

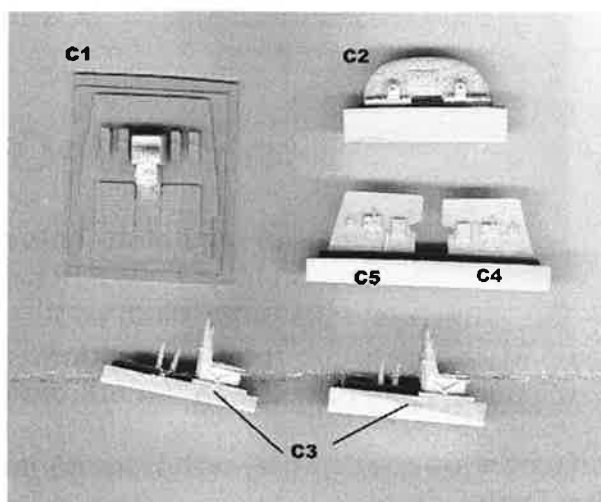
PB4Y-2 Privateer Detail Set

Congratulations on your purchase of this PB4Y-2 Privateer detail set for the 1/72nd scale Matchbox kit. Although long in tooth, it's the only game in town for this classic aircraft. In a departure from our usual instruction sheet format we will be illustrating each assembly in concurrence with the kit instructions. Nearly every assembly is a direct replacement for kit parts. Sub assemblies of resin parts will "plug" right into the kit plastic with little fuss.

As always, clean the resin parts with a mild degreasing agent or denatured alcohol. Do not soak parts in alcohol!!! Cut individual parts away from cast blocks with a sharp hobby knife or razor saw. Use a CY type glue to attach parts and prime before painting. Cobra Company strives to supply the best parts possible but minor defects occasionally will be found. Any parts rendered useless because of defects will be replaced.

Cockpit assembly

Refer to kit instruction sheet step #2, #11 and #12. Sand C1 floor down to match kit floor profile. Glue the kit control wheels onto C2 and then place C2 at the edge of the control pedestal as shown in step #11. Pilot seats C3 have optional armrests that you may choose to attach to each seat. Place the seats on the cockpit floor pads at each pilot station. Part C4 is the LEFT cockpit side wall and C5 is Right cockpit side wall. Each of these pieces are attached to the cast block AT THE UPPER SILL EDGES!! Test fit all parts in the fuselage halves before gluing. DO NOT GLUE HALVES TOGETHER YET!!!



Example of raw resin parts placement

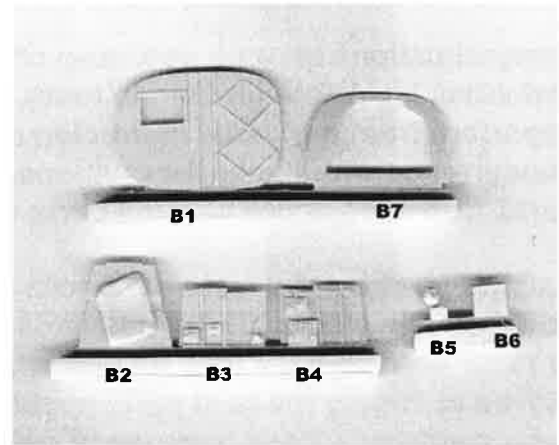


View of cockpit parts fit into nose section.

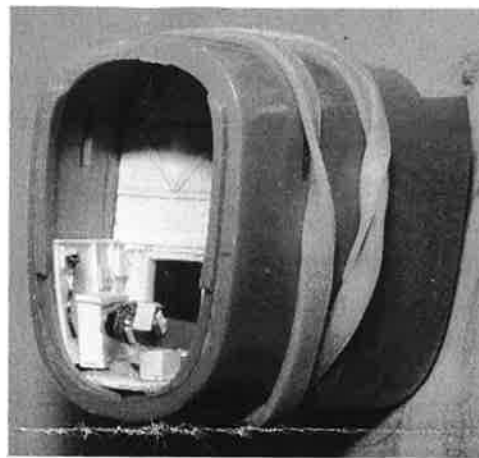
Cockpit area is painted gray with black upper surfaces on pedestal and instrument panel.

The Matchbox kit did not provide any detail in the lower nose section for the bombardier. Refer to the illustration at right and the photos below to install the new Cobra Company parts.

B1 is the compartment bulkhead. B7 is the aft wheel bay bulkhead. B2 is the compartment floor and cushion, B5 is the bombsight and pedestal. B3 is the left sidewall and B4 is the right sidewall. B6 is a storage box to be fixed on the right side floor.



