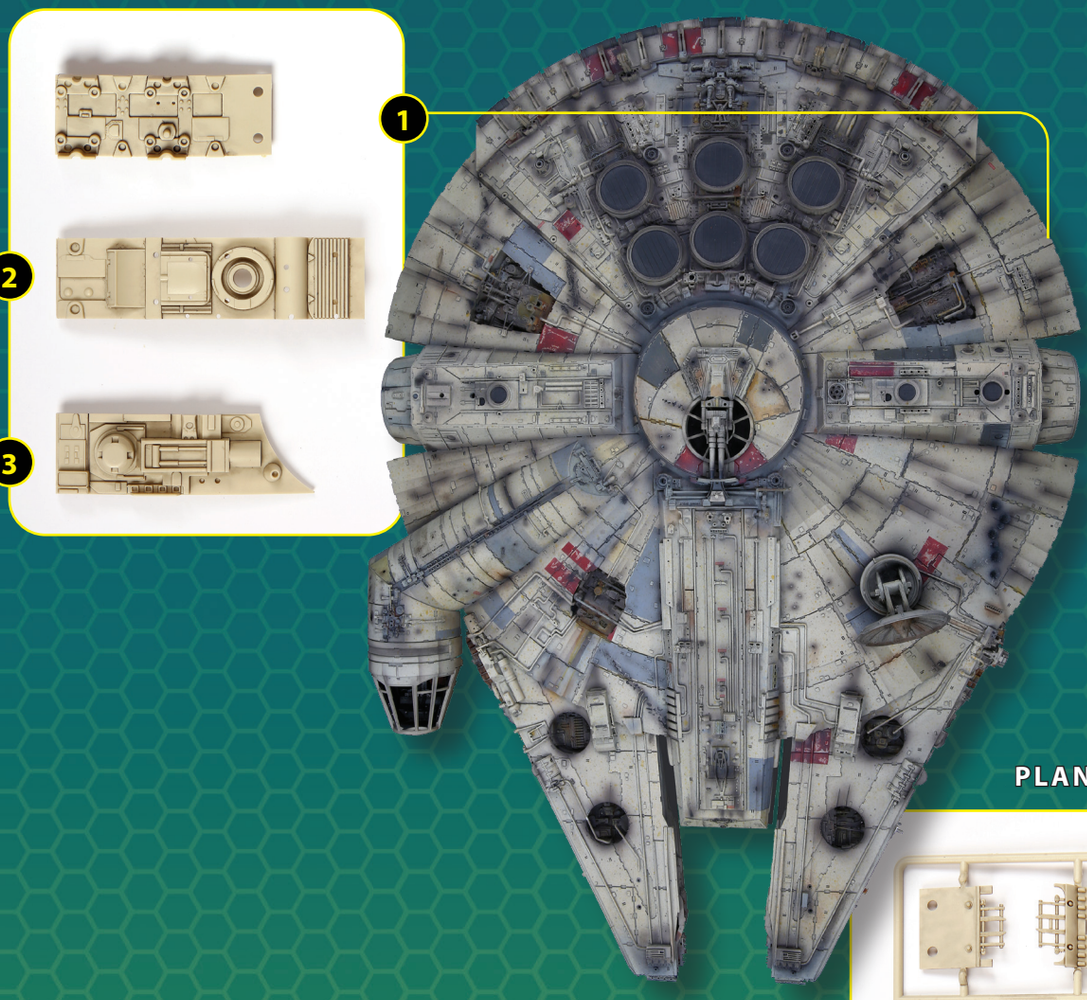
Now that you have fitted all the side frames and internal supports, you are ready to fit the top to the hull. This is a very satisfying job, as the familiar shape of the *Falcon* comes together. But take your time and line things up carefully. You may find it helps to have someone to help you to lower the top into place, although it can be done single-handedly with no problem.

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST

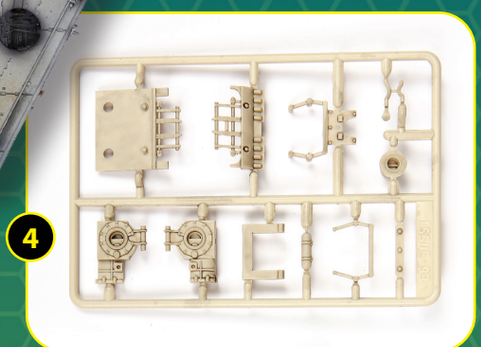
1. Side panel SP-01
2. Side panel SP-02
3. Side panel SP-06
4. Plant-on details (11 on sprue)

WHERE THE PARTS FIT

HULL PANELS



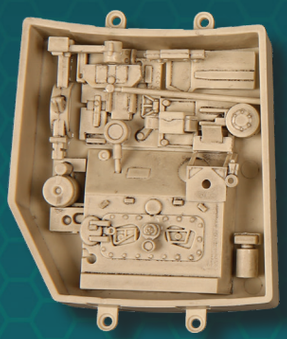
PLANT-ON DETAILS



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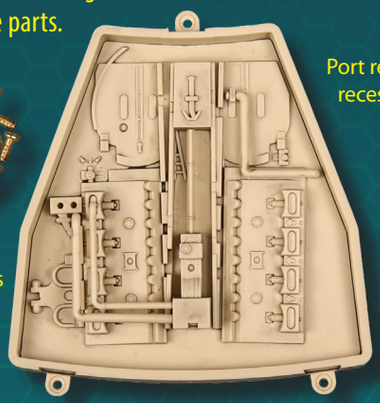
FITTING THE UPPER HULL RECESSES

Start by fitting the recess details to the three holes in the upper hull plating. The starboard fore recess was assembled in Stage 53, the port rear recess in Stage 63 and the starboard rear recess in Stage 67. You also need 11 brass screws to join the parts.



