STAR WARS MILLENNIUM FALCON

BUILD THE MODEL – EXPLORE THE GALAXY





GEONOSIAN STARFIGHTER

F219FSC097

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YOUR NEXT PARTS

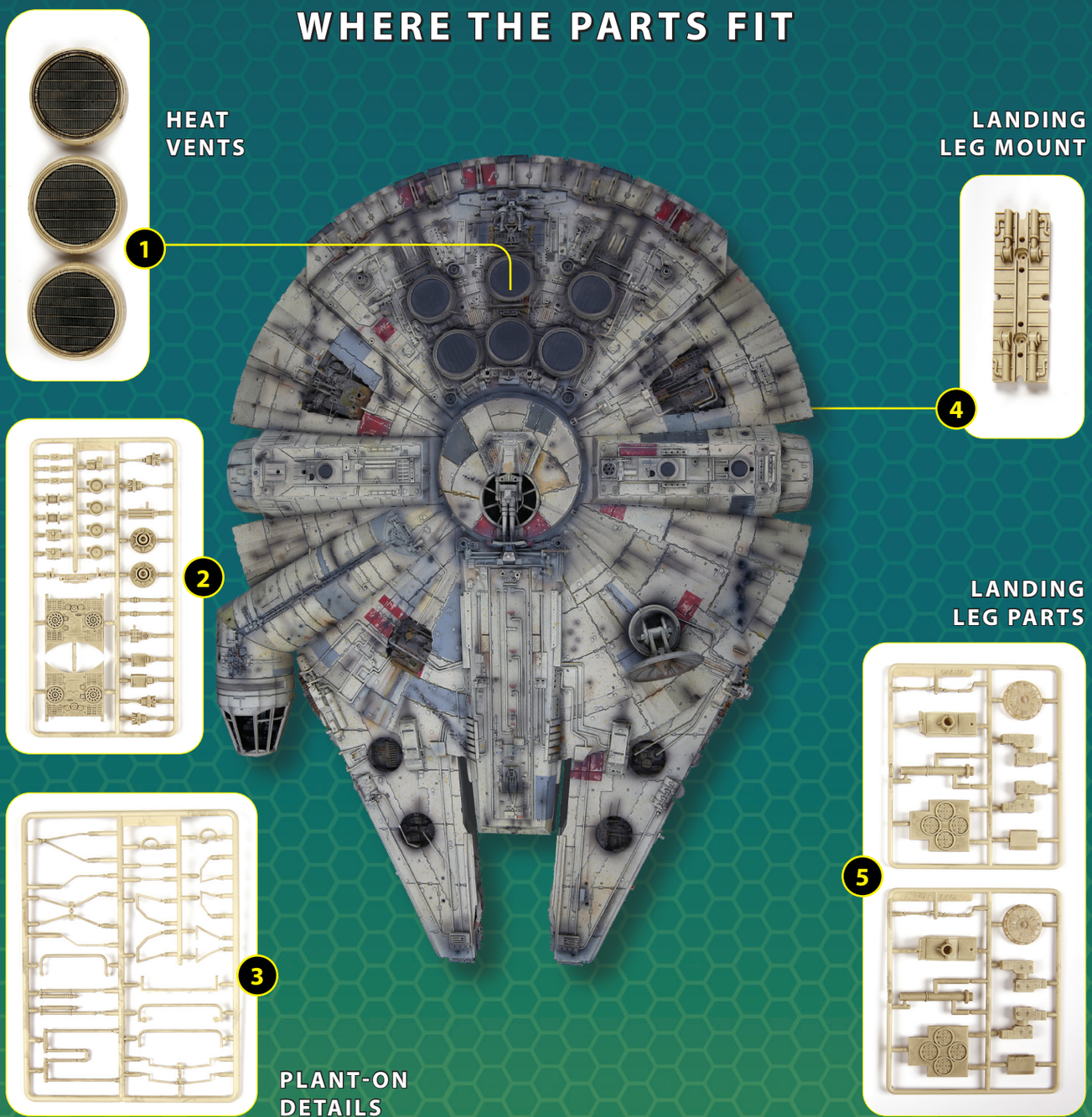
This issue's parts include more details for the engine bay cover, including the last three vents. You also have more landing leg parts.

This stage is all about using the host of small parts supplied on the sprues to detail the engine bay cover that you fitted in Stage 96. Keep the landing leg parts safely to one side for now, as these optional fittings will be dealt with in the next stage.

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST

1. Heat vents x 3
2. Plant-on details (27 on sprue)
3. Plant-on details (25 on sprue)
4. Landing leg mount
5. Landing leg parts (9 on sprue) x 2