View to aft and left sidewall

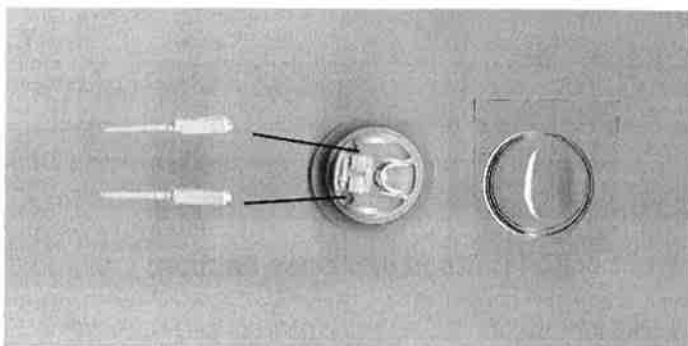


View of right sidewall

Surfaces were painted grey with black control box surfaces. Bombsight and pedestal black, cushion Olive Drab.

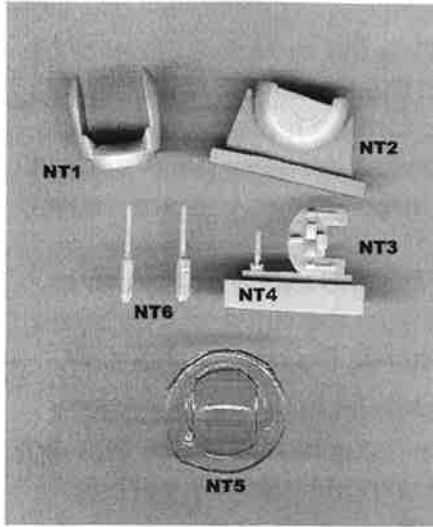
This completes the forward nose detail assembly. Both sides of the nose may be glued together at this point. The nose wheel and strut are fairly weak in detail. While Cobra Company provides a more accurate nose wheel the remaining detail of the strut and bay area may be improved further with some research and additional detail.

Top gun turrets



Two new upper gun turrets are supplied. Each turret gets 2 -.50 cal machineguns installed in the tray area indicated at left. A new vacform turret cover is supplied for each turret. View the cover closely to identify the actual cover bottom line and carefully cut and sand the excess away. Remove the clear sections for the guns to elevate. The covers fit snugly over each turret frame.

Nose turret (kit steps #6 and #13)



The kit nose turret is dismal. The resin replacement is vastly improved. Remove the excess resin from the bottom of the turret cradle, NT1 and the bottom half of the ball NT2. As viewed in the photo at left, the rear of the cradle is shown. The turret detail is provided on the insert, NT3. Place the insert inside the front half of the ball section and place two guns beside the ammo feed chutes. The control yoke, NT4 fits into the ball floor as indicated by the small square slot. Examine the turret cover to determine the front and back ends. The front end has two very small oval panels for the gun barrels to exit the turret. Remove the cover from the plastic disc and open the gun ports. Remove the side semi-circles from the cover. To properly fit the cover to the lower ball section, remove small sections of the clear cover from THE REAR.

Rear turret (kit steps #4 and #13)

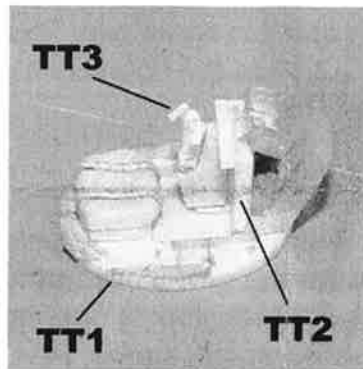
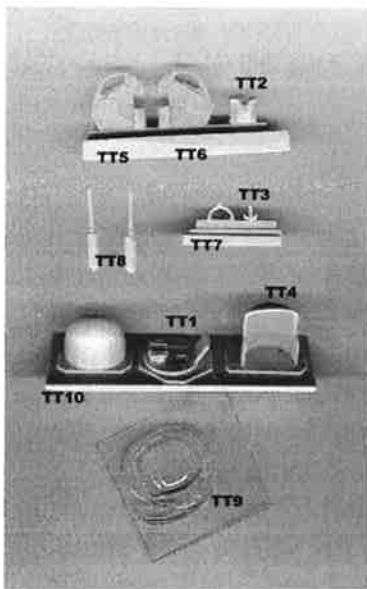


