

By late 1942, with the Allies fielding faster, more heavily armed and capable fighters, it became clear that the A-series of Ju-88s were quickly losing their ability to evade interception and carry out their mission.

In order to boost performance without interrupting production, Junkers began a series of tests to reduce weight and improve speed, resulting in the Ju-88S/T series. Among the improvements were: removal of one ETC rack under each wing; elimination of the "beetle eye" multi-faceted nose, replaced by a smooth, clear, rounded nose; reduction of defensive weaponry to one aft-firing MG 131 13mm machine gun; removal of the ventral gondola and speed brakes; and a reduction of crew members from four to three. These changes dramatically increased both speed and altitude performance. While the Ju-88A-4's top performance was 292mph at 17,390ft, the S-1 could achieve 379mph at 26,250ft. Admittedly, this was with a smaller load, but a smaller load with a chance of making it to the target and back is a lot better than a heavily-loaded sitting duck.

Deliveries of the Ju-88S-1 began in early 1944. One of the first units to receive the new bomber was I/KG 66, depicted in the markings provided by this kit. I/KG 66 was primarily engaged in pathfinder missions on the Western front, and featured prominently in the so-called "mini blitz" in 1944.

The same performance shortfalls exhibited by the A-model bombers were also true of the D-model high-speed photo

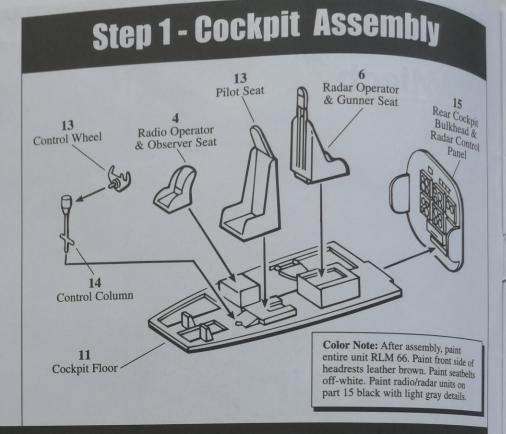
reconnaissance variants. Thus the S-1 was adapted to the photo reconnaissance role as the T-1. Instead of bombs, the front bomb-bay carried a 268 Imperial gallon fuel tank, while the rear tank carried either a 149.6 Imperial gallon fuel tank or GM-1 tanks for engine boost. In addition, external fuel tanks could be carried on the two remaining external ETC bomb racks. Cameras were mounted in the bottom rear fuselage immediately behind the bomb-bays. Typical camera arrangement consisted of one Rb 20/30 and one Rb 50/30 or 75/30.

In addition to the BMW-powered S-1/T-1 versions, Jumo 231A-powered S-3/T-3 versions were also produced. This aircraft will be the subject a new release by AMtech later in 2002.

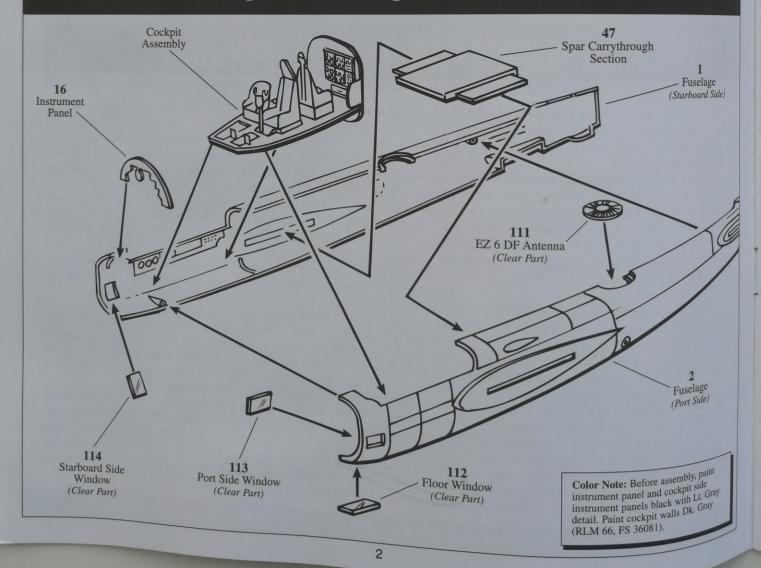
While both these aircraft showed a marked improvement over earlier models, it was a case of too little, too late. As German aircraft production turned more and more to that of fighters for defense, the need for even medium-range bombers became a luxury the Luftwaffe did not feel it could afford. Thus, production of the Ju-88S and T-models ceased in late 1944.