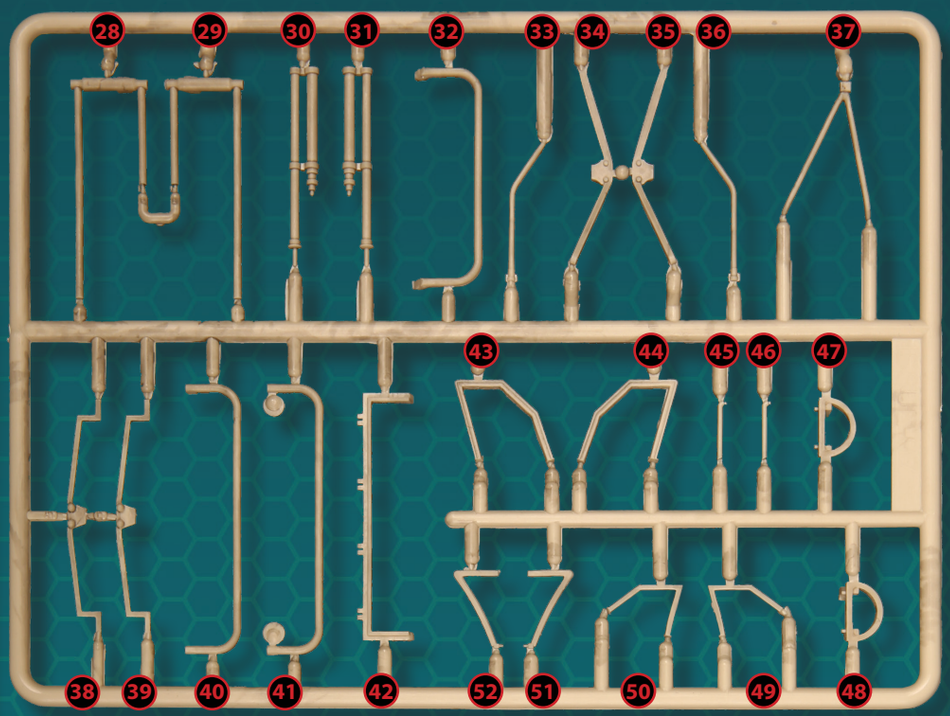
WHERE THE PARTS FIT

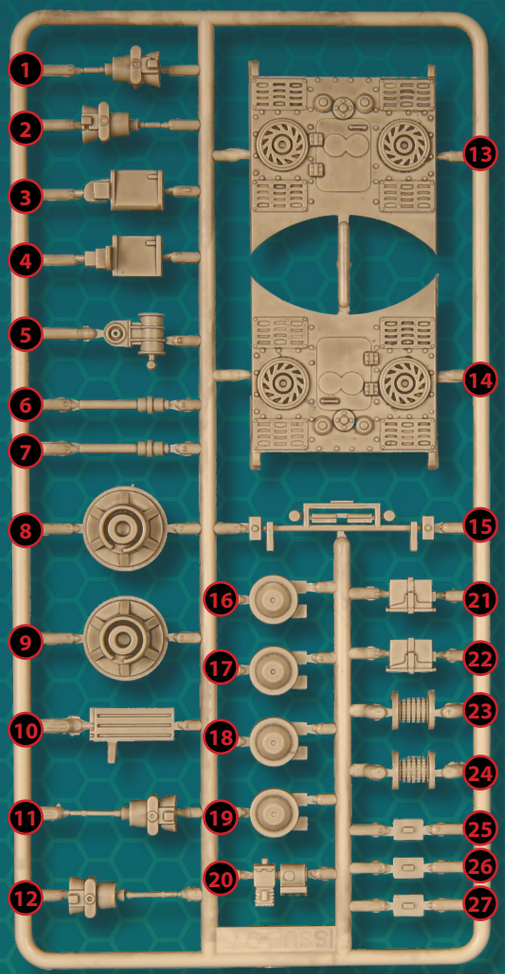


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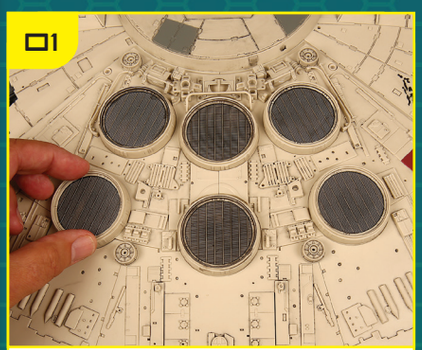
DETAILING THE ENGINE BAY COVER

The engine bay cover is highly detailed, and you will be adding over 50 plant-ons, so make sure you know which goes where. You can check the positions against the picture of the completed cover on page 7 and may prefer to do a dry run before gluing the parts permanently.



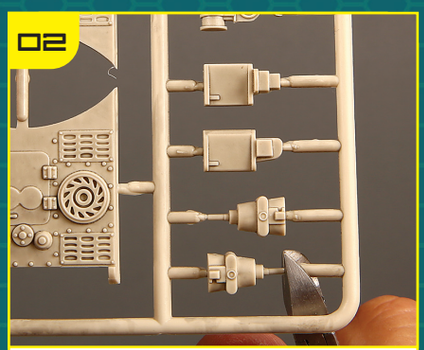


01



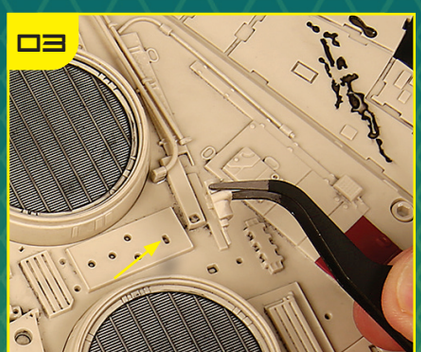
Fit the three vents in the same way you did in Stage 96.

02



Remove the details from the sprues as you need to fit them.

03



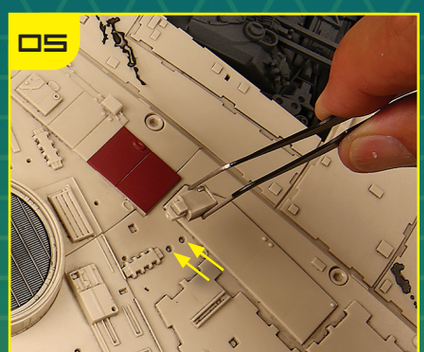
Glue the tab on the back of (1) to the slot indicated.

04



Glue (2) to the corresponding slot on the opposite side.

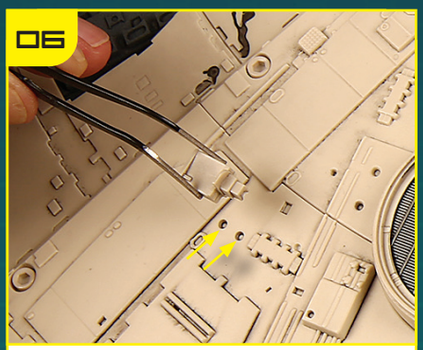
05



Glue the pins on the back of (3) to these two holes.

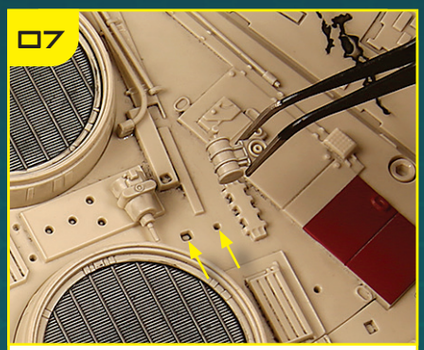
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06



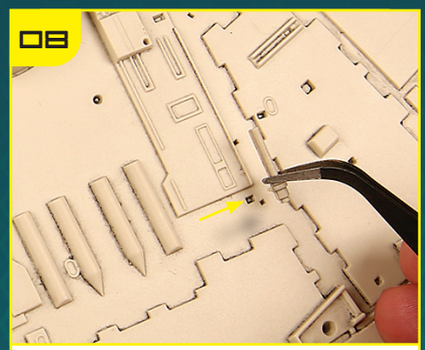
Glue the two pins on the back of (4) to the two holes on the opposite side.

07



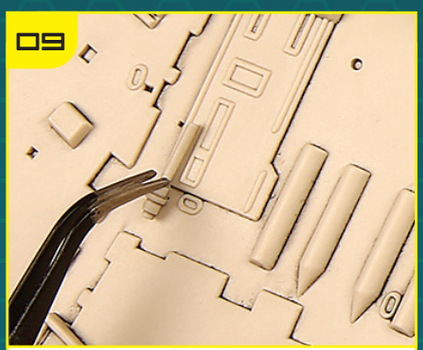
Glue the tab and pin on the back of (5) to these two holes.

