



FALCON

Clear-Vax Canopies

©

1/72 SCALE CANOPY SET No.22 RAF WORLD WAR II: Part 4

USING REPLACEMENT CANOPIES

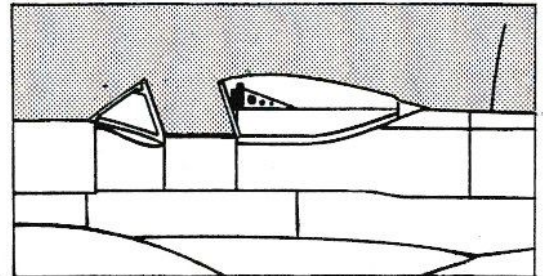
Trimming: Insert a new blade into your modelling knife or scalpel. To separate the canopy from its base, score very gently around the ledge moulded at the bottom. Do this very lightly at first, with minimum pressure. Repeat the process until the canopy pops away from the ledge. If you score too heavily at first you risk slipping and ruining the canopy. Finally, any rough edges can be cleaned up by lightly sanding with fine wet-and-dry paper. If you intend separating the canopy for display in the open position, we suggest cutting the break-lines before you cut the canopy from its base.

Gluing: Cyanoacrylate (superglue) can be used to fix the canopy to the kit. It gives a fast-setting permanent joint, but fumes given off when setting can cause frosting on clear parts. Where possible, mask around the joint with masking fluid or tape. PVA (white glue) is also useful as it is partly gap-filling, doesn't attack the plastic, and dries clear.

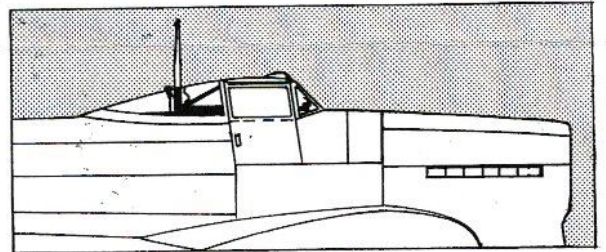
Painting: The best way to achieve crisp and convincing frame lines is by applying pre-painted strips of decal film. Paint part of a sheet of clear decal film, then cut strips of the correct width with a sharp blade and a straight-edge. Decal film sticks better to a painted surface than to bare plastic, so you will have to paint an undercoat on the frame lines marked on the canopy. This technique may not be suitable for canopies with large or irregularly shaped framed areas. For these canopies we suggest you mask the clear areas with clear adhesive tape and then remove the masking after painting.

Which kit? Please note that where we suggest a certain kitset as suitable for our replacement canopy, the suggested kit is generally regarded as the most accurate model to the given scale. We cannot guarantee that our canopy will fit other kits of the same subject.

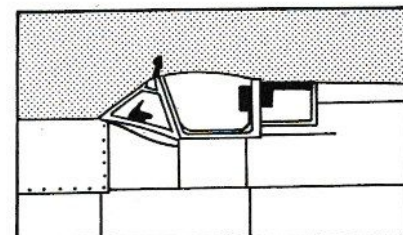
1. **Supermarine Spitfire Mk.XIV "Bubble canopy".** *Suggested kit: Fujimi Spitfire Mk.XIV (kit 72001).* The Clear-vax canopy directly replaces the kit item. *Suggested references: Squadron/Signal In Action No.39; Argus Specialist Publications Spitfire Collection.*
2. **Hawker Typhoon "Car door canopy".** *Suggested kit: Airfix Typhoon I.B.* This canopy represents the early-style canopy with a small blister on top; this blister covered an internal rear-view mirror. In order to locate the canopy, place the right fuselage half on the drawing and trim the forward area to match the plan. Scribe the lower portion of the doors into the fuselage using the drawing as a guide. *Suggested references: Squadron/Signal In Action No.102; Argus Specialist Publications plan pack 2808.*
3. **Supermarine Spitfire Mk.XIV.** *Suggested kits: Fujimi Spitfire Mk.XIV C (kit 72003), Mk.XIV E (kit 72004).* The Clear-vax canopy directly replaces the kit item. *Suggested references: Squadron/Signal In Action No.39; Argus Specialist Publications Spitfire Collection.*
4. **Vickers Wellesley.** *Suggested kit: Matchbox Wellesley Mk.I.* The Clear-vax pilot's and observer's canopies directly replace the kit parts. Use the kit side windows. *Suggested reference: Profile 256.*
5. **Short Sunderland.** *Suggested kits: Airfix Sunderland III.* The Clear-vax pilot's canopy directly replaces the kit item. Also included is an astródome; it fits in the position shown on the drawing. The nose turret has had its shape corrected. The machine gun fits on the right-hand side even though there is also a gun slot on the left. In order to fit the mid-upper turret canopy, cut 2 mm off the top of part 40. The scrap drawing (5a) is a front view of this turret. Note that it is not necessary to cut out the front window – only cut away enough to fit the guns. The rear-gun turret has the gun slots altered to their correct width. The kit gun mounting will need to be modified to suit. Use the kit portholes, or replace them with clear styrene or acetate. *Suggested references: 'The Short Sunderland' by Bowyer (Aston); Profile 189.*