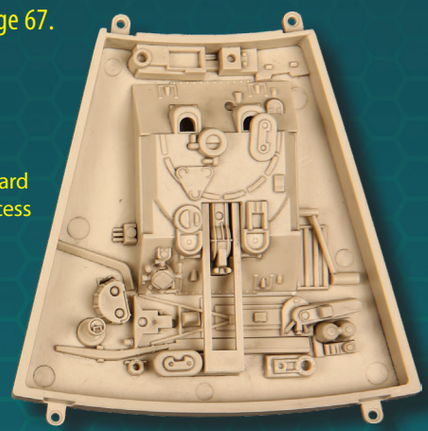


Starboard fore recess

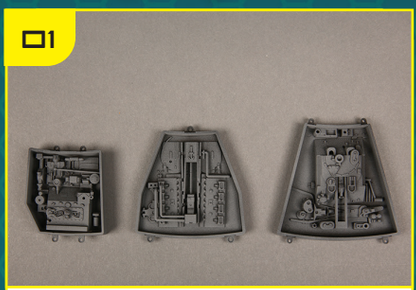


Port rear recess

Starboard rear recess

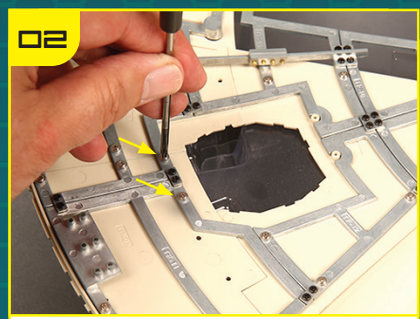


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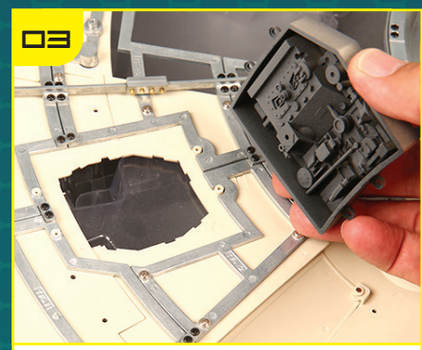
Paint all three recesses to simulate dirt and grime. The process is the same as before (first appearing at Stage 19).

02



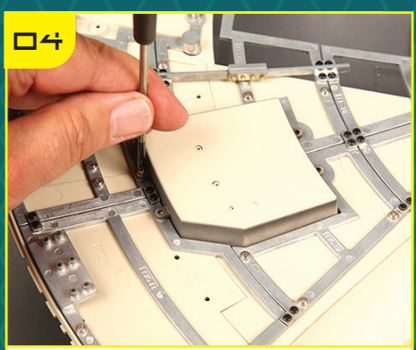
Remove the two short screws on the outer side of the starboard fore recess.

03



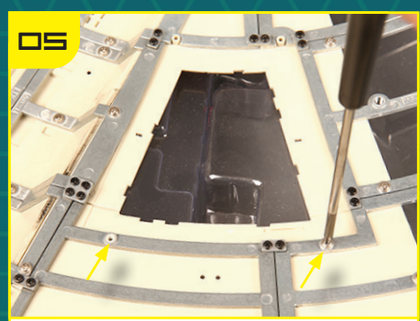
Fit the recess over the hole.

04



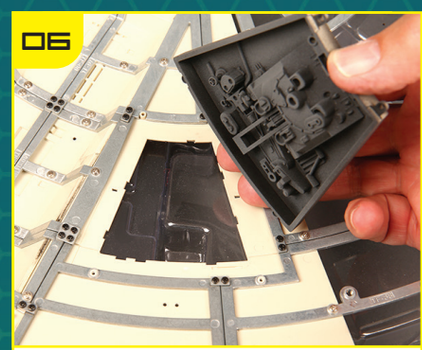
Fix the recess with four brass screws.

05



Remove the two short screws on the outer side of the starboard rear recess.

06



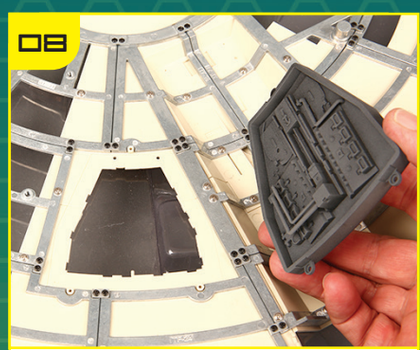
Fit the recess over the hole.

07



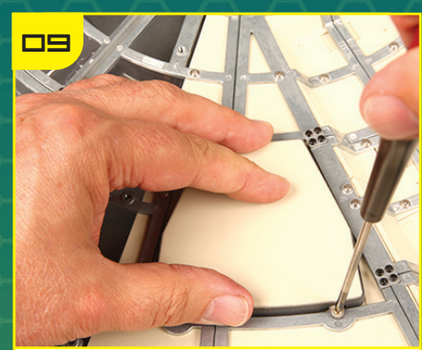
Screw the recess in place.