08



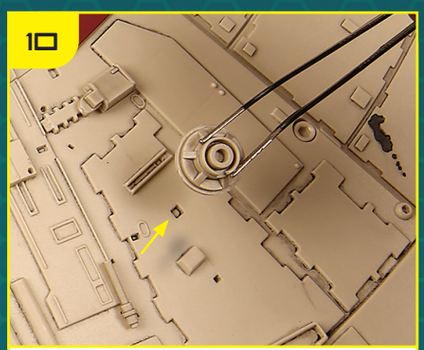
Glue the tab on the back of (6) to this square hole.

09



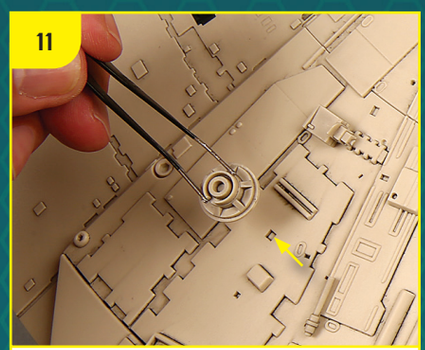
Glue (7) in the corresponding position on the opposite side.

10



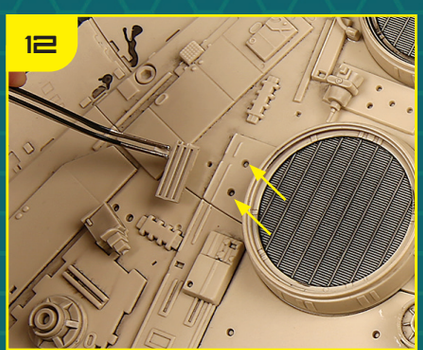
Glue the tab on the back of (8) to this square hole.

11



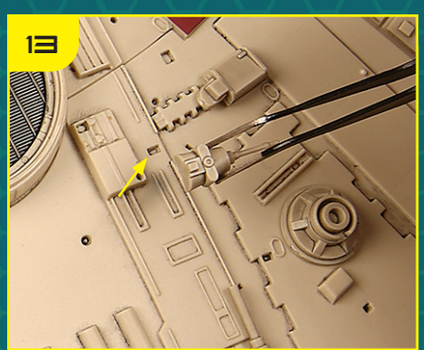
Glue (9) in the corresponding position on the opposite side.

12



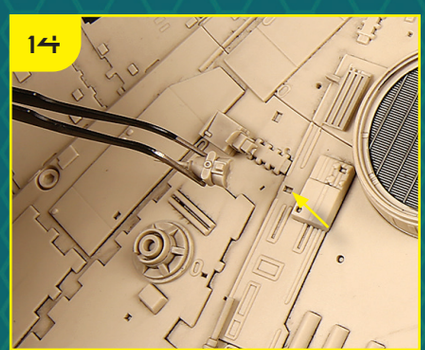
Glue the pins on the back of (10) to these two holes.

13



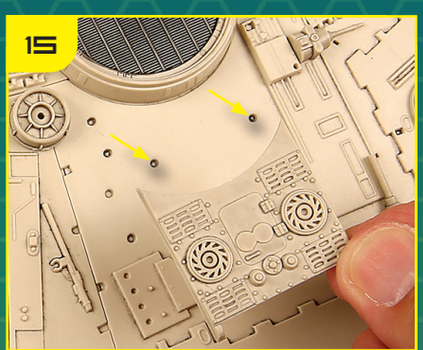
Glue the tab on the back of (11) to this rectangular hole.

14



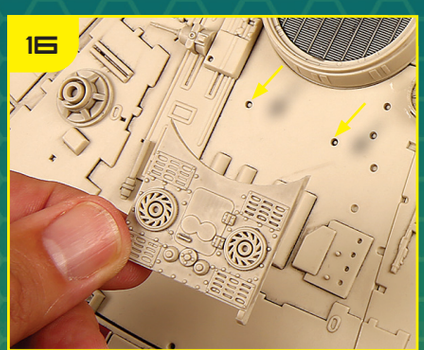
Glue (12) to the corresponding hole on the opposite side.

15



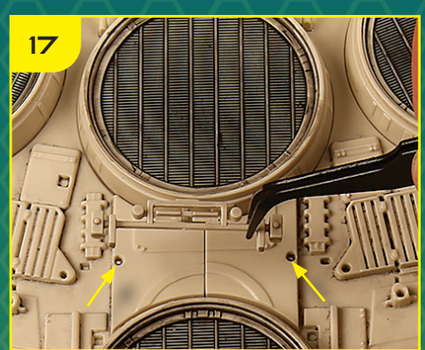
Glue (13) to this pair of holes below the outer vent.

16



Glue (14) to the corresponding holes on the opposite side.

17

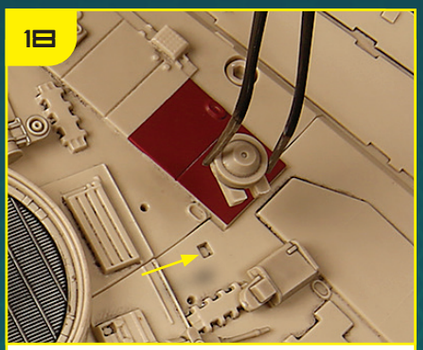


Glue (15) to the two holes below the center vent.

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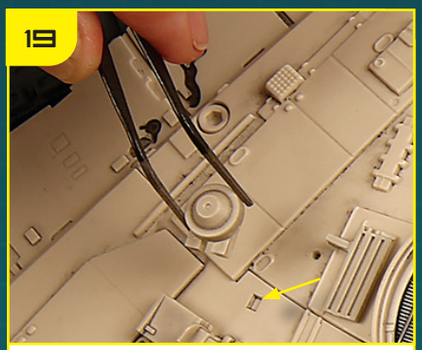
STAGE 97 ASSEMBLY

18



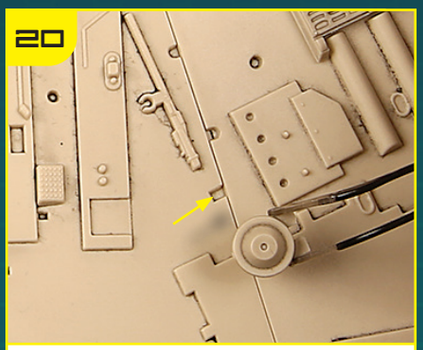
Glue the tab on the back of (16) into this square hole.

19



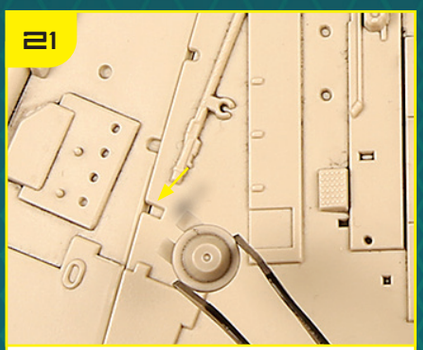
Glue (17) to the corresponding hole on the opposite side.

