

Short Skyvan SC.7 Argentina Prefectura Naval ("Coast Guard")

For 1/72 scale but others scales like 1/144 possible

HISTORY

The Short SC.7 Skyvan is a British 19-seat twin-turboprop aircraft first flown in 1963. It was manufactured by Short Brothers in Belfast, Northern Ireland. It had a box like fuselage with rear ramp to load cargo. It has a basic rugged design and STOL capabilities. The Skyvan was used by small local airlines, and also by many smaller air forces across the Globe. Some 149 Skyvans were manufactured. The 3M is a military version with higher take-off weights.

Antenna configurations may vary and some have an extended bubbled nose with weather radar. Some Skyvans had a rear passenger door and extra cabin windows retaining the same basic fuselage.

MODEL KITS

In 1/72 scale Airfix released a Skyvan 3M injection moulded kit in 1974 as kit 04018 and until 2002 with a few re-releases.

In 1/144 scale Eastern Express has a few kits as well as Welsh.

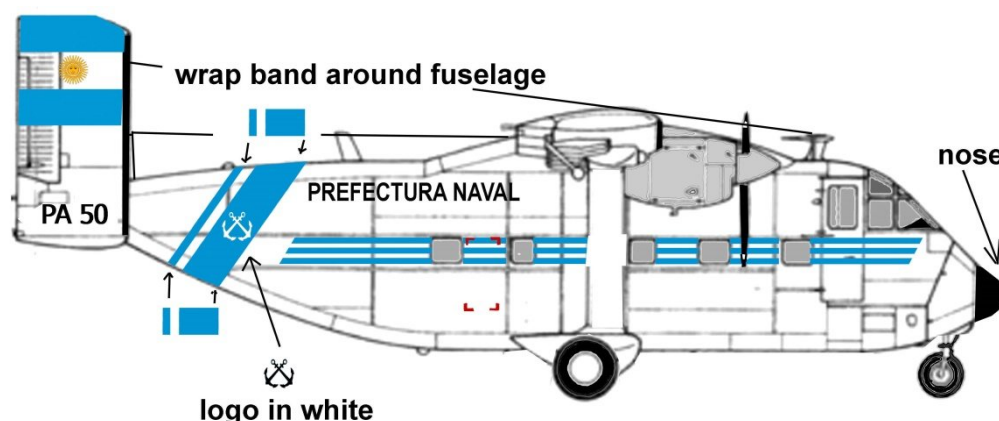
DECAL APPLICATION

The decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so each decal needs to be cut out with fine scissors. No other prior decal preparation is needed.

Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two sections. To apply the full decal marking, first set the white decal section at correct position and on top of that the coloured section. On the decals sheet you will often see an "arrow" to indicate this way of application (on white surfaces, the white section is optional).

Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on a horizontally held GLOSSY model surface. Do not use tweezers! They will fold doubled!

After all decals have been applied, finish the model with your preferred final gloss, matt or semi-matt varnish coats. This will also protect all the decals.



SKYVAN PREFECTURA NAVAL ARGENTINA

The Prefectura Naval Argentina ("Coast Guard") acquired 5 Skyvans in 1971. The aircraft were fitted with a small radar nose.

[A] Skyvan SC7-3M-400 c/n SH1887 and code PA 50 is overall gloss white with cheat lines and blue trim. The scheme is symmetrical.

Natural metal front engine nacelles and propeller spinners. Propeller blades tyre-black with white-black-white tips.

Black anti-glare panel and black leading edges on wing, vertical tails and horizontal stabilizer.

The Argentine flags are both on outsides and insides of the vertical tail. Trim the flag decals to fit, the "suns" are in front of the rudders. The tops of the tails are also blue, try to match the decal flag colour.

Red outlined rear emergency markings on both sides.

A large "anchor" is situated at the upper port wing tip (probably not on lower wing tip). A large registration code is situated on upper starboard wing tip. On the lower port wing tip probably not (extra decals are provided).

The walk ways running from cockpit to mid fuselage-wing on the upper fuselage are black panels (decals are provided).

The aircraft has several antennas situated on the upper fuselage. On the tail plane are antennas masts with wires running to stubs on the upper wing-fuselage section. A single long antenna wire runs from starboard tail leading edge to a mast above cockpit.

The cheat lines are sized to fit the 1/72 Airfix kit window rows. Tweak the rear fuselage band to also run on the upper fuselage and lower ramp door.

The 1/72 Airfix kit has the appropriate window layout and doors. But it needs a scratch made radar nose; make from card and putty.



AFT IN PLASTIC

[B] Skyvan SC7-3M-400 c/n SH1889 and code PA 52 was delivered probably also in 1971 and was operated until 1995. It has a small black radar nose.

The scheme is symmetrical. Overall gloss white with blue stripes. International orange (approx. FS12197) wing tips and nose panels. Black radar nose, anti-glare panel and black leading edges on wing, vertical tails and horizontal stabilizer.

Natural metal front engine nacelles and propeller spinners. Propeller colours varied: on this aircraft black blades with white-black-white tips; on other aircraft medium grey blades with yellow tips. The blue window stripes are sized to fit the Airfix kit.

Argentine flags both on outsides and insides of the vertical tail. Trim decals to fit, the "suns" are in front of rudders. Tops of the tails are blue, try to match the flag colour.



A large "anchor" is situated at the upper port wing tip (probably not on lower wing tip). Large registration code on upper starboard wing tip and on lower port wing tip.

Red outlined rear emergency markings on both cabin sides.

Black walk way stripe on upper fuselage (decals provided). Antennas and wires as described for scheme [A].

The 1/72 Airfix kit has the appropriate window layout and doors. But it needs a scratch radar nose; make from card and putty.



[C] Skyvan SC7-3M-400 c/n SH1887 and code PA 50 as described in scheme [A] was later operated during the Falklands War April-May 1982. It got a camouflage scheme and was also deployed from Pebble island in 1982. It was destroyed during retaking by British Forces of the islands during a SAS raid of "D sqdn" on morning of May 15, 1982.

Camouflage colours are sand brown (approx. FS30257) and olive green (approx. FS34102). Lower surfaces were probably still white. Patterns at starboard and upper surfaces could not be established from photos. The colours were rather roughly applied and thus over leading edges, nacelles and propeller spinners. Small radar nose painted black. Antennas and wires as described for scheme [A].

The 1/72 Airfix kit has the appropriate window layout and doors. But it needs a scratch radar nose; make from card and putty.

Small Argentine flags on the outsides of the vertical tails. Small black PREFECTURE NAVAL ARGENTINA titles on rear port and starboard fuselage. Black tail codes PA-50 have a different style than scheme [A]. Small codes below cockpit windows. Red outlined rear emergency markings both sides.

Probably larger registration code on upper starboard wing and large black anchor at upper port wing. Black walk way stripe on upper fuselage(decals provided).

----- not shown:

[D] Skyvan SC7-3M-400 c/n SH1891 and code PA-54 as operated during the Falklands War. It has a camouflage scheme of small patches green and olive green all over the aircraft, also on the lower surfaces. Fitted with radar nose. Probably on the upper port wing a large black "anchor" and a large PA-50 code on the upper port wing. Otherwise markings are similar as PA-50 seen in scheme [C].



Aircraft in Plastic decals

Please visit website: www.aircraftinplastic.com

© copyright 2025

www.aircraftinplastic.com

AIRCRAFT IN PLASTIC