figure 1

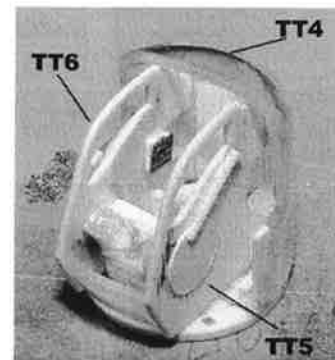
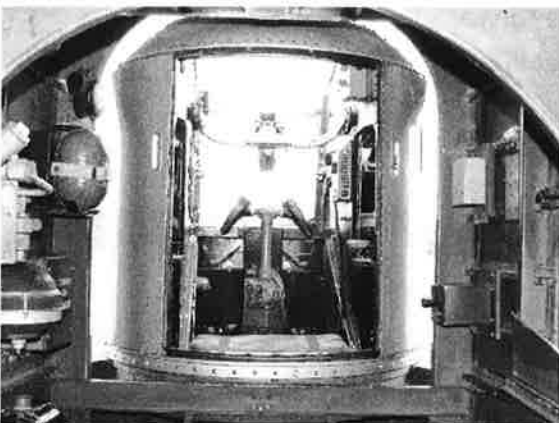


figure 2

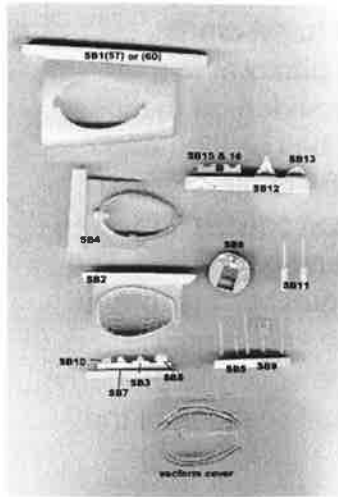
Remove turret base TT1, control pedestal TT2 and control yoke TT3 from the blocks and assemble as in figure one. Add TT4 to rear edge of turret base. If you wish, the door may be opened by cutting the panels out. Add the sidewalls TT5 and TT6 as shown in figure two. The discs face outward, these are the elevation mechanisms for the guns. Add one gun to the center of each disc. TT7 is the gunsight and mount, add it to the inner frame as shown in the photo at left.

Look carefully at the vacform turret cover and locate the edges of the glass. Cut and sand the lower and rear sections away. Once this is completed, identify the gun ports to each side of front plate and either open holes for the gun barrels to stick out or cut the triangular section out completely and use small sections of tissue or tape to replicate the flexible boot around the gun barrels.

Part TT10 is the tail end cap for the turret to sit on.

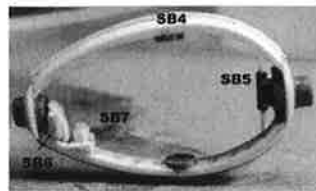


Side blisters



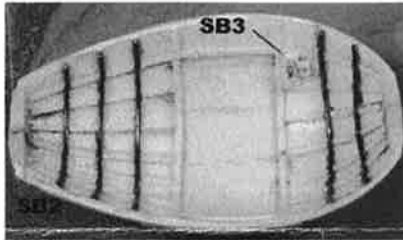
The side blisters are basically universal. Part SB1 is the modified panel to be set into the fuselage side. They are numbered on the inside, 57 is for the left and 60 is for the right. The blister covers are also formed for left or right side, the glass sections being the upper half of each blister. All other parts are put together in mirror assemblies. Start by deciding which blister you are making and divide the parts evenly to each side.

Start with SB4, the basic frame. Add SB5,6 and 7 to the frame as shown in figure one. This is the right side frame as viewed from the outside. The discs on top and bottom are universal mounts for the turret. Do not cut them off.



Each frame has a lip that must face out, the blister slips onto this lip. Do not install blister at this time but it would be wise to work with the vacform part and frame before going further.

figure 1



The backing structure of each blister has one small panel of gauges to installed as shown at left in figure two. This is the right blister as viewed from the outside. Cut open the doorway if you wish. The left side blister is a mirror image of this one.

