DRAW Set 44s-737-100 USAF T-43A's, Set I

In the early 1970s, the U.S. Air Force ordered 19 T-43A aircraft (modified Boeing 737-200s) to serve as navigational training platforms. The original markings featured a white upper fuselage and vertical stabilizer. with a gray lower fuselage, wings, nacelles, and horizontal stabilizers. Wing, stabilizer, and nacelle cowl lips are bare metal. Doors, windows, titles and stripes are arranged on the decal sheet so as to be applied as one large element on each side of the fuselage. Black data block is applied below the left cockpit windows. Red tow bar limit stripes are located on the nose gear doors with smaller ID numbers. Air Education & Training Command (AETC) shields and large 5 number IDs are located on the vertical stabilizer. USAF letters are located on the outboard lower left wing and upper right wing. National insignia are located on the upper left wing and lower right wing. The tip of the radome is black. A black anti-glare panel is located in front of the cockpit windshields. Some aircraft wore unit award ribbons below the black data block. 31149 US AIR FORCE Genuine

USAF T-43A's, Set I

"Civil Decals for the Civilized"

Recommended Kit: 1/144 Airfix 737-200 with Contrails JT9D engines

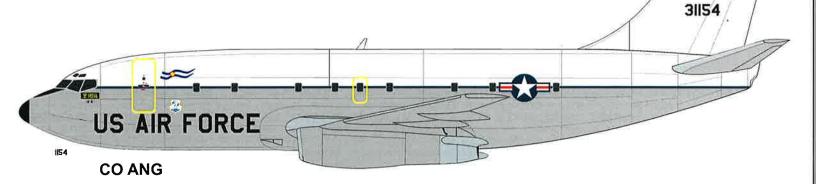


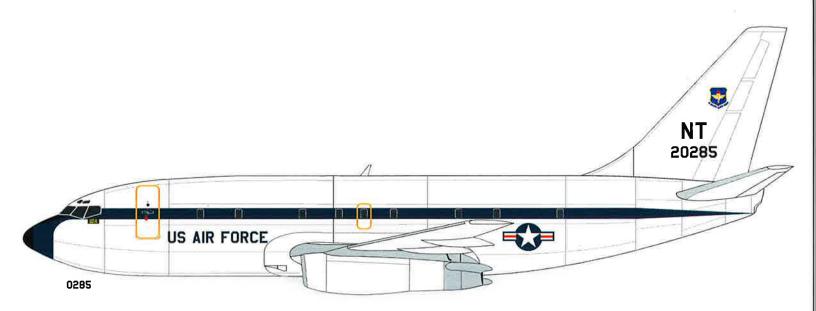
Digital Silk decals are extremely durable and do not easily scratch. They do not generally need to be clear coated prior to use. Use care when applying as the decal film is extremely thin. Digital Silk decals are tough and durable, but do not like to bend around corners. An easy solution is to soak the decal in hot water. This softens the ink and allows the decal to conform around tails and over uneven surfaces. DO NOT float the decal off of the paper, as it will fold over itself and become unusable. Rather, soak the decal in very warm to almost HOT water for about 5 seconds then remove it and allow it to sit for 45 seconds before trying to slide it off of the backing paper. "Normal" decal setting solutions can be used with these decals. I recommend using Microscale's Micro Set and Micro Sol solutions. Brush the Micro Set directly on your model before sliding the decal into position. After you slide the decal into position and soak up the excess liquid, apply a thin coat of Micro Sol (the solvent) the soften the decal. It is important to get the Micro Sol under the decal, as the solvent has little effect on the ink, but it will dissolve the clear carrier which allows the decal to dig into the paint. After this coat dries and you are certain the decal is in its final position, apply a second heavier coat of Micro Sol. DO NOT touch the decal until it is dry!! Clear coating your model after applying these decals is a must! I repeat this is a must. The clear coat will seal your decal and prevent it from becoming damaged. DO NOT BRUSH ON ANY CLEAR LACQUER over these decals, as they will instantly dissolve. Airbrush lacquers only in very light, misting coats. Another method to clear coat the decal is to use Future acrylic floor polish. Good luck and thank you for using Digital Silk decals!

USAF T-43A's, Set I

In addition to the aircraft originally assigned to the 323rd Flying Wing at Mather AFB, several aircraft also operated with the Colorado ANG (to provide training for the USAF Academy) and the District of Columbia ANG. These aircraft featured Air National Guard shields on the tail. CO ANG aircraft had an addition ANG shield above the AIR FORCE titles and a Colorado flag aft of the left entry door. DC ANG aircraft featured a DC ANG shield above the fuselage titles and a smaller black data box under the left cockpit windows.







In the late 1980s, a new color scheme was introduced for the T-43 fleet, featuring an all-white fuselage and vertical stabilizer, with a broad blue stripe and radome. Engine nacelles were painted white. Wings and horizontal stabilizers received the same finish as commercial 737s - standard Boeing Gray with corogard center sections. U.S. AIR FORCE titles were reduced in size, and the national insignia was moved below the stripe. Two-letter NT tail codes were added to the vertical stabilizer. Black radome tip and anti-glare panel are retained. ship ID numbers on the nose gear doors are slightly larger. Wing USAF lettering and national insignia remain the same as the original scheme.

Extra numbers are provided to allow the modeling of any aircraft in USAF service. Serials are 71-1403 through 71-1406, 72-0282 through 72-0288, and 73-1149 through 73-1156. Check photo references for the specific aircraft you wish to model. Some online sources include www.jetphotos.net, www.airliners.net, and www.planepictures.net. For the newer schemes on the T-43A's, please see DRAW Decal set 737-101 USAF T-43A's Set II

