GRUMMAN F6F-3

1165



The Grumman Helicat first flew into combat over Marcus island on August 31, 1943. After three years of development the Helicat was prepared specifically to counter the threat posed by the Japanese Zero-Sen. By the end of the War, Helicats were credited with the destruction of nearly 80% of the Japanese planes downed by U.S. Navy pilots.

The F6F Helicat was rugged. With heavy armor plating to protect the pilot and essential systems, the Zero's 7.7mm guns were largely ineffective. Although slightly less maneuverable than the Zero, the heavier, more powerful Helicat was faster and could generally dictate the terms of battle. Most important, if things got too tough, the Helicat pilot could usually race away from an unhealthy situation, such as being outnumbered.

Following World War II, Helicats continued in U.S. Navy service. They were the beckbone of the Naval Reserve squadrons and even became the first mounts of the famed Blue. Angels. When war erupted again in Korea, Helicats were recalled to action and used as radio-controlled flying bombs against ground targets.

The most elaborately-marked Helicats used in World War II were those of VF-27, assigned to USS Princeton, CVL-23. These planes had a unique tiger face painted onto their cowlings. These markings are depicted on this Minicraft-Hasegawa model.

Dimensions:

Wingspan - 42 feet 10 inches Length - 33 feet 7 inches

Powerplant:

Pratt & Whitney R - 2800 - 10 air cooled radial engine of 2,200 hp.

Performance:

Maximum speed - 380 mph

Armament:

Six 50 cal. machine guns with 400 rounds per gun.

LETTERS REFER TO DECALS G Semi - Gloss Sea Blue FS 28042 Non - Specular Intermediate Blue FS 35164 **Both Sides** White Small "2" Green Amber decals are teeth Blue Red

MINICRAFT MODELS, INC. 1510 W. 228th STREET **TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA 90501**



Fuselage (L)

Fuselage (R)

Wing top (L)

4. Wing top(R)

Wing bottom 6. 7. 8. Horizontal tail (L)

Horizontal tail (R)

Cowling

Engine (front) 10. Engine (rear)
11. Cockpit floor

12. Propeller

13. Main Wheel

14. Seat

Landing gear cover (R) 28. Bulkhead

16. Landing gear (L)

17. Tail gear

18. Antenna post (type 3)

Antenna post (type 5)

20. Pitot tube

21. Control stick

Fairing (type 3) 23. Fairing (type 5)

24. Landing gear strut (R) Landing gear strut (L) 26. Drop tank support

32. Drop tank (R) 33. Drop tank (L)

30. Gear cover (R) 31. Gear cover (L)

27. Drop tank support

29. Instrument panel

Transparent parts

1. Canopy (type 5)

2. Canopy (type 3) 3. Side window for type 3 (R)

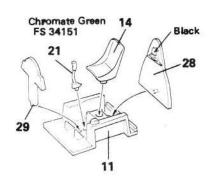
4. Side window for type 3 (L)

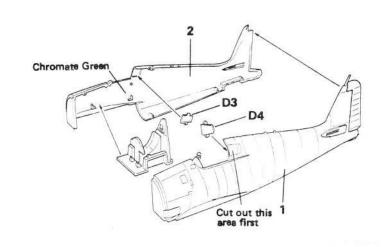


Apply cockpit decals as shown in detail drawings.
Cement 21, 29, 14 and 28 to 11.
Cut away shallow areas behind cockpit on 1 and 2, then cement D3 and D4 in place.
Cement cockpit assembly into 2.
Cement 1 and 2 together.

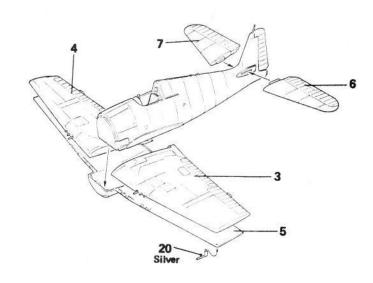




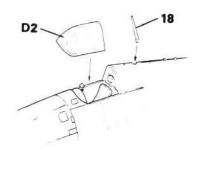


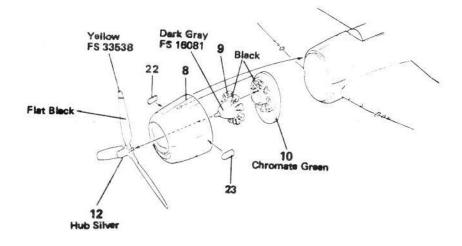


Cement 3 and 4 to 5, then cement wing to fuselage. Cement 6 and 7 to fuselage. Cement 20 to bottom of wing.



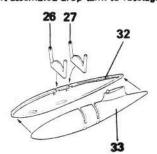
Cement D2 over cockpit, then cement 18, slanting forward, Cement 22 and 23 to 8 as shown.
Cement 9 and 10 together, then cement unit into 8.
Cement 12 to shaft on front of engine assembly.





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Cement 32 and 33 together, then coment 26 and 27 Cement 32 and 33 together, then cement 25 and 27 into notches in tank.
Cement 13 and 30 to 24, then cement unit into right wheel well.
Cement 15 to front of well.
Repeat with 13, 25, 31 and 16 for left landing gear.
Cement 17 to tail wheel well.
Cement assembled drop tank to fuselage bottom.



LANDING GEAR COLORS

Tire Wheel Geer Strut Oleo Strut Gear cover outsid Gear cover inside Gear well Mett Black White Silver Silver Same color as wing Chromate Green Chromate Green