AMtech produces this kit through exclusive arrangement with RacingChampions/ERTL. AMtech believes this to be the only 1/72 scale injection molded kit of this aircraft to have ever been produced. Only 5000 kits have been produced for world-wide distribution. We hope you enjoy building this kit and adding it to your model collection.

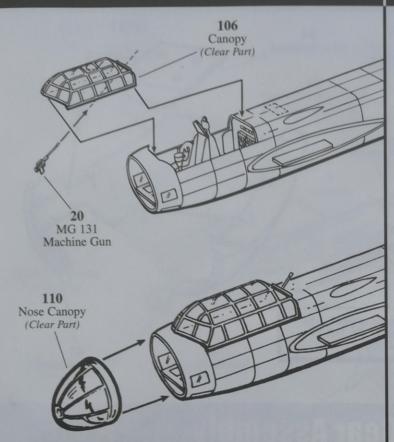
This paint guide is provided to complete this kit as shown throughout the instructions.	
RLM 02	Lt. Gray/Green
RLM 04	Yellow
RLM 21	
RLM 24	Red
RLM 65	Light Blue
RLM 66	Dark Gray
RLM 70	Black Green
RLM 71	Dark Green
RLM 74	
RLM 75	Gray-Violet
RLM 76	Light Blue
Rubber	
Black	
White	
Silver	
Burnt Metal	
Leather	