20



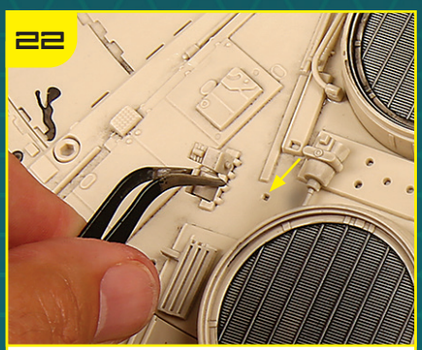
Glue the tab on the back of (18) into this square hole.

21



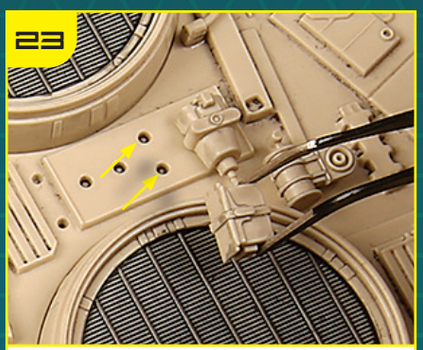
Glue (19) to the corresponding hole on the opposite side.

22



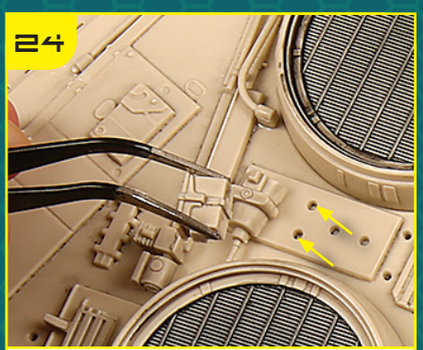
Glue the tab on (20) into this small square hole.

23



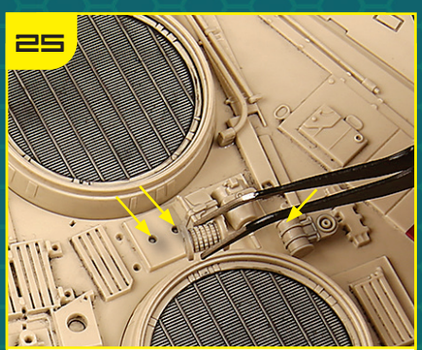
Glue the pins on (21) into these two holes.

24



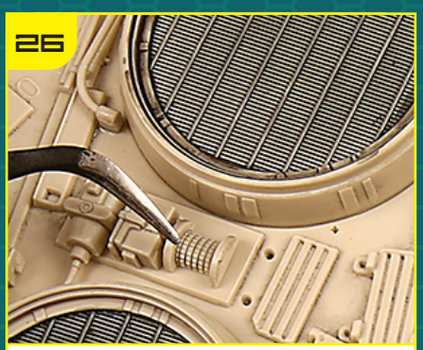
Glue (22) to the corresponding holes on the opposite side.

25



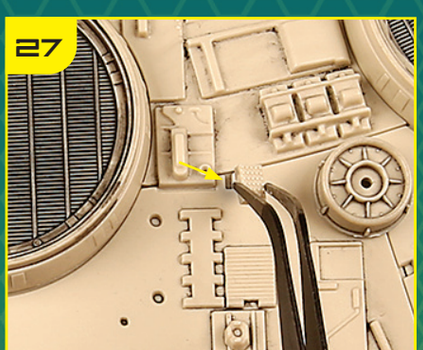
Glue the pins on the back of (23) into these two holes.

26



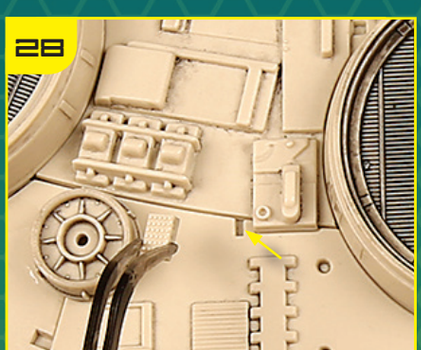
Glue (24) to the corresponding holes on the opposite side.

27



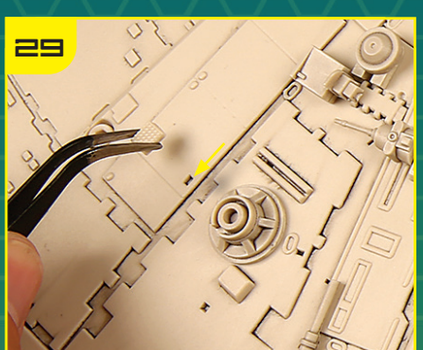
Glue the tab on the back of (25) to this rectangular hole.

28



Glue (26) to the corresponding hole on the opposite side.

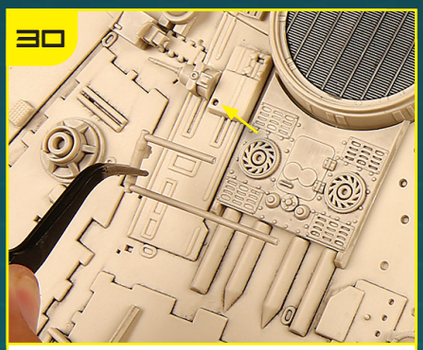
29



Glue the tab on the back of (27) to this rectangular hole.

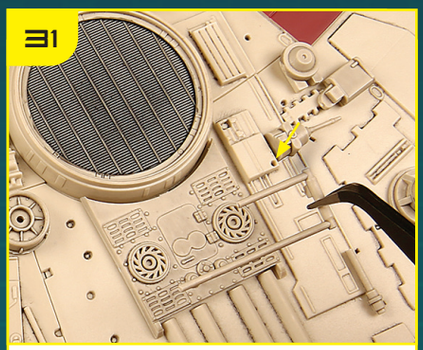
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30



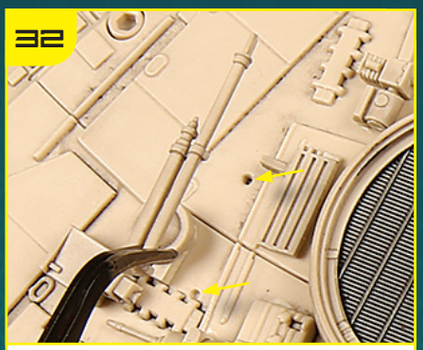
Glue the pin on the back of (28) into this hole.

