

# GECKO HEAVY INDUSTRIES VOLVO RADDNINGSBIL 918



**GE72032**  
**SCALE: 1/72**



The Volvo Viking was one of the most recognizable and ubiquitous trucks in Swedish history. Volvo introduced the L385 Viking in 1953 and updated vehicles were produced until 1973. The truck had a payload capacity of up to 8 tons for the heaviest trailing axle versions. 1959 saw the introduction of the refined L485 Viking, including a stronger chassis. From 1961, the truck was available with a turbodiesel. When Volvo introduced its "System 8" in 1965 the truck's name was changed to N86. Beneath the Viking cab, Volvo conducted extensive changes including a new engine, a fully synchronized eight-speed gear box and a general updating of most components. The Swedish military used some early civilian standard L3845s before moving on to the Ltgb 938 general service truck with a 410 cm wheelbase and a winch. This truck achieved notoriety by being designated "Helikopter" in the famous Swedish film "Repmånad" about inventive reservists on maneuvers.

This was followed by the broadly similar L4854 based Ltgb 939 mostly with a 440 cm wheelbase and the updated D67C engine. The final big production run on the N86 base with TD70A engines centered on the Ltgb 941 in 4 versions, all with 440 cm wheelbase but with a folding crane.

The Flygvapnet (Air Force) had a number of Volvo Vikings snow removal vehicles with an extra Scania engine to drive various snow blowers as well as a rescue vehicle/fire truck, Raddningsbil 918, on a 410 cm wheelbase frame. These lasted until replaced by the Scania RTGB 4112.

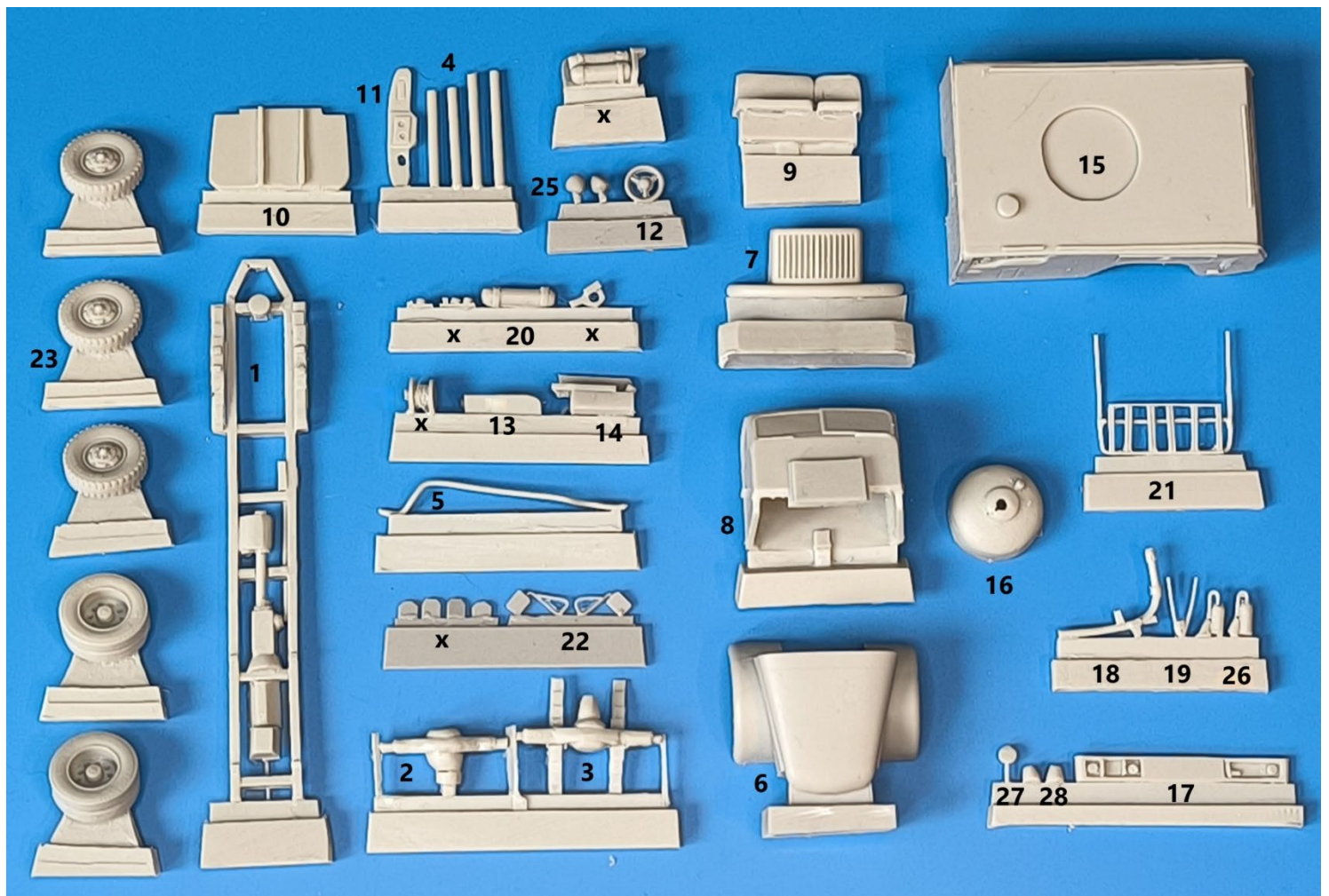
Besides the above versions, there were also some field kitchens, some 3 Axle cargo Vikings, and some fuel tank trucks on an NB88 frame, amongst very many others.

## Model Instructions

Efforts were made to offer modelers 7 recognizably different versions of the Viking in 3 Chassis lengths, using as many standard components as possible. Carefully remove all casting blocks. Assemble axles **(2, 3)**, exhaust **(5)**, Hydraulic Tank **(20)** and drive shafts **(4)** to chassis frame **(1)**. Cement hood **(6)** and grill **(7)** to front of frame. The interior paint of the cab **(8)** is thought to have been black with dark grey vinyl seats. Place seat **(9)** on platform **(10)** so that cab can easily slide over. Attach pre-painted instrument panel **(11)** and steering wheel **(12)** to interior of cab, taking care that windows do not mist over. Mask windows and cement running boards to either side of cab, the small one **(13)** on the left and the boxy one **(14)** on the right. Cement fire engine section **(15)** and rear bumper **(17)** to chassis frame, allowing room to slip in protector grill **(21)** at a later stage. Top of fire engine section was in aluminum. With that painted, glue red water tank **(16)** into round orifice. These trucks were painted fire engine red with a black hood and often red and white wheel rims. Now add pre-painted headlights **(25)**, blue roof lights **(28)**, fire extinguishers **(26)**, wing mirrors **(22)** and water gun **(18, 19)**. Carefully drill small hole in middle of cab roof for small searchlight **(27)**.

Refer to website <https://www.geckoheavyindustriesmodels.de/gec72032-volvo-raddningsbil-918t/> for period and colour photos using access code provided on printed instructions in the kits.

## Kit Components



### General Instructions

We try to make our parts as easy to fit as possible but these are kits for relatively experienced modelers. First, we urge you to clean up the parts with soap and water, to remove possible remains of release agents. If parts are warped, dip in very hot water and gently bend back to right shape. The usual plastic cement does not work on resins and metals. Cyano acrylate glue or epoxy do the job. Resin Parts are preferably sanded wet, to avoid inhaling the dust. The use of Cyano acrylate and epoxies is also to be done under well ventilated conditions. Read the instructions of your adhesive products.

**NOT RECOMMENDED TO CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 14.**