1. Supermarine Spitfire Mk.XIV "Bubble canopy"



2. Hawker Typhoon "Car door canopy"



3. Supermarine Spitfire Mk.XIV

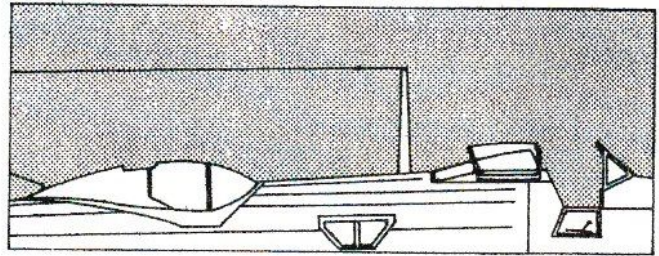
6. **Westland Lysander.** *Suggested kit: Matchbox Lysander Mk.II.* The Clear-vax canopy directly replaces the kit item. The drawing shows the wing omitted for clarity. Cut away the shaded area in order to fit the wing. *Suggested reference: Argus Specialist Publications plan pack 2873.*

7. **Miles Master.** *Suggested kit: Frog/Novo Master III.* The Clear-vax canopy directly replaces the kit item. Note the small panel on the left side of the pilot's sliding canopy. Scribe this panel with a sharp needle or divider point. Also provided is the landing light cover. *Suggested reference: Aviation News plan 5/17.*

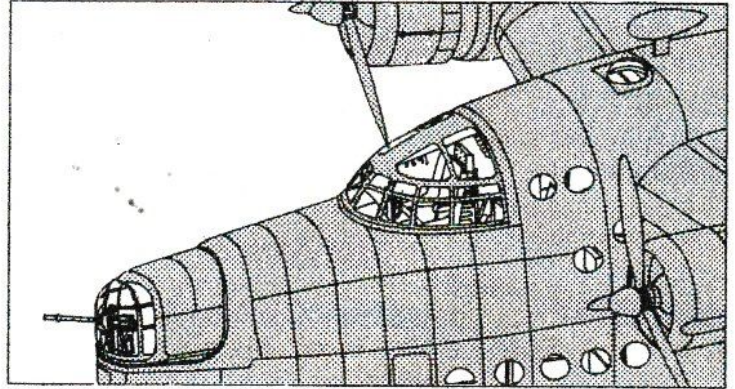
8. **Avro Lancaster.** *Suggested kit: Airfix Lancaster B III.* The Clear-vax main, nose and bomb-aimer canopies replace the kit parts. In order to fit the mid-upper turret canopy, cut the top off the kit parts and fit the Clear-vax pieces in place. For the standard tail turret, use the kit parts. We have provided the clear part used on the later two-gun turret. Alter kit part 9 to the two-gun configuration, and assemble parts 9, 10, 11 and 16 according to the kit instructions. Then fit the Clear-vax canopy using drawing 8a as a guide. Replace the kit gun barrels with .50 calibre barrels. *Suggested references: Squadron/Signal In Action No.52; Aerodata International 'Bombers of WWII' vol. 1.*