08



Fit the port rear recess…

09



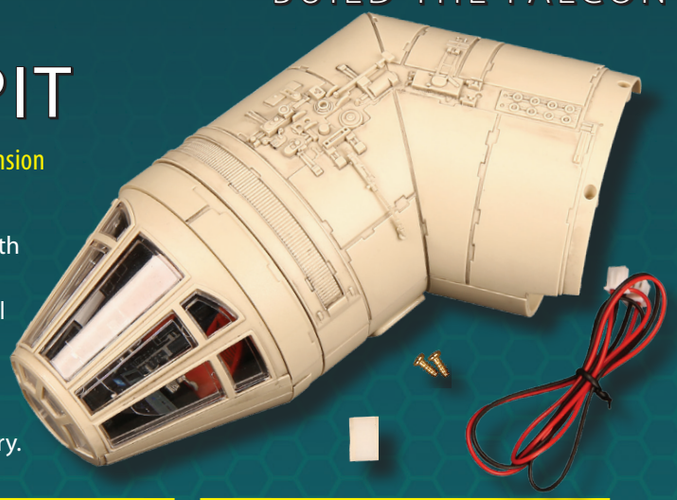
… and screw it in place.

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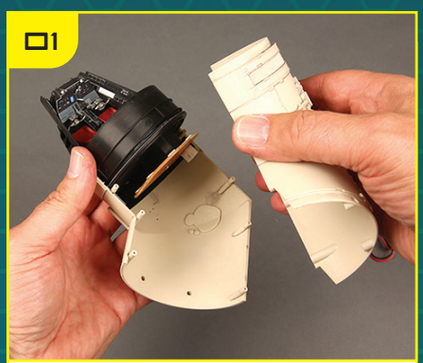
FITTING THE COCKPIT

Now fit the cockpit assembly to the upper hull. You also need the extension lead from Issue 9, the cable clip from Issue 88, and two brass screws.

Note that you have a choice of two cockpit shells (provided with Issues 6 and 40), so decide which one to fit. You can also choose whether to leave the windows unglazed (like the original filming miniature) or to fit the optional glazing panels to keep dust out of your model. If you decide to do this, press the appropriate panels into the glazing bars as you did with the turret windows, using a little adhesive to secure them if necessary.



01



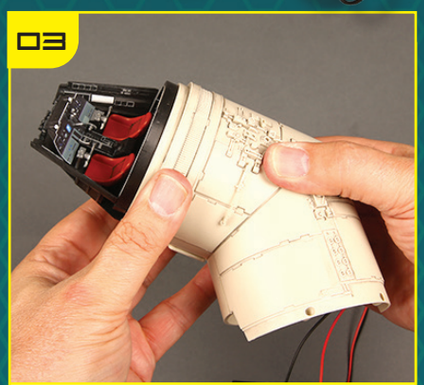
With the cockpit shell removed, separate the halves of the passage tube.

02



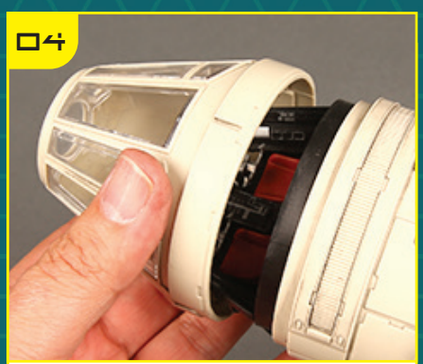
Plug the extension lead into the socket on the back of the cockpit circuit board.

03



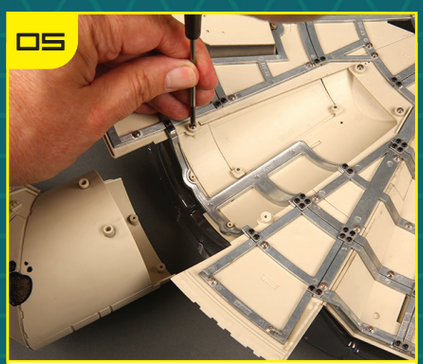
Rejoin the passage tube.

04



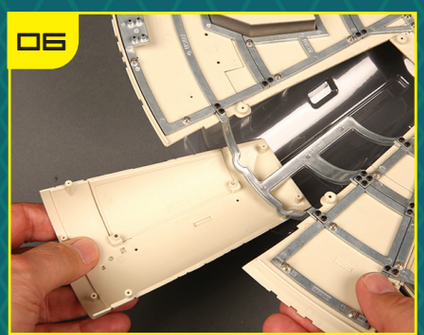
Fit the cockpit shell to the end of the passage tube.

05



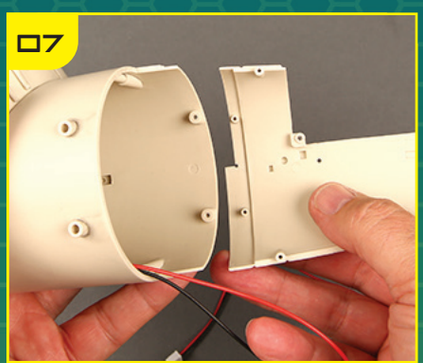
Undo the screws holding top panel TP-06 to the framework.

