

## **Clear-Vax Canopies**

## 1/72 SCALE CANOPY SET No.25 Imperial Japanese Naval Air Force Part 2

## **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.

- Aichi B7A Ryusei 'Grace'. Suggested kits: Fujimi B7A1 & B7A2. The Clearvax canopies are provided in sections for display in open configuration. Suggested reference: Model Art No. 406 'IJNAF Bombers in WWII'.
- 2. Nakajima C6N1 Saiun 'Myrt'. Suggested kit: Fujimi C6N1. The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item. Suggested reference: Monogram Close-up 15 'Japanese Cockpit Interiors'.
- 3. Mitsubishi A6M2-K Zero 2-seat trainer. Suggested kit: Hasegawa A6M2 (kit AP14). The windshield fits in place without modification. After cutting out the rear canopy, test fit it using the panel line marked Y to line things up. Then cut away the corresponding area of the kit fuselage in order to fit a suitable interior built either from scratch or from spare parts. Note that all A6M2-Ks carried anti-spin strakes as marked X. Using the drawing as a guide, fabricate the strakes from thin plastic card and fit in place. Suggested references (you'll need them): Aerodetail 7; Famous Airplanes of the World No.5 (Bunrin-Do); 'A6M Zero In Action' #59 (Squadron/Signal).
- 4. Yokosuka D4Y2-S Suisei 'Judy'. Suggested kit: Fujimi D4Y2-S. The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item. Suggested references: 'Carrier Bomber Suisei' Famous Airplanes of the World No.140 (old series) (Bunrin-Do).
- Yokosuka D4Y1/4 Suisei 'Judy'. Suggested kits: Fujimi D4Y2 & D4Y4.
   The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item.
- 6. Nakajima J1N1 Gekko 'Irving'. Suggested kits: Fujimi J1N1 series. The Clearvax canopies directly replace the kit items. Use the kit lower and side windows. Note on the drawing the position of the upward-firing cannons. The right-hand cannon slot needs to be moved forward a little to avoid the clear cover. Suggested references: 'Moonlight Interceptor' Famous Aircraft of the Air and Space Museum (Smithsonian); Replic 40.
- 7. Kawanishi N1K1 Kyotu 'Rex'. Suggested kit: Hasegawa N1K1. The Clearvax canopy is supplied for display in the open position. Suggested reference: Model Art No.304 'Kawanishi N1K1/N1K2'.

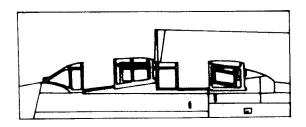
- Mitsubishi J2M3 'Jack'. Suggested kit: Hasegawa J2M3. The Clearvax canopy is intended to be displayed in the open position. The area marked X needs to fabricated from thin plasticard and fitted as shown. Suggested references: Model Art No.470 'J2M Series'.
- 9. Kawanishi H8K2 'Emily'. Suggested kit: Hasegawa H8K2. To fit the Clearvax main canopy, cut away the kit fuselage at the lines marked X, Y and Z. Nose canopy drill the hole for the cannon before fitting. Upper turret notice that the gun traverse slot has been shifted to the left for true accuracy. Re-position the gun mounting to suit. Do not cut the slot away; simply drill a hole in the desired position for the cannon. Side blisters these are marked L for left, R for right. Do not make holes in the rear of the blisters for the machine guns, as the rear of the blisters were retracted into the fuselage when the guns were deployed. Rear turret do not drill a hole for the cannon. This turret opened in a 'clamshell' fashion to deploy its armament. Use kit small windows. Suggested reference: Profile 233; Monogram Close-up 15.
- **10. Mitsubishi A7M Reppu 'Sam'**. *Suggested kits: Fine Molds A7M1 & A7M2*. The Clearvax canopy is intended for display in the open position.
- 11. Nakajima B5N 'Kate'. Suggested kits: Hasegawa B5N1 & B5N2. The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item. Suggested references: Model Art No.406; Monogram Close-up 14.
- **12. Kyushu J7W1 Shinden.** Suggested kit: Hasegawa J7W1. The Clearvax canopy is intended for display in the open position.

The following books are recommended as general reference: Model Art No.272 Camouflage & Markings, JNAF Fighters in WWII.

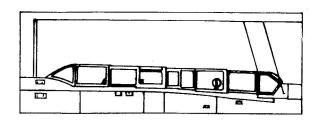
Model Art No.406 Camouflage & Markings, JNAF Bombers in WWII.

Japanese Naval Air Force Camouflage & Markings, WWII: Thorpe (Aero).

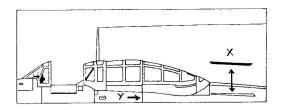
Japanese Aircraft of the Pacific War: Francillon (Naval Institute Press).



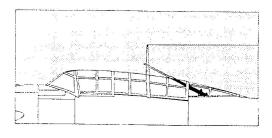
1. Aichi B7A Ryusei 'Grace'



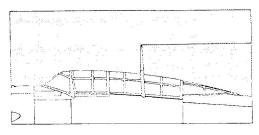
2. Nakajima C6N1 Saiun 'Myrt'



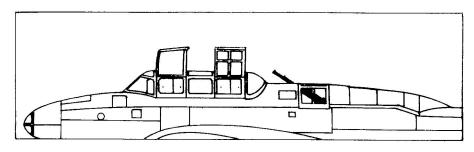
**3.** Mitsubishi A6M2-K Zero 2-seat trainer



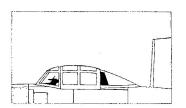
4. Yokosuka D4Y2-S Suisei 'Judy'



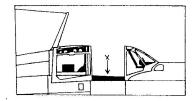
5. Yokosuka D4Y11/4 Suisei 'Judy'



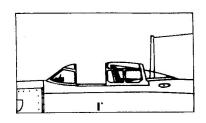
6. Nakajima J1N1 Gekko 'Irving'



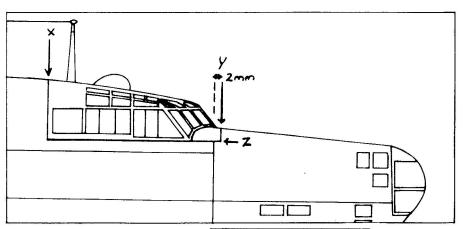
7. Kawanishi N1K1 Kyofu 'Rex'



8. Mitsubishi J2M3 Raiden 'Jack'



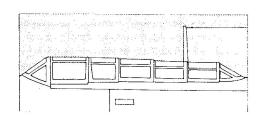
10. Mitsubishi A7M Reppu 'Sam'



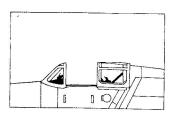
9. Kawanishi H8K2 'Emily'

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11. Nakajima B5N 'Kate'



12. Kyushu J7W1 Shinden