31



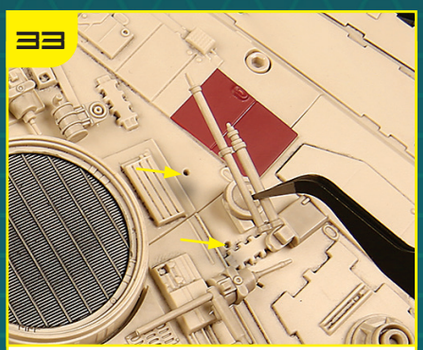
Glue (29) to the corresponding hole on the opposite side.

32



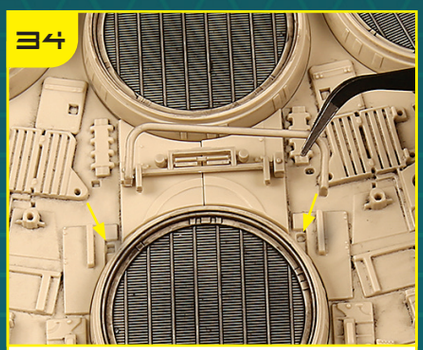
Glue the two pins on the back of (30) into these holes.

33



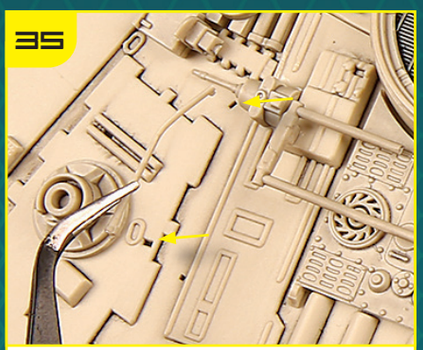
Glue (31) into the corresponding holes on the opposite side.

34



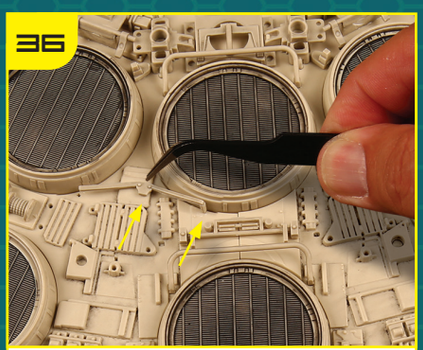
Glue the ends of (32) into these two square holes.

35



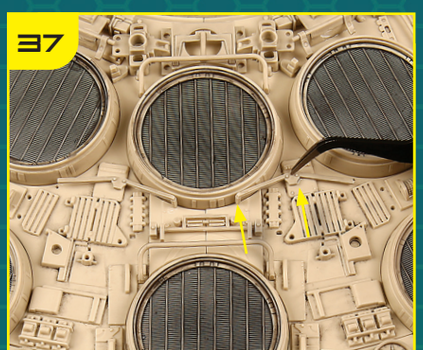
Glue the ends of (33) into these two rectangular slots.

36



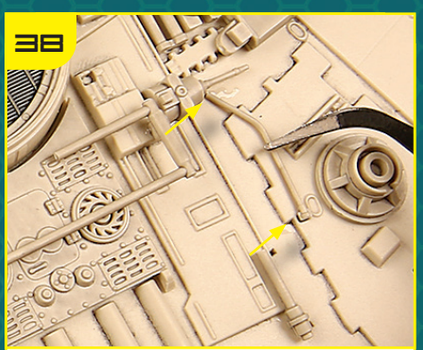
Glue (34) into the square hole and the sides of the vents.

37



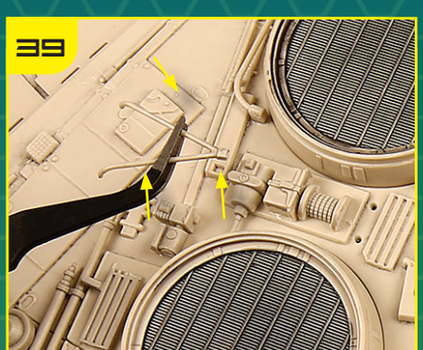
Glue (35) into the corresponding position on the opposite side.

38



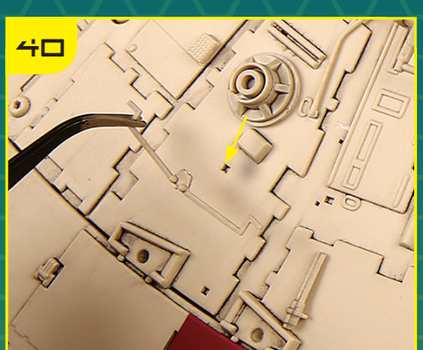
Glue the ends of (36) into the two rectangular slots.

39



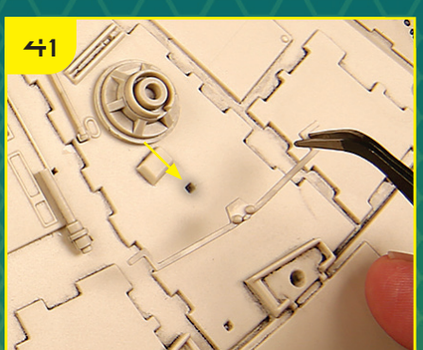
Glue the three ends of (37) into these matching holes.

40



Glue the central pin of (38) into the square hole and lay it across the plates.

41

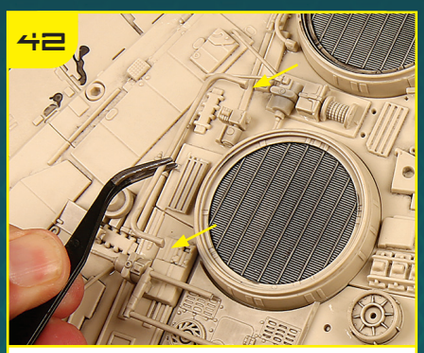


Glue the central pin of (39) into the square hole and lay it across the plates.

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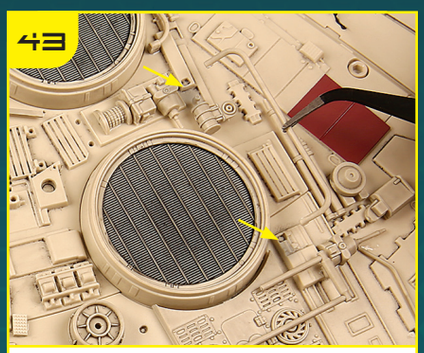
STAGE 97 ASSEMBLY

42



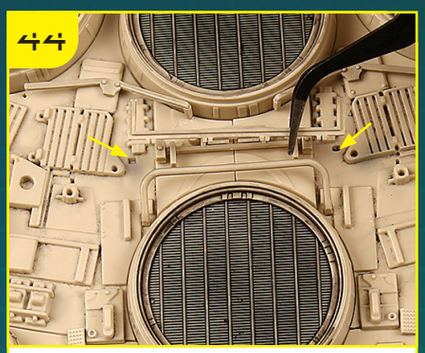
Glue the ends of (40) into the matching holes.