06



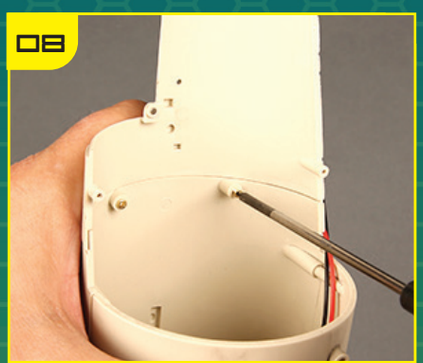
Remove TP-06 from the upper hull, then take the removable panel off its magnets and put it to one side.

07



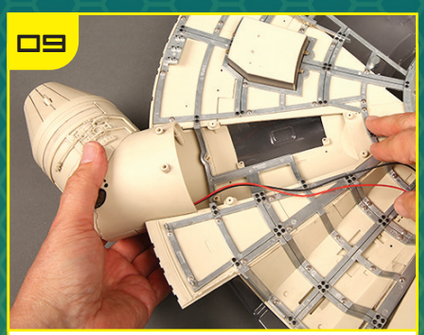
Fit TP-06 to the end of the passage tube, lining up the two fixing holes.

08



Screw TP-06 to the passage tube using two brass screws.

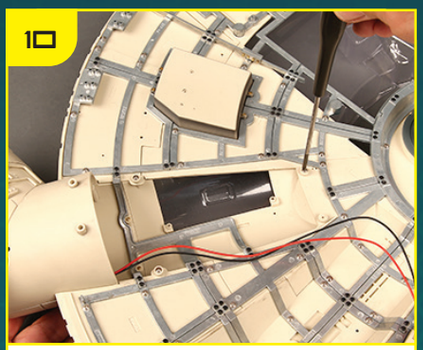
09



Refit TP-06 to the framework, attaching the passage tube and cockpit to the hull in the same process.

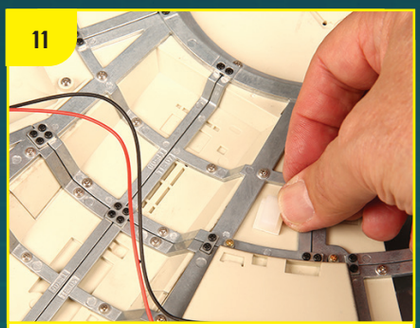
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10



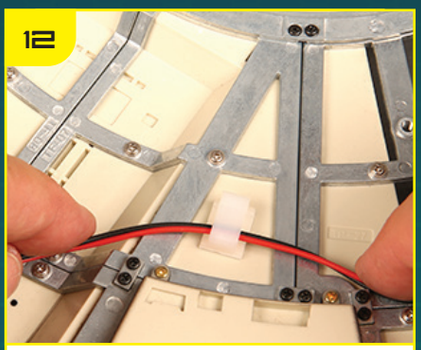
Screw TP-06 back to the framework.

11



Peel the backing off the cable clip and stick it to the upper plating as shown.

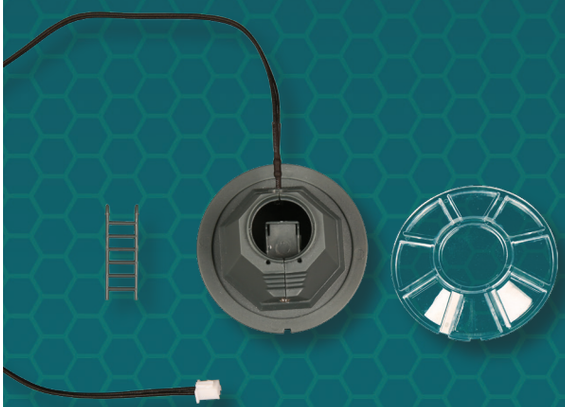
12



Fit the extension lead into the clip.

FITTING THE DORSAL GUN WELL

Finish preparing the upper hull by installing the turret provided with Issue 2, the upper gun well that you assembled in Stage 41, and the access ladder provided with Issue 92. As before, you can choose whether or not to fit the glazing provided with Issue 46.

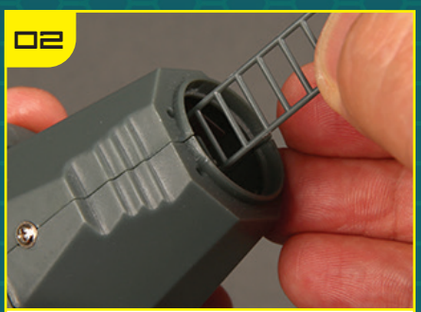


01



Insert the hooked end of the ladder into the end of the turret well, with the hooks facing outwards.

02



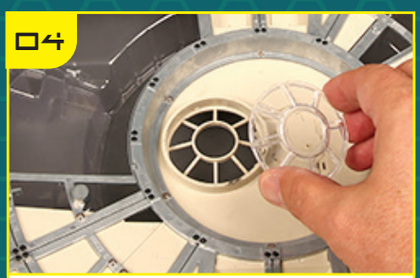
Glue the two ends of the ladder to the two holes near the rim of the opening.

03



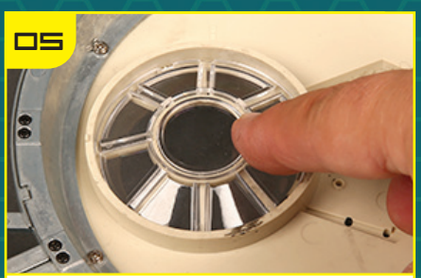
The assembly should look like this, with the ladder standing vertically.