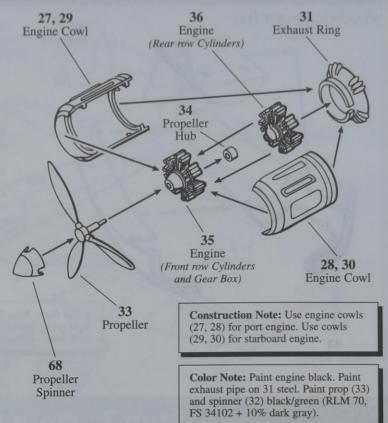
Step 2 - Fuselage Assembly



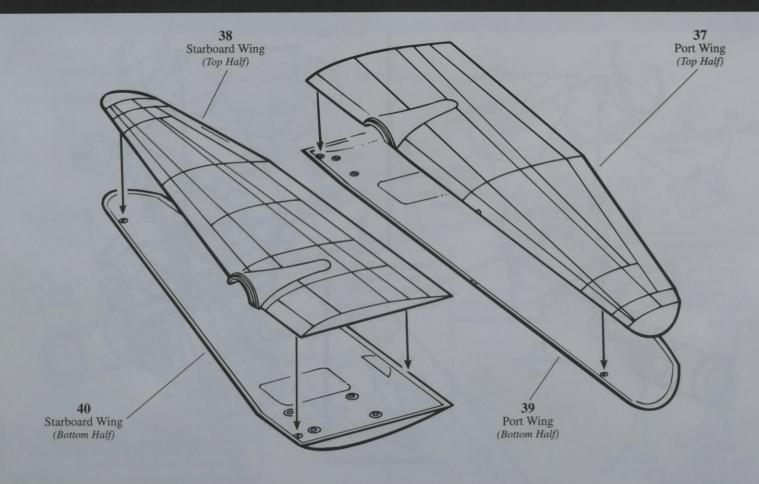
Step 3 - Canopy Assembly



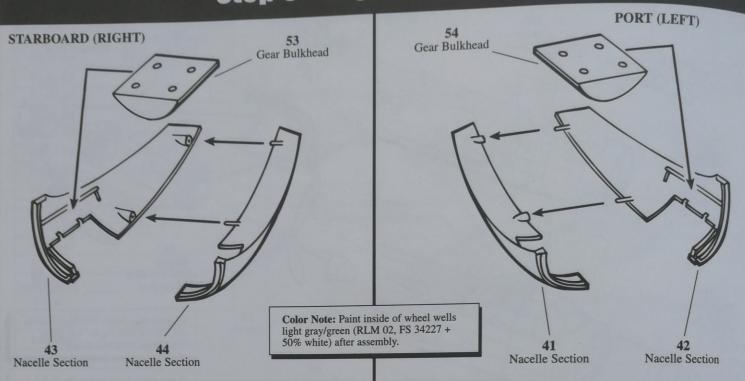
Step 4 - Engine Assembly



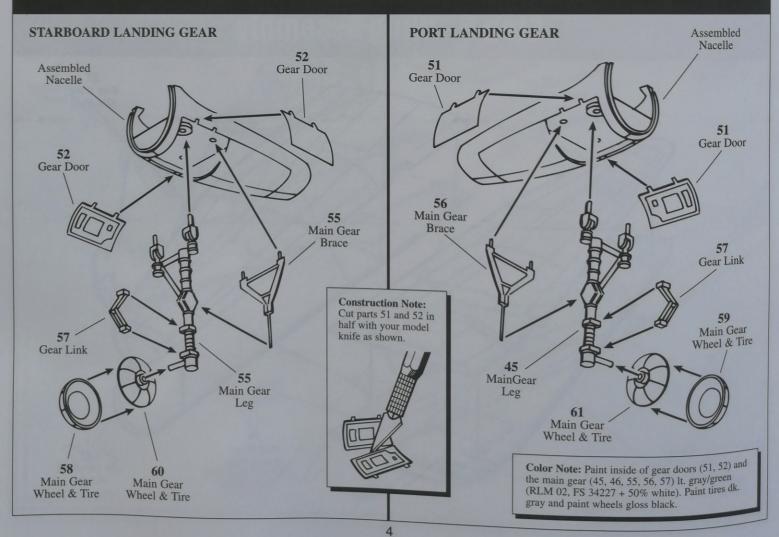
Step 5 - Wing Assembly



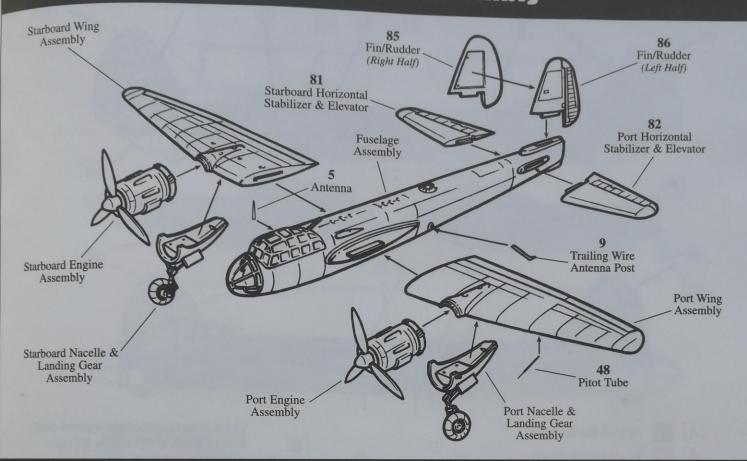
Step 6 - Engine Nacelles



Step 7 - Main Gear Assembly



Step 8a - Final Assembly



Step 8b - Final Assembly