9. **Percival Proctor.** *Suggested kit: Frog/Novo Proctor IV.* The Clear-vax main canopy fits without any modification to the kit. Replace the kit rear windows with thin clear styrene or acetate. Also provided are the wing landing light covers (marked L for left and R for right), and the D/F loop housing sometimes fitted. *Suggested reference: Argus Specialist Publications plan 2991.*

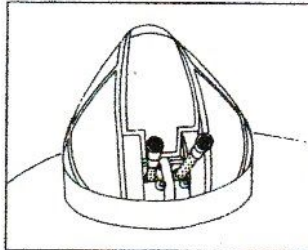
10. **General Aircraft Hotspur.** *Suggested kit: Frog/Novo Hotspur II.* The Clear-vax canopy directly replaces the kit item. Use the kit side windows.



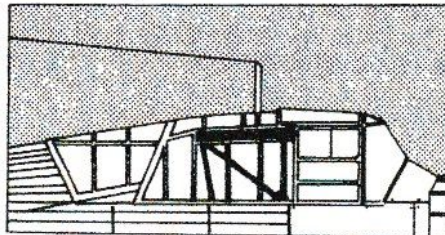
4. **Vickers Wellesley**



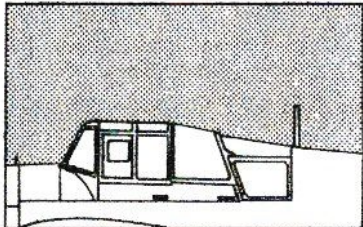
5. **Short Sunderland**



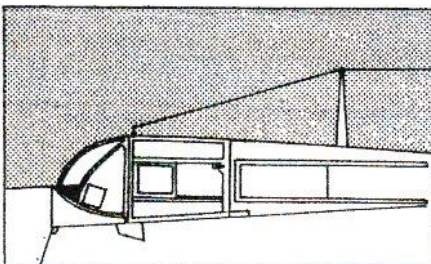
5a. **Short Sunderland – front view of mid-upper turret**



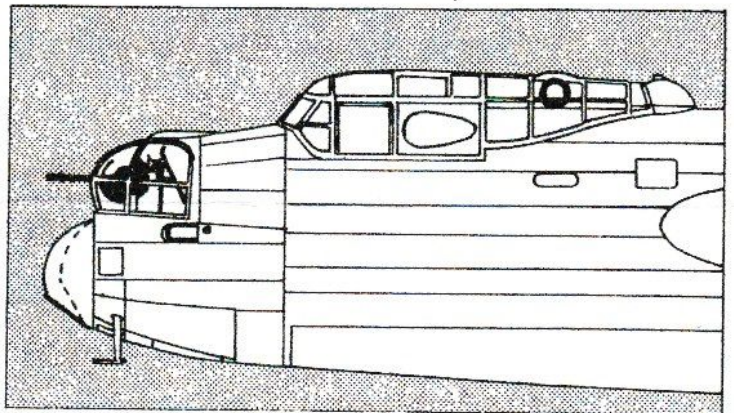
6. **Westland Lysander**



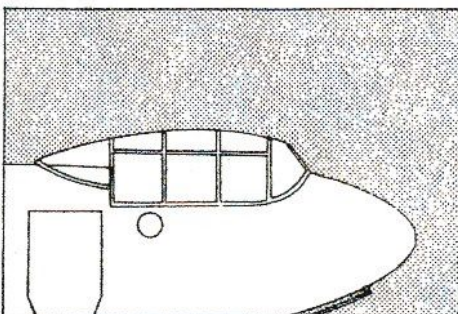
7. **Miles Master**



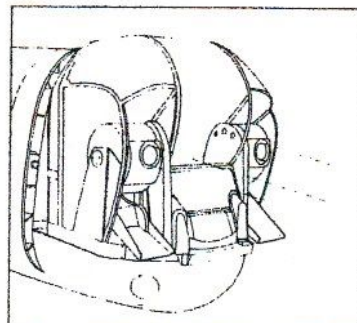
9. **Percival Proctor**



8. **Avro Lancaster**



10. **G.A. Hotspur**



8a. **Avro Lancaster – 2-gun tail turret (gun barrels shown as dashed lines)**