



## Mouse Armour

1/35 scale kit  
MA117  
Leopard AS1 "square"  
photoetch turret basket

### Background

The Australian Leopard AS1 MBT had a range of rear turret baskets over its service life:

- 1977 – nil and two jerrycans on the rear face of the turret;
- 1985 – Modified Centurion turret basket and one jerrycan;
- 1989 – two turret baskets with the front face of the basket conforming to the rear turret slope; (MA116)
- 1990s – two square turret baskets with bottom stand off legs (MA117); and
- 2004+ – full width turret basket. (MA121)

The photoetch fret provides:

1 x narrow turret basket	1 x engine mesh	3 x basket hangers (one with bolt)
1 x wide turret basket	2 x wind sensor brush guards (only one needed)	4 x hooks for searchlight when it is stowed
4 x pieces of 30 x30 thou square strip to represent stand off legs.		

### Tools

Handy tools would include a sharp model knife and photo etch bending tool. (Although a chisel style blade and a steel ruler will also work.) Super glue will also be required.

### Safety

Do not get the superglues anywhere near your eyes..

### Construction

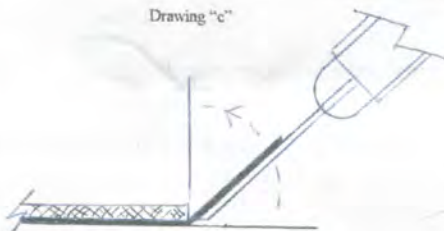
Drawing "b"

Drill holes as shown.  
Glue tabs into holes. Feet should rest on top of turret

1. Place the wind sensor (see MA120).
2. Drill holes for brush guard feet
3. Bend brush guard to shape and superglue in place.

To form Baskets, rest the Photo Etch part on a flat surface. Rest the edge of a steel rule at the line where you wish to bend. Ease a chisel edge hobby knife under the part you wish to bend, and rotate it up through 90 deg.

Bend the common edges first, followed by the sides, then the rear, then the Bottom. Glue together.





The square turret baskets did not conform to the inward sloping rear turret wall and therefore had stand off legs.

	<p>The turret baskets are made from angle iron and mesh.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bend the angle iron edges to shape;</li> <li>2. Bend the sides to shape to make a box;</li> <li>3. Superglue together, and</li> <li>4. Add standoff legs to both turret baskets with strips provided             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The 30x30thou strips fit through square holes in the forward face of the basket. These strips should go all the way to the rear of the basket and protrude about 3mm. Cut to length if necessary,</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>The hooks hang / attach the basket to the rear of the turret.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The two plain strips are bent to a "U" shape and glued upside down (open facing down) – see position "X"</li> <li>2. The strip with the embossed nut is bent to form a right angle. It is placed in position Y – between the armoured bin (right) and the open bin.</li> <li>3. You can glue basket A and B together where they come into contact</li> </ol>
<p>Engine mesh</p>	<p>Replace kit mesh provided by Italeri and Tamiya Leopard kits</p>

Best reference: Military Briefs No.5 Leopard AS1 Family of Vehicles (2014)

Additional items stocked by Mouse House Enterprises that can be used with this conversion.

Military Briefs No.5 – Australian leopard AS1 FOV  
 MA302 – Australian pattern water jerrycans  
 MA116 - Conformal turret baskets PE  
 MA117 – Square turret baskets PE

MA121 – Full width turret basket  
 MA122 – L7A3 105mm gun Australian pattern  
 MA317 – Complete equipment schedule for AFVs  
 MAD606 - 1st Armoured Regiment decals  
 MAP05 – OZCAM three pack camouflage paints