43



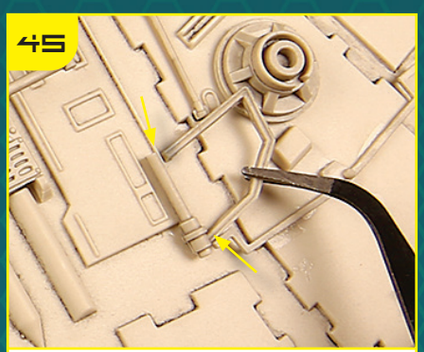
Glue the ends of (41) into the matching holes.

44



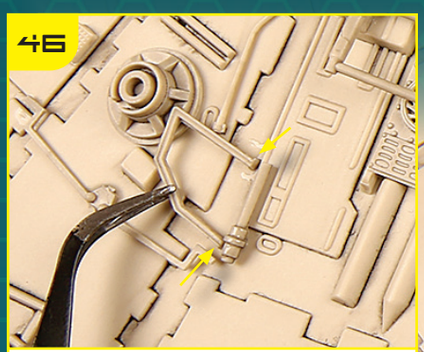
Slip (42) under (32) and glue the tabs into the square holes.

45



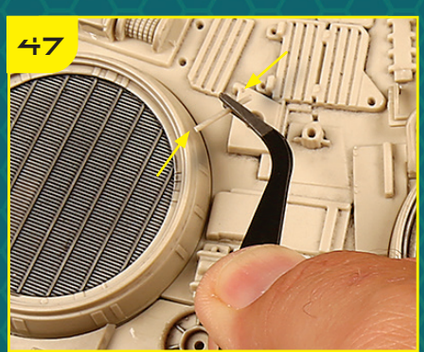
Glue the pins on the ends of (43) into the matching holes.

46



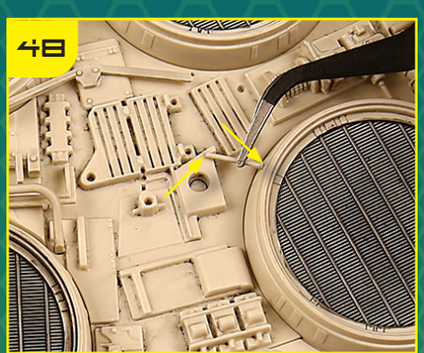
Glue the pins on the ends of (44) into the matching holes.

47



Glue the angled end of (45) into the top hole and the other end to the vent.

48

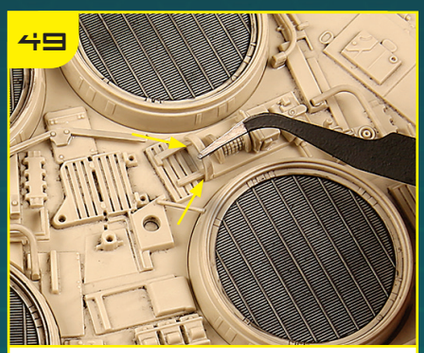


Glue the angled end of (46) into the hole (left) and the other end to the vent.

When all the plant-ons details are in place, the cover should look like this.

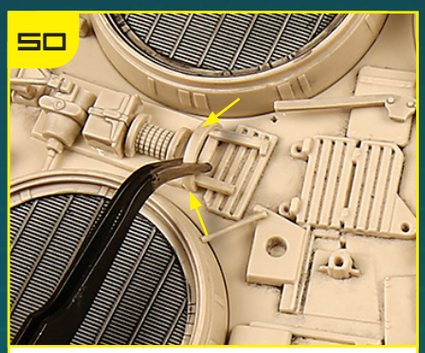
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49



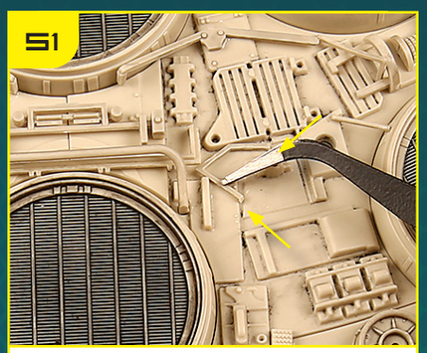
Glue the pins on (47) into the two matching holes.

50



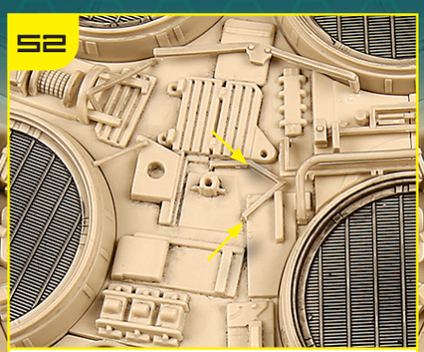
Glue (48) into the corresponding holes on the opposite side.

51



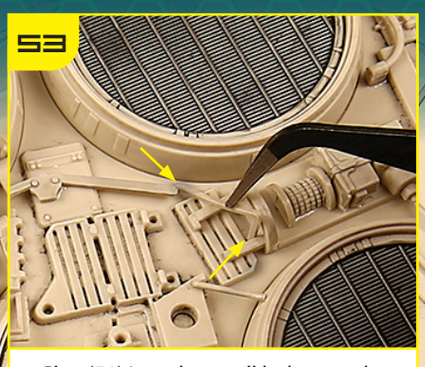
Glue the ends of (49) into the hole and the cap between the plates.

52



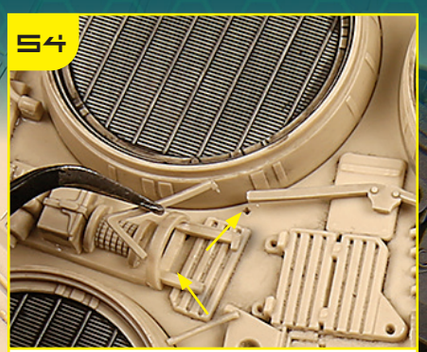
Glue the ends of (50) into the matching positions on the opposite side.

53



Glue (51) into the small hole near the vent with the other end against (47).