04



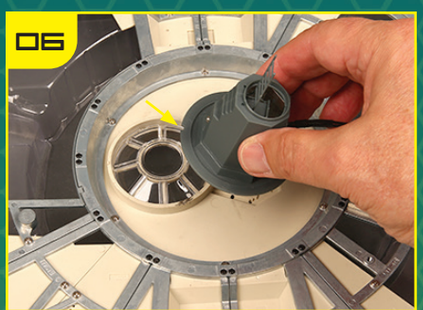
Screw the turret to the frame as in Stage 48, with the window facing forward. If you want to add the glass, do so now.

05



Fit the window over the glazing bars, making sure that the locating notch lines up with the tab in the recess.

06



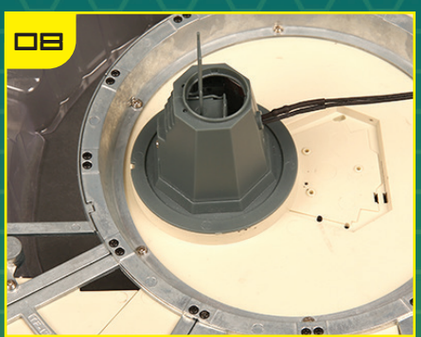
Align the gun well with the recess, aligning the locating notch (arrowed).

07



Glue the gun well in place.

08



The assembly should look like this.

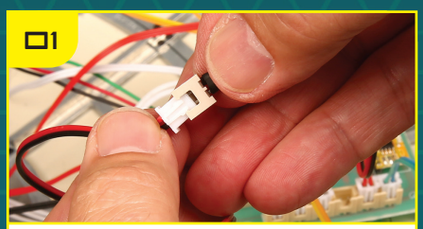
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FITTING THE UPPER HULL

You are now ready to fit the upper hull to the *Falcon*. You may find a second pair of hands is helpful at Step 3 – although it is not essential to have an assistant, and you will not need one for any of the other steps.

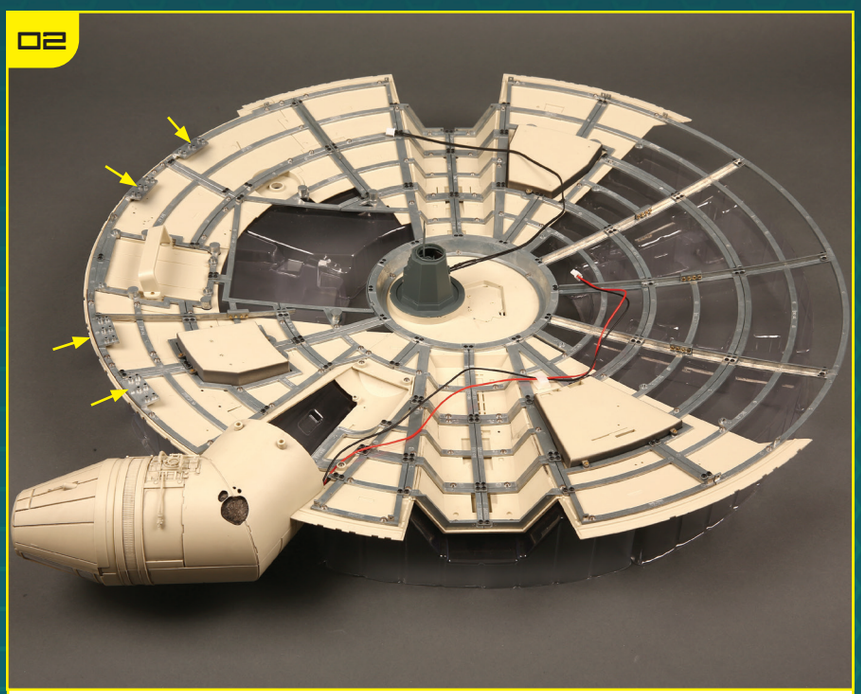
If you haven't done so already, you may want to make sure the port corridor halves are fixed together, the corridor is stuck to the hold, and the end rings are glued to both corridors. Before you fit the top, check that the side frames on the lower hull are a little slack to allow the upper frame to slip between them. The key points to watch are that you don't damage the ladder fitted to the gun well as you lower it into place, and that you align the lugs on the mandibles first.

01



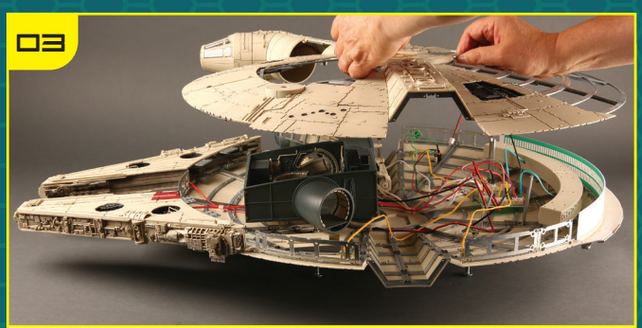
If you didn't do so at the end of Stage 92, disconnect the battery box extension lead and remove the battery box.

02



The upper hull should now look like this. The key points to watch are the mandible mounting lugs (arrowed), and the projecting central ladder.