figure 2

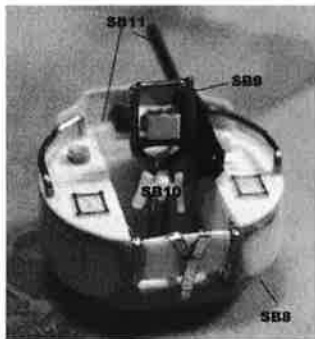


figure 3

Figure 3 shows a nearly completed cupola for the side blisters. Both sides are identical. Remove the cast block from the bottom of SB8 and ensure that the small hole in the bottom is opened up. This hole fits onto the disc on the lower side of each side frame, SB4. The gunsight and control post, SB9, glues to the center floor of the cupola. The control yoke attaches to the post just below the gunsight. An extra detail would be to add the glass beam splitter for each gunsight. Fit each gun to the cupola as shown. Glue SB15 and SB16 to the interior of the side panel 57 or 60 as shown in figure four. Place the cupola/frame assembly into the opening as shown in figure five. Trap the frame in place by installing SB12 and SB13 over the frame tabs as in figure 6. SB12 is the forward fairing, SB 13 the aft. Install the blister cover onto the frame lip.



figure 4

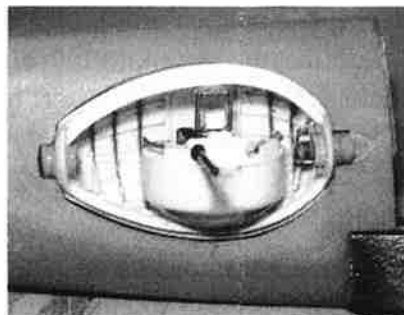


figure 5

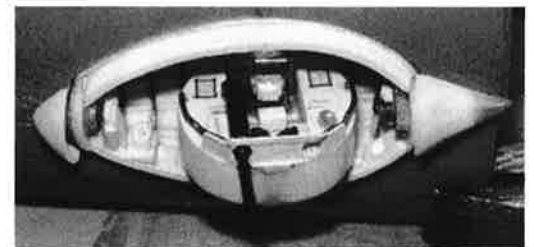
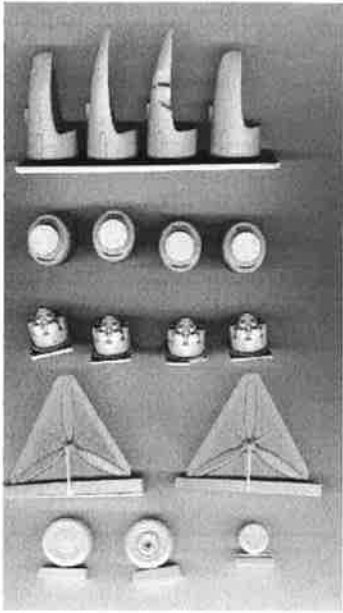


figure 6

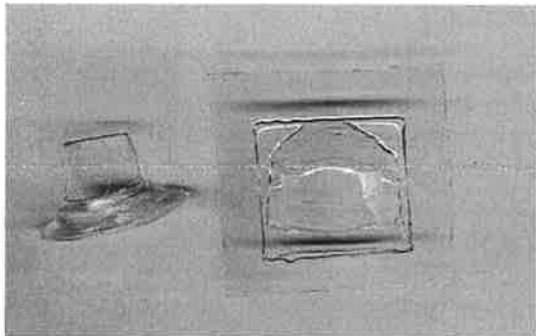
Engines and things



Four complete new powerplant assemblies are provided in resin. The nacelles are identified on the cast block with letters; RO for right outboard LI for left inboard and so forth. Four cowlings and engines are also supplied, each is identical so position per nacelle is of no issue. Four props are provided, if you should find that the blades have a bit of warp in them they may be straightened by holding the prop near a 100 watt light. As the blade softens it will droop, flatten the blade for a few moments until it cools. This will correct any warpage.

The cowlings and engines are assembled by removing the center resin disc from each cowling and inserting the engine in the back of the cowling with the magnetos at top. The top of the cowling has the SMALL air inlet. If you wish to make your props movable, the engine can be drilled through and a rod attached to the rear of the prop hub. Otherwise, the existing parts will allow the engine/prop assembly to be fully static.

New wheels for your model are included. The nose strut of the kit is weak in detail and strength. We suggest you pay particular attention to this area.



The remaining clear parts shown at left are the cockpit canopy and the lower nose canopy. The cockpit canopy is vacform and may be cut out with a sharp hobby knife and sanded around the edges. The nose piece is clear resin and may be polished for greater clarity.

Cutting Edge/ Meteor Productions has wonderful 1/48th scale markings for PB4Y-2 aircraft. We urge you to contact them to have those sheets printed in 1/72nd scale so that you may finish your model with some eye catching artwork.

Masters by Alex Bernardo

Special thanks to the following folks for assistance:

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