

LIMITED EDITION!

CED48146

# P-39

## Airacobra #4

P-39D & P-39Q

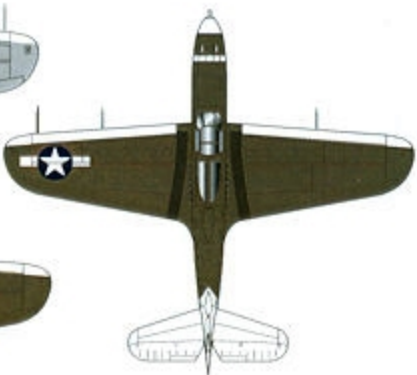


Recommended kit:  
Eduard P-39P-400

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## Notes on Aircraft



### All aircraft

- These P-39s carried the standard camouflage scheme of dark Olive Drab 41 over Neutral Gray 43.

### White 151

- This aircraft was flown by Lt. William "Stubby" Gambill who was eventually shot down on March 8, 1944 over Berlin and captured. Several weeks later he was killed during an Allied bombing raid.
- The nose wheel hub was painted red.

### 'Snooks 2nd'

- This was the second of the many 'Snooks' aircraft flown by legendary USAAF pilot William A. Shomo. Shomo would later fly P-51s and earn the Medal of Honor (see Cutting Edge decal sheet CED48113).
- Note that the bar on the lower national insignia actually wraps onto the cannon housing. Most other P-39Qs simply had it run under the housing.

### 'Little Sir Echo'

- Note that the shark's mouth on the drop tank was on the lower half only.
- The gear covers had a scalloped design painted on them. The rear portion was definitely white, but the forward portion did not match the gray undersurface color exactly. It could have been a repaint, but we feel it may have been another color altogether. We've included a white scallop decal, for which you will paint whichever color you want the forward portion of the cover to be first, then apply the decal. We have also supplied a two-color decal in the scheme we believe to be the most likely, red & white.

## Applying the Decals

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model. Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell clear topcoat.

## FS 595 Color Cross Reference

41 Dark Olive Drab	(FS 34087 and FS 34088 [same color, different number!]) Xtracolor X111 & X112, Floquil 303170, ProModeler 88-0028, Poly Scale 505224 & 505080, Gunze Sangyo H304, Modelmaster 1711
43 Neutral Gray	(FS 36173) Floquil 303178, ProModeler 88-0035, Poly Scale 505086, Xtracolor X158, Gunze Sangyo H053

## Bibliography

*Official Monogram US Army & Air Corps Aircraft Color Guide Vol.1 1908-1941* by Robert D. Archer. Monogram Publications, 1995.

*Bell P-39 Airacobra, Famous Airplanes of the World #36*

*Air Force Colors Vol. 3* by Dana Bell. Squadron Signal Publications, 1997.

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*Bell P-39 Airacobra part 1.* Monographie #58 AJ Press 1999.

*Attack and Conquer-The 8th Fighter Group in WWII* by J. Stanaway & L. Hickey. Schiffer Publishing 1995.