03



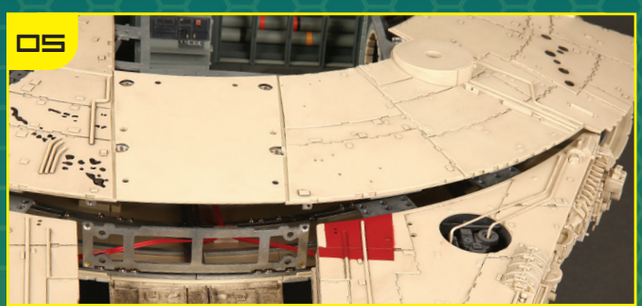
Make sure the lower hull is supported firmly. Align the upper hull and lower it straight down so that the ladder from the gun well goes into the central corridor.

04



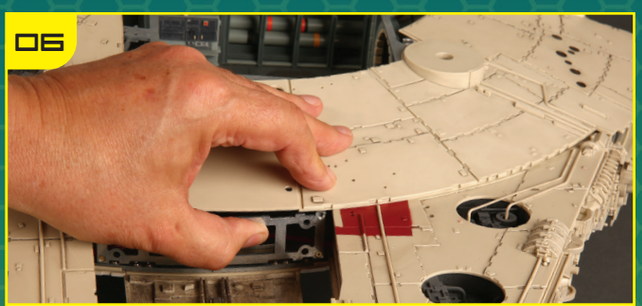
The result should look like this. There will almost certainly be a gap of a few millimeters all around the hull, which you will deal with in the next few steps.

05



Start at the front of the hull, where you need to fit the mounting lugs into the flanges on the mandibles.

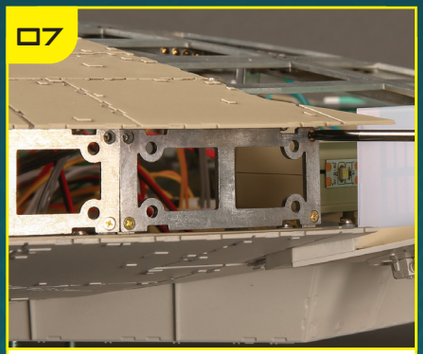
06



Making sure that side frame SF-04 does not get in the way, ease all 12 mounting lugs into the holes in the flanges.

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07



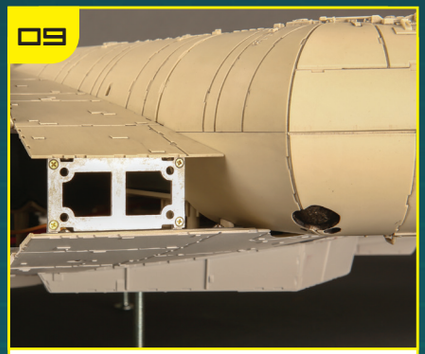
Start screwing the side frames to the upper hull, starting at the rear.

08



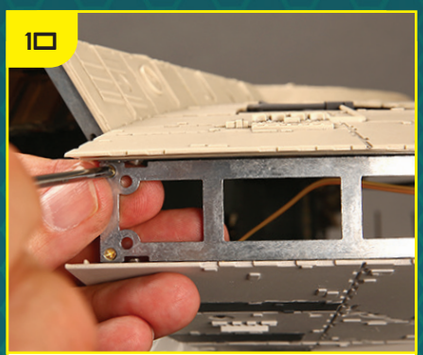
Carry on round the hull, working forward.

09



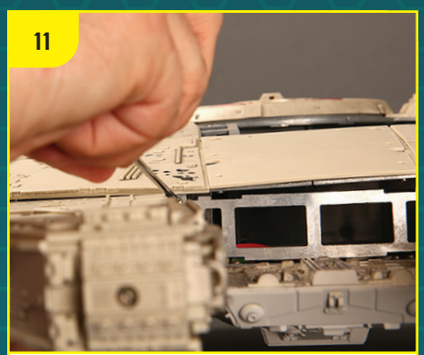
Pay particular attention to the small frame SF-03, next to the passage tube.

10



Complete the circle, then go back and tighten all the lower screws.

11



You will need to angle the screwdriver down to reach the screws in SF-04.

12

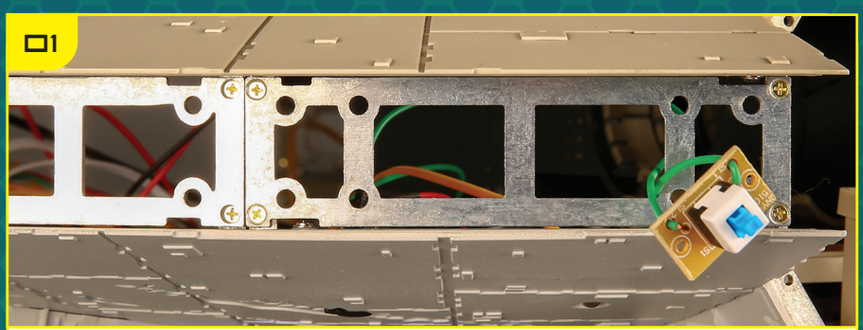


Tighten all the screws holding SF-04 between the mandibles.

COMPLETING THE WIRING

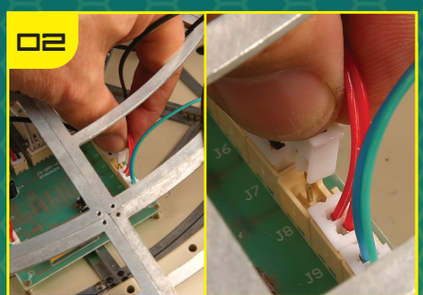
Finish this stage by connecting the lights in the cockpit and gun well, and putting the battery box in its compartment ahead of the hold.

01



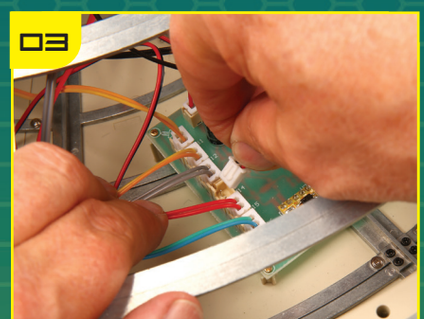
Feed the main switch and its lead out through this hole in side frame SF-02.

02



Plug the upper gun well's lead into socket J8 on the control board.

03



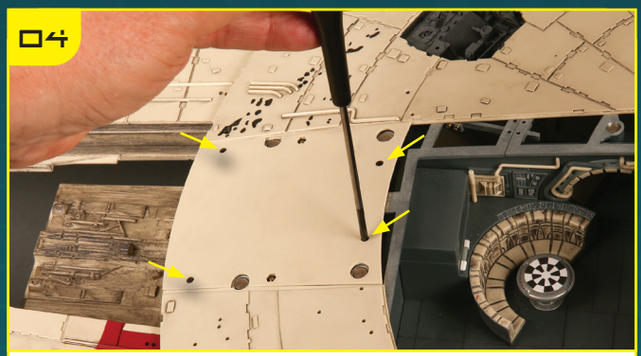
Plug the cockpit lead into J14.



You can now test-fit the removable covers to the upper hull (including the one over the engine compartment), and add the rectenna to see your *Falcon* nearing completion.

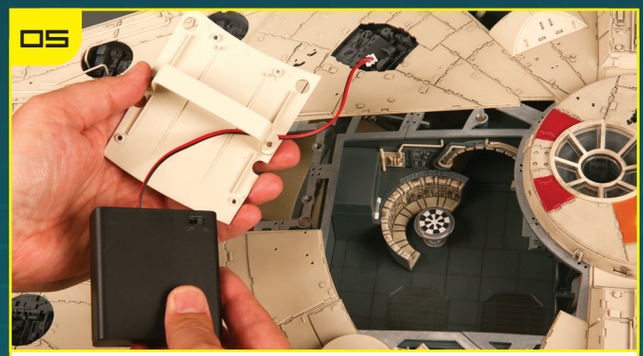
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04



Undo the four screws that attach the battery box holder to the framework.

05



Make sure the battery box is turned ON, then slip it into the holder until it locks into place as shown in Stage 54.

06



Attach the extension lead and feed it into the hull, taking it around the outside of the hold, then refit the battery box.

07



Reconnect the battery box lead and check that the lights are all working, including the ones in the cockpit and gun well. Check that the main switch turns the power on and off.



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MILITARY AND NAVAL COMMAND STRUCTURE

From the small local defense volunteers making up the planetary militia to galaxy-spanning military and naval powers, almost all fighting units have one thing in common: a chain of command.

War can throw a planet, a system or the whole galaxy into chaos, but in order to rise above that chaos and achieve victory, a fighting force must maintain order. Across the various units and battalions in service to an army or navy, this order is maintained through understood structures of command.

THE IMPERIAL FIST

Emperor Palpatine's military force had the largest and most fiercely enforced command structure in galactic history, dwarfing those of the various militias and rebel cells which the New Order sought to stamp out. At the very bottom of the military chain of command were the stormtroopers. Blindly loyal, and organized in battalions of 820, stormtroopers ruthlessly enforced the laws of the Empire, bringing terror to wherever they were shipped by the vast Imperial starfleet.

Above these footsoldiers was a plethora of meticulously determined ranks and officers. In the field, lieutenants, captains, and generals – as well as admirals in the case of the Navy – reported to regional Moffs, who typically controlled a sector each, while these commanders in turn reported to a Grand Moff, responsible for a number of Imperial sectors. Between the Grand Moffs and the Emperor himself was a seemingly endless array of high-ranking Imperial military officers and advisors – and, sitting outside of the normal military

MILITARY UNIFORMS AND ARMOR

Left: Imperial uniforms were minimal and designed in cold, neutral tones mainly of white, gray, and black. The uniforms were colored according to rank, and used to create an overarching sense of order and obedience. The stormtroopers' faceless armor was also an intentional move to instill fear in any who stood before them.

Below: Rebel Alliance uniforms were more rough and ready than their Imperial counterparts. While a sense of belonging and order was desired, a lack of resources meant many were often cobbled together from old civilian clothing.

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command structure was the Emperor's right-hand man and Sith apprentice, Dark Lord Darth Vader.

REBEL ALLIANCE

As Palpatine's Empire rose to power, a group of Senators led by Mon Mothma of Chandrila began a resistance movement that would fight the New Order from the shadows. Eventually, Mothma and her allies (most notably Bail Organa of Alderaan) realized that the only way to defeat the Empire was to raise a military force – which would be greater than the Empire's, in determination, if not in numbers.

As commander-in-chief of the Rebel Alliance military, Mothma awarded rank on experience and worked closely with her generals to come to a consensus on major operations. She regularly took advice from her senior military officers, many of whom were Imperial defectors. With no sectors to call their own, there were no regional Moffs, and as the Alliance military was staffed entirely by volunteers, there was said to be far less of the in-fighting and competitiveness that marred the vast Imperial chain of command.

THE FIRST ORDER AND THE RESISTANCE

In the years after its defeat of the Empire at the Battle of Jakku, the New Republic became busy establishing a new, more peaceful galaxy – overseeing the disbanding of much of its own standing army as well as that of the defeated Empire. But out in the Unknown Region, a very different force



Rebel leader Mon Mothma took advice from many of her closest advisors and generals, such as Crix Madine, a former Imperial who had defected to the Alliance.

First Order commander Captain Phasma had unique chromium armor made from the salvaged hull of a Naboo yacht.

Left: The Resistance faced similar issues of resources as the Rebel Alliance had before it, with their fighters and flyers again kitted out in basic, largely utilitarian uniforms.

Above/right: The First Order was modeled in almost every way on Palpatine's Galactic Empire, and this was especially true of its ground troops' cold, faceless uniforms.

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was growing. Led by former Imperial military officers who had fled after the Battle of Jakku, and staffed by a new, more avowedly militaristic fighting force than arguably even the Empire before it, the First Order helped Supreme Leader Snoke raise a new military, based, once again, on Palpatine's New Order.

THE FIRST ORDER AND THE RESISTANCE

The new generation of admirals and generals would serve Old Imperial nobles and technologists in their fight to regain galactic supremacy. As the First Order grew stronger, armies of stormtroopers would inspire fear in the population of the galaxy once more. Filling out the bottom of the command structure, these new shock troops were fewer in number but far better trained – and thoroughly indoctrinated to the First Order's cause, having been abducted from their parents as children and put into intensive training programs. Then, standing against this force, there was the Resistance.



Above: On board the Death Star, Grand Moff Tarkin held regular meetings with his senior staff in a special secure conference room beside the station's command bridge.

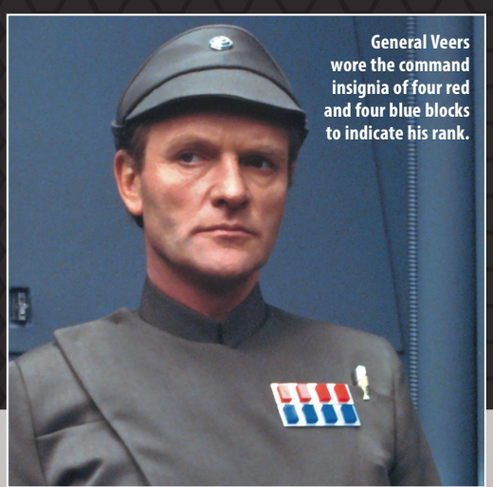
Led by General Leia Organa, the group sought to stand up to the threat from the Unknown Regions where the disinterested New Republic would not. Taking its resources, fighters, and command structure from the Rebel Alliance, Leia's Resistance shared the Alliance's ideal of unity and determination over all-out aggression – and again, was staffed entirely by volunteers, willing to fall in line for the greater good.



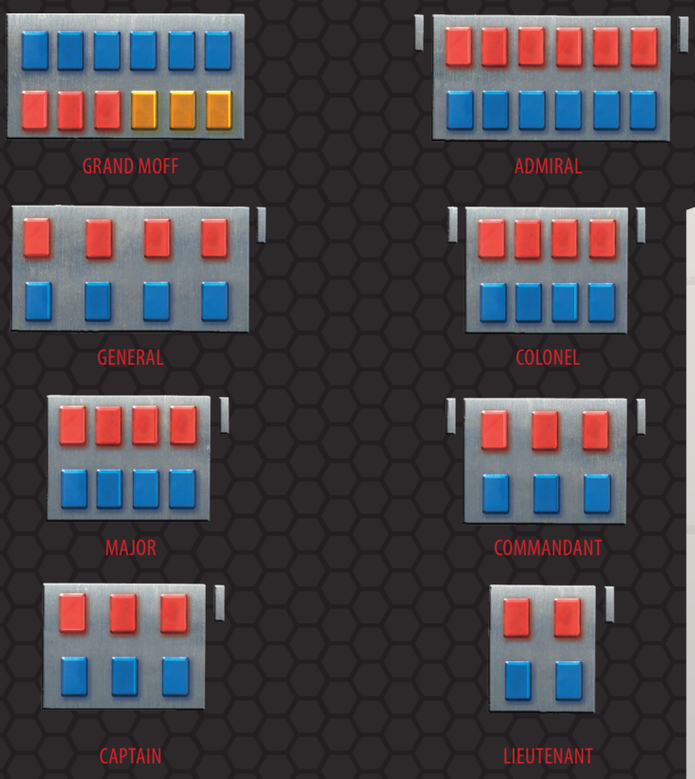
Below: As the Emperor's right hand, Vader stood outside the regular Imperial command structure, but very few officers dared to consider themselves above him in rank.

IMPERIAL COMMAND INSIGNIA

With its roots in Republic military insignia used during the Clone Wars, Imperial rank plaques were worn on the left breast of the bearer's uniform and, taken in conjunction with the number of code cylinders they carried, indicated the precise hierarchical status of the wearer. They comprised a chromed metal plate with raised colored rectangles in blue, red, orange or gray. In the diagram, right, the code cylinders are denoted by the gray rectangles to the right and left of the plate.



General Veers wore the command insignia of four red and four blue blocks to indicate his rank.



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