54



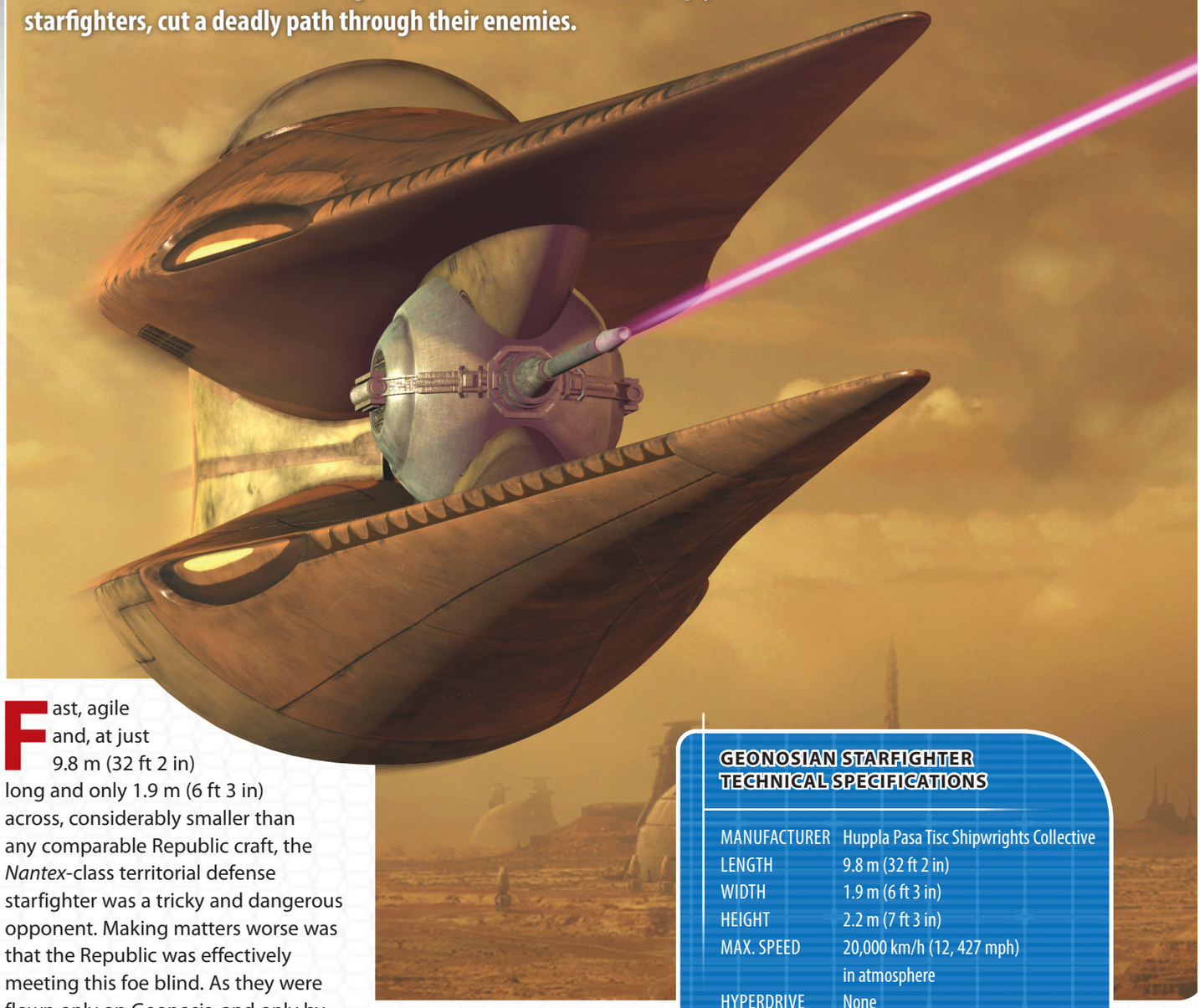
Glue (52) into the corresponding position on the opposite side.

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TERRITORIAL DEFENSE FIGHTER

GEONOSISIAN STARFIGHTER

As the Republic dropships approached their landing zones during the Second Battle of Geonosis, they were faced with wave after wave of attack from a tricky adversary. Sweeping in from behind, countless *Nantex*-class territorial defense fighters, which became known simply as Geonosian starfighters, cut a deadly path through their enemies.



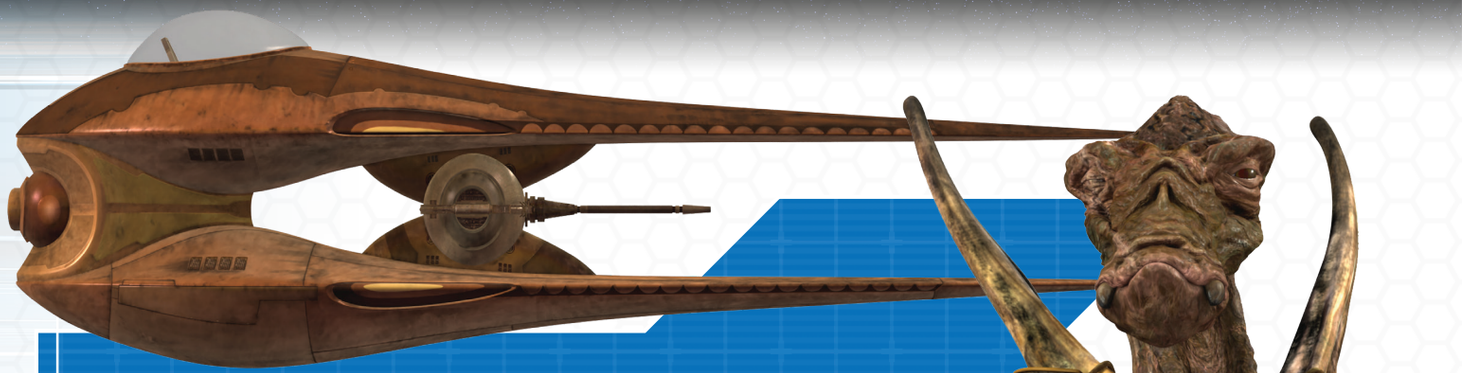
Fast, agile and, at just 9.8 m (32 ft 2 in) long and only 1.9 m (6 ft 3 in) across, considerably smaller than any comparable Republic craft, the *Nantex*-class territorial defense starfighter was a tricky and dangerous opponent. Making matters worse was that the Republic was effectively meeting this foe blind. As they were flown only on Geonosis, and only by Geonosians, the Republic's knowledge of the craft relied on what little was recorded from the chaos of the First Battle of Geonosis – and on guesswork.

The size and speed of the Huppla Pasa Tisc Shipwrights' *Nantex*-class territorial defense fighter – known more commonly as the Geonosian starfighter – made it a difficult opponent to come up against for even the most experienced pilot.

GEONOSIAN STARFIGHTER TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

MANUFACTURER	Huppla Pasa Tisc Shipwrights Collective
LENGTH	9.8 m (32 ft 2 in)
WIDTH	1.9 m (6 ft 3 in)
HEIGHT	2.2 m (7 ft 3 in)
MAX. SPEED	20,000 km/h (12, 427 mph) in atmosphere
HYPERDRIVE	None
WEAPONS	1 x laser cannon turret
CREW	1 x pilot
AFFILIATION	Geonosian, Separatist

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GEONOSIANS ONLY

The controls of the Nantex starfighter were configured for the unique insectoid limbs of the Geonosians, making them next to impossible for any other species to use – but this was not the only complication a non-Geonosian pilot would face. Many of the ship's vital systems had no readout panel within the cockpit. Instead, the pilot wore a mask that fed the information to them, using artificial pheromones and scents that only a Geonosian pilot could interpret.

REMATCH OVER GEONOSIS

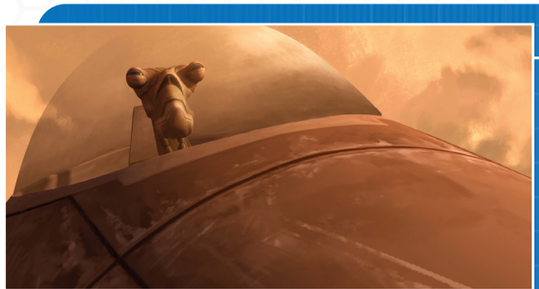
When it launched its second assault on Geonosis, the Republic fleet found itself engulfed by wave upon wave of the distinctive starfighters. Flying in groups of three, the craft sped towards the incoming Republic landing ships head on, using their combination of coloration, tiny front profile, speed and agility to make the job of the Republic gunners close to impossible. The nimble fighters continually snap-rolled into new approach vectors, making it doubly hard for an opponent to anticipate their next move.

While the Geonosian starfighters' small tractor beam projectors weren't of much use in the chaos, their main guns were devastating. Mounted on ball turrets in between the dorsal and ventral hull sections, the single laser cannon on each fighter was able to track, turn and fire on an opponent side-on to the fighter. This was an unpleasant, and regularly fatal, surprise for troops that thought the passing fighter had missed in its initial approach and was no longer a danger.

The Geonosian starfighters did less well against the flights of Y-wing fighter/bombers sent to harass and destroy the flack cannon and other



The Second Battle of Geonosis was the first time the *Nantex*-class was used in large numbers, and to devastating effect, with the fast and nimble craft inflicting substantial damage on the invading Republic ships.



BRED FOR BATTLE

The pilots of the Nantex starfighter were from a specific caste of warriors bred for flying the ships. Additionally, each was, from birth, wedded to the systems of a specific fighter. This allowed both ship and pilot to 'grow' together, giving a significant boost to combat performance.

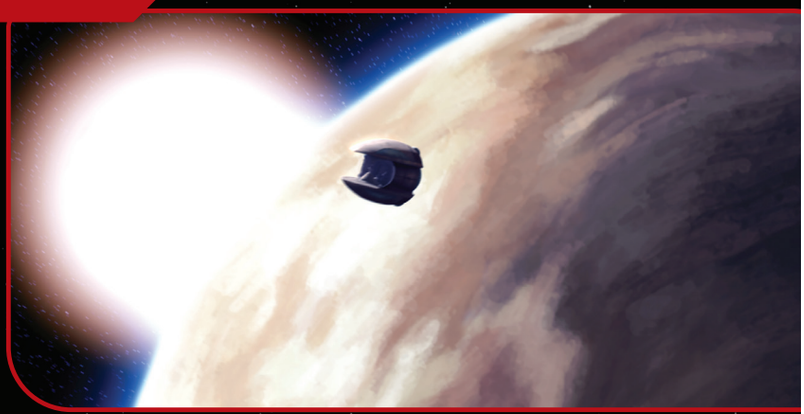
With each Geonosian Nantex pilot bred from birth to fly one particular fighter, the bond between pilot and craft was stronger and more intuitive than that of even the longest-serving Republic or Jedi veterans they flew against.

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AMBUSH FIGHTER

PATROLLING THE ASTEROIDS

The asteroid field around Geonosis was the *Nantex*-class's primary hunting ground. The low-emission engine of the ship, its small size and the semi-organic nature of many of its systems meant that it was hard to detect by approaching ships – especially as much of their attention would be devoted to navigating the field. Add to that its brown and bronze coloring, giving the craft effective camouflaging, and the Nantex was very nearly the perfect ambush starfighter. However, even the Geonosians' sensors had a hard time in the ore-rich asteroid field.



Hard to detect or track – or even to see, thanks to its brown-bronze coloring – the Geonosian *Nantex*-class was in many ways the ultimate ambush fighter.

ground defenses, however. Fortunately for the Geonosians, there were fewer Y-wing squadrons than the Republic would have liked, and they were spread thin for the invasion of the planet.

When Republic troops made it to the ground, by choice or when they were forced down, the fighters switched to explosive strafing runs, though their speed and the configuration of their guns meant they were far less suited for the steep approach necessary for such an attack run. Ultimately, the fighters returned to making attacks on the Republic's Y-wings, leaving aerial assaults on the clone troops to the winged Geonosian warriors.

BUILT AROUND THE PILOT

The *Nantex*-class territorial defence starfighter was unmistakably designed and built for, and by, Geonosians. Because of key components of its control systems, it could only be flown by Geonosians. This, and the fact that Geonosians guarded their technology so fiercely, explained why the ships were never seen offworld, save for a few captured examples.

The starfighters were manufactured by the Huppla Pasa Tisc Shipwrights Collective, who also manufactured Count Dooku's personal solar sailer. The main hull was built of light and flexible laminasteel, wrapped in its semi-molten state around an assembled space-frame complete with all internal components. The engines and weapons were fixed in place by powerful electromagnets, allowing them to rotate. With the engines, this helped to give the ship impressive agility, while the ball turret could fire off-axis to surprise the enemy.

Additionally, there were no less than 100 small tractor beam and repulsor generators spread along the edges of the needle-like hull sections. These could adjust the trajectory of the fighter and even redirect the laser blasts fired by the primary weapon. Of course, with the engine and laser cannon being magnetically mounted, they could both be easily swapped out for repairs or maintenance, or to be replaced with something more suited to the task at hand.

The laser cannon on the *Nantex*-class was on a globe-like turret set in the center of the craft. Able to swivel round to aim to either side, it caught enemy gunners unawares when they thought the craft had passed out of range.



SAIL AWAY

The initial designs of the Geonosian starfighter showed it with a sail, until that design feature was passed on to Count Dooku's solar sailer. In the end, the starfighters were only shown in action alongside Dooku's speeder bike flight from the Stalgasin Hive to his hidden escape ship in *Attack of the Clones*. It wasn't until the second season of *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* that fans got to see the Nantex starfighter in action properly, this time to devastating effect during the Second Battle of Geonosis.

Geonosian starfighters seen in the background accompanying Dooku in *Attack of the Clones*.



BEHIND THE